

caveat emptor

A New Age Journal

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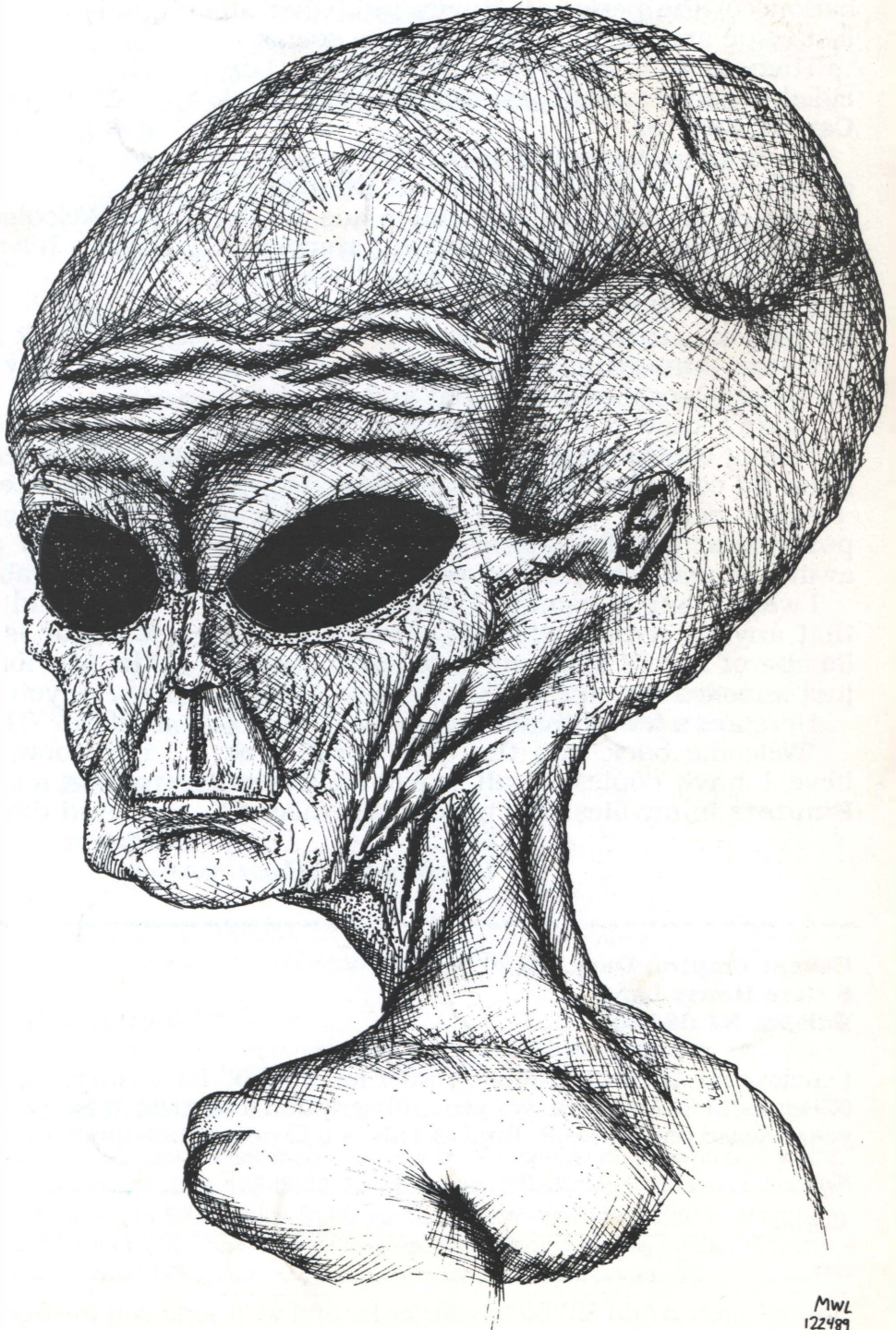
**Where Are They Now:
The Howard
Menger Story**

**Interview:
Abduction Expert
Dr. David Jacobs**

**The Good, The Bad
& The Weird**

**The Convention
From Hell**

**The Myth Makers
Letters, Reviews,
and Much More...**



MWL
122489

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 now 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. 23
8 Gate House Lane
Edison, NJ 08820

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caveat emptor

Fall 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:

The Myth-Makers

by Gene Steinberg

Whereas the 1950's vision of an alien visitor was a god-like being of infinite goodness and wisdom, such visions three decades later were often fodder for nightmares.

What do you believe about UFOs? An intriguing question. We all have different attitudes about the subject, sometimes based on intensive individual thought, more often simply based on the "conventional wisdom," which is more often than not a passing fad.

I first got involved in this wacky subject back in the 1950s, which makes me old beyond my years, I guess. I still remember the day I was visiting my brother's home and chanced to notice a library book on a coffee table. *Flying Saucers From Outer Space* was the title. The author, Major Donald Keyhoe, was a retired military officer, and in the know about UFOs. Or at least that's the way it seemed to an 11-year-old who somehow seemed receptive to such fascinating possibilities.

Life was simple in the 1950s. We just had capitalists and communists, *I Love Lucy*, Jackie Gleason and President Eisenhower. There were no shades of gray to confuse matters. It was all so very comfortable.

Flying saucers were spaceships, and the Air Force knew all about it, but kept it secret in fear of causing widespread panic and financial collapse. Those folks who claimed to be in touch with blond-haired, ski-suited denizens from Venus and Mars were a bunch of "crackpots," better left ignored.

How simple it was!

The 1960s promised more of the same, as we entered the age of "Camelot."

The assassination of President Kennedy in 1963 seemed to herald a change. Life was getting more complicated, and we began to question that "conventional wisdom." The riddle of the flying discs in the skies was ending its second decade no closer to a solution than before. I began to read a little history, and learned that such things had been seen in the skies

back through the dimmest recesses of recorded history, interpreted in the milieu of the times. So ancient man looked upon the odd "visitors" as "messengers from God," and we looked upon the phenomenon as spaceships.

The phenomenon did not change, only our "conventional wisdom" as to just what it might be.

In the 1950s we had scattered reports of so-called "men in black," dark clothed, swarthy men who traveled about telling people who saw strange things in the sky that there were other subjects they ought to talk about.

In the early 1960s, Barney and Betty Hill had their encounter with the unknown, precipitating the "abduction" scenario that would not reach full bloom till nearly 20 years later.

By the end of the decade, episodes of MIB began to grow downright nasty. The occasional visitors became persistent telephone pranksters, who followed their prey in dark Cadillacs at odd hours of the day or night. MIB visits were frequently followed by odd manifestations in one's neighborhood, ranging from strange "presences" in a nearby wood, to "invisible" entities in one's bedroom. Author John Keel wrote numbers of books about "silent contactees," who had incredible and frightening encounters that would seem outlandish even in a fantasy novel.

The possibility that we were indeed being visited by spaceships grew more and more remote, as a new generation of Ufologists latched onto other seemingly more credible possibilities, which, truth to tell, were probably more incredible than the possibilities they supplanted. Venus and Mars and perhaps some nearby stars no longer seemed a likely abode for our "visitors." We began to seek out new dimensions and other realities with which to populate with our Ufonauts.

Those "traditionalists" who believed in ET and Air Force conspiracies were scorned and labeled as "old fashioned." We knew a better way; we knew the way and the truth.

The "myths" of Ufology had undergone a revolution.

As the decade of the 1970s ended, and the newfound freedoms of the 1960s gave way to the practical considerations of making our way through an

increasingly complex society, we began to retreat behind a façade of conservatism.

Our political choices echoed our changing attitude, and even those who were the ETH's most vocal opponents were inclined to give such previously abandoned possibilities another airing.

The 1980s arrived and things began to get out of hand. Whereas the 1950's vision of an alien visitor was a god-like being of infinite goodness and wisdom, such visions three decades later were often fodder for nightmares.

Today, at the dawn of the 1990s, our "visitors" have metamorphosed into smallish creatures with large heads and thin bodies, almost reptilian in appearance. Rather than wish us well, these critters run around abducting people with abandon—children included—and subjecting them to painful physical examinations, enforced pregnancies and other atrocities.

The UFO enigma has become downright ugly!

Rather than simply trying to hide the fact of possible alien visitors, our government is now believed to have formed a "Majestic" committee of 12 to study the ramifications of a flying saucer crash back in the 1940s, and perhaps ongoing contact with this race of "grays."

WHAT IS THIS WORLD COMING TO?

And what does it all mean, anyway?

If you are new to the subject, the evolution of these beliefs and attitudes may seem new to you, unless you have done some hard and fast reading. If you've gone through it all, you should be jaded and not a little skeptical of such twists and turns.

Whatever you believe about the advent of strange apparitions in our skies, there are some things you should know:

First of all, there isn't a shred of solid evidence that any of these things actually took place. True, there's eyewitness testimony to odd happenings. We also have some documents that occasionally turn up that appear to demonstrate that something authentic is indeed behind it all.

Then we have a whole lot of rumors that never seem to hold up upon careful investigation. But the roadway of myths and claims is so circuitous that one gets lost in the maze very easily. Before one can contemplate the implications of a particular set of claims, some more crop up to muddy the waters.

So it is that 43 years of modern UFO research has proven nothing at all. There are some very well-meaning researchers who staked their credibility that much of it is true. I'm not about to question anyone's motives, though that has been done quite recently in the case of the MJ-12 documents that we've been reporting on since CAVEAT EMPTOR resumed publication nearly two years ago.

One of my close friends in the field takes more of a

pragmatic view of the whole thing. He says that he can't disprove any of this and so he is inclined to accept any of these claims, however incredible, as eminently possible. I can't condemn this laid-back "anything is possible" attitude.

He's probably right!

But I would be remiss in my task as editor of this little publication if I didn't tell you exactly what I think of the whole thing, whether you agree with me or not.

TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED

If anything, the sheer complexity of it all should make all of you question just what is going on.

Reports of widespread government disinformation in the UFO field should not be ignored. It doesn't eliminate the possibility that something very real and unknown is going on out there, but it makes it important to examine other possibilities as well.

I am not about to agree with Phil Klass and his friends at CSICOP that it's all a bunch of nonsense and we ought to waste our time on more productive pursuits.

But I am not about to believe every claim that comes down the pike either. The purpose of CAVEAT EMPTOR is to question—which explains the odd title, "let the buyer beware."

A UFO SUBCULTURE

Years ago, it is said that the late Ray Palmer was apt to manufacture a controversy or two just to keep his letters to the editors columns active. His responses to letters set him apart for his contemporaries. Getting into a battle of words with "RAP" was great sport, though you didn't stand a chance of winning. As the editor, he always had the last word—and you never knew what he'd come up with next.

Years ago, I sat across from a famous science fiction writer, a contemporary and friend of Ray's, who claimed the fellow didn't believe everything he wrote, but he had a good sense of what his readers would be interested in—and this was a factor in Palmer's success. I only knew Palmer casually, so I couldn't attest to this.

From my own experience, I did visit with Palmer once (in 1965) and found him to be quite the same person I had expected him to be, somewhat shy, perhaps because of his obvious physical deformity, with not a little classic midwest reserve. But he was a bright and always fascinating conversationalist once he got going. I taped an interview for a college radio station at the time, as I recall. Just a few general questions brought long, detailed responses.

His words radiated with sincerity, and I never had the impression of someone quite as cynical as you would expect from his friend's description.

Some years later, I got to meet Richard Shaver—the man who said he'd been in the caves to visit the

deros and the teros. He was also one of the original UFO pioneers, who described the flying saucers pretty much before anyone else.

Palmer and Shaver—whether you believed them or not—were indeed “myth-makers,” having once made the pages of *Life* magazine with their stories of the descendants of Lemuria who dwelled in caves beneath the surface of the world.

Though so-called “serious” UFO researchers don’t pay them any attention, there might not be much of a field to study today without them. While the press was chuckling over reports of strange craft in the skies in the 1940s, Palmer and Curtis Fuller founded *Fate* magazine, which carried the original stories of Kenneth Arnold and others of their UFO encounters.

We should not also forget Arnold’s own strange experiences in the infamous Maury Island affair, a 1947 sighting that in many respects paved the way for some of the odd peripheral events that frequently accompany such cases.

While it’s all too involved to get into here, Maury Island involved possible government involvement, alleged “men in black” activity and the hint of intrigue. Two military officers who were dispatched to the state of Washington to recover the alleged fragments of a UFO in distress died in a plane crash.

Indeed, lots of odd activities appear to surrounded the matter. It was all recounted in Arnold and Palmer’s out of print book *The Coming of the Saucers*.

The incident was quite notorious in those times. The former head of the Air Force’s Project Bluebook, the late Edward Ruppelt, labeled it a nasty hoax—and not-too-indirectly blamed Palmer for the hoax.

I never believed Palmer to be guilty is such outright fakery, however. Call it youthful naivetè, but Palmer just didn’t strike me as so nefarious a character, and I never saw any evidence to the contrary.

But the real point of all this idle chatter is that UFO myths have gone through cycles, changing rather substantially with the times and our expectations. Of course, there are some who say that the phenomenon mirrors our own attitudes and expectations, and there may be some truth to this, but it could all be just an outgrowth of our increasing sophistication in observing such odd goings on.

DESKTOP PHOTO FAKERY

Whenever a photo of an alleged UFO comes across my desk, I look at the picture with the thought in mind that it might be a model of some kind. Certainly that possibility has crossed the minds of some in the reheated controversy over Ed Walter’s many photos of strange lights over Gulf Breeze, Florida. Those who didn’t believe Ed were on the lookout for evidence that he used a model of some kind. Whether a planted artifact or a careless error, that model found in the attic of Ed’s former home confirmed the expectations

of not a few folks. Myself: Ed just doesn’t strike me as being so stupid as to leave such telltale evidence about to be conveniently found by the wrong person.

And in this day and age, one doesn’t need a model, a hubcap or a kite to fake a UFO photo.

It can be done at home on your desktop computer as well.

In the July 1990 issue of *Discover*, we learned just how widespread “computerized” photo enhancement is. Even a seemingly innocuous photograph in your daily newspaper may have been electronically enhanced simply and easily, and without the possibility of detection. There are reports of Coca-Cola bottles being moved in and out of photographs. But that’s a simple accomplishment. How about moving an entire building four blocks away, or placing people in a location they’ve never visited? As for photo analysis, forget it! The changes frequently go unnoticed even by experts.

If it sounds like something that ought to involve hundreds of thousands of dollars of complex equipment and huge mainframe computers, think again. For just a few thousand dollars, you can buy a computer—such as the Apple Macintosh on which I am writing this editorial—a color monitor and a device to scan the photograph. Add to that a few hundred dollars for some photo retouching software, a few hours reading the instruction books, and you’re in business.

If you think tossing a model in the air can produce an effective faked UFO photo, think what you can do on your desktop?

And no one will be the wiser!

You read it here first!

JUST THE FAX

In our last issue, I remarked on why I’d probably be the last person to buy a fax machine. I thought it quite an unnecessary appliance for my particular environment, though I can see why the things have caught on so quickly.

A couple of weeks later, I bought one of these contraptions. Not necessary for use with *this* magazine, mind you, but the capability is there if anyone is interested. The unit includes an answering machine that automatically switches between voice and fax. If you need to send us a fax, it’s best to call first and arrange in advance the sending of material. If you hear the message, just wait until the “beep,” and start your transmission. It’s as simple as that.

If you’re a glutton for punishment, you can also reach me via “e-mail” on the GENie and America Online services.

Better yet, an old-fashioned letter is much to be preferred, though truth to tell I don’t have as much time as I used to for letter-writing—but I do enjoy getting your letters, so stay in touch.

—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.

ON AN EVEN KEEL...

Dear Gene Steinberg:

In your summer editorial, you raise the subject of Roswell again. The best answer to this is contained in the FBI teletype of July 8, 1947 [referring to the recovered object as a "balloon"]—GS]. This was based on information received from the USAF at the time and puts the case for the true identity of the UFO quite clearly. So, unless you believe the USAF intentionally lied to the FBI (remember they were under no obligation to tell them at all), the case would appear closed as of that date.

John Keel is right, there is no need to speculate further on Roswell. Nothing out of the ordinary took place, and the current stories and myths going the rounds are *all*, without exception, based on 30+, and now 40+, year-old memories by relatives and friends of the early witnesses, spurred on by investigators who want to propagate the Roswell myth and have a vested interest in it. There is no need for me to interview one single "witness" to arrive at this conclusion. Have a look at that FBI teletype and decide for yourself. It is in Moore's 1985 crashed saucer paper.

It is indeed sad to see someone so misguided, Stanton Friedman, involved in what must surely be Ufolo-*gy's* biggest ever waste of private funds. One point that struck me: Why does he *reluctantly* conclude the MJ-12 papers are genuine? Ought he not to be dancing for joy at his discovery and final conclusion? Surely, if he is to be taken seriously, he has "proved" what he has set out to prove for the last 20 years, namely that we have been visited by extraterrestrials from another civilization?

Maybe some kind of celebration is in order, not a "reluctant" admission.

Christopher D. Allan
Stoke-on-Trent, England

• • •

ON A NOT SO EVEN KEEL...

Dear Gene,

John Keel's article on "The Sorry State of UFO Research" contained a number of questionable statements and dubious conclusions, in my opinion.

Mr. Keel seems to feel that the UFO field is in need of an academic leader, after its alleged collapse in 1989, and proceeds to "nominate" Dennis Stillings, of the Archaeus Project of Saint Paul, Minnesota, for the position. He also calls for "a psychological study of the UFO advocates themselves," claiming that "no one has ever prepared a psychological profile of who they are and how they got that way."

In so doing, he apparently finds no worth in the work of Kenneth Ring, Leo Sprinkle, James Harder, or Budd Hopkins.

No problem. After all, Mr. Keel has no problem dismissing "such clear-cut hoaxes as Gulf Breeze, the Philadelphia Experiment, Roswell and MJ-12."

Ordinarily I would be inclined to afford Mr. Keel's comments a measure of credibility, based on his personal acquaintance with many of the best known names in the UFO field, both past and present, but in this instance, I find myself wondering if Mr. Keel should include himself on the list of "ringer(s) from lah lah land, such as Moseley, [Jerome] Clark and Budd Hopkins."

After all, what is the basis for his charges of hoaxes, lack of leadership, and ineptitude?

I can guess that perhaps the wariness of falling victim to disinformation is a factor. If Mr. Keel were to publish *The Mothman Prophecies* in this day and age, it would be seen as an obvious effort to spread tales of terror about a monster in Point Pleasant, West Vir-

ginia to cover up/scare people away from U.S. government experiments in weirdness being conducted in the area.

But beyond the issue of why Mr. Keel feels Gulf Breeze is a hoax, etc., the questions he raises about a need for academic input in the field, and a leader for our "sorry" group.

What earthly person can direct a group that's being affected by conditions beyond the control of the leader? Surely "they" are calling the shots and, as such, are the *de facto* leaders.

As for academic input, do we really want it? Academicians tend to apply theories to "the facts" in an effort to arrive at a conclusion in a process that would probably insult many of the victims of UFO activity. I am reminded of the remarks of one Martin Cannon in the "Anti-Matter" section of the July, 1990 issue of *OMNI* magazine. Mr. Cannon proposes, as a working hypothesis, that "the UFO abduction phenomena might be a continuation of clandestine [U.S. government?] mind control operations." He then concludes that "the abductions are real. The fear is also real. But the little gray men are not."

So there Whitley!

No, no academician could handle the realities of being leader of the UFO crowd. I'll happily settle for the first-hand accounts of "hoaxes" like Ed Walters and the residents of the town of Gulf Breeze, and suffer through the lack of leadership for another 20 years.

Robert Shortz, Jr.
Dallas, PA

While the jury may still be out on Gulf Breeze, the latest uproar over Ed Walter's photos and that conveniently discovered model would surely give one reason ask that the matter be investigated a little bit further. If not Ed's hoax, then whose? Inquiring minds want to know.—GS

• • •

...AND MORE KEEL...

Dear Gene:

The latest CAVEAT EMPTOR at hand and read with great interest, especially John Keel's latest. After forty years, he's still the same old wilderness crying for a Voice! We had an exchange of letters back in the late 60s, but when he told me we were on the same team, I had to reply that far from being on the same team we weren't even in the same ballpark!! And when this present Judgment Day crisis for planet Earth is over we won't even be on the same planet. After that he stopped writing, poor academic flathead. As I recall, it was his claim that if there was to be any definitive statement about Flying Saucers it would come from the Vatican! That really ticked me off. As the largest private corporation in the Western world, the Roman Catholic Church has the most to lose if there is any radical change in human consciousness and widespread belief in the reality of Flying Saucers poses just such a threat. Religious devotees will turn from disappointing earth gods to the Gods from outer space in hopes of relief from their miseries.

The Jenny Randles interview was very revealing as she demonstrated her cleverness as a really good British Disinformation specialist. I wonder if she has an implant as she downplays her part in the writing of *Sky Crash* and throws responsibility for the material on two "inexperienced" investigators, and therefore not quite credible. If you were more knowledgeable about *Sky Crash*, you might have asked her about the Men-In-Black episode on page 240 and the "missing time" of three days of airman Art Wallace.

And then there is the expert "silencing" of President Carter by a government agent. Why don't you run that episode in *Sky Crash* in your magazine? I'm sure your readers would be interested in why Carter clammed up after he got into the White House—after promising to release all government UFO data if he made it to the presidency.

The item on Americo Candusso [in the "Newswatch" section] reminds me of the MUFON investigator, Murray Bott, in Auckland. Phyllis and I attended their final meeting a couple of years ago. There were only three or four people there besides ourselves,

and I could see why. Bott still can't decide if Flying Saucers are real! After 40 years of accumulated data?? People want to know who they are, where they come from and why they are here and endless reading of news reports of sightings doesn't answer those questions, and that's probably all they got from Candusso's meetings. I'm sure those questions are in the minds of your subscribers, and if you don't answer them, your subscription list is likely to dwindle away too. They certainly are not going to get any satisfaction from long interviews with government Disinformation Specialists in CAVEAT EMPTOR. You'd be a fool not to get some of that government gravy too! It would help make up for your unrenowned subs.

Mention of Ed Conroy in your summer issue reminds me of the review of his book on Whitley Strieber by Sean Devney in Beckley's May 1990 issue of *UFO Universe*. If Conroy had any doubts about the reality of Strieber's contacts and the government coverup, they were dissipated when he found himself under unmarked helicopter surveillance while writing the book, *Report On Communion*. On one occasion, in March, 1988, a Bell 47-type helicopter showed up outside his seventh floor office and beamed a light at him through the window. This was in broad daylight while he was working on the *Communion* manuscript! This inspired me to dig out my own reports of unmarked helicopter surveillance on me and my home in Vista, California in 1970-71 and write them up in an article for Beckley's *UFO Universe*. But I hear from him that the mag has folded already....By the way, in *UFO Crash*, Bill Steinman reports that he was under unmarked helicopter surveillance while he was leaving the Aztec area after researching the 1947 crash there.

It is not surprising to learn that Strieber is now suffering character assassination, in Goldman's attack on him. It certainly is a challenge to Whitley to remain unshaken in his beliefs and to continue his self-chosen program of trying to enlighten others as to the realities of their 4-D experiences, as abductees and as visitors to his upstate New York cabin. Why don't you visit one of his abductee bull sessions in New York City and give your readers a straight report on it, without

asking any of the so-called experts their calculated opinions. What the abductees need is love and understanding, not professorial opinions!

The highlight of Sutherly's report on the Phoenix convention, for me, was his contact with Suzanne. I wouldn't call her a contactee, but an Extraterrestrial who volunteered to come to earth to help uplift benighted humanity. The powers she demonstrated to Curt are evidence of one who is from an civilization and dedicated to unselfish service. I've met more than one in my travels. They don't advertise if they're genuine, but just carry on their mission, whatever it is. Considering the general, hard-headed state of mankind here on earth, it's better that they work as quietly and inconspicuously as possible....

Riley Crabb
Orewa, Hibiscus Coast
New Zealand

I'm grateful for your concern that we find some way to preserve our subscribers. We'll try our best, but not at the expense of saying what we think about an issue.

Also, your information about the death of UFO Universe is a bit premature. We hear that the magazine has gotten a reprieve, and will stay in business.

As to attending one of Strieber's "bull sessions," I gather they are very much in the form of "group therapy" sessions, where abductees are free to share the intimate details of their "encounters" with the "visitors" and other aspects of their lives without criticism or judgement. Under these circumstances, an "outsider" would hardly be welcome—I have no intention of invading their privacy.—GS

...

ON MY SHOULDERS

To the Editor:

Congratulations on another fine issue of CE—an issue without Keel is like a battery without acid. I do not know what grave offense I have done ol' John for him to have laid the intellectual responsibility for the rehabilitation of Ufology on my shoulders, but you can tell him I will get right to the job as soon as I clear up the misconceptions in parapsychology, rationalize politics, and solve the world's ecological problems.

A couple of corrections are in order:

(1) we have never invited Budd Hopkins to speak at Archaeus Project, since we have to draw the line somewhere, and (2) our address is 2402 (not 2042) University Avenue. The error is neither your fault or John's—it is due to an error of ours in the back of *Cyberphysiological Studies*....

Dennis Stillings
Director, Archaeus Project
St. Paul, MN

• • •

MOORE TO BLAME

Dear Gene,

In general, I agree with most of your editorial [in issue #22 of *CAVEAT EMPTOR*]. However, taking note of your admission that you "will sometimes make a statement purely to get someone's reaction," I would very much like to "react" to a couple of points you raised.

You seemed to be suggesting that Peter Gersten and CAUS (of which I am a member) are suspicious of Moore merely because of the surface fact that Moore "has been one of the main promoters of the MJ-12 affair." This simply isn't true. While the fact that Moore has indeed been one of the main promoters is not irrelevant, both Peter Gersten and CAUS have given this subject more than just surface treatment. All of the available evidence (far too much to list here) seems to point in the direction of Moore's "research team" as the most likely suspects for having created the MJ-12 documents. Granted, that evidence is circumstantial, but I find it persuasive nonetheless.

In addition, it doesn't strike me as valid to suggest that Moore is less of a suspect because he isn't driving around in an expensive new car. You stated your conclusion that the MJ-12 documents are fakes. Many other people in the field have reached that very same conclusion. Essentially, the scam—no matter who is behind it—appears to have failed, leaving little or no opportunity to make a bundle from it, assuming money was the motivation. The question shouldn't be what Moore has gained from it, but rather what he *hoped* to gain from it had it been successful. It doesn't make sense to eliminate a suspect merely because the suspect has failed to profit from a failed scheme.

Robert G. Todd
Ardmore, PA

And I thought I was just being nice to Bill Moore, actually. However, neither he nor anyone else connected to the MJ-12 affair has seen fit to provide an iota of proof that answers any of the questions I and others have raised on the matter. While that doesn't necessarily imply "guilty knowledge," it does leave unanswered the many questions you and others have raised. My editorial was intended to scratch the surface, that's all.—GS

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The Caveat Emptor Interview

Dr. David Jacobs

by Floyd Murray

The only theory that takes into account everything that is happening is the theory that these people are accurately describing experiences that they have had.

It's easy to think of Dave Jacobs as being perhaps the quietest of famous American UFO researchers. While his name is well-known in the UFO field, it seems that many researchers are only vaguely familiar with his work, even though he makes occasional speeches on the subject and is no stranger to the pages of the more respectable UFO publications. He seems to be best known for his near-classic work The UFO Controversy in America, which appeared in 1975. The book, published by Indiana University Press, was originally Dr. Jacobs' Ph.D. dissertation.

Jacobs name may be heard a lot more in the near future, however. For the past several years he has been researching the abduction phenomenon and his conclusions will be published in a forthcoming book.

Jacobs obtained B.A. degree in History from UCLA and his MA is History from the University of Wisconsin, where he also completed his Ph.D. in History. He is Associate Professor of History at Temple University in Philadelphia. Jacobs, who is 48, resides with his wife and family near Philadelphia.

The following interview was conducted with Dr. Jacobs in May of 1990. I started by asking him about his forthcoming book on abductions.

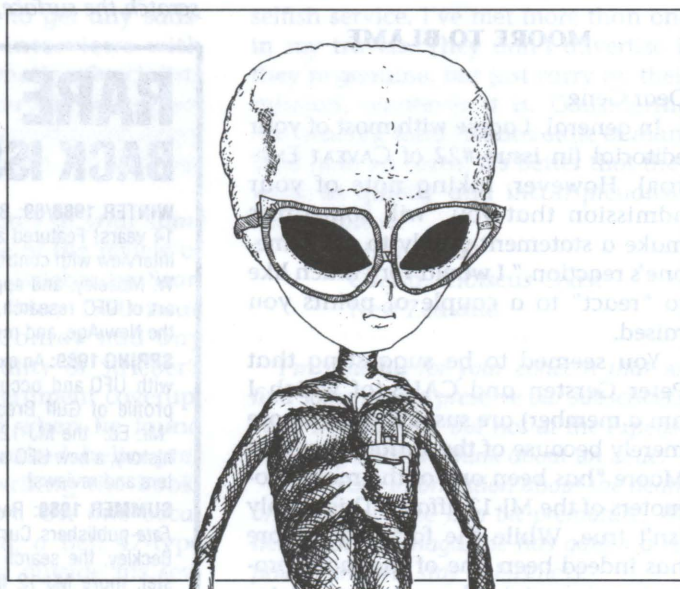
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FLOYD MURRAY: *You haven't had a lot published yet about your abduction research. I think the readers of CAVEAT EMPTOR would be interested in knowing about this.*

DR. DAVID JACOBS: Right, not a lot has been published yet. I'm basically waiting for the book to come out.

MURRAY: *When will it come out?*

JACOBS: Well, I have to go to a literary agent first



and she shops around and tries to find a publisher for it. Hopefully next year, maybe.

MURRAY: *The book is based on how many years of abduction research?*

JACOBS: About four years research, doing primary research, plus I've been a UFO researcher for 25 years and had quite a lot of experience in being interested in abductions and reading about them and all the rest of it. In terms of hands-on, primary research, sitting in front of an abductee and asking them questions, about four years.

MURRAY: *What made you decide to settle on this specific area since your original work, The UFO Controversy in America, was kind of an overview of the subject. Why the abductions?*

JACOBS: Well, abductions provide us with this enormous breakthrough that we have been pushing for in essence for all these years. Abductions get us inside the objects, they get us into motivation, they get us into purpose, they get us into the "why" questions. Studying sightings does not do that.

MURRAY: *Publicly you haven't been very open about this yet. What's the reason for that?*

JACOBS: Well, I actually have two chapters of the book that were presented at two conferences. One was printed in the MUFON Journal called "Post-Abduc-

tion Syndrome" and then I presented a paper at a UFO conference a couple of Octobers ago called "The Anatomy of an Alien" and both of those are in the book so I've done a little bit, but I haven't done all that much. What I wanted to do was keep the main aspect of my ideas, playing it a little close to the chest, so that the people I investigate could not possibly at all, ever, pick up any of this in the media.

MURRAY: *In other words, you're saying the cases you've personally investigated wouldn't have any feedback or filter?*

JACOBS: There's no way, except for a few things they say to me, that they could have absorbed from the public at large, or from the media.

MURRAY: *Your book is based on interviews with how many abductees?*

JACOBS: 47 as of now.

MURRAY: *And your research is ongoing?*

JACOBS: I've conducted about 275 hypnotic sessions.

MURRAY: *Are they with people from all over the country or just this area?*

JACOBS: Well, I only work with people who are living in the area as far south as Baltimore, as far north as New York and as far west as Harrisburg, simply because I work with them over and over again and they have to have the ability to get to me. If you're living in Utah, it's really tough to have an ongoing research or relationship, as I work with people from one time to as many times as it takes, 25–30 times, whatever.

MURRAY: *Can you give a preview as to some of your conclusions?*

JACOBS: Well I've found that the abduction phenomenon is, as other people have found, a very alarming and distressing phenomenon. As Budd Hopkins has shown, and I think I've confirmed most of what he's found, what we have here is a systematic program of exploitation of human beings for sperm and eggs and we do see quite often the small, little kind of strange-looking babies and children that are presented to people, and I've found that there is a very structured program of physical, mental and reproductive procedures that are carried out on people.

It's a situation that can have devastating effects on peoples' lives. It's something nobody wants, people get down on their knees and pray every night that it doesn't happen again. It's not related to channeling, not related to psychological generation, not related in any way to just mind games that people invent. It is an actual physical phenomenon that is happening, and it is not good.

MURRAY: *You seem to have a rather worried view of this phenomenon. A lot of thinking in the field right now is that these things are perhaps just some sort of psychological disorders, but you are saying that they are exactly what they seem to be?*

JACOBS: That is correct. People who are psychologists or psychiatrists and have had access to all the data are the ones who say it is not psychological or psychiatric. Those people who don't know much about psychology or psychiatry, who don't know much about the workings of the brain seem to think that is is. Now then, there is the group of people who do know a lot about the workings of the brain but don't know anything about abductions and they think it is as well. But the critical mass is those who know psychology and psychiatry take a look at this phenomenon and simply draw a blank..

MURRAY: *There's been some criticism that since, as a sociologist, you yourself are not either a psychologist or a psychiatrist—but you said you were working with them, is that correct?*

JACOBS: Yes it is.

MURRAY: *Do they sit in on each of your hypnotic sessions?*

JACOBS: No, they don't, but I have had two psychiatrists sit in on my sessions. I've had two psychiatrists and one psychologist sit in on my support group sessions. I get advice from one particular psychologist, who is just terrific, one of the best in the country. You see, the problem here is that when you do hypnosis, which is basically a fraud more than anything else—

MURRAY: *In what way?*

JACOBS: Well, hypnosis is something that a person does for themselves. It is not something that you do to somebody. If a person doesn't want to be hypnotized, they won't be, period. Hypnosis is basically a form of focused concentration and heightened suggestibility. But by heightened suggestibility, I'm not saying that you can say that black is white and up is down, and they'll believe it. That's absolutely untrue.

The best thing that you can do with heightened suggestibility is that you might put an image in a person's mind or something like that, if you're not careful. The vast majority of the time this business of leading people is vastly overstated. In every session, I will purposely ask leading questions to see whether these people can be led, and 99 percent of the time they cannot be.

They will answer no, it's not like that at all, no, no, no. In other words, people have the ability to say no and they do it all the time and that's a key, important concept. You have to remember also that this whole business of hypnosis is in a sense a red herring, because, and this is a critical element that everyone has to keep uppermost in mind at all times, that people remember these things without hypnosis and the stories are the same.

MURRAY: *They remember the incidents themselves without hypnosis?*

JACOBS: Not always, but they remember bits and pieces of them, all sorts of stuff, including complete incidents. The point is, regardless of that, this is a

very, very difficult business. What you're dealing with when you deal with abductees is devastating effects on people's private lives. There is a gynecological, urological and reproductive content to most of these stories and these people don't even realize it themselves when you first begin to do it. As you're sitting here and hearing this, you have to know what to say, and say it the right way at the right time. You don't want to experiment with people's lives.

MURRAY: *When you say a devastating effect, is this in terms of psychological problems in later life?*

JACOBS: Right, that and also just the way they've grown up and the way their development has preceded. Let me bring this conversation around full circle. The key here is that you just can't wade in with your machete and start slashing away at people's minds. You have to be extremely careful, very, very sensitive and you have to work with a psychologist who knows that he's doing and tells you how to proceed. That's how the psychologists come in.

MURRAY: *Are any of these mental health professionals that you're working with going to reveal their identity? Can you give me their names now?*

JACOBS: No, I can only talk about one and that's Steve Greenstein, who's a psychologist here in Philadelphia whom I work with most.

MURRAY: *What's your average profile of the typical abductee?*

JACOBS: It is completely random, there is absolutely nothing in common that we can see both psychologically and physically. The only thing that there might be in common might be something physical that we have not found yet and we might never find it, it might be an aspect of their physiology that we're not even aware of yet, that we haven't discovered.

But overall, there is no particular—nothing in common. The good, the bad, the ugly, black, white, Jews, gentile, smart, not-so-smart, articulate, not so articulate, male, female of course, young, old, makes no difference.

MURRAY: *Is there a preponderance of females as opposed to males?*

JACOBS: My population is small, but I think there is a preponderance of females as opposed to males. Budd seems to think it's more 50-50, but we don't really know that, because we don't know if the concept of coming forward is culturally determined or not. Will women, because of the culture, have a tendency to come forward more and men less, or are more women being abducted? In my book I use the pronoun "she" throughout because the majority of people I work with are women.

MURRAY: *I'd like you to address the idea proposed by some researchers like Martin Cannon of California, that there might be some sort of government control in some of these cases, that the UFO abduction story may be a type of fabrication as some of these people may have actually been*

victims of some sort of mind control experimentation?

JACOBS: I certainly have not run across that, and neither has Budd Hopkins. Between the two of us, with maybe 400 different individuals, we've never had that happen. I mean, you're dealing with children here, and I mean it's just out of the question. It might have happened, but I don't have any evidence for it, nor has anybody I've ever worked with.

MURRAY: *You say you're dealing with children? How young?*

JACOBS: Well, now, I don't deal directly with children, *per se*. I don't hypnotize them and I try not to even interview them. However, I have talked with several whose parents have brought them to me, the youngest being, that I've directly talked to, about six, but parents will tell me about their little babies having experiences, but what we've found is that all abductions begin in childhood and infancy and they probably go on through adulthood. And we haven't found any exceptions to that yet. There might be exceptions, but that's the general trend.

MURRAY: *You say the parents told you about their children. How do they know their children have had these incidents?*

JACOBS: Well, they're abducted themselves, also.

MURRAY: *The parents are also abductees?*

JACOBS: Yeah, and they're with the baby or they're with the child.

MURRAY: *You mean during the abductions?*

JACOBS: Right, and then the child will independently say, "the egg men are coming to get me at night" or "bad doctors are coming through the window and doing bad things to me" and then the children have had numerous physical manifestations of that. The issue of children is extremely difficult and very volatile, and I do not deal with children, and when adults come to me and want me to deal with children, I tell them no, I will work with them but not with the child. There is not enough precedence yet on how to deal with children for me to start going in there.

MURRAY: *Are there any researchers you know who are doing it?*

JACOBS: Well, there might be some and it's not something to do and I would recommend strongly against it in the strongest possible manner. Children are just, it's just too difficult and my best advice is to just follow the rule that counselors use for sexual abuse of children.

MURRAY: *What particularly interesting cases are you working on now, anything that deviates from the norm, any smoking guns?*

JACOBS: Well, there is no smoking gun. It's the same with UFOs, as long as you don't have a piece of one to hold in your hand, you're still dealing primarily with anecdotal evidence. Now with the abduction phenomena, you're dealing with a whole host of other evidence, including physical effects on people's bodies

that they still, in an anecdotal manner, claim was caused by the abduction. For instance, scars and marks and bruises, and scar tissue and anomalous bleeding and holes in the bridge of the nose and holes in the eardrum.

These are quite characteristic of abduction events. But we don't hold in our hands the transistor radio made on Mars or anything like that. But we're very optimistic about that actuality and think that one of these days we might in fact get something.

MURRAY: *What about the implants? You hear abductees claiming that they have implants that can be seen by neurologists on x-rays. Is there anything to that, do you think?*

JACOBS: Well, that's what we're most optimistic about, actually. We have a hope that one of these days we're going to get one of those.

MURRAY: *Have you seen any yourself yet?*

JACOBS: No, I have not seen any myself. There have been a number of cases where people have retrieved one of those in one way or the other, and each time they did they did not know where it came from or that they were in fact an abductee and in each way it was lost. But one of these days an abductee is going to retrieve one and they're going to know, and we're going to get it.

MURRAY: *Have you been in touch with anyone who has actually seen one of these implants or had one in their hands, any neurologists or....*

JACOBS: No, I have not, I have not.

MURRAY: *You mentioned that you're working with Budd Hopkins on this. Who else in the UFO field itself?*

JACOBS: Well, I'm not working with anyone here in Philadelphia. There really isn't anyone else engaged in this type of work. As you know, there are very few abduction researchers in this country as a whole. There's Budd and I of course, and Leo Sprinkle out in Wyoming, and a guy in Boston, and there's Dick Haynes out in California, and Tracy Torme, and there's a few in Los Angeles, Dick Neill and a couple of others, but there's really not many of us, because it's like, so new.

I think when the book comes out, there will suddenly be a whole lot more people, because when my book comes out, it's going to, I think, place everything in context, everything in perspective and no matter what the story that people tell us is, they'll be able to understand what they're saying and place it in the context of the abduction phenomena and have a much greater grounding in abduction information than ever before. So, when the book comes out, I think things might be a little bit different.

MURRAY: *You think the book will have that much of an effect, that it might bring more people out of the woodwork with the vague memories?*

JACOBS: That it will do, because anything does it, I mean any article that's ever been printed has done it,

so a book of this nature absolutely will. This book goes through an abduction sequence on a second-by-second basis, from the time the abductee thinks something is wrong to the time they are returned. From the time the abduction starts to the time it is over, on a minute by minute, second-by-second basis, all the way through virtually everything that happens and that has never been done before.

MURRAY: *Do you find many correlating patterns in these cases?*

JACOBS: Oh yeah, they all say the same thing. In the past hundred sessions I've had, everything said to me is just confirmatory. I haven't learned anything really new.

MURRAY: *What about the TREAT conference and the problems there? Dr. Laibow believes that whatever the external cause of the abduction trauma is, it should be treated like any other mental and emotional problem. She feels that Ufologists have been more focused on the cause of the problem, which they assume to be extraterrestrial. What do you think about those ideas?*

JACOBS: Well, I know Rima Laibow very well. Rima Laibow is an amateur in an area that is extremely complex. She does have some insight into it, but not complete insight, I'll tell you that. She's very new to the field and has a lot to learn.

MURRAY: *Where do you think she is making her mistake?*

JACOBS: Well, she's trying to medicalize all these people and that is not the case. There are a lot of people who do very well with the abduction phenomenon and who do not need the advice or the help of a psychologist or psychiatrist, who should not be treated as patients, who do not consider themselves as patients and who are insulted at the very thought. She is extremely cautious in saying that many people assume it's ET. Well, I would like her to say what else it is. She could not come up with another idea of what it is.

MURRAY: *All of the evidence you've found points just to the ET origin, then?*

JACOBS: All of the evidence points to that, none of it points away, and the people who think it points away don't know anything about the abduction phenomena.

MURRAY: *So give us some of the strongest cases in your mind for the ET theory.*

JACOBS: Well, again, there is no single strong case. They are all strong as far as I am concerned. What you're dealing with here is a preponderance of patterns, a preponderance of evidence, just like the UFO phenomenon in general. I think that the key here is that for UFO and abductions in general, there is no compelling or alternative theory that adequately accounts for all the data. In other words, there isn't anything—for instance, people who believe the whole thing is folklore and myth and legend, well, that's O.K. as long as you assume that every single case is going to be qualitatively different, based on the per-

sonality of the person. In fact, we don't find that at all. We find them to be depressingly similar with people saying things that you could not possibly imagine, and saying it right away, and it's never been written in the media. It's never been publicized or anything.

At the same time, there is this whole host of physical effects of the phenomenon and no psychological theory takes into account any of those. The only theory that takes into account everything that is happening is the theory that these people are accurately describing experiences that they have had, and then everything else falls into place, and the only way you can explain what is happening to them is that they are dealing with beings that are not human.

Then they must be from somewhere else. You can't even think about this phenomenon without using that as a basis. If you think it's psychological, then you're going off into the wild blue yonder, you're in the never-never land of nowhere.

MURRAY: O.K., you say that abductions are caused by extraterrestrials. What do you think personally is the reason for these experiments?

JACOBS: It's a systematic program of the exploitation of human beings for the purpose of taking sperm and eggs and creating other beings.

MURRAY: Have some of the contactees told you that they've actually seen this process being done? We've heard these stories from John Lear and people like that...

JACOBS: There's no evidence for anything that John Lear has ever described.

MURRAY: I know. But have some of these people said to you that they've actually seen these things being formulated?

JACOBS: What do you mean being formulated?

MURRAY: Well, you said that the purpose of the abductions was to create other beings. O.K., have any of the abductees said they've seen these aliens performing this process?

JACOBS: It's like having a baby, and if the question is have you ever seen anybody ever having a baby. Well, yes, I guess if you look at a couple in intercourse, I guess you could say you're seeing that, but that's not really it. Then there's the fertilization of the egg by the sperm and you see what I mean? I can't quite get my mind around that question. Rephrase that question so I can answer it.

MURRAY: O.K., some of the abductees have had egg cells removed from their bodies. Have they seen what the aliens do with them, have they seen them going some place with them, have they seen the process actually at work?

JACOBS: Well, that's a very tough question and the answer in general is no. In other words, once they take the eggs and sperm, we cannot follow them from A to B to C to D, but we can follow it from taking sperm and egg basically from C-D, all the way to Z. It's the A and B that we don't have right now.

MURRAY: And point Z would be...

JACOBS: The child, the offspring as I call them.

MURRAY: Are these offspring ever here on Earth?

JACOBS: No, definitely not. If they ever were, you'd know it, you'd know it right away.

MURRAY: Why do you say that?

JACOBS: Well, they're different. They give the appearance of being hybrids, whether they are or not of course is still—since we don't know A and B we can't absolutely say, but they look different, act different and are different.

MURRAY: Can you go into more details on that?

JACOBS: Well, these things are beings that look like a cross between human and alien, so to speak. This is what people are describing now and this is sort of what Budd Hopkins has found. They're large-headed, sort of gray-toned, pale-white toned people with very thin hair, small ears, large eyes, small nose, small mouth, yet looking human. I mean nose, ears and mouth. There's a thin chin, thin bodies, frail, and when you look at them at first blush they might look weirdly human, but when you look at them closely, you realize something is wrong here. That's what virtually all the abductees report if they see these children.

MURRAY: Have the aliens ever given the abductees any reason why they're doing this?

JACOBS: No, that we do not know. We do not know why. You see, if this were psychologically generated, if this were something that was internally generated by different people, we'd have a thousand different theories on why. We'd have all sorts of "why" answers, because that's what we got with the contactees in the old days. They had a million "whys." One of the constant features of the abduction phenomenon as we know it today is that nobody knows why, and believe me, if this were purely psychological, they would know why, everybody would have a reason. But in this situation we don't know why.

MURRAY: There's obviously the Betty and Barney Hill case. How far have you traced this back?

JACOBS: The earliest case I have now is around 1934.

MURRAY: The person was first abducted in 1934?

JACOBS: Yes.

MURRAY: And they're still alive today?

JACOBS: Oh yeah, well, this is when she was a small child, and she's in her late 50s now or whatever. But we have many, many from the 40s and 50s.

MURRAY: So obviously you think this has been going on since long before that?

JACOBS: Well, we don't know how long this has been going on. We are limited by the age of the people who are coming to see us, so if we had some 90 year old come to see us, then maybe we could push it back further. I've only worked with people in ages 58-59 as the oldest, so we don't really know, but I don't think it goes back much farther, to tell you the truth. I don't know why, but I really do think it's parallel to the introduction of the UFO phenomenon in general.

The Ego Corner:

The Good, the Bad & the Weird

by Geneva Hagen

**I have been puzzled for a long time
by the way the Powers-That-Be
keep treating this planet as though
they don't expect to have to live
here much longer!**

Instead of doing a theme column this issue, I'm going to present a sampling of what's astir on this planet of ours, with an emphasis on obscure stuff that may not have come to your attention yet. Naturally, we'll start with:

SPACE CADETS

UFO sightings are on the increase everywhere, but especially in Eastern Europe. I wonder if the new flap might have any connection to the fact that people in that part of the world have recently discovered LSD. In *Magical Blend*, Robert Anton Wilson says the Europeans have begun holding LSD parties reminiscent of the Merry Prankster antics back in the Sixties, when Ken Kesey first liberated the drug from the research labs of the CIA. The most popular brand is said to be "Gorby acid": the blotter is stamped with Gorbachev's face!

Contact and abduction reports are also on the upswing in the U.S. and Canada. In fact, a Vancouver researcher says that there are more than 6,000 UFO abductees in that city alone. (I hope to have more on this for you later, after our trip to Vancouver this fall.)

Reports of Satanic Abuse, particularly of children, are also rampant. In fact, I received a letter from an abuse victim in Ontario the same week my neighbor received a letter from Ohio describing a similar case! Though no one can deny that our world has its share of evil weirdos, the sheer number of such stories goes against the laws of probability. Many bear a striking resemblance to UFO abduction cases: someone is helpless while weird and sinister beings gang up and do unpleasant things to one's body. Fundamentalist Christians, of course, would proclaim here that they've known all along that Ufonauts are nothing



but Demons from Hell! My own guess would be that both these phenomena are "symbolic memories" of real events that happened when the victims were too young to make any sense of them—probably childbirth or surgery.

RESEARCHERS GO IN CIRCLES:

In "Operation Blackbird" this July, scientists stationed themselves overnight in a grain field in England. With a million dollars' worth of surveillance equipment at their disposal, their aim was to observe one of the mysterious grain circles in the act of formation. The next morning, they happily announced their success, as their cameras recorded moving lights over the grain field. To their embarrassment, however, a quick trip to the actual site revealed a circle that had obviously been tramped down by human feet; in fact, a wooden cross and Ouija board had been left as evidence! It makes me wonder what sort of strange energies these scientists were expecting to detect, if their equipment can't even recognize a band of human beings prancing around with flashlights or candles.

Hard-core Believers will note that The Phenomenon could have pulled this stunt just to throw us off-course! In any case, we are no closer than ever to

understanding the cause for the real Circles, where the grain does *not* show signs of having been walked upon.

STAR WARS REVISITED

U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle has long been noted for his chronic foot-in-mouth condition, best exemplified by his comment that he'd had such a good time during his tour of Latin America, it made him sorry he hadn't paid more attention during his Latin classes! This past summer, however, Quayle actually said something half-way intelligent: He proposed that the Star Wars defense program be converted to deflect meteor impacts. The intelligent half of this comment recognizes the obvious need for such a system; earlier this year an asteroid passed dangerously close to our planet, and several others may come near within the next couple of centuries. But the unintelligent half ignores the fact that even the scientists hired to develop the Star Wars system have insisted all along that it's a silly idea and just couldn't work. Moral: A nation should not undertake vast projects based on half-vast ideas!

But some conspiracy buffs claim that Star Wars has been just a cover-up to secure funds for other, even more nefarious, secret projects having to do with the government's unholy alliance with Evil Space Beings. Although I have not seen a lot of evidence to support this particular idea, if Star Wars isn't what it purports to be, then it could very well be a cover to secure funds for something else. I *have* been puzzled for a long time by the way the Powers-That-Be keep treating this planet as though they don't expect to have to live here much longer! But then again, they don't—most of our planet's power brokers are in the last quarter of their lifespan.

"SWAMP GAS" TIME BOMB FROM HELL

In the 50's, the Department of Energy told residents of S.E. Washington State that the strange clouds they'd been seeing were just "swamp gas." Only recently has it come to light that the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, which is the country's largest supplier of nuclear bombs, is also home to a radioactive waste spill that has leaked enough to form a 40-foot-deep lake the size of Manhattan! During the first decade of bomb production, radioactive contamination in this area (470,000 curies) was incomparably greater than the amount that escaped during the Three Mile Island accident (15 curies)—and Three Mile Island continues to have aftereffects on the health of local residents. One escaped radioactive isotope is Iodine 131, which has a half-life measured in thousands of years! This noxious brew is entering the Columbia River system, which supplies water to Washington and Oregon. Naturally, residents of the Hanford area all complain of chronic health problems, and most of them eventually

develop some sort of cancer. Earlier this spring, Vancouver residents got alarmed when shifting winds threatened to blow the Hanford radiation cloud toward Canada. I guess residents of the U.S. have learned to live with it!

As one last cheerful thought, underground storage tank 101-SY has been lacking hydrogen and is in danger of exploding. Although, strictly speaking, this might not count as a nuclear explosion, you can imagine how much radioactive substance would be released into the atmosphere. Doesn't this situation merit some sort of a public squawk before it's too late?

WATER AS AN AUTO FUEL

Hydrogen definitely has its good points. As a fuel, it is almost totally non-polluting. Our society has had a hydrogen phobia since that unfortunate blimp disaster, but at our present level of technology, such fears are no longer justified. It is now possible to convert any automobile to run off hydrogen derived from water by splitting the molecule with an electric current. This process takes place just before combustion, so only a small amount of hydrogen is present in the tank at any given time. You are driving around with a tank of water, not a tank of hydrogen! Solar energy can be used to trigger the hydrogen production!

This technology is past the theoretical stages. There are people driving around with hydrogen-powered cars right now. However, no conversion kits are on the market yet, so car-owners have to do all the work themselves. By the time you factor in the cost of materials and labor, the average individual wouldn't gain much financial advantage by converting a vehicle to hydrogen, but mass production could make hydrogen power extremely cost-effective—especially after solar panels are cheaper.

As you probably know, Los Angeles passed a well-intentioned and long-overdue (albeit ill-conceived) air pollution law. No conventional vehicles presently meet the pollution standards they aim for. I watched a TV news program wherein people speculated on how this problem would be solved. Plug-in electric cars seemed to be the foremost contender. Please note that this option would spell continuing reliance on a centralized power system selling us fuel! Not one of the scientists interviewed mentioned hydrogen power as an option, even though electric cars still aren't very satisfactory.

There's a Hydrogen Energy Association in Florida which publishes an expensive journal on the subject and kindly sent me some technical data which I found unintelligible. Maybe interested readers would have better luck if they write to FARM SHOW Followup, Dr. Cliff Ricketts, MTSU, P.O. Box 5, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132. Canadian readers can get a big stack of information for free from B.C.'s Jim Fulton, c/o Parliament Buildings in Ottawa.

Better hurry, though—at the rate we're going, water may soon cost as much as petroleum!

"JUST SAY KNOW"

Many of my U.S. correspondents have expressed concern that the so-called "War on Drugs" is really a media hype to set the stage for some sort of police state. As Robert Anton Wilson points out in his magazine *Trajectories*, the drug war has not significantly decreased drug use, but *has* driven up the prices and made it more profitable for people to enter the drug trade. It also provides an excuse for U.S. intervention into the affairs of foreign nations—most recently when the U.S. invaded Panama (for the 16th time since it created that nation on land stolen from Colombia around the turn of the century) and laid waste a city to "bring to justice" its President Noriega, a former CIA lackey.

U.S. covert operations have long been conducted with proceeds of drug smuggling. The most recent examples of this were uncovered during the Irangate investigations. Astonishingly, most Americans remain oblivious to this information. No outcry was raised when a key Contragate witness was excused from testimony. No contradiction was seen when Nancy Reagan urged the Youth of America to "Just Say No," nor when former CIA director George Bush escalated the War on Drugs. But a thinking person has to ask: Setting aside smuggling as a source of untraceable funding, why *else* might a government choose to traffic in drugs, and then launch a "war" against these very same drugs that it put on the streets in the first place?

Let's step back in time to the early LSD experiments. Naturally, the CIA first saw this drug as a potential weapon of war. Several secret brainwashing experiments were conducted, leading to at least one suicide and several other cases of lifelong mental dysfunction. These might never have come to light, had not one of the early victims been the wife of a Canadian member of parliament. The victims of that particular experimental group finally won a small financial settlement from the CIA a few months ago.

One has only to talk with a few former political radicals turned "space cadet" to see what might have motivated the government to saturate the campuses with LSD during the Vietnam years! And if the poor and homeless spend most of their time nodding-out on heroin, they too are unlikely to mount any effective political action. Moreover, any violence their addiction provokes will then make the Middle Class angry at the poor, not at the government. People will cry out for more Police Protection!

During our vacation in Jamaica a few years ago, people told us outright: "If it weren't for ganja [marijuana], the people here would rise up in arms!"

Ah yes, arms. The right to bear arms was once considered essential to American freedom, but now that

city streets have become the site of gang wars fought with submachine guns, people are reconsidering. Personally, I can't think of any socially constructive reason why anybody would want to own a Uzi; but then, I feel the same way about tanks and submarines. Clamping down on the sale of personal firearms would probably reduce the incidence of petty robberies and crimes of passion, but can anyone seriously imagine it will slow down gang warfare among the big-time smugglers? This being the case, why *else* might the Powers-That-Be want the populace disarmed? No, I'm not going to answer that one here....

The Drug Wars have also eroded personal rights in several other areas. The "urine sample" required in the workplace now in many professions are one good example. Certainly, nobody wants our busdrivers and air traffic controllers to be stoned on the job. However, urine tests may also show positive if the individual indulged at a party two weeks previously, so they amount to an on-going surveillance of one's personal life: hardly a case of "considered innocent until proven guilty"!

In several cases, property has been confiscated even though the owners were never convicted of any crime. Even though growing marijuana for personal consumption is legal in Alaska (or was last I heard), one Alaskan fishing skipper had his \$140,000 boat seized when a crewman was discovered to have a small packet of weed in his pocket. No charges were ever brought against him, but his boat was not returned.

The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that warrantless searches may now be made on the basis of anonymous tips. That basically means police can search at their whim. Even when these "trips" aren't entirely fictitious, think what a field day malicious pranksters can now have!

Bill HR4079, now in Congressional committee, would go so far as to set up concentration camps for convicted "drug offenders" (which might include that unfortunate Alaskan skipper, or your 14-year-old daughter). We're talking tents, wooden barracks and barbed wire here! That ought to rehabilitate 'em for sure, eh? Why not phone your member of Congress and ask for a copy of this document?

Another bill just introduced would require all citizens to carry a holographic national ID card to be shown on demand to any law enforcement officer. You would not be able to get a job without this card. Well, after all, the Drug Wars require that we curtail illegal immigrants! Does this remind anyone of the Passbooks that South African blacks were required to carry, at which we all professed such horror!

And if opium is now the religion of the masses, why leave the First Amendment untouched? In an attempt to stomp out the peyote-using Native American Church, which has been legal up to now and has never caused any trouble to my knowledge, the Su-

preme Court has decreed that State governments now have the right to make laws denying religious groups their Constitutional freedoms. But Justice Scalia helpfully reassures us that this new ruling will probably only be used against "those religious practices that are not widely engaged in." Gee, that's a relief!

After all the above, it may be anticlimactic to point out that drug cases now account for 44% of all criminal trials and 50% of criminal appeals. It now takes three to five years to bring a civil case to trial, and the American Bar Association president expects the delays to steadily increase as drug cases continue to clog the justice system.

Maybe now it will seem less surprising that so many people are searching around for something to help quiet their nerves!

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE!

Actually, tobacco must be cured over wood smoke for many days, and contributes to substantial deforestation, not to mention occupying land that could be used to grow food crops. American tobacco causes far more deaths in Colombia than Colombian cocaine causes in America. In fact, worldwide, over the next couple of decades, tobacco is expected to cause 20 million deaths a year!

World hunger causes only 15 million deaths a year. Maybe I should switch causes and start crusading against tobacco instead?!

One ray of hope: The tobacco leaf contains a vegetable protein of higher quality than soy, and more easily extracted. We might be able to help solve two problems here at one stroke, without even having to fight the tobacco lobbyists!

RED-FACED INTERNATIONAL BANKERS

It's official now: The World Bank admits that it goofed badly in imposing the "structural adjustment policies" in the 80's. This attempted answer to the Third World Debt totally overlooked the human factors. Nations were required to cut back on social services and grow export crops to earn foreign currency instead of food crops to feed their own people. But now that infant mortality is on the increase and one-fifth of the world lives in poverty (defined as an income of less than \$370 per year), the Bank is finally ready to agree with the citizens and politicians who have been lobbying for the past few years to get it to change its policies.

The new recommendations are almost exactly opposite to the old ones. Now poor countries are urged to make more use of their biggest resource—human labor, particularly in areas of food production. Also, they should make sure the poor have access to basic needs such as health care, family planning, nutrition and education.

At first, I had assumed the Banks must be cynical

fiends, pure and simple, but then I read an article saying that many of them are idealists who could be earning much more in the private sector, but wanted to work for the World Bank so they could serve humanity. The economic crisis of the Eighties (which is still being called the Economic Recovery, as though people could not see for themselves the increasing number of homeless in our streets), may just illustrate the degree to which Economic Theory diverges from the Real World. Too bad that a few million children had to die before the message could hit home.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR CHILDREN

At last we have a chance to start to set things right. I wrote in past issues that world leaders had failed to respond to the call for a Children's Summit, but finally, after more than a year of lobbying, it has been put on the U.N. agenda for September. More world leaders are expected to attend this summit than any other in history, but there are two notable holdouts: Bush and Gorbachev!

On the night of the Fall Equinox, Sunday, September 23, Candlelight Vigils will be held around the world to focus attention on the Children's Summit the following week, and, incidentally, to encourage Bush and Gorbachev to get their asses in gear. Leaders will be urged to make the well-being of children a priority on their own country's political, economic and social agenda, and to adopt the simple measures that could save the lives of 50 million children this decade. This would also help stabilize the Earth's population, since people have much smaller families when they expect all their children to survive. Leaders will also be urged to ratify and implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child. (In many countries, children are still being used as slave labor. Their tiny fingers are especially useful in turning out those fabulous Oriental rugs.)

The Candlelight Vigils could be the biggest demonstration since Hands Across America. As of July, Vigils were being planned for 16 countries, including most of the larger cities in North America. For full details, in the U.S. call 800-WE-AGREE; in Canada, call (403) 243-0718. If a Vigil is not already being planned for your own area, it may be fairly easy to interest your school or religious or civic organization in sponsoring one. This event could change the course of history, so don't miss out on it—how will you ever explain it to your grandchildren? *[Unfortunately, the contingencies and unpredictable nature of magazine production will prevent this issue from reaching most of you until after the demonstration takes place.—GS]*

—Geneva Hagen

My thanks to Robert Alpert and Robert Anton Wilson and *Trajectories* magazine for bringing the War on Drugs legislation to my attention. *Trajectories* is available from: P.O. Box 700305, San Jose, CA 95170.

The Howard Menger Story

by James W. Moseley

On one occasion, three alleged spacemen were seen at one time, and were described as leaping and bounding about "like clowns" in Menger's apple orchard.

Just about anyone interested in the history of modern Ufology has heard of George Adamski, the first UFO contactee to receive national attention. They have probably also heard of Ed Walters of Gulf Breeze, Florida (see my previous writings in this magazine), whose hardcover book by a major publisher makes him the "hottest" contactee at this particular point in time.

But there have been many other lesser-known contactees, particularly in the 1950s. Notable among these was Howard Menger, then of High Bridge, New Jersey. Some of the information in this article came from the following sources (with the able-bodied help of UFO researcher Tom Benson): Menger's 1959 book, *From Outer Space to You*, the newsletter of the long-defunct UFO group, Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York (CSI), Britain's *Flying Saucer Review*, and my recent interviews with Howard Menger himself, who is still alive and well and living in retirement in Vero Beach, Florida.

We must remember that, when we talk about the Ufology of the 1950s, we are talking about an era long before cattle mutilations, evil little "greys," involuntary abductions, secret underground alien bases, and the other horrors that constitute modern saucer mythology. In those days, most (but not all) of the aliens exuded "sweetness and light." In brief, they were beautiful, wonderful, highly-advanced people who were supposedly just here to help us.

Menger's first contact was when he was eight, nine or ten years old—in the year 1930 or 1931 (the precise figures vary). Says Menger, "One day I had a tremendous urge to go to a certain spot in the woods. It was a beautiful section of woods, about a mile in the rear of our house. It is very lovely in the summertime. There

is a brook running by, beautiful plants, squirrels running up and down the trees, rabbits, and occasionally a deer would come up very close. I kept going to the spot for some unknown reason; something just drew me there. There was never anything there, but just the beauty of the natural surroundings.

"But this one day there was something there—more beautiful than the surroundings. There was a woman sitting on a rock. She appeared to be about 25 years old. She wore no jewelry, no make-up. She had a ski-suit type outfit on, which seemed to glow—a translucent, very beautiful sort of material. There were no seams, no buttons, as far as I could see. She had long, blond, natural hair, gold-color eyes....As to the feeling I got when I saw this woman, the feeling was unmistakable—it was a tremendous feeling of a great amount of love which seemed to emit from her to me....She told me that she was from another planet. I later found out she was from Venus...."

Later in life Menger met the beautiful Venusian woman again, and learned that in reality she was several thousand years old—due to the long life spans on Venus. This is surely an example of a woman who doesn't show her age!

Menger went into military service in World War II, and continued to have contacts with human-looking entities who claimed to be—and seemed to be—from another planet. All this according to his various writings, and even according to the lecture he made before our UFO group, the National UFO Conference, in Miami Beach back in May. Yet when I told Menger on the phone about this article, he said, "Maybe you shouldn't emphasize the outer space aspect. These people might not have been from other planets after all."

But read on!

Menger's most famous series of sightings and contacts began in the summer of 1956, when he was living in High Bridge with his first wife. Again, a psychic feeling drew him to a certain area, and Menger relates:

"As I stood there, inhaling on my pipe, something bright caught my eye coming over the field to the left, high above the trees. A huge fireball speeding across the sky. Gradually it slowed down and took shape as it skimmed over the treetops. It was bell-shaped and



Howard & Connie Menger at the 1990 National UFO Conference in Miami, with their flying saucer in miniature.

pulsating different colors, as it slowed down and prepared to descend. I could see that it was beautifully and intelligently controlled. It settled to the ground, noiselessly and gracefully.

"An opening appeared on the side of the craft. Two tall blond men got out. One stepped to the left and the other stepped to the right. Then a magnificent sight greeted my eyes. A handsome, well-built man with long, blond hair over his shoulders stepped out and took a few steps forward. I sensed that he was greater than the other two beings. His whole radiant presence seemed to fill the field. He raised his hand in greeting and I felt like an eager, humble child waiting for a long-awaited friend. And yet, while I felt very humble in his presence, he made me feel as if he were humble in my presence.

"He stood about twenty-odd feet away from me and looked at me with compassion, love, and understanding. He didn't say a word, but he told me in five minutes, through a type of telepathic communication, what would take me a week or two to recapture in

words.... The feeling of love that came from the man is almost inexpressible, and the wonderment I had in his presence is unforgettable. Over a period of months the message that he so lovingly implanted on my subconscious is now coming to the foreground...."

Beginning with the summer of 1956, Menger's meetings with the space people became more frequent, and he took a number of rather dubious photographs, which have been published in his book and elsewhere. Most of these depict luminous spacecraft hovering on or near the ground at night. Menger also went out into space in a saucer on more than one occasion, and saw, through a three-dimensional viewer, the people, animals, and sled-like vehicles on the surface of Venus. All of this occurred, of course, before scientists were sure, as they now are, that the surface temperature of Venus is something like 800 degrees!

There are a number of specific comparisons that can be made between Menger's experiences and George Adamski's, as related in Adamski's second book, *Inside the Spaceships*, which had just come out. The Civilian

Saucer Intelligence group (CSI), which was consistently anti-contactee in their attitude, maintains that Menger denied having read Adamski's first book, though it later developed he had discussed it with others when it first came out. Similarly, according to CSI, Menger denied having read *Inside the Spaceships*, though it had been in his house all that summer (1956).

The similarities between Menger's adventures and Adamski's are remarkable, and for a True Believer this would mean that both stories are probably true. However, the fact is that Menger's introduction to the UFO field was not through Adamski, whom he did not know, but through a somewhat mysterious contactee named George Van Tassel.

Van Tassel, like Menger, claimed space contacts as well as important connections with the U.S. government. Van Tassel was the man who built, based on instructions that supposedly came from the space people, the infamous "Integratron," on his property in the desert, at Giant Rock, California. He also sponsored large-scale outdoor conventions on his property from 1953 till 1970.

It is not clear just how Menger got in touch with Van Tassel, but Van Tassel came to the New York area in October of 1956 to give one or more lectures on his own experiences, and to appear on the Long John Nebel show on radio station WOR. Van Tassel invited Menger to go on the show with him, and thereby began a remarkable series of broadcasts.

Long John, a former carnival pitchman, had just recently started an all-night talk show—he was one of the first in fact—and needed something to build up his ratings. As it turned out, Long John made a star out of Howard Menger, and Howard Menger made a star out of Long John. This mutual admiration society went along nicely for several months, during which Menger appeared dozens of times—accompanied by a skeptical group of panelists which included members of CSI and in particular, a keenly skeptical lawyer named Jules St. Germain.

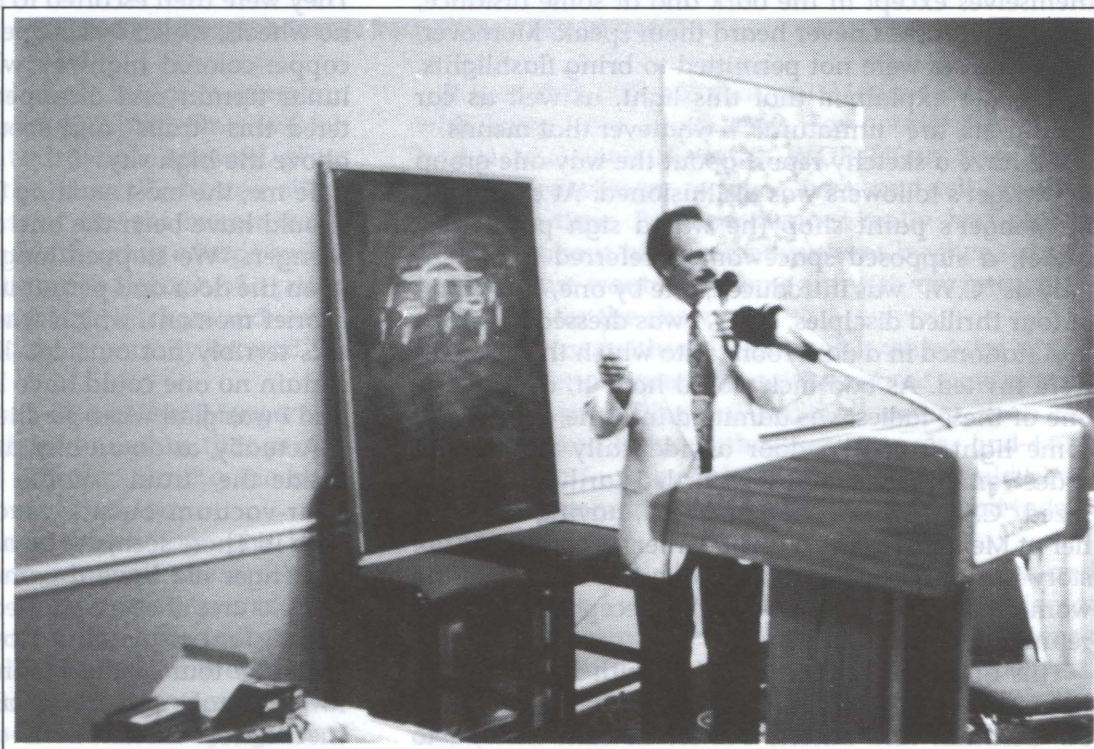
By mid-1957, a rather humorous (to us) incident occurred, which kept Menger and other

saucer folk off the Long John Show for a period of more than three months. It seems that one Dr. J.E. Schmidt, a psychiatrist in Charlestown, Indiana, made a formal complaint to the Federal Communications Commission to the effect that Long John's show was "a public hazard to mental health," and he requested that the program be taken off the air. In his complaint, Dr. Schmidt objected particularly to the flying saucer programs.

Long John panicked, and decided to "cool it" for a while, as far as offbeat subjects were concerned. But eventually Menger and his ufological opponents were back on the airwaves.

Where, you might ask, was I during all these goings on? Although I began in UFO research in 1953, and started a scheduled magazine called *Saucer News* in 1954—and was even president of CSI for a short time—I took no part in the Menger story in those early days. I did write a detailed exposé of George Adamski—which is still considered a definitive work—and I published one article about Menger in *Saucer News* in 1957 (I called him the "Jersey Adamski").

But the main thrust of my time and energies during the late 1950s was in Peru, where I spent about half of each year treasure hunting. During a later period, I too had my run on the Long John show, and eventually I made it onto the college lecture circuit, speaking on the subject of UFOs all over the country. But my only contact with Howard Menger was a brief meeting, at one of his outdoor conventions at his home in High Bridge.



Menger discusses the "electrodynamic" propulsion system of UFOs at the Miami Conference.

But, back to the 1956–1957 “golden era” of the Long John Show: One of the most interesting stories Menger told, which he repeated with slight variations to me and others, was as follows: A policeman had seen his car speeding and passing a red light, and had taken down its license number; but when he appeared in court to answer the summons, Menger declared (backed by his followers) that at the time of the alleged infraction, he had actually been indoors conducting a UFO meeting. Moreover, the car that the policeman thought he saw had been sold some time before, and was in a Philadelphia garage at the time.

Menger’s explanation of the incident was that he had happened to daydream for a few minutes about driving his old car, and had inadvertently created a “thought image,” which the police officer had seen going through the red light.

The bewildered judge—who said this was the weirdest defense he had ever heard—dismissed the charge!

By 1957, Menger had succeeded in convincing a sizeable group of followers that his space stories were authentic. On a number of occasions, friends of the Menger family were led outdoors at night and shown, at a respectful distance, spacemen as well as “thought” discs. On one occasion, three alleged spacemen were seen at one time, and were described as leaping and bounding about “like clowns” in Menger’s apple orchard. Some who saw this strange performance thought their leaps were superhuman; but others thought not.

In general these space people never seemed to show themselves except in the dark and at some distance, and the witnesses never heard them speak. Moreover, the witnesses were not permitted to bring flashlights, as Menger explained that this light, as well as car headlights, are “unnatural”—whatever that means.

We have a sketchy report about the way one group of Menger’s followers was disillusioned: At a meeting in Menger’s paint shop (he was a sign painter by trade), a supposed spacewoman referred to by CSI only as “C.W.” was introduced, one by one, to a group of four thrilled disciples. “C.W.” was dressed in a robe and stationed in a dark room, into which the disciples were invited. As bad luck would have it, at the time one of these ladies was admitted into the dark room, some light from the door accidentally fell on the spacewoman’s face, and the startled Earth lady recognized “C.W.,” whom she knew well, having talked to her at Menger’s home a week earlier. According to the story—as published by CSI—Menger later begged the woman to keep quiet about the deception, but she refused to do so.

This and many other problems with Menger’s stories were brought out on the Long John Show by Jules St. Germain and others; but let us turn instead to Menger’s greatest triumph, his trip to the surface of the Moon in the Fall of 1957—12 years before the first

landing there by our astronauts.

On the way to the Moon aboard the spacecraft, the host told Menger and three other Earthlings who were aboard: “My friends, this trip will be a longer one than the previous journey. You will soon go through a processing, whereby a complete change will take place in your atomic physical system. Each atom of your physical body will undergo a processing which will change its polarity, frequency, and vibration, to adjust your body from its balance to the Earth’s attractive inertial mass to that of the Moon’s. This will require approximately a week and a half, Earth time. Do not be alarmed at the initial effects. Nothing can harm you. Now keep your eyes on the view screen.”

A little later the voice reassured them with this cryptic message: “Please do not be alarmed. Remember that we are only expressions or projections of reality, which in truth does not exist. You are being changed atomically to fit a reality of expression, or what you call the Moon....”

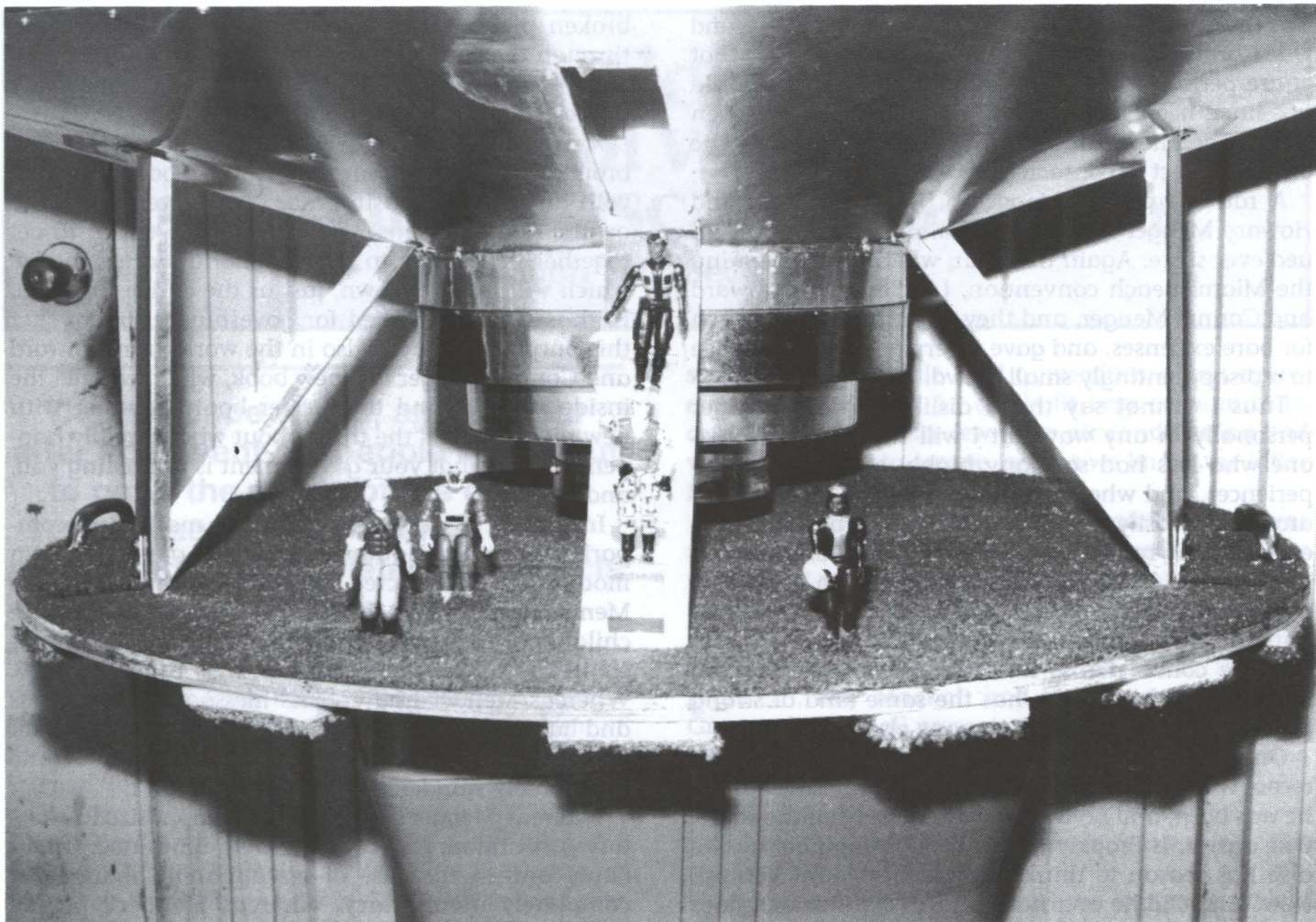
Although the spacecraft is not described in any detail at all, there were sleeping quarters, showers, toilets, and excellent food, not to mention highly spiritual companionship. Among the food served was nuts from other planets.

Eventually the craft landed inside a large dome-shaped building. The Earthlings were led into a huge lounge, with potted plants and flowers lining the walls and attractively arranged near seating units. Beautiful ladies in flowing pastel gowns offered them refreshments as they sat in front of a view screen. They were then escorted to a strange vehicle that had no wheels, which was suspended about a foot above a copper-colored highway which ribboned across the lunar terrain and disappeared from view. They entered this “train” and soon were gliding noiselessly above the highway.

To me, the most exciting (and frightening!) moment should have been the one a bit later, as described by Menger: “We stopped long enough for our guide to open the door and permit us to stick our heads out for a brief moment, which was all one could take, for it was terribly hot outside—like a blast furnace. I was certain no one could have lived outside for very long, and I was glad when he shut the door.”

Actually, as on an airplane at high altitude, the air inside the “train” should have rushed out into the near-vacuum outside, sucking the passengers out with it! There seems to be a scientific error here!

Menger did have a camera with him, and took a few pictures of dome-shaped buildings, the spacecraft, and distant mountains. However, in all of his Disneyland-like tour of the Moon’s surface, he was not allowed to take pictures of any surface details, people, mechanical installations and the like. Some of the pictures he did take are in his out-of-print book, *From Outer Space to You*.



Some of Menger's friends from other worlds, perhaps?

The skeptics at CSI found many things to complain about Menger's earlier photographs. One—which they claim was later withdrawn—showed grass whose height relative to the saucer indicated either that the grass was immense or else the saucer was a small model. Another picture, showing a large saucer in good focus, is judged to be a photograph of a painting—luminous paint on a black background—with visible touching-up noticeable, especially around the edges of the dome.

It must be remembered, of course, that Menger is a sign painter by trade, and continued in that profession until he retired very recently, turning the business, now in Vero Beach, over to his son.

Even more mysterious than the photographs, however, is the fact that, even after all these alleged experiences out in space, Menger continues to state occasionally that perhaps he did not meet people from other planets after all. Not that he is admitting any hoaxing on his part. Rather, he is saying that perhaps he was fooled by a series of tricks by agents of our government, doing psychological experiments for some unknown purpose.

It was this attitude that got Menger into trouble with Long John, circa 1960. For a brief time John had a television show on WOR-TV in New York, and invited Menger to come back and tell his story one more time. Perhaps Menger really had second thoughts about his space adventures by then, or perhaps he just wanted to come up with an interesting new angle for the show.

In any case, without "clearing" it with John ahead of time, Menger came on talking about government plots and psychological warfare, rather than the sweetness and light of the space people, and Long John was furious. John later told me he would never have Menger on any of his shows again—and indeed he never did.

But I kept in touch with Menger occasionally, and in 1967, when I was planning my giant convention at the Hotel Commodore in New York, I invited him to come up from Florida to be one of our many speakers. In order to work more efficiently in planning the many details for our convention, I moved out of my New York apartment and lived in the Commodore for at least a week ahead of time. Since my apartment

was therefore vacant, I invited Howard and his second wife Connie to stay, free, at the apartment during that entire period. Menger was very impressed, and could not have been more cordial about everything, even though he knew full well my reputation as a skeptic on the subject of contactees.

A rather unlikely friendship between myself and Howard Menger began at that time, and has continued ever since. Again this year, when I was planning the Miami Beach convention, I called upon Howard and Connie Menger, and they came from Vero Beach for bare expenses, and gave a very good performance to a disappointingly small crowd.

Thus I cannot say that I dislike Howard Menger personally in any way. But I will say that for someone who has had so many highly enlightening experiences, and who can throw New Age terminology around so easily, he does not seem to be any more enlightened, really, than anyone else. Perhaps it is just my own lifetime problem of being no more psychic than a bedpost, but I do not sense anything particularly spiritual about him. Except for the UFO jazz, he comes across like any other hard-working middle class fellow who has the same kind of strong points and weak points as anyone else.

One of the weak points is contradicting himself. In recent weeks I have asked Menger several times where he was born, and no two answers have been the same. One answer is Brooklyn, New York, though he says he also has reason to think it might be Mount Vernon, New York. Did he ever have a birth certificate or does he still have one? The answer to this question is murky. Somewhere behind all this is the possibility that someone will think he was born on another planet, or reincarnated from one, but Menger insists that this is not the case.

Apparently when the 1956–1957 publicity and attention died down, Menger basically got off the UFO syndrome. Once, after moving to Florida, he attempted to sponsor a UFO convention in his home town, but this effort was axed by the NICAP organization, which wrote to the town fathers warning them that Menger was a crackpot who would bring nothing but embarrassment, so Menger dropped the plan.

At least twice during his lifetime, Menger claims to have built small circular models of flying saucers, which could actually fly by remote control. The design for these craft was supposedly given to him by the space people, in the same manner that they supposedly gave George Van Tassel the design for the "Integratron." One of these models, which he built in 1951, got away from him and crashed near the border of Ohio and Pennsylvania, having been launched from Washington, New Jersey.

Menger proudly recalls that some people thought it was a ship from Mars. Eventually—according to Menger—two men from the FBI brought back the

broken pieces to his sign shop, having traced him through the supply stores where he bought the parts. They warned him not to do it again, but seemed very interested in the propulsion system.

At our recent Miami Beach convention, Menger brought with him a four-foot saucer model, complete with tiny figures of astronauts or whoever (see photo on the opposite page). Now Howard is trying to get together the money to build a slightly larger model, which will fly on its own, just as the earlier ones did. He has already applied for government funding for this purpose, he says. Also in the works from Howard and Connie Menger is a new book, which will tell the inside story behind the earlier book, together with new pictures and "the truth about what is really happening and what your government is not telling you, and why."

In closing, it seems appropriate to make some comparisons between Howard Menger and our best-known modern-day contactee, Edward Walters. Whereas Menger seemed ripe for interplanetary contact since childhood, Ed claims that he had no previous interest in the subject, until his sightings began in 1987. Whereas Menger had endless messages of sweetness and light, Ed still has no message at all, even *after* all his adventures—and a number of people have quite legitimately wondered as to why he doesn't.

Whereas Menger's space people emphasized voluntary association, Ed's contacts were unwanted, frightening and in the case of his apparent abductions, completely involuntary. Whereas Menger's people looked just like us—or even a little better than us—Ed's entities were ugly little "greys," like the creatures Whitley Strieber raves about.

Whereas Menger's people were from nearby planets which science has since found to be devoid of intelligent life, Ed's people are from an unknown source. Whereas Menger never took a lie detector test, Ed claims to have passed such a test, plus a voice stress analysis test, plus a psychological test. The least one can say from all this is that the rules are getting stricter for contactees as science advances.

Similarities between the two men's stories include: As noted, neither seems very spiritual. Both continue at their previous professions—Ufology has not really changed their lives very much. And finally, the importance of telepathy as opposed to real communication.

The recent controversy over an alleged model of a UFO discovered at Ed's former home (see this issue's *Newswatch* column) brings to mind the controversy over Menger's UFO photos nearly 35 years ago!

And so, you might ask, what is my opinion on all this? Which—if either—of these two gentlemen is really telling the truth?

Dear friends, I'm afraid I can't answer that. As the late, great George Adamski once said, "Time will tell."

—James W. Moseley

The Convention From Hell: A Personal View of the 1990 Guildford ISC/BFS Convention

by Jon Erik Beckjord

The audience wilted, and as hour after hour went on, people snuck out to go to the safety of the college pub...People were snoring in the aisles, and others twisted like insects on pins in their agony.

Editor's Note: To say that Jon Erik Beckjord is followed by controversy is to say that George Bush is president of the U.S., or that the name of this magazine is CAVEAT EMPTOR. To deny him his right to express his opinion goes against the aims and purposes of this magazine. We know Erik will agree with us when we say that the following is a less-than-objective appraisal of the 1990 convention of Sasquatch investigators held in Great Britain, and that some of you who attended will have a very different view of what happened there. With that in mind, we'll turn over the podium to Erik:

The event was billed as "Fabulous Beasts: Fact and Folklore," and this alone should have tipped me off, being a veteran of the 1978 Sasquatch convention at the University of British Columbia, where Bigfooters and folklorists had clashed before. But since I had been denied access to the 1989 con (see earlier reports in this magazine for the gory details), I felt that it would be wise to show my face and, in addition, I also had plans to go on my fifth expedition to Loch Ness, a mere 500 miles away. So I made my way to the University of Surrey at Guildford with expedition member Charlene in tow, on July 19.

A HEATED CONVENTION

The early signs boded ill: heat flooded into the plane at Gatwick, and an occasional man in shorts could be seen. Next, the British car rental outlet had not heard of air conditioned cars. Britain was suffering from a heat wave unprecedented in 100 years. As we approached the University of Surrey, a "red-brick" regional university, the buildings shimmered in the sun. The convention site was in a relatively spartan

setting. British middle-level universities, about equivalent to Cal State L.A., are built very economically, and the amenities are few—like air conditioning and vents for hot air to escape, and as we know, the latter is often found at conventions.

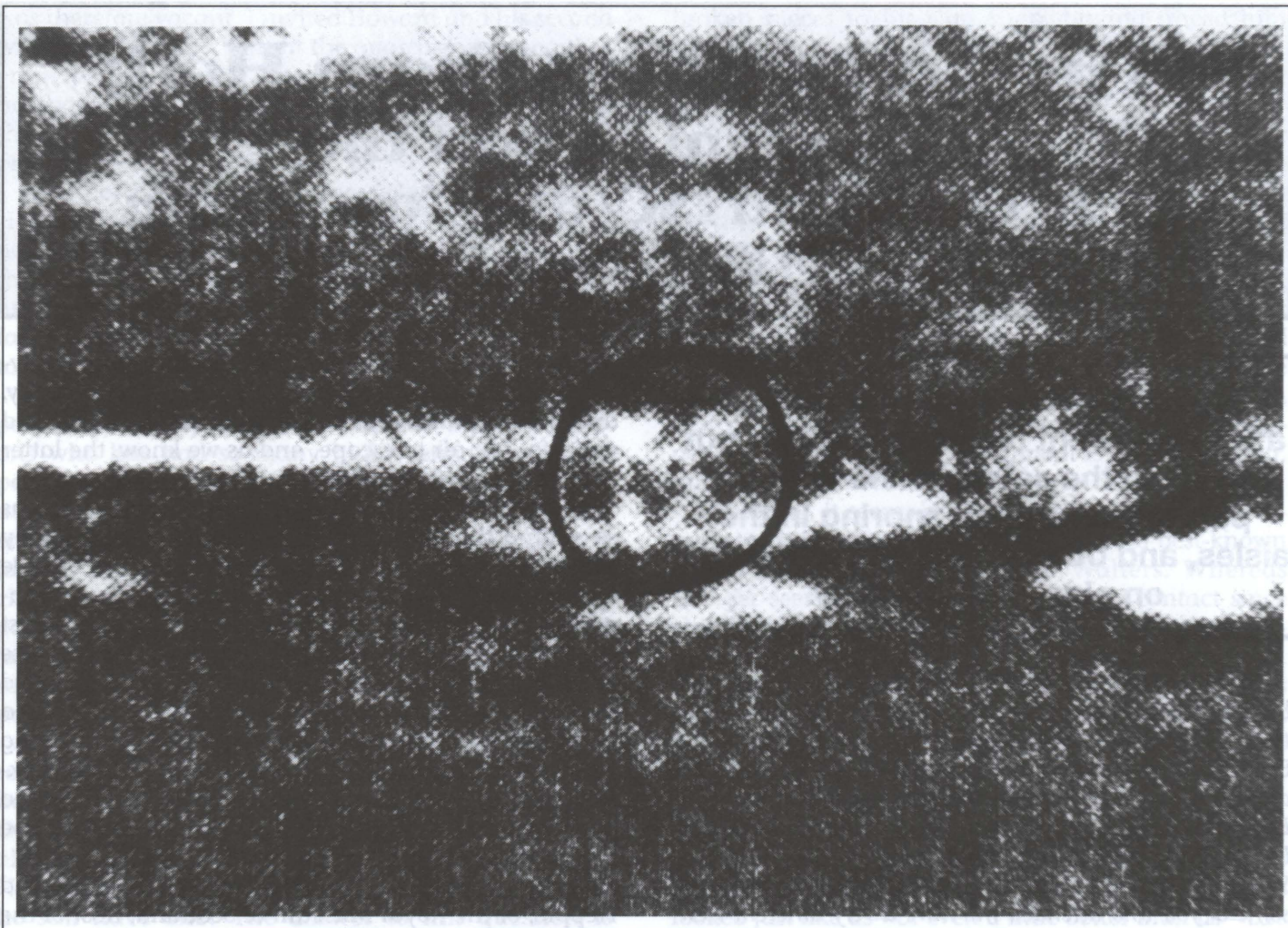
The first dinner was in a college cafeteria that was so stifling that my partner got red-faced and nearly passed out with heat stroke. I quickly got her outside into a breezy passageway, where other convention-goers soon gathered as well. I noticed that for the first time, the president, Bernard Heuvelmans, the vice president, Roy Mackal, and the secretary, Richard Greenwell, were all present at an ISC meeting. I saw a few eyebrows raise when I was spotted, but having paid our meal and attendance fees to the British Folklore Society, I was confident that there would be no problems in attending, and there were none. The meeting was, after all, open to all.

I noted a few friendly faces here and there: David Hepple, of the Royal Museum of Scotland, host of the 1987 ISC/Nessie convention, Jean-Paul Debenat, with whom I had corresponded, Heuvelmans, who had assisted in some Bigfoot photo analysis, Ivor Newby, an old-time Loch Ness hand, and a gaggle of friendly folklorists.

We all soon became united in our opposition to the heat. Being a rabble-rouser, I asked the cafeteria manager about the vents and the air conditioning (it was 105° inside) and after a few more meals, a giant industrial fan appeared at the open doorway. Bravo!

The University was architecturally bold, as its builders tried to detract from its red-brickedness by setting up staggered and odd-leveled walkways, stairs and access doors. Nothing much was in a straight line, and it took some of us days to learn the short-cuts and pathways in this giant rabbit-warren. However the first lecture day we did find our way to the lecture building and our designated hall.

Being a Convention from Hell, however, the heat managed to rise in the room, which had no exit vents, and it would cook all those who had mistakenly taken refuge at the upper rows, thinking that the open upper door would let out heat. It let out heat to a sealed-up glass exitway, and the heat really went nowhere, thus cooking the room occupants. Picture



No, not an inkblot test. According to the author, this is an enlargement of an unusual "head" figure at the front of a wake in Loch Ness in 1971. We've reproduced the picture as large as possible to capture every detail. Readers—what do you think?

an auditorium full of people waving fans, and in our case, holding up two cheapo battery-powered mini-fans, whirring away softly as the battle between cryptozoologists and folklorists went on below.

People soon took to escaping out the back to get bottled water, luke-warm Cokes, a breath of air, and then returning to get the end of each paper. Others staggered back to their dorm rooms, and a cold shower. A hardcore sweated it out. British thinking does not seem to allow for flexibility, so all this time, a cooler lecture hall sat unoccupied one floor down. Nobody thought to switch. Being semi hardcore, I tried to sit through as many papers as I could, even though Charlene (wisely) escaped a few sessions to sit in a Guildford hotel room in a cold tub.

THE OPPOSING CAMPS FORM UP

Every convention has its undercurrents and alliances and cross-alliances. This convention was no exception. The attendees were roughly divided into three camps: "materialistic cryptozoologists" (a term

coined by Greenwell at the end of the proceedings), a scattering of liberal cryptozoologists, and the folklorists, who took the attitude that "it's all a myth." The "it" in this case, was "Fabulous Beasts." Thus, we had presentations by the folklorists and the materialistic (i.e., conservative) cryptozoologists in the lecture hall, and a variety of guerrilla-warfare style presentations outside the official halls done by myself, representing a third position. I was armed fairly well, if not perfectly, with a video camera that could play back through a US TV set (battery-powered), a rented British VCR, a TV lounge in a dorm, two boxes of Carousel slides, many stills of Bigfoot and Nessie, a videotape of the famed Roger Patterson Bigfoot Film (1967), and two secret weapons.

A SNEAK ATTACK BY THE LIBERAL CAMP

Secret weapon number one was passed out to approximately 50 attendees during a break on the first day, Saturday. I learned from feedback after the 1987 con that it was better to pass out subversive material

in the halls, rather than in the lecture room, so I discreetly passed out a xerox of a long streak in Loch Ness, with a circle around something in front of it, and I asked each person what it was in the circle. Five percent saw absolutely zero, "just a mess of dots"; five percent saw a large black dot inside the circle. Another ten percent saw a mess of grain that "could be anything," but at least they saw the circle.

But what was most gratifying was that 80% did positively identify the object in the circle as a pretty distinct human head, or some said, a cocker spaniel, with its mouth open, with horns, some said, long hair, others said, and a surprised expression, as if saying "OH!," facing the camera. Even more gratifying was that 85% of the doubting Thomases were later brought around to see the face when shown it again by their friends.

In the larger group, I deliberately refrained from saying what it was, who shot it, where it was, and so on, so as to eliminate bias. Only when asked later did I explain that the photo was taken by Bob Rines, the respected Loch Ness investigator of Flipper and Gargoyle-Head fame, back in 1971 in Super 8mm format. It was taken near water level in Urquhart Bay in Loch Ness.

The film was of a water disturbance, a wave or a streak without a seeming source, and the still from which I had taken the xeroxes was to be found in Nick Witchell's book, *Loch Ness Story*. Rines had no knowledge of the head in his photo until just two days prior to the convention, when he was sent three xeroxes. I was careful to state to all that Rines just had learned himself of the head, and that he *made no claims whatever about it*. The xerox machine technique was used to produce quick copies of high contrast and the 147% enlargement available on the machine I used was very helpful, and cheap. The actual figure is of lower contrast, and many eyes fail to make out significant images when seen in low contrast form. But in higher contrast (the poor man's computer-enhancement), the images are easily seen by even the most die-hard critics.

THE PHOTO BOB RINES DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD

Of all the "faces" I have found in Loch Ness photos—such as Alex Crosbie's 1987 stills, my own 1983 film, the *second* head (at water level) in the 1934 Wilson photo, the head at the front of a series of humps in the "Mountain photograph" that sits on the wall of the Drumnadrochit Loch Ness "Official" Exhibition and others—*this* photo had an incredible amount of matching Bilateral symmetry to it (see Figure 1). In fact, the amount of detail and matching data points from the left side of the face to the right side was incredible, so strong that persons who totally disagree with many of my ideas were forced, to my glee, to admit there was something significant there.

The folklorists were in disarray—what was going on? How can there be *photos* of a myth? The conserva-

tive cryptos were taken aback. One famous Loch Ness author shook his head, and said he was only interested in finding a dead Nessie body. I told him politely not to hold his breath, and in his hands I placed the reason why. I showed the item to investigator Alistair Boyd and his wife, who more or less said, "I see it, but it cannot be." I said, "Well you see it, so it does be, and here are three others," and I laid out copies of the other heads listed above, side by side.

Ivor Newby, an old Loch Ness veteran for the 1960s, who had admitted he could see the Crosbie object was not a duck while viewing the stills in Mrs. Cary's house in 1987, also shook his head in disbelief, saying they were only dots (he was in the five percent category) in the circle. But I could see his internal faith in the material world being shaken as he listened to others—perfect strangers who had no axe to grind—pointing out to him and their friends the features of the face.

I learned long ago that merely because one has been to Loch Ness, watching for many years, or has written books, that this doesn't make one a qualified photoanalyst. The opinion of a sharp-eyed kid of 12 is just as valid an opinion if not more so. The acceptance ratio of such kids is 95%, perhaps because they have no preconceived notions to defend.

TIM DINSDALE AND THE DEMONS OF BOLESKINE

Newby's reaction was interesting, since both he and another Loch Ness hand, Dick Raynor, had told me of a story given them by the late, respected Tim Dinsdale, about Tim having encountered "demons" while anchored off the shore near Boleskine House, which was once owned by the famed black magician Alistair Crowley, "The Wickedest Man in Britain." They made an allusion to the demon seen in the film *Twilight Zone, The Movie*, out on the wing of an aircraft, visible only to certain passengers and not the crew.

Now Tim Dinsdale was very, very conservative. He had a strong vested interest in a plesiosaur-Nessie. However, in 1982, he admitted to me, in person, that he was aware of anomalistic events happening at the Loch, and he said he never went public on them, so as to not affect his lecture bookings. People would pay to hear about a dinosaur Nessie, but they would not pay to hear anything else.

Thus, with Dinsdale, Mum was the Word. The Gargoyle Head was so disturbing to him that he would not discuss it. Now, a consideration: If Dinsdale could see one or more "demons" on his own boat at night, then why cannot Rines, Crosbie, myself, Mountain, Wilson, Reed and others, *photograph* such things at Loch Ness?

I suggest we all have. If it was good enough for Tim Dinsdale, it should be good enough for the rest of us. Sadly, Dinsdale cannot lecture today, so *now it can be told*.

MATERIALISTIC CRYPTOZOOLOGY FIGHTS BACK

The other side continued their counterattack with the officially-approved papers on the program. Papers that impressed me were given by arch-conservative Michael Heany, of the Bodleian Library of Oxford, Ed Fusch of Seattle, a young man from the Australian Fauna Research Team, who was added at the last minute, and Jan-Ojvind Swahn of Sweden. These were on the cryptozoological side. There were several papers I missed, due to heat and bringing an important visitor to the meetings.

Heany lectured on Soviet Cryptozoology and was full of criticism for their relative gullibility and poor communications with the outside world. I had to agree with him on the latter point.

Fusch spoke on "Large bipedal hominoids as reported by Spokane and Coleville Indians," and I found Ed's experiences and reports were very similar to the ones I had gathered on the Lummi Indian Reservation, also in Washington State, from 1975-1979.

I had an interesting exchange with a female folklorist, Barbara Levey, a lady who wore large bizarre "hands," one on each eyeglass temple, connected together with a string around the back of her head (so as not to lose her glasses). It was her position that the similarities of Indian stories represented "folk motifs" and that in fact, the folklorists had even given such motifs (themes) a series of identification numbers, so they could go about saying, "Aha, well, that one is obviously motif no. 466!"

I took umbrage with this, and I pointed out to her, in the question and answer period, that anthropologist Wayne Suttles, of Portland State University, has written that most of the Indian Sasquatch stories are not myths, or stories, but *accounts* of events. Such as: "Sasquatch came and stole all my fish from the smoke house." Or, "I saw Sasquatch crossing a river."

Then I suggested that folklorists were coming from a Western European culture with a bias that makes them regard the accounts of native peoples as "mo-

tifs" due to a superiority bias. "Of course these tales cannot have any basis in fact, so we'll call them myths, based on motifs. We'll even give them numbers."

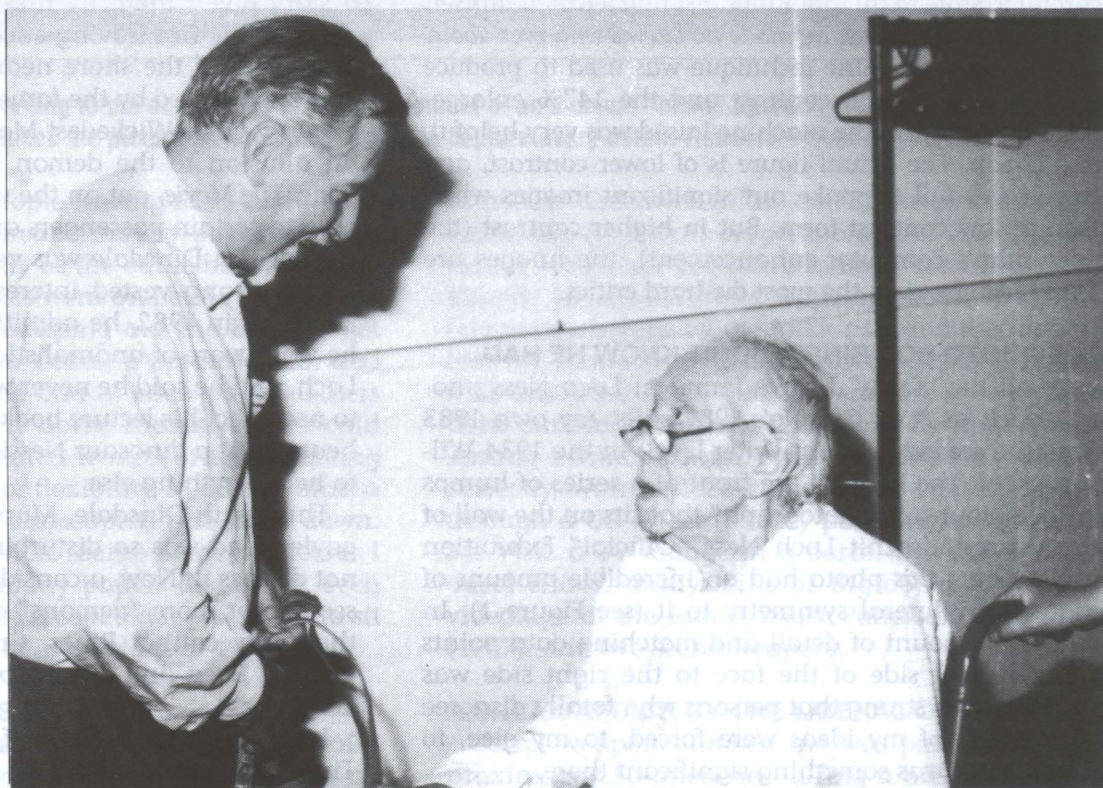
Her response was to sputter.

Later, she made us suffer through a paper on "Animal mates and frog princesses" in which we learned that there are frog princesses as well as the usual frog prince. I was underwhelmed.

SIR MAURICE BURTON APPEARS

The liberal counterattack continued by bringing a distinguished visitor to lunch on Saturday. For over a year I had been having telephone conversations with the famous Sir Maurice Burton, author of *The Elusive Monster*, who had decided back in 1960 that the Loch Ness Monster could not be any animal species, known or unknown, despite an early support for Nessie in the 1950s. Burton was famous for his many zoological books and his position on the staff of the British Museum (Natural History) in London. I arranged to drive him, wheelchair and all (he is 93) from his home in Guildford (an amazing coincidence) to the University.

With the help of his nurse-housekeeper, we wheeled him into the lunch session, and he sat at the head of the table, quietly greeting old friends who came up to him, such as Heuvelmans, giving simple hellos and goodbyes. For many, it will be their last chance to see him, and there was some considerable emotion to be found in the greetings. After lunch we wheeled



ISC President Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans and zoologist Sir Maurice Burton.

him back to the car, and drove him to his large (and haunted) estate-house, with its huge and distinct chimney-pots. His helpers said they could see he was very pleased to have met so many of his old friends.

Burton had a brief brush with cryptozoology some years ago. He had been called in to solve a rash of mystery cat sightings in southern England, and he had found that the tracks left were actually of large dogs, since the claws were visible. I cannot comment on this, since I never got to see the tracks.

BLACK COUGARS FROM DOWN UNDER?

Soon, however, a paper was given by a young Australian that went into this very subject. It seems that Black Panther reports have been coming increasingly from Australia, and there was much discussion about melanistic leopards—"black panthers," jaguars, cougars, and the traditional lack of all of them in Australia. The lecturer also discussed the work his group has done in trying to locate living Thylacines (which we saw stuffed later in the British museum—the "Tasmanian Tiger").

The Tasmanian Tiger was not nearly as interesting to the audience as was the fact that their team had actually *photographed* one of the mystery "black panthers" on a beach, from a ship, and later, on the road at a distance back from it. The silhouette on the beach did indeed look like a black cougar or black leopard, but the road photo was more difficult to accept. The latter was very similar to a large black alley-cat in appearance, lacking a strongly distinctive size marker other than a bush. These slides brought me in a rush down from the back rows to the front row.

The lecturer argued that a U.S. Air Force squadron had released five cougar mascots in the Australian wilds some years ago, and he hinted that these could be the "black panthers." However, no melanistic *cougars* (*Felis concolor*) have ever been found in the U.S.A., and I doubt that just being released in Australia would suddenly make a tan cougar suddenly become black. I therefore feel that the U.S. Air Force cougars are not the same as were being seen.

In the question and answer session, I put it to him that hunting already-known Thylacines was really a waste of time could be put to better use looking for the fabled "Yowie," Australia's Bigfoot, which seems a far more interesting critter than the Tasmanian Tiger, which has type specimens in museums. Then I suggested to him that he not try to bring the Black Panthers (or black cougars) to the attention of the regional authorities, since to do so would only result in their being hunted down as sheep killers, provided they are solid, biological animals.

Like the motif-tosser, he was not able to answer this suggestion. Bringing this information to the authorities might bring fame to his group, but it would not benefit the creatures. Too often, I find with many

investigators, the goal is not really scientific achievement, *per se*, but recognition in the papers.

MORE POLITICS IN THE HALLS

Shaken by photo proof of a very unmythical animal, or what was cleverly disguised as one, I resumed the counter-counter-counterattack. It was time to release to the attendees more xeroxes, this time of a rejected paper sent to the *ISC Journal* two years ago. This came right after Ed's lecture on Bigfoot, so it was apropos. The paper was titled, "A Response to Hewkin," and dealt with my finding a series of Bigfoot tracks in the snow in 1979, that started from under a snow-covered bush (the creature had been snowed upon while asleep), meandered for several hundred yards, and then had mysteriously *ended*, with no back-stepping, and no place to jump to. Hewkin came in because he reported on something somewhat similar in dirt. (Others have also found such "start-stop" tracks.)

This hand-out caused a small sensation, once people began to really read it. I had to explain that, no, it really made zero difference if the Sasquatch had cleverly back-tracked, since there was no escape from where it might (but didn't actually) back-track to. And no, 60 feet was far—too far—for any primate to leap to a tree; and, no, there were no marks on the snow-covered nearest tree, nor any in the woods it was in. No, no helicopters had been heard in this semi-rural area, and yes, if the Sasquatch had enough money, it could have hired the Goodyear Blimp to escape by, but since it had nobody chasing it, it had no need to "escape" at all.

I stood by discussing this with people, and I noticed Richard Greenwell, who had originally rejected it, standing nearby. He came up and demanded to know what I was passing out in the hall, so I offered him a copy. After some resistance he eventually agreed to accept the copy from my hands, and read part of it.

Then, to Greenwell's credit, he stated in front of Society President Heuvelmans and Vice President Mackal that he would seriously consider printing the paper (one page) in the *ISC Journal*, provided I retitled it a "Comment" rather than a "Response." I immediately crossed out "Response," and wrote in "Comment," and handed it back to him. If this paper now does get printed, then bravo Richard. If not, then at least 25 ISC members now have copies.

My whole point in the Rines xerox and the "Comment on Hewkin," plus various points raised in the question and answer sessions, was to show that there is a "third position" between conservative (or materialist) cryptozoology and folklore.

I did not go into this in 1987, so as not to raise a rumpus and to be able to sneak in my 1983 Nessie film showing an amorphous ten foot long creature, but in 1990, the time seemed ripe to push the concept,

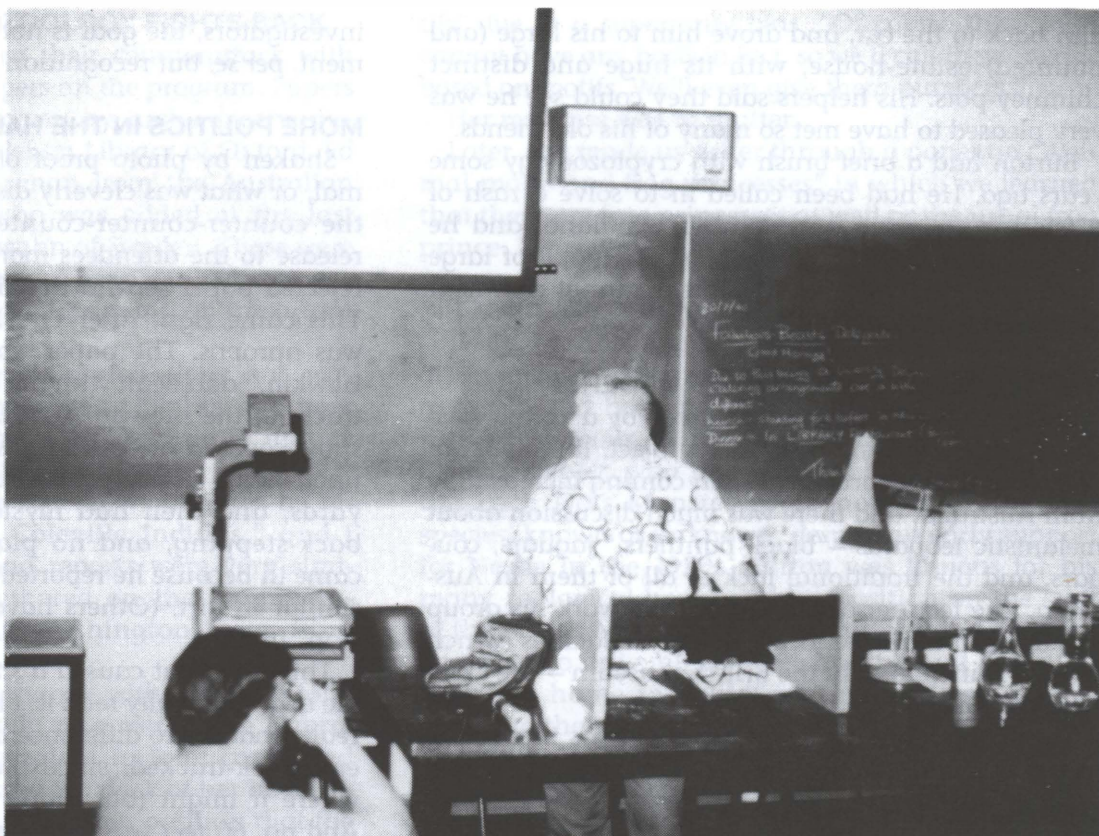
since in eight years of ISC history, little in the way of bodies of anything other than gekos have been found. (The Onza may prove in time to be just a long-legged cougar, a subspecies.)

A PAPER FROM HELL

But then, the opposing forces pulled out an ice in the hole—folkloric boredom! “The Morris Beast”! This was truly the Paper From Hell at the Convention From Hell. This paper was inflicted on a captive audience late at night, after dinner, and many of us stayed, out of courtesy through a long, long exposition of the carved animals that Morris dancers use in their performances. We learned more than we ever, ever wanted to know about carved horses heads, how they are carried between the legs, or as hoods, or as heads-with-bodies wherein the Morris dancer uses his legs to act as the legs of the “horse.” The audience wilted, and as hour after hour went on, people snuck out to go to the safety of the college pub (where the *real* convention was happening, as usual). People were snoring in the aisles, and others twisted like insects on pins in their agony. Camera assistant Charlene deserted ship early, showing more wisdom than I, but I too defected towards the end. Outside the hall, several victims were complaining most bitterly to Greenwell about the pain of the Morris lecture, and there was little he could say. The best way the Conservative camp can keep me from attending in the future will be to ever link up with folklorists again.

AT THE PUB

The pub was the true heart of the convention. There, various ideological groups drank and chatted together, with rumors and gossip flowing as freely as the beer. We had a great time with Ed Fuchs, a genuine character who operates a geology shop in darkest Coleville, WA, and who at 55-plus had finally received several degrees in geology and biology, after having taken college courses piecemeal for over 20 years—a triumph of night-time education. Jean-Paul Debenat turned out to be a very sympathetic charac-



Convention session in progress, featuring Richard Greenwell and Ed Fuchs. Photo by author.

ter, with many stories of French academia to tell.

BIGFOOT ON THE FRINGES OF THE CONVENTION

The liberal attack continued, having softened up the enemy's defenses with the various handouts. It was no time to at last wipe out the folklorists by showing a *film* of a “mythic” creature—Bigfoot in the Patterson film. Saturday night was held open due to the lack of other papers, and after the debacle of the Morris Beast lecture, on Friday night, the troops were eager for something more solid for Saturday.

After considerable difficulties we arranged to use a TV lounge in one of the nearby dorms, and about one-third of the convention attendees arrived to see a presentation on Bigfoot. We had hoped to offer a slide show, but we found the leader of the folkloric faction was loath to let us use a slide projector he had checked out from the University, even though it was not being used at night, and even though the University had approved our use of it—the only politics we experienced there.

So, due to some problems with a voltage converter blowing out prematurely, we had to be content to pass out a series of enlargements from the Patterson Film and to discuss the film in general. The crowd was somewhat satisfied with this, since we promised to show the film on video at a later time on Sunday. We presented computer enhanced enlargements from the film, particularly frame number 370, and how a baby

was revealed in the breast area of the mother, thus explaining the presence of a seemingly "hairy and large" breast on a primate that wasn't supposed to have large—and hairy—breasts. The baby bottom formed the end of the "breast" and thus had fooled us all some years ago.

I also passed around copies of Dr. Bernard Heuvelmans' drawing of the baby as he saw it (with Heuvelmans present), as well as drawings by Dr. Thomas Tomasi, an ISC member we have worked with. *Both saw the baby*. Later in the Pub, I was able to show Dr. Heuvelmans a series of slides that show the photos taken by Dwayne Freeman of Bigfoot in 1988, near Walla Walla, Washington, and the Idaho Bigfoot of 1972, photos he had not seen before.

HORNED HARES AND MAMA BIGFOOT

The next day, David Hepple gave a lecture on "The Horned Hare—Fact, Faction or Philosophy?" This turned out to be a very popular lecture, since Hepple actually did find a horned hare, the result of a bone disease, in a museum collection in Wyoming, thus justifying the many stories of them in Europe, and the "Jackalope" stories in the west. At the lunch break, the Hardcore came back to the TV lounge camp-of-the-enemy, to see the Patterson film on video. Unfortunately, due to the large TV there having a problem taking input from even a British VCR, we had to repair down to a student apartment to use their rig, and thus only about ten attendees got to see the video of this film, but they did so repeatedly. Heuvelmans and Debenat were there, and few came away thinking it was a hoax. Seeing such small things as the ponderous arm-swing, and a crack in the buttocks, extra hairs on the legs, even matted hairs, all helped.

After this stolen hour, everyone trooped back to listen to a paper by Jan-Ojavid Swahn of the Great Lake Monster of Sweden, the *Storsjöodjuret*, which gave a very good case for the existence of this creature, with nearly as much evidence as for Nessie herself.

THE FINAL BATTLE IS JOINED

The final battle came at the wind-up comments section. We were due for a few pleasant surprises. The folklorists made their ending statements, which were not memorable, but the main surprise came from Richard Greenwell. In his concluding remarks, he made some comments that the Society was not to blame for the lack of major discoveries on such creatures as Nessie and Bigfoot, and that even if such creatures prove not to be found, or not to be findable, that the ISC still has value in coordinating the search for new mainstream animals, such as new lizards, new snakes, new cougars, and the like.

This is a suggestion I have been pushing for years, and I was glad to see it finally filtered down from the Secretary. Of course, in my view, searching for sub-

species can be done equally by *zoologists*, but if these wish to have a special name, why not? Zoologists in search of new species, or conservative cryptozoologists—what is the difference?

What amazed me was the tentative admission that certain crypto-critters may *not* be findable. Then, Greenwell went even further—he stated that there was much that is new and undiscovered, and mentioned Black Holes, Space-Time, and other factors previously brought out by writers such as F.W. Holiday, and he implied delicately that since we have so much to learn about these things, that perhaps they might somehow be involved in the problems encountered in the search for major crypto-beasts. I reeled in shock.

Then he made me reel still more. He mentioned my name, a thing almost as serious as the chairman of MUFON mentioning the name "Moseley" five years ago—and he stated my belief in the possibility of certain crypto-critters being energy-forms (he does read the literature), saying he would remain a materialistic cryptozoologist, which implies that other types exist.

Recovering from my shock, I was allowed to rise and talk briefly about the status of cryptozoology and folklore. I told the group (turning off my fan to do so) that I saw some similarities between the 1978 convention and this one, except that this one was a clash between scientific believers in solid beasts and folkloric nonbelievers, whereas the previous meeting in 1978 had been between bearded field workers and folklorists.

I added that, in my view, "materialistic cryptozoology" had failed, and had only produced the Onza and the giant Geko, and I suggested that they and folklorists were wrong about the "Fabulous Beasts," which are the major crypto-critters, and which are not mere lizards. I put it to them that indeed "energy forms," intelligent energy, actual aliens, or other anomalous situations could explain the major crypto-critters.

The basis for this theory: 1) a continual failure to find dead bodies; 2) a series of anomalous experiences that I and others had had while doing field work, and 3) photos of amorphous beings that bear no relation to live solid animals, and that thus, crypto-critters are "anomalous creatures," not from normal evolution. I believe that the point was well made, and the fact that no bodies have been found during the past 33 years, in the case of Bigfoot, and over a period of 57 years, in the case of Nessie, not to mention thousands of years of reports.

With that, the convention broke up to repair to the usual student Pub, and the Hardcore continued to debate and talk for several hours more. Charlene and I tried to recruit people to go to see the Mystery Crop Circles in Wiltshire, but there were no takers—plane schedules, and so forth.

So we packed, and went on to the next mystery.

—Jon Erik Beckjord

Here it is: The MJ-12 Wrap-up

by Curt Sutherly

**Do I detect a bit of fence-sitting?
Does Stanton Friedman believe in the
authenticity of the documents,
or doesn't he?**

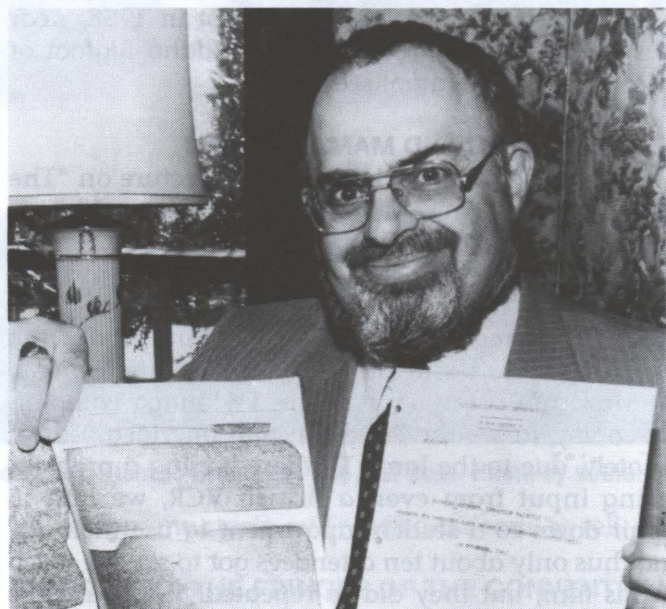
Editor's Note: The following is a special review of Stanton T. Friedman's long-awaited study of the MJ-12 documents. The book contains 61 pages of text, plus a large appendix consisting of the MJ-12 documents and accompanying materials. Readers may obtain a copy of the large format volume for \$12.00 from: P.O. Box 958, Houlton, ME 04730.

There is little to be found in this long-awaited report that was not anticipated or expected. Stanton Friedman covers the details of his involvement in the endless MJ-12 controversy with a first-person narrative that, if nothing else, is well presented and easily read. As a scientist he is an excellent journalist and communicator, and could teach others a thing or two in this regard.

But in compiling his "final report," Stan was unable to serve up a final conclusion. There is simply no way he could state categorically that yes, the MJ-12 documents are genuine, or no, they are bogus. He tries, but in the end is defeated by his own thorough research—by the thousands of hours spent sifting through paper and dust and cryptic communiques of various sorts—an effort, I might add, that would have sent lesser "researchers" scurrying back to their bathrooms.

Quite frankly, the man is a hero for his perseverance alone. And I say that even though I disagree with his long-held view of the UFO phenomenon, and, in this particular case, his view of what happened near Roswell, New Mexico so many years ago.

Friedman's belief about Roswell is pretty widely known, but he states it bluntly on page 37: "There is little question that there was a recovery of an alien vehicle outside Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. Our stories indicate that several alien bodies were discovered as described in the [MJ-12] briefing document."



He begins the report with a series of acknowledgments followed by a brief summary of the MJ-12/Roswell scenario. In that summary Friedman states: "I have adopted the approach taken by one of the world's most authoritative linguistic experts, Dr. Roger Wescott, that with regard to Questioned Documents, the burden of proof is on those who would claim the documents are forged."

A bit further along he adds: "The bottom line is that the documents must therefore be considered genuine and that a small group within the U.S. government has managed to withhold from the people of planet Earth the proof that man is not alone. This does not mean that I have been able to stamp the discussion with finality. Too many documents which might cast light on the basic questions are still being withheld by agencies of the United States government."

On the first two pages of the main text, he voices a somewhat different view. Here, he says of the MJ-12 documents: "It is certainly possible that all three documents...are totally fraudulent. It is also possible that all three are genuine or that only one or two are genuine, or that there is a mix of truth and fiction."

Do I detect a bit of fence-sitting? Does Stanton Friedman believe in the authenticity of the docu-

ments, or doesn't he? (Come on Stan: Inquiring minds want to know!)

Throughout the report, Friedman takes aim at various UFO researchers, though many of them he does not identify by name.

On page 35, he disagrees with the idea that Northrop Corporation's early flying-wing technology might have played some part in the MJ-12 scenario. He refers to the late John Northrop's stated belief in UFOs, and explains that the Northrop wing was based on an earlier design developed by the Horton brothers during World War II.

I would suppose all of this is a reaction to my own reference to flying wings in the Spring issue of CAVEAT EMPTOR. If so, my response is: Hey Stan! I said I didn't really believe the Roswell object was a flying wing—only that it well illustrates the kind of quiet R&D conducted during that era. But while we're on the subject: the Northrop flying wings were not made of layered plywood and carbon as were the earlier Horton aircraft (Stan describes the Horton materials in his report). They were made of an extremely thin, tough metal which, if you hit it with a sledge hammer, bounced back to its original shape—no, hey, just kidding, guy!

Seriously, the original Northrop prototype, the XB-35, was constructed of (and here I quote a Library of Congress report on the history of the flying wing) "a new aluminum developed by the Alcoa Company. Tests showed this material to be considerably stronger than previous metals used."

Moving right along, on page 36, Stan tangles with that legendary thorn in Jim Moseley's side, John Keel. Though he does not mention Jakeel by name, it is evident the reference is to Keel when he says the 1947 wreckage near Roswell was not a "World War II Japanese balloon made of rice paper..."

For those who blinked, Keel made it clear in the last issue of this magazine that he believes a Japanese "Fugo" balloon was responsible for the Roswell incident. Keel also wrote about this in his regular *Fate* column (March issue), in which he explained that such balloons, with incendiary bombs attached, were launched from Japan during World War II. Some of these devices evidently suspended in the upper atmosphere, only to fall years later at scattered locations in and around the United States.

Keel believes Fugo balloons were still falling in the late '40s and 1950s. Information about the Fugos was long suppressed by Uncle Sam, though not kept entirely secret.

On page 39, Stan goes after his old adversary, Phil Klass, with comments on the controversial MJ-12 Truman document. Phil thinks the signature of President Truman is bogus, and the document itself therefore phony. Stan disagrees. (See every article ever written on MJ-12 for details.) But Friedman goofs when

he presses his attack on page 40. Here, he says a "forensics expert" (his term) consulted by Klass was a "former CIA man." Not so. This former CIA *document analyst* was David Crown, of Washington, D.C., who referred Klass to a *different* expert in New York—a guy with the initials PT who, as it happened, was also consulting with Bill Moore, Friedman and Jaime Shandera.

This whole bit is one of Klass' strongest counters to the legitimacy of the MJ-12 documents. PT, you see, deduced that the Truman document was typed on a Smith-Corona cartridge machine introduced in the early 1960s. The MJ-12 documents were supposedly created in 1952.

Stan's response, on page 40, is minimal. He says, "This is a very difficult call and other examiners disagree." Well maybe we should trot out those other examiners?

Another piece of this MJ-12 business which Friedman largely avoids, and which I would have enjoyed hearing him speak out on, is the matter of William Moore's admitted ties to the intelligence community—particularly the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. About as close as he comes to saying anything about this is found on page 50, where he observes that "Moore has since admitted that one of his major inside contacts is Richard Doty"—retired Air Force NCO and a former operative for AFOSI. But perhaps Stan is right in avoiding the issue, in view of the brouhaha raised when Moore first made his disclosure before MUFON in 1989.

As a whole, this "final report" says both too much, and too little, about MJ-12. In some areas, Stan runs overtime to the point of tedium. In others, he doesn't delve deeply enough (such as his handy dismissal of the Truman document typewriter question). What's more, the reader comes away with a keen awareness of Friedman's personal bias—a belief that pilots from other planets are zipping all around Mother Gaia.

But a bias, for anyone, is difficult (if not impossible) to put aside. And we all have ours... no exception. So I can forgive Stan his, and recognize instead the *intent*—the very real effort to sift through the layers of history and government red tape in search of an answer. And the fact that the man's beliefs going in might be different than yours or mine or anyone else's doesn't, in reality, mean a whit. Actions, not beliefs, are what generally make the difference.

In that regard, I expect Stan Friedman will continue his digging and shoveling and sifting and dusting—search for proof of past or present alien visitation. And should he unearth any such proof, then I say fine and well done and welcome Noble Sir to the Hall of Kings. Or barring that, at the very least he will have had the last laugh and the rest of UFOdom can stop beating the bushes.

—Curt Sutherly

Weird Science?

Dear Reader:

O.K., I'll confess? I don't necessarily believe in Astrology and Numerology and other forms of predicting one's future. As much as I'm fascinated by the strange and unknown, I like to think that the answers to such mysteries will be understood simply as an extension of present-day science.

So when I read the daily horoscopes in the local paper, I have to admit I don't take it too seriously. After all, our futures cannot be divided into just 13 distinct segments—the signs of the zodiac. Surely not every fellow Virgo is going to have the same future as I, for example.

But on occasion I've read works on Astrology, serious Astrology that is. It's an arcane craft that goes back centuries, involving hundreds of complex mathematical computations and a thorough understanding of the movements of planets and stars and how they might exert some influence upon our Earthly affairs.

Science agrees that the gravitational effects of other planetary bodies, solar radiation and so forth all have their say in the delicate balance of the universe.

Astrologers feel that the forces in effect on the day we were born, at the time we were born and in the place we were born all come together to strongly dictate our makeups and potentials.

We'll, I've always said I'd try almost anything (within reason of course). So purely as an experiment I decided to have a chart prepared for me. I had to dig up information about the exact time of my birth, and consult an atlas to get the precise latitude and longitude of the hospital in which I was born. I assembled this information, then had to decide just who to send it to.

There are a lot of Astrologers out there. It would be worse than finding a needle in a haystack, I thought, as I got back to work on my computer.

Then the thought occurred to me. What if the work of many esteemed Astrologers could be distilled into a single computer program? All one has to do is feed the proper information into the computer, and the miracle of modern-day technology would allow the work of all of these Astrologers to be consulted, the charts calculated and printed.

Well, there are a number of sources for such programs, not to mention a number of programmers who could come up with just such a package—for a price of course.

So I settled on one of those programs. Using advanced 32-bit technology, I was able to produce a comprehensive reading based on the work of not one, but several Astrologers, distilled into a comprehensive

report taking into account the usual range of planetary transitions.

Would you like to join in? I can run your natal information through my computer as well, just to see what happens. I am not about to guarantee that you'll find the answers to your quest for love and success, of course. It's in the nature of an experiment. You might find some quite perceptive views about your personality, however, and how you react to a particular situation.

And there's a price, too. It costs money to run my high-end desktop computer, and to make razor-sharp laser prints of such readings—and, frankly, I need a few bucks for my time as well.

I have set up the computer to provide two types of readings. The first is a brief summary of your astrological prospects, running, say, about 15 pages or so, covering a three-month period.

The second is an extremely comprehensive day-by-day, sometimes hour-by-hour, reading, based on every major transition of a celestial body that might have some sort of effect upon you. The three-month report can run as long as 75 pages, if not more.

Interested?

Then fill out the order form below, and I'll get right on the job of consulting the atlas, entering your natal data into the computer—and then see what happens!

Oh yes, since I'm doing this in my spare time—of which there isn't very much these days—please allow two to four weeks for preparation of your Astrological Summary.

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Note: New Jersey residents please add 7% sales tax.
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Culture Corner:

Books from Howard Blum, Raymond Fowler, Timothy Good and more

OUT THERE

By Howard Blum. Simon & Schuster, New York, New York, 279 pages, 1990, \$19.95.

Howard Blum is the best-selling author of *Wanted! The Search for Nazis in America* and *I Pledge Allegiance...The True Story of The Walker Spy Family*, which was made into a television miniseries. Obviously, Blum has developed some very good government contacts. While researching the Walker Spy case, one of his informants mentioned a covert group of government officers investigating UFOs ("The UFO Working Group"). Finally, the former *New York Times* investigative reporter and two-time Pulitzer nominee—an outsider—embarks upon our quest.

His exhaustive, thorough search is meticulously outlined. Blum draws a full picture. He confronts the extraterrestrial question from all quarters. Every phalanx of the UFO mystery is given an impartial opportunity to present its case. Blum details the government's early interest in UFOs and the beginnings of radio astronomy and SETI.

The book is so intelligent and forthright that it's nearly impossible to put down. It's like a murder mystery. all the players are cast with such equal justice, you just can't wait to get to the end to see how the whole thing turns out. Blum misses nothing. Everything you think about the UFO story is here. The story keeps building and you're only half-way through.

Blum goes over The UFO Working Group's evaluation of some of your favorites: the Gulf Breeze Sightings (dismissed), the Hudson Valley Sightings (dismissed), Missing Time (dismissed), the implants/underground bases/secret treaties, *et al.* (dismissed). By now, you realize Blum has met everybody in UFOs (I was probably on vacation when he called) [Yeah, and my telephone answering machine was on the

fritz.—GSJ]—the AFOSI, CIA, NASA, DIA, NSA, FBI, the scientists and the true believers.

He's so close, he's looking over ET's shoulder! And he's so objective and fair, he's going to tell!

I started rushing through the paragraphs—he's almost there, he's going to break through. After all, he's read every secret document, met and names all the key people. He even investigates Elmwood, Wisconsin and the town's UFO activities and landing field project. (The comic relief. Must mean we're really close to the big finish).

Then Blum careens, with his impartiality still intact, into the parallel reality of William L. Moore. The colonels, generals and scientists exit left. Center stage: Moore, Friedman and Shandera. Supporting players: Sprinkle and Bennewitz and Doty and Falcon and MJ-12. Plot twist: the introduction of Disinformation and Counterintelligence. Turning Point: Moore admits he spied. Too bad about Bennewitz, but Moore was after the facts.

Was it worth it? Well, The MJ-12 documents did happen to fall into Moore's buddy's front-door mail slot. (You didn't expect Falcon to hand them over during cocktails, did you?) Conflict: Philip Klass. Exposition: the MJ-12 review.

The Resolution: Did Blum uncover the ultimate secret? Well, perhaps a hint will be sufficient—the inclusion without explanation—the MJ-12 documents!

—Victoria Lacas

• • •

THE WATCHERS:

The Secret Design Behind UFO Abduction

By Raymond E. Fowler.

Foreword by Whitley Strieber.

Bantam Books, New York, New York,

386 pages, 1990, \$19.95.

The Watchers is the fabulous new book which completes a trilogy on Betty Andreasson Luca's lifelong interaction with extraterrestrials. Remember them? Like our favorite movie stars and Madonna, they're changing, evolving, taking on new personas.

Maybe it was bad press. We really can't fault them for lousy public relations, can we? "Aliens" and "UFO Abductors"—such biased terms! "Visitors" is much more friendly, but even better, "Watchers."

I've got one, the ultimate—"Extra-Dimensional Caregivers" (EDC). This is my contribution to UFO, CE1 through CE4, OBE, NDE and the latest, offered by Joseph Nyman in Appendix B of *The Watchers*—the LE (Latent Encounter). An LE is a kinder, gentler term for an abduction. Abduction is such a nasty term. "Intruders" isn't very nice either. Terrorists abduct people. Troublemakers intrude.

But for me, "abduction" was the most appropriate term. The situation has been retold so many times—people are taken against their will, forcibly, from society's sacred temples of privacy, the bedroom or car. The "Visitors," "Watchers," "Uninvited Guests" are still not very cooperative. They are, no matter what we call them, drumming to their own beat. I have been in—and heard of so many other—countless UFO groups who have tried desperately to summon them and THEY WOULDN'T COME!

At Peter Gersten's Brewster, New York UFO Day-Long (and free) Convention in 1987, several hundred people stayed until after 10:00 P.M. to psychically call down a UFO. We were ready, willing and able. They're anything but accommodating. Why ruin people's time schedules and sleep when hundreds are anxious to go aboard?

I have been at reported UFO sites, and if only one would land, there would be no difficulty keeping those robot-alien busy. I understand that at UFO conventions, there's always a tease. Maybe a UFO will show up because Mr. Ed is speaking. So, my advice to The Leader is: If you really have a message or program, please clean up your act! Consider taking all the people who want to go and don't mind enduring "The Procedure" (formerly "The Examination").

Back to the book! I believe in UFOs again! If *The Watchers* are really saving mankind's form because we are messing everything up and Man/Woman will be sterile—they better hurry and get to me before I get too old. So they're cataloging everyone for our own good; oh, and by the way, using human females as surrogates because alien females are too skinny. Another male dominated system! You'd think that out-moded sexist ideology would have been transcended in a hundred million more years. So females are still weak and still need males to straighten things out for them. Consider the reports of female beings (formerly female alien beings) brought in to have sex to human men.

Raymond Fowler reveals his and his family's encounters with beings also. He follows the new standard operating procedure of spending chapters on relating the agonizingly boring hypnotic sessions where we get no information at all about the aliens, just his fear and refusal to share with us. Well, that's the next book, right? We get to know about every single strange synchronistic event that ever happened to him in his whole life.

Maybe my intense interest in UFOs is really my way of dealing with my UFO encounters? Maybe I question UFO accounts because I KNOW FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE THE TRUTH. And I never thought that all my near misses—my "negative synchronistic encounters" (NSE) with government agents, psychologists, psychics, fellow researchers—were meaningful. Until now, I wish I could uncover all the information I'm now certain I must have. I would, of course, require proof of my hypnotic trance, such as insensitivity to pain. Like Fowler, I can think back to childhood small "invaders" in my bedroom who stuck me with "pins." Scary nights I couldn't sleep

and how afraid I was to go to the basement because the "boogyman" was always there. And I have to check the locks on the door several times before I can go to sleep. Why do I do this? Why do I refuse to drive alone at night?

Knowing myself well, if I have been "involved" with "beings," I drove them crazy! I hardly ever stop talking, have to know everything about everyone and how much everything costs. I probably negotiated with the Leader on behalf of the female beings and stayed for dinner. Or, I tried to organize the robot-alien for better working conditions, infuriated the crew with my theories of reality, told them about Human Growth Hormone research and got thrown off the craft!

The Watchers is full of wonderful information, great drawings, and lots of scientific background. It's a rich, large book that finally answers the questions many of us have regarding the aliens and their intent.

—Victoria Lacas

• • •

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES (Personal Accounts of the Paranormal in Canada)

By John Robert Colombo.

Hounslow Press, Anthony R. Hawke Ltd.,
124 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale,
Ontario, Canada M2N 3Y5, 1989,
279 pages, \$15.95.

John Robert Colombo is rapidly becoming known as the foremost writer of paranormal material in Canada. This book is an outgrowth of research undertaken for a massive project covering every aspect of the unusual. The first book was titled *Mysterious Canada* and was published in December, 1988, by Doubleday. Mr. Colombo placed advertisements in 100 or so newspapers to request anyone having had a weird or odd experience to come forward.

A unique problem researchers have faced for decades is the understandable reluctance of people to relate their encounters with The Twilight Zone of reality. I understand that enough material was submitted to fill several books. *Mysterious Encounters* is the second—and one hopes there's more to come.

Not all of the accounts gathered are modern—some come from journals of early explorers, Victorian writers and old newspaper accounts. The topics

cover an amazingly wide range—UFOs, lake monsters, psychic healing, ghosts, poltergeists, visions and premonitions of the future, mediums, Bigfoot sightings, crisis apparitions and native spirituality. Each account is preceded by a detailed preface, relating where it originated, and the general background material. The chapters range in length from a single paragraph to 10 or 12 pages. In this category is the first tale—"Conjuring and Curing Among the Indians" by Samuel Herne.

A few items will be familiar to readers of the vast literature of Fortean, such as: the 1967 Stephen Michalak encounter with a landed UFO in the woods near Winnipeg, Manitoba, or the abduction in 1924 of trapper Albert Ostman by four hairy Sasquatch. The majority of the cases are new, even to the most seasoned researchers. Several stick in one's mind just for the pure oddness of the event.

One in particular is the giant, 10 to 12 foot tall apparition reported by a correspondent in the *St. Catharines Evening Journal* of August 17, 1866. The individual—who, unfortunately, is not identified except by a pen name as was the style of Victorian newspapers in those days—was aroused by a fire in his neighborhood around midnight. The ghost or whatever it was suddenly reared up and vanished just before it reached the corner of King Street.

Another chapter that sticks in your mind is "The Graveyard." This appears to have been some sort of a time warp, where the past intrudes vividly into the present day. It was contributed by Nadine McMullin, who is a member of the Writer's Association in New Brunswick. On a cool winter evening in 1963, she was watching her husband play hockey in the small town of St. Andrews by the Sea. As she left the area, she took a wrong turn and became lost in the fog. After several minutes, she was startled to discover that somehow she had walked into a graveyard. It wasn't long before a procession of people came into sight, seemingly part of a funeral procession. All were wearing antique clothing. After the last one passed, Ms. McMullin got out of the vicinity as fast as she could.

Anyone collecting material on UFOs will find the last section to be utterly fascinating. I was very interested in the account by Mike Johnson that occurred in the spring of 1950, four miles

south of Barons, Alberta. It very much resembles the famous McMinnville, Oregon sighting the same year which has the reputation as one of the best authenticated UFO photos known. Mr. Johnson is still alive and lives in Lethbridge, Alberta. He recalls that a disc appeared in the skies at eight in the morning, and he could actually see the bright sunlight reflect off the surface of the craft as it oscillated back and forth.

A "platform of light" was observed by Robert J. Hazzard and his wife, suspended over the St. Lawrence River, west of Brockville, Ontario in August, 1976. Judging from the sketches, this must be one of the most oddly-shaped UFOs on record. It resembled a cross between a weather vane and a building strut, and was composed of a very thin, satin-finish, silvery-grey material. There was a storm brewing, and Hazzard watched it through a pair of 20 x 65 binoculars from a platform outside. It appeared to be about 1500 feet in the air. The Hazzards retired to bed, and when they next awoke, about 4:00 a.m., it was gone.

A very old (1941) meeting with Adamski-type humanoids [*tall, light-haired, with silvery attire—GS*] comes from A.H. Matthews, who was a friend of famed inventor Nikola Tesla. An immense spaceship landed on his property, and he was taken aboard by two men and given a tour. On the surface, this seems to be a most improbable account, but there are enough similarities to more recent UFO landings to give one pause. The occupants are physically identical to those reported by Adamski and also by a British housewife in 1954, while the ship in outline resembles a much smaller version that was sighted in the Highwood area of Alberta in 1967.

This book is undeniable proof of one thing—there is a great deal of strange goings-on in our world that are never reported. I think the Fortean community will owe a debt to Mr. Colombo if he diligently pursues more of these stories for his anthologies. A real treat that I am glad I did not miss, the book is also thought-provoking and timeless, despite the antiquity of some topics. It covers a wide range of topics very thoroughly.

—W. Ritchie Benedict

• • •

THE UFO REPORT 1990

Edited by Timothy Good.

Sidgwick & Jackson Ltd., London,
1989, £7.99

Having followed the popular UFO literature intermittently since the early '60s, I must admit that it is somewhat disappointing as a genre. While some is well-written, or well-researched, or scholarly, it is the rare example that combines all of these attributes within a single cover. *The UFO Report 1990* is one of those rare books that combines all of the above.

Styled much like the *State of the World* series of books, *The UFO Report* is a collection of invited essays on various aspects of the UFO phenomenon. While the ten well-written articles give the subject serious treatment, one occasionally glimpses the authors' sardonic humor peaking through. Refreshingly, each article contains a short biography of the author, the context that (s)he is writing in, and perhaps more importantly, a proper reference list.

It at first seems odd that in a book implying that it is the "state of the (UFO) world" for 1990, all of the reports predate 1989. But considering the lead time require to compile, revise, publish and distribute the book for release in January of 1990, the 1988 reporting limit seems rather more reasonable.

The UFO Report 1990 could be properly regarded as an addendum to Good's earlier book *Above Top Secret*. Articles are grouped and ordered similarly: British, World, and USA. Some of the articles, such as Ralph Noyes', further illuminate or refer to some of the sightings covered in *Above Top Secret*.

The British articles covering 1988 include a compendium of Northern British reports from Graham and Mark Birdsall of the Yorkshire UFO Society, and George Wingfield's in-depth and impartial study of the English corn [sic wheat] circles. Ralph Noyes sheds additional light on the December, 1980 encounter at RAF Brentwaters/USA Woodbridge in the Surrey county of England. Finally, Patricia Grant's "So You Want To Be A Ufologist?" presents with wry humor a taxonomy of the groups and pitfalls one can expect to encounter when entering the field.

Reports from outside the usual Euro-American front include Africa (Cynthia Hind), the USSR (Nikolai Lebedev),

and mainland China (Paul Dong). Possible attempted UFO abductions along Australia's Nullarbor Plain in 1988 are detailed as a "work-in-progress" by Paul Norman.

The last two papers cover the U.S. scene. Leonard Stringfield presents a well-written and non-sensational examination of the UFO crash/retrieval situation and mythos, while Donald Ware chronicles Ed Walters' Gulf Breeze encounters and related MUFON investigation [*which goes to show just how fragile is the timeliness of a work such as this—Editor*].

The book concludes with an appendix listing major UFO organizations, journals on UFOs, and a composite bibliography taken from the articles' reference lists, and a comprehensive and well-organized index. A unique addition is a list of services and service organizations available to UFO enthusiasts.

The UFO Report 1990 was both fascinating and exciting to read, and would be good as both an introductory book and as a contemporary reference on the subject. I highly recommend it and hope to see this become an annual publication.

—Doug Girling

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THE DOLPHIN MASSACRE OFF OUR COAST AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP IT.

“THE DOLPHINS ARE fighting up through the mesh. They're unable to breathe. They're drowning. Now a crew member throws explosives to scare the dolphins toward the far end of the net. This plan backfires. Panicked by the explosives, the dolphins pile up in the net next to the ship, churning the water white. You can hear them crying out...

“The captain loses patience and commands the operation to continue, even though there are hundreds of animals still in the net. Dolphins are tangled in the webbing, hoisted twisting into the blue sky and dragged through the crushing maw of the power block.

“The skiff returns and the remaining floats are draped between the two boats, forming a deep bag. Mixed in with a hundred dead or dying dolphins is our catch of ten or twelve tuna. The crew is joking as they cast the stunned, dead and wounded dolphins adrift in the sea.”

This eyewitness report from an Earth Island Institute-sponsored biologist who shipped undercover aboard a Latin

American tuna boat this year confirms our worst fears. The slaughter of dolphins along the Pacific coast continues.

The documentary evidence, reported on CBS and ABC news, shows that between 75,000 and 150,000 dolphins are massacred each year by U.S. and foreign tuna fleets.



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

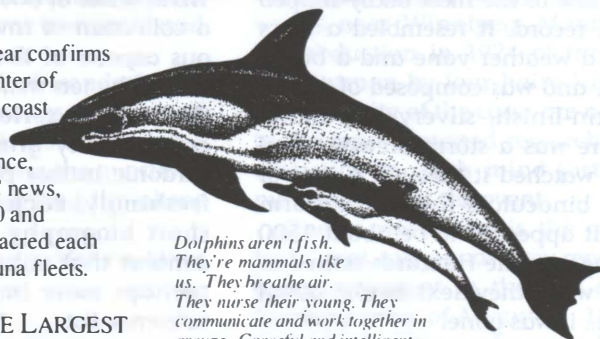
IT'S THE LARGEST KILL OF MARINE MAMMALS IN THE WORLD TODAY.

Even the officials paid to protect the dolphins admit the fishing fleets are netting dolphins on purpose. Corporate promises and official reassurances are, it turns

out, worth nothing. But you, as an individual, can stop the slaughter of the dolphins.

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,
Wildlife Conservation and the
Environment

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:

Mr. Ed on the carpet, the name game, and more goodies

ED, WE HARDLY KNEW YE!

Philip Klass and Dr. Willy Smith are gloating and UFO contactee Ed Walters is crying "foul," but still selling books at a decent clip...and what about those AWOL soldiers?

Yes, folks, stranger and stranger things keep happening in the sleepy little town of Gulf Breeze, Florida.

It all started when one Robert Menzer, who had purchased Ed's former home, was searching the attic for a water shut-off valve. What he found instead was documented in a headline story in the June 10 edition of the *Pensacola, Florida News Journal*: "A model spaceship resembling the UFOs reportedly seen above Gulf Breeze has been found in a house once occupied by the man whose photographs started a UFO craze that has focused worldwide attention on this community."

The story, written by Craig Myers, went on to describe the model as consisting of "two nine-inch foam plates attached to two six-inch foam plates; a six-inch square blue-color gel (plastic film) and one six-inch round orange paper ring; a 3.5 inch long plastic tube; and a two-inch wide paper ring between the nine-inch plates." The "portholes" were drawn on a sheet of drafting paper, which, strangely enough, also contained notes on a new house on the reverse side, which were in Ed's own handwriting.

The kind of evidence that even the fictional defense lawyer Perry Mason would not be able to overturn?

Not according to Ed, whose response consisted of some simply logical points: Would he be stupid enough to leave such telltale evidence behind in his home, after removing everything else when he moved out? Besides, he said, the notes on that new house were written many months after his sightings occurred.

Not to mention the fact that Ed has successfully passed four lie detector tests conducted by supposedly qualified personnel. The most recent test was administered on June 19 of this year, in the wake of the uproar over the discovery of that UFO model.

While not conclusive evidence that Ed is telling the truth, the tests would seem to indicate that he *believes* he actually had a series of odd UFO and abduction experiences—for the time being that seems to be enough.

Compounding the confusion is the fact that many, many other Gulf Breeze residents, independent of Ed Walters, have reportedly sighted similar things in the skies over their community. Now either Ed is—undiscovered—perpetrating a hoax on a grand scale far beyond anything ever attempted in this field, or these people are seeing something. While there is no final proof that this "something" represents spacecraft from out there, indeed there is something worthy of further investigation.

So what about that model? If Ed didn't leave it there—someone did. So maybe the fix is in, or Ed "unconsciously" left evidence behind that would incriminate him.

That alone would generate confusion enough. And then there is the story of a young man named Tom Smith.

Smith, the son of local attorney, claims he had been working with Walters, Walter's son, Danny, and a third youth, Hank Boland, in creating a series of fake UFO pictures. Five of these pictures, according to Smith, were actually taken with his own camera. He alleges that Ed told him to take the pictures over to Gulf Breeze's weekly newspaper, the *Sentinel*, and say they were his own.

The claims and counterclaims have apparently polarized the residents of Gulf Breeze. Mayor Ed Gray and other

residents appear to believe Ed is just a hoaxer. Others have sided with Walters.

As to Smith, Walters claims the lad took the pictures himself—that they were in fact authentic photos of UFOs. Faced with the possibility of hurting his father's reputation in the community as a responsible attorney, the youth decided to pass off the pictures as fakes.

If the reader is keeping a scorecard, this whole affair is confusing enough as it is. The next development in this story may just be the last straw.

In July of this year, six young Army soldiers, apparently assigned to intelligence duties in Augsburg, West Germany, went AWOL and made a pilgrimage to Gulf Breeze.

According to the Pentagon, the soldiers were all members of a so-called "End of the World" cult.

The party consisted of five men and a woman, and they might just have gotten away with their little escapade a little while longer if they hadn't been riding in a van with a faulty tail light. Now such a minor infraction wouldn't generate a moment's notice to a big city police officer with rising crime rates to think about. But for a lazy, small town, that's just the kind of thing that can add a few dollars in fines to the local coffers.

The van was stopped by an officer. The driver didn't have a license. A quick check with the military's computer system revealed where the soldiers came from. They were taken to Pensacola Naval Base, transferred to Ft. Benning, Georgia and then finally to Fort Knox, Kentucky.

A routine espionage investigation turned up nothing. So then the soldiers got general discharges—just one step above a dishonorable discharge, and not something that looks very good on a resumé—and were sent on their way.

The question remains: Why would

six soldiers go AWOL and head right for UFO central, Gulf Breeze, Florida, a trip of some 7,000 miles? According to a report in the Los Angeles Times, there were claims—none detailed—that the group was really expecting to ascend to heaven in a spaceship. Perhaps the world-wide publicity about Gulf Breeze's ongoing UFO wave attracted them there.

How this all related to the case of Edward Walters isn't at all certain. What is certain, however, is that Walters probably has learned from all this that there is no such thing as bad publicity. All of the attention directed to Gulf Breeze resulted in a packed house at July's Mutual UFO Network Symposium in nearby Pensacola. Walters and his wife Frances were among the featured speakers, addressing an audience estimated at nearly 600.

May's convention of the National UFO Conference in Miami, Florida didn't fare quite as well. An unsympathetic local press wrote all about the convention, but conveniently avoided saying just where it would take place. The presence of Ed and Frances Walters, the return of 1950's contactee

Howard Menger and other notables still didn't pack the halls. Co-sponsors Jim Moseley and Timothy Green Beckley supposedly sustained a healthy financial loss. That didn't deter them from trying again next year, when the National UFO Conference returns to its founding city of Cleveland, Ohio.

...

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Imagine that you're the president of Coca Cola® (notice the trademark symbol), for example. The name represents decades and decades of establishing and building an image for your product. You have attempted to control every facet of the use of that name, and you have a team of lawyers on hand to be certain that people don't cash in on it without your permission—and a healthy piece of the pie.

The same holds true for Jello®, Sony®, Sears® and any trademarked product or service.

Then there is the fundamental question of what sort of names can be trademarked. Does a book author, for

example, have control over the title of his book? While avoiding the legal complications of that issue, CAVEAT EMPTOR magazine simply wants to cite this case in point:

Timothy Green Beckley, owner of Inner Light Publications, makes his living from publishing and selling New Age books and sponsoring New Age conventions. He is a small publisher—a very small publisher—and he surely doesn't have a team of lawyers on hand to protect his interests or to defend him in case of a legal problem.

Just recently, Beckley had a letter from William Moore, head of the Fair Witness Project, a principal proponent of the MJ-12 documents and co-author (along with Charles Berlitz) of *The Philadelphia Experiment*, a late 1970s book that was based on an alleged series of invisibility experiments on a Naval ship in World War II.

It seems that Beckley had just announced the release of a book entitled *The Philadelphia Experiment and Other UFO Conspiracies*, from prolific writer Brad Steiger. Moore, it seems, was very upset over the use of the phrase "Philadelphia Experiment," in the title, and

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was claiming to hold the rights to its use. Moore threatened possible legal action against Beckley if he didn't change the title. But Beckley has so far apparently taken all this with a grain of salt—the book was released anyway.

The story—and phrase “Philadelphia Experiment”—date back to the 1950s, when the late UFO writer Morris K. Jessup began to receive letters from one Carlos Allende about the alleged experiment. The issue has since lurked in the undercurrents of the UFO field, but is generally dismissed as fiction by most conservative researchers.

The story also became the subject of a science fiction film—largely influenced by the Berlitz/Moore book. Starring Michael Pare and Nancy Allen, the flick still turns up occasionally on cable TV.

Both Beckley and the late UFO publisher Gray Barker brought out several books on the subject over the years, and discussed the matter extensively in their various publications. So to whom do the rights to the title belong? In all this, Moore is a latecomer to the issue, as Beckley himself points out.

“Besides I just make a living, like most other folk. I've never made a lot of money, I don't own fancy furniture or cars or vast estates. I have few assets to speak of. What's he expect to gain from this silliness? If anyone should sue, perhaps it would be Jessup's estate, since Jessup was the first to publicize the ‘Philadelphia Experiment.’”

Then there is the case of the Roswell

crashed disc story. Whatever its merit, the whole affair dates back to 1947, and has been discussed in UFO literature through the years. Once again Moore is the co-author of a book that uses the word in its title, dating from 1980. Once again a writer contemplated an update of the story, and lo-and-behold, there was a letter from Moore in his mailbox threatening a lawsuit over use of the word “Roswell.” Now we wonder what the residents of Roswell, New Mexico think about all this?

...

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF A CALIFORNIA OCCULT WRITER

The editors of CAVEAT EMPTOR didn't know D. Scott Rogo very well—in all the years we've been in this field, we probably had no more than a letter or two from him. But we know he read this magazine regularly, and we appreciated that.

Our acquaintanceship with him was through his books, which ranged from *The Tujunga Canyon Contacts* to *The Haunted Universe*. These works revealed a perceptive mind, willing to look at areas of human experience that tend to be dismissed as “fantasy” by most people—unless, of course, they had a personal encounter with the unknown.

On Sunday, August 19, newspapers carried word of the tragic death of D. Scott Rogo at the tender age of 40.

Rogo's body was discovered in his California home by police after they were telephoned by neighbors about a water sprinkler remaining on for some two days. Readers of the tabloids might perhaps expect a more grisly description of the scene then we're about to provide. Suffice it to say that Rogo was stabbed to death. While a broadcast journalist, the editor of CAVEAT EMPTOR got to see the scene of a murder or two himself—and it's not something he chooses to dwell on.

Police suggest the apparent murder occurred some time during the evening of Wednesday, August 15th.

To police, it was just another homicide investigation, of which, tragically, there are just too many these days. Just another case of random violence in the suburb of a large city. There were no reports of any arrests of suspects as this issue went to press.

To those who knew him personally or through his work, the death of D. Scott Rogo left a void in the lives of many in this field. An upcoming issue of *Fate* magazine will contain the text of Rogo's last interview. Look for it!

RESOURCES:

Hardware: Apple Macintosh IIcx with 105mB Rodime hard drive, LaserWriter II NTX printer.

Software: Some initial composition in Microsoft Word and MacWrite II, page make-up in QuarkXPress.® Some illustrations prepared in Adobe Illustrator,® and Type-Style.®

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Output: Agfa ProSet 9800 imagesetter.

Classified Advertising

UFO GRAB BAG! All right, we confess—we have a lot of extra UFO and New Age magazines lying around, and we need to get rid of them. Here's what happened: We were doing house cleaning recently, and through 30 years of collecting UFO literature, we've somehow managed to assemble a number of duplicates of certain magazines. Also we need to make room for newer material. So rather than just renting a storage facility—or moving to a larger office—we've decided to have a garage sale. For \$10, we'll send you five of these UFO and New Age magazines, selected purely at random, from our huge collection. These magazines date mostly from the 1960s and 1970s, and contain a wealth of sighting reports and articles from many well-known figures in UFO research. The key to understanding the UFO enigma as we enter the 1990s is to understand the history of the phenomena. If you're a serious collector, you'll find some real gems here, but we don't have the time to catalog all of it. But we'll do our best to avoid sending duplicates. Oh yes—this is a spare time project—we'll send out orders as we have the time to rummage through the collection. So please allow three to five weeks for delivery, O.K.? Send your check or money order for \$10 for each set to: **CAVEAT EMPTOR GRAB BAG, P.O. Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840.**

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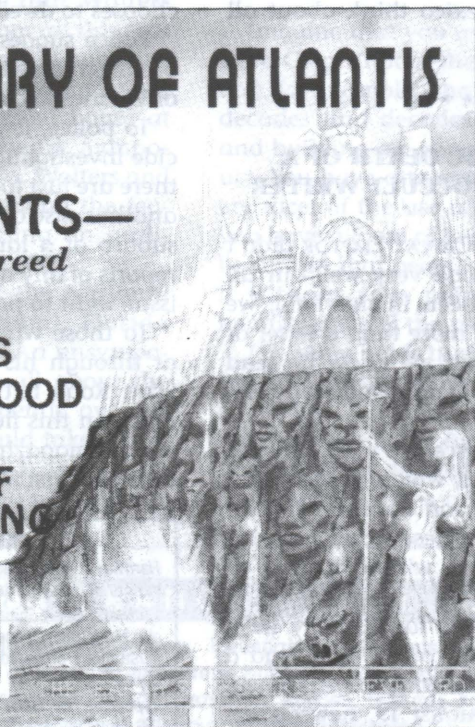
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In the pages of the disturbing new book, **UNDERGROUND ALIEN BASES**, the highly placed source further reveals that these elaborate tunnels radiate "outward from the Arctic and Antarctic in every direction and cover every continent on the planet. They 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 balked. 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

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