

SPECIAL UFO EDITION

OMNI

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**THE SEARCH FOR
EXTRATERRESTRIAL
INTELLIGENCE:
HOW MUCH DO SCIENTISTS
(AND THE GOVERNMENT)
REALLY KNOW?**

**PLUS:
OMNI'S ALIEN ALMANAC
HUMAN-E.T. HYBRIDS**

**SECRETS OF
THE ABDUCTEES**

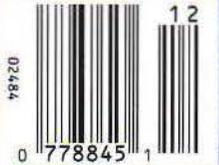
**AN INSIDE
LOOK AT A
FLYING SAUCER**

**THE
MYSTERIOUS
CORNFIELDS OF
ENGLAND**

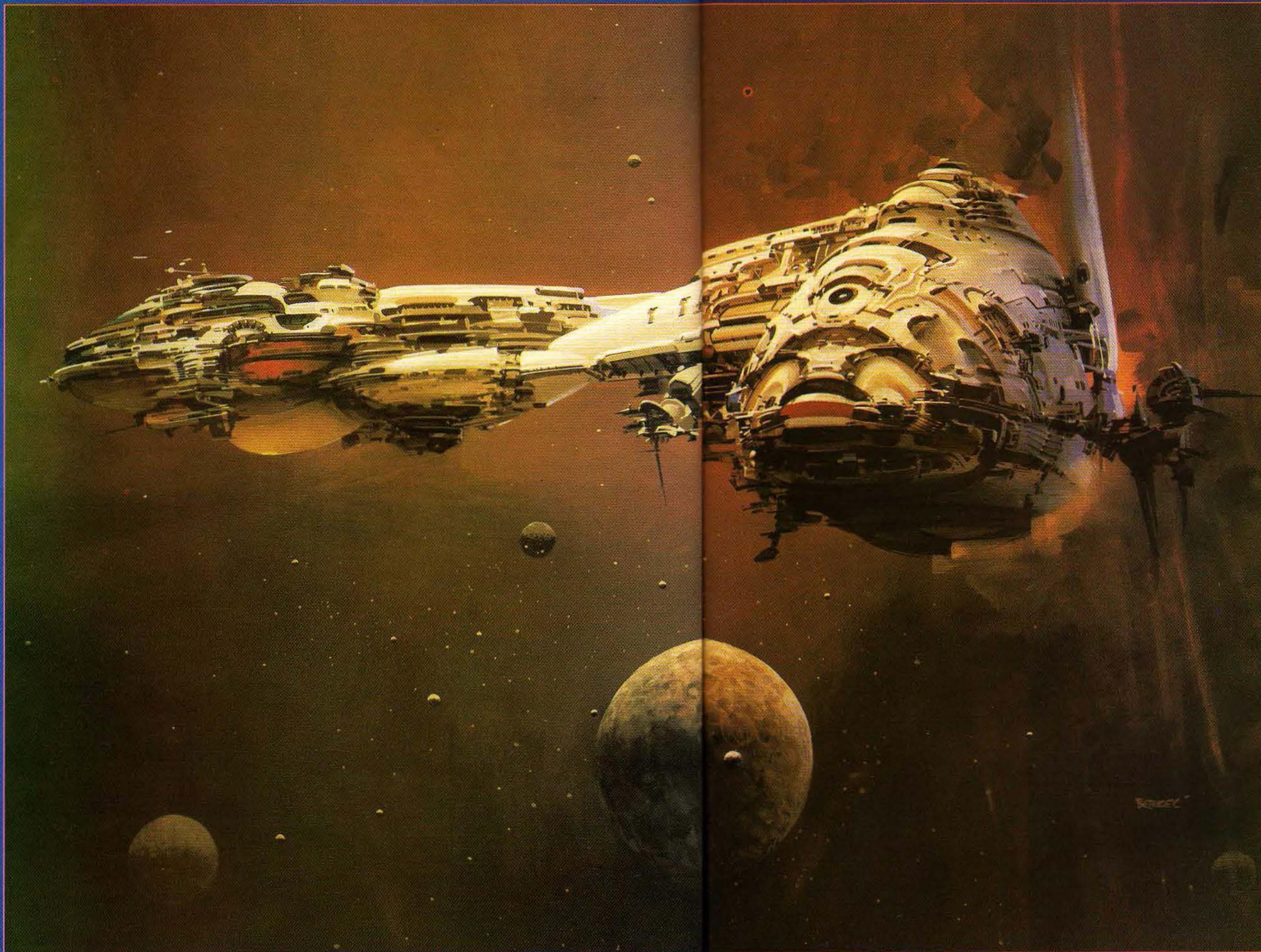
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ARTICLE

Is the U.S. hiding information about aliens and saucers?

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT ISN'T SAYING ABOUT UFO'S

BY PATRICK HUYGHE

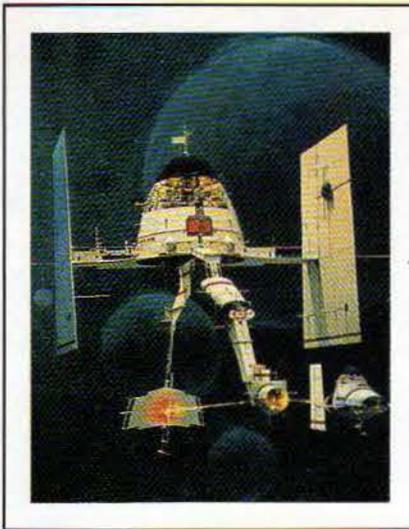
Deep in the bowels of the Pentagon a secret meeting is in progress. Seated at the conference table are three Air Force generals, an Army colonel, several scientists from the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), and personnel from both the

PAINTINGS BY JOHN BERKEY

Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency. The colonel, Harold E. Phillips, is running the show. The idea for this cozy gathering known as the UFO Working Group was all his.

Phillips has convened this session to discuss the "perfect" UFO incident. The case, he says, involved a whole town full of witnesses. He wants the CIA to send an investigative team. But a CIA representative at the table balks. The agency cannot legally conduct domestic activities, he says. A discussion ensues. Eventually an exception to the rule is found, and two CIA agents, posing as NASA engineers, are sent to investigate the UFO sightings over Elmwood, Wisconsin.

The existence of the 17-member UFO Working Group was revealed for the first time this fall by investigative reporter Howard Blum in his new book *Out There*. According to the former *New York Times* journalist, the group was established in February 1987 to coordinate a review of the evidence for UFOs and the search for extraterrestrial life. The DIA, of course, denies that the UFO Working Group exists at all. To UFO researchers, the government team is less than impressive. "They seem like a loose-knit, unofficial discussion group called together on the authority of Phillips, a self-appointed UFO guru within the agency," says Larry W.



**SINISTER
VIEWS HOLD THAT
THE GOVERN-
MENT'S BEEN KEEPING
DEAD E.T.'S
AND SAUCERS UNDER
LOCK AND KEY.**

Bryant, who directs the Washington, DC, office of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS). Others wonder how the group could have been impressed by the sightings over Elmwood, the proposed home of a welcome center for E.T.'s. David Jacobs, a history professor at Temple University and the author of *The UFO Controversy in America*, thinks it can mean only one thing. "They're amateurs," he says.

Blum maintains that the group is official DIA business. But he doesn't think the government is harboring any secrets. "They're covering up not what they know, but what they don't know," he says. "They're embarrassed, and even a little frightened, by their inability to explain certain phenomena."

Blum's view that the government knows little more than we do about UFOs is a decidedly "lite" version of the cover-up. The more sinister, traditional view holds that the government has evidence of alien visitations and has for decades kept this knowledge from the public. This "high calorie" version of the cover-up as government conspiracy has been around for decades.

The first to raise a stink about it was Donald Keyhoe, a retired major in the Marine Corps and a former aide to Charles Lindbergh. With the 1950 publication of *Flying Saucers Are Real*, Keyhoe became the first prominent individ-

ual to champion the notion that the government was hiding the existence of UFOs. Keyhoe had such troubles prying UFO information from the Air Force that he quickly became convinced a massive cover-up was taking place. The Air Force was aware that flying saucers were from another planet, said Keyhoe, but they were covering up the fact to prevent a public panic.

Today many of the arguments for or against a government cover-up hinge on a single case. On the evening of July 6, 1947, a large glowing disc was seen over the New Mexico desert. A sheep rancher, who heard an explosion at the time, went out the next morning to find an area of his ranch covered with strange wreckage. Days later the public information officer at the nearby Roswell Army Air Field created a sensation by announcing they were in possession of a crashed flying disc.

Shortly afterward, however, a retraction appeared: The wreckage, officials declared, was actually a "weather balloon." This much is history. Less well-known are reports that a thorough search of the area in the days that followed led to the discovery, miles away from the sheep ranch, of the main portion of the crashed disc. Inside, supposedly, were several small beings who died in the crash. The military is said to have whisked away the wreckage



**THE AIR
FORCE KNEW FLYING
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THEY WERE COVERING
UP THE FACT.**

and its occupants. During the past decade more and more people have come forward claiming to have seen the craft and the aliens themselves.

If there is a cover-up, then Roswell is where it all began. "Once Roswell came along, the government had real justification for keeping something under wraps," says Bruce Maccabee, a physicist who directs the Fund for UFO Studies in Mount Rainier, Maryland. "Assuming the Roswell case is true, there must be some groups keeping track of that stuff, keeping it under guard."

Witnesses of the Roswell incident were intimidated, contends Stanton Friedman, a nuclear physicist in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, who has interviewed many of the eyewitnesses and other participants. "People were told not to talk," he says, "no question about it. One officer was told by the acting head of the Strategic Air Command, 'I don't want you to talk about this ever again.' I even have a man who handled the bodies on official assignment down there, and not only was he personally threatened, but he was told that if he talked about this, they'd get his family, too."

More convincing is the lack of official documentation on the case. "We know something crashed," says Barry Greenwood, research director of CAUS. "We know material was gathered. We know

CRASH LANDINGS

In one of her sketches, Lily Tomlin plays a bag woman who has encountered some little green men not from outer but from inner space—from the cracks within the world. After talking to them, the bag woman finds a police officer and tells him what she's seen. "You got evidence, lady?" he asks. Such is the predicament of UFO researchers. The following five cases of purported UFO crash landings are some of the more curious pieces of evidence about extraterrestrials. Although far from conclusive, each of these cases is still under investigation.

The Roswell Incident

After a UFO crashed in remote Lincoln County, New Mexico, in early July 1947, the Air Force base at Roswell Field announced in a press release that it had a "flying disc" of the kind being reported in the newspapers. When the material was taken to the Eighth Air Force Headquarters in Fort Worth, however, the commander, Brigadier General Roger Ramey, said it was from a weather balloon. Ramey's own assistant, Brigadier General Thomas DuBose, as well as Major Jesse Marcel, who led the recovery opera-

tion, and others held to the Air Force's original statement.

By 1990 the Center For UFO Studies had interviewed some 250 individuals who were somehow related to the incident—everyone from members of ranch families who lived near the crash site to high-ranking Air Force officers. Those who expressed an opinion about the debris's nature suspect it is not of earthly origin. For one thing, witnesses claimed the craft contained an undentable thin foil that, after folding, returned to its original shape with no crease mark.

Some of the center's informants independently claimed that bodies—not of human beings—had been recovered a mile or two away.

The Kecksburg "Acorn"

At 4:15 P.M. on December 9, 1965, thousands of people in several Midwestern and Eastern states observed the passage of a glowing object whose long smoke trail remained visible for as long as 20 minutes after the object itself was gone. Investigators who later tracked its trajectory concluded that the object had been moving slightly faster than 1,000 miles per hour (meteors travel at a minimum of 27,000 mph) in a southeasterly direction from Flint, Michigan, to the Cleveland area,

where it made a 25° turn and headed east. Outside Kecksburg, Pennsylvania, a number of local people observed the object descend in a smooth and controlled fashion.

Those who ventured into the woods in the evening darkness, according to reports, discovered a large gold, acorn-shaped object that emitted a strange blue light. In a band along the side of the object was hieroglyphiclike writing. Soon, as members of the Aerospace Defense Command's 662nd Radar Squadron appeared on the scene, civilians were ordered to leave the area. Later, Kecksburg residents reported an Army flatbed truck carrying something covered with a tarpaulin; its shape was that of a giant upright acorn. The official explanation of the Kecksburg object is "meteorite," although no such object has ever been produced and none of the eyewitness testimony supports that particular interpretation.

The Tex-Mex Episode

In 1977 a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel swore in an affidavit that many years ago (probably 1950, investigators deduced) he and another pilot (since deceased) had been flying an F-94, then in the experimental stage, out of a Texas Air Force base when

ground radar operators told them a UFO was about to come into view. They watched a disc-shaped object make a 90° turn but were denied permission to chase it. Radar tracking indicated the UFO crashed near the Texas-Mexico border. The colonel and his companion landed their jet, boarded a light plane, and flew to the crash site alighting "in the pasture right across from where it hit." They saw the object in the sand, the colonel now says, surrounded by soldiers.

The Tex-Mex story first surfaced during an investigation by W. Todd Zechel, who heard of it through an Army associate whose uncle said he had participated in a UFO recovery along the border. During the exercise, the uncle claimed, the body of an alien being had been recovered. In later years Zechel managed to locate the uncle, a retired Army colonel. He neither confirmed nor denied the story but refused to discuss it, citing national security concerns.

Nevada Crash

On April 18, 1962, North American Air Defense Command radar tracked a glowing red object moving west across the United States at a high altitude. By the time it reached the Southwest, it was close enough that witness-

es on the ground could hear a roaring sound associated with its passage. According to investigator Kevin Randle, witnesses reported the UFO landing near Eureka, Utah, for a few minutes before resuming its flight. It disappeared from radar screens 70 miles northwest of Las Vegas just as observers saw an aerial explosion. The incident is an obscure one—the only press account appeared in the *Las Vegas Sun* on April 19—and few UFOlogists even know of it.

In the Eighties Randle interviewed witnesses, one of whom had been stationed at Nellis Air Force Base at the time. The man claimed that he and other soldiers had been put on a bus with closed windows and taken to a site in the desert to pick up the wreckage of what looked like a flying saucer. The soldiers were told only the craft was something secret. Randle is now looking for other members of the alleged recovery team.

Disc in the Desert

In the Seventies veteran UFO researcher Raymond Fowler investigated the case of the pseudonymous "Fritz Werner," an engineer who served at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and later at the Atomic Proving Ground in Nevada. In an affidavit Wer-

ner swore that on May 21, 1953, he and others were driven to nearby Indian Springs Air Force Base, put on a bus with blackened windows, and informed that they were to participate in the recovery of a "supersecret Air Force vehicle." After four hours they were let out in what Werner surmised was the Kingman, Arizona, area. They were shown an oval object that "looked like two deep saucers, one inverted upon the other," about 30 feet in diameter. His particular job, he asserted, was to determine how fast the craft had been traveling when it hit the sand. At one point, Werner claimed, he happened to look into a tent at the site; there he saw the "dead body of a four-foot, humanlike creature in a silver, metallic-looking suit." As he was leaving he talked briefly with an airman who said that he had seen the interior of the craft, where there were "two swivel-like seats as well as instruments and displays."

All participants were sworn to secrecy. Another investigator, Leonard Stringfield, interviewed a former Air Force metallurgist who claimed that in the spring of 1953 he had been flown blindfolded to a "hot and sandy area" to participate in the recovery of a vehicle much like the one Werner described.—Jerome Clark **DD**

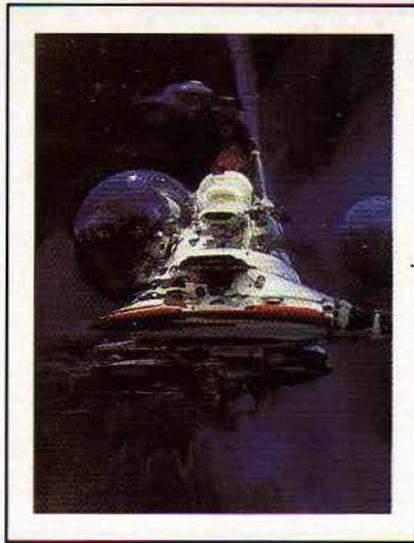
that it was shipped out somewhere. So where is the paperwork? Where is the analysis? We just don't see it." But Greenwood, unlike Friedman, is not convinced that Roswell represents the crash of an extraterrestrial spacecraft and its occupants. He takes the "lite" view and thinks the government is just as baffled by the UFO phenomenon as the rest of us.

Thousands of pages of UFO documents generated by the CIA, the FBI, the Air Force, the State Department, and other agencies have been released under the Freedom of Information Act. But these, says Maccabee, offer only indirect evidence of a cover-up: They point to an accumulation of information that wouldn't be there if no one were interested. "It's hard to believe that all those reports would pour into government agencies and no one paid any attention," he says. "It's hard to believe the government would be so stupid." Maccabee believes the government is covering up the existence of UFOs, covering up that it really doesn't know what's going on, and covering up that it doesn't know what to do about it, namely what would happen if it went public with all this.

Government agencies still have hundreds of UFO documents that they refuse to release to UFO researchers. The National Security Agency (NSA) admits to withholding more than 100 UFO-related documents, the CIA refuses to release about 50, and the DIA says it's withholding six. This is black-and-white proof of a cover-up, says Greenwood. "In a literal sense, information is being covered up in being withheld."

The most tantalizing of all the withheld UFO documents are those belonging to the NSA, the supersecret agency whose primary job is eavesdropping on military communications. No one really knows what UFO information its documents contain, but Friedman has an idea what one may be about. Someone working for the agency told Friedman that in March 1967 a listening post picked up communications between Cuban radar installations and two MiG-21 jets sent to intercept a mysterious, bright metallic sphere in Cuban airspace. When the MiG pilots failed to make contact with the object, they were instructed to shoot it down. "Suddenly there was this shrieking from the pilot in the second plane," says Friedman. "The first plane had disintegrated." Friedman's contact says that NSA headquarters was sent a report on the incident.

UFO researchers took the NSA to court for its UFO documents in 1980, but federal district court judge Gerhard Gesell, the same judge who presided over the Oliver North case, ruled in the NSA's favor. The agency refuses to release any of its UFO-related documents because to do so would reveal source



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es and methods, and that would be a violation of national security. But Friedman believes that there is something about the phenomenon itself that the agency regards as a threat to national security. These objects are violating our airspace, he points out, and they show the powerless response of our military systems to such intrusions. Friedman has a name for all this. He calls it the cosmic Watergate.

Philip J. Klass, an aerospace journalist and the field's foremost skeptic, says there is no such thing. He points out that many of the communications intercepted by the NSA come from potentially hostile nations and many of them are coded. So the agency's rationale for not making these documents public is actually quite simple. "They might reveal the location of certain listening posts," he explains, "and even more important, they would reveal that we have cracked and were able to decipher certain codes."

So if the question is whether the withheld documents contain any answers to the UFO mystery, the answer is, Probably not. "Long ago a lot of us used to think that the government was covering up a knowledge of extraterrestrials and their craft," says Greenwood, who six years ago coauthored *Clear Intent: The Government Coverup of the UFO Experience*. "But we've had a change of attitude. We just don't see the govern-

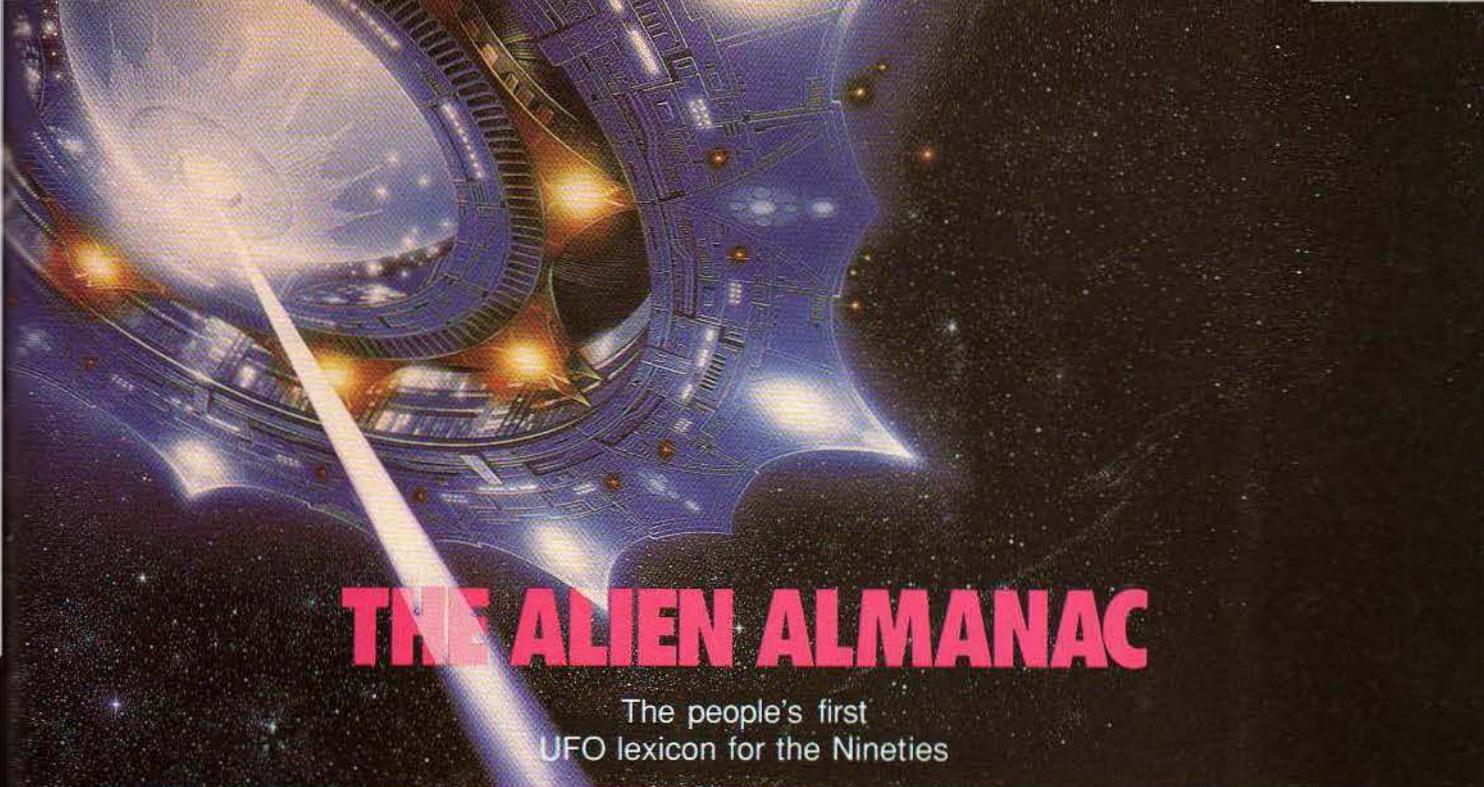
ment as having any answers. If they knew what UFOs were all about, I think history would have been a little different than what we now see."

This argument gains power, oddly enough, from the Roswell incident itself. "If it was a UFO that crashed in Roswell," says Jacobs, "a whole series of events would have been set in motion in the government. There would be major studies of it. Hundreds of scientists would have been involved with it over the past forty years. The government would be acting very differently about UFOs than they do now. All of UFO history makes sense if there was not a crash, and none of UFO history makes sense if there was a crash." Jacobs adds, "It's still possible that one could have crashed and there's an entirely different scenario at work."

If the craft at Roswell had been an E.T. craft, insists Klass, then the United States would have wanted to know just how many of these craft were passing overhead. At the very least, he says, we would have established a space-surveillance system similar to the one that was set up three years after the launch of *Sputnik*. Klass cannot imagine the government doing nothing and simply hoping the aliens are friendly.

Never in his 24 years of UFO investigation has Klass encountered a government cover-up of significant information. If you think there's a cover-up, he says, call your local air base and report that a saucer has just landed in your backyard and that strange-looking creatures are getting out of it. If the government really were trying to keep things under wraps, he says, the voice on the other end would ask for your address and a SWAT team would be there within minutes. Instead, what will happen, says Klass, is that the voice on the other end will simply thank you for calling and suggest that you report your sighting to the local police department or to one of the national UFO groups.

That's too simplistic, says Bryant. If they really have hard evidence about aliens and flying saucers, what would they care about what's in your backyard? For the past several years Bryant, who happens to be a Pentagon employee, has been placing ads in military newspapers encouraging anyone with UFO information to come forth and blow the whistle on the government cover-up. So far no one has come forward to reveal what he calls the "ultimate secret" that will motivate the general public, the press, and Congress to resolve the issue. He's not surprised. "So few people in the government really know about UFOs," he says. "And those who don't know are covering up because it's just the way of doing things. It's the bureaucratic way. When in doubt, don't let it out. Don't even let out that you don't know." 



THE ALIEN ALMANAC

The people's first
UFO lexicon for the Nineties

The field of UFOlogy has changed drastically over the past 20 years—and so has the language used to describe extraterrestrials, UFO witnesses, and alien ships. In the Forties and Fifties UFO buffs described their observations of mysterious objects in the night sky, bandying such terms as *flying saucer* and *little green man* with aplomb. In the Sixties these UFO stories, recorded by the Air Force in its notorious Project Blue Book, became legion around the world. Finally, in the Seventies, UFO advocates got into the physicality of the phenomenon, reporting “nocturnal lights,” “daylight discs,” and even electronic blips racing across radar screens. Seventies UFO fans also referred to “close encounters,” including the consciousness-raising “close encounter of the third kind,” in which humans and aliens meet.

But UFOlogy has gone through a radical change, and in the Nineties the terms of the past are largely obsolete. During the past decade, for instance, literally thousands of people have come forward to say they've been kidnapped, or “abducted,” by short, large-headed, thin-lipped entities with saucer eyes. Yet others report weird “crop circles,” mutilated cattle, and frightening “men in black.” If you've fallen behind the times, you can now catch up with the UFO lexicon, created for *Omni* by writer Dennis Stacy, below.

Abductions. Occur whenever a human specimen is taken aboard a UFO against his or her will. Those reporting the experience are referred to as *abductees*.

Animal mutilations. Typically refers to surgically mutilated cattle carcasses found primarily throughout the American West and Southwest. Horses, pigs, cats, and other animals may also be attacked. Soft external tissues like the eyes, lips, and sexual organs may be excised with almost laserlike precision. Internal organs and tissue like the heart and, on occasion, fetuses may be removed as well. The animal carcass is frequently found in a remote area, devoid of blood, after hovering lights have been seen above. Many law-enforcement agencies attribute animal mutilations to wild animals or satanic cult activities, though few arrests in that context have ever been made.

Contactees. Unlike the abductees, contactees have reported almost universally benevolent experiences. Commonly,

the Aryan-looking aliens they report warn against nuclear war and pollution and criticize man's materialistic ways. **Cosmic Watergate.** New Brunswick nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman may not have coined the phrase *cosmic Watergate*, but he claims to have used it more often than any living UFOlogist. First used in the wake of the Republican break-in at Democratic headquarters in the Watergate complex, Washington, DC, the term refers to an alleged government cover-up of aliens and UFOs.

Crashed saucers. According to rumor, several crashed flying discs were recovered and secreted away by the military authorities over the years. Some UFOlogists claim that alien bodies have been retrieved as well.

Crop circles. Strange swirled circles in Britain's breadbasket first appeared in significant numbers during the summer of 1980. Last year alone more than 500 such circles surfaced, many showing a growing complexity of evolution in terms of patterns and display. Explanations range from the meteorological to the supernatural.

Grays. So-called because of their pallid, dolphinlike skin and complexion. The most commonly reported alien humanoid entities, Grays are typically described as dwarfish in stature with oversized, fetuslike heads; large, slanted black eyes; and scrawny limbs.

Hypnotic regression. The process by which UFOlogists hypnotize abductees to help them recall details of the core abduction experience.

Implants. Tiny, BB-shaped monitoring devices inserted during the standard abduction and subsequent physical examination of humans by alien beings. Usually inserted through the nasal passages and other obscure orifices of the victim, implants have reportedly been lodged in the brains of some abductees and, in at least one instance, in the penis.

Men in black. Long a staple of the dark side of UFO lore, the notorious MIB first surfaced in *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers*, a 1956 book by the late UFO entrepreneur Gray Barker. Posing as government agents, men in black suddenly appear on a UFO witness's doorstep, demanding photographic negatives or other UFO evidence while warning the witness to keep quiet about what he may

CONTINUED ON PAGE 132

THE ALIEN ALMANAC

SAUCER SECRETS:

What *really* happens to abductees inside the alien ships

THE JUICY DETAILS UFOLOGISTS WON'T REVEAL

UFO abductees come complete with incredible tales of tiny gray aliens, vast starships, and horrific medical exams. But how do UFOlogists distinguish between true abductees and pretenders, between someone who has been through a bona fide abduction and someone who is simply repeating information that was reported in the press?

To validate stories and sidestep hoaxes, many UFOlogists have begun to withhold details of the abduction experience, much as police withhold the clues found at the scene of a crime to trip up a thief. Only true abductees, investigators say, will report the correct informational tidbits, which have been kept from the public domain.

Artist Budd Hopkins, author of *Missing Time and Intruders*, for instance, holds back abductee reports of "what would appear to be a notational system of letters and numbers" drawn on the inside walls of the alien ships. David Jacobs, another abduction researcher and professor of history at Temple University, who has just finished a book on the abduction phenomenon, refuses to reveal a specific female body area measured by aliens. "The area is so unusual," he says, "it's difficult to describe precisely."

Even more circumspect is psychologist Richard Haines, who says he is "a

firm believer in holding things back" but won't reveal even in general terms what these things are.

So far, researchers cross-checking material that has been held back from the public have not met with all the hoped-for results. Los Angeles UFOlogist Ann Druffel, for instance, has not found the unusual body measurements referred to by Jacobs, nor the strange notational markings withheld by Hopkins.

Hopkins himself notes that cross-referencing can be misleading, since different researchers have different styles. For instance, he explains, "if a person comments on being measured, Dave Jacobs will ask what part of the body and from where to where, while I'll just let that go."

Some of this inconsistency might be reduced if abduction researchers could all agree to hold back the same information, but, says Haines, "that agreement is difficult to get in any field." It is a question of differing research styles, he says, "with everyone trying to make his or her own mark."

Perhaps that's why UFO researchers zealously guard the material they withhold. In an effort to dig up some of their best-kept secrets, therefore, we went to a pro-anomalies expert Dennis Stacy. After snooping around a bit, Stacy gave us his "best guess" list of some weird, bad, and bizarre (but secret) aspects of alien life.

1. Pictographic Writing. As Hopkins said, abductees regularly report a system of

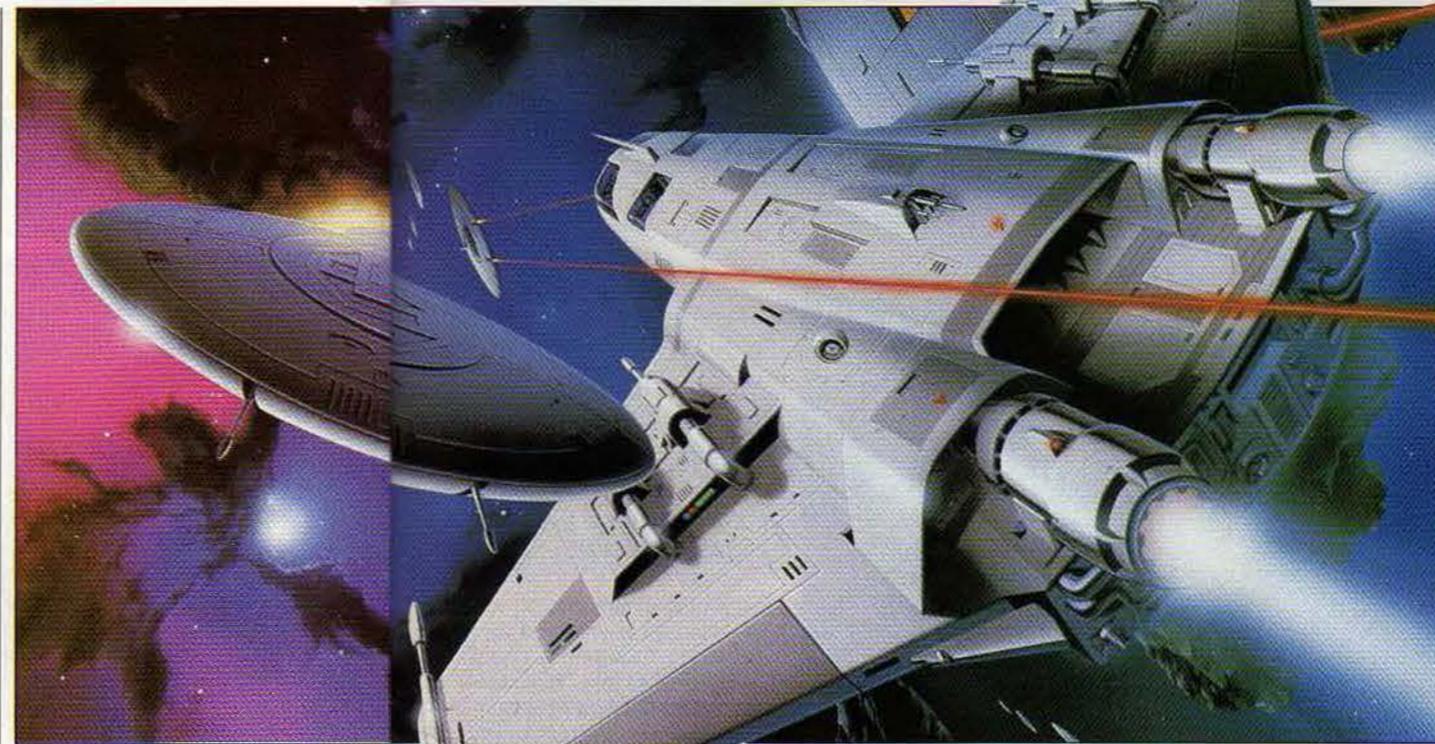
writing on alien walls. Some sources have suggested the writing may resemble Chinese ideograms, Egyptian hieroglyphics, or other forms of pictorial writing.

2. Alien Nurseries. According to Hopkins, abductees consistently report alien nurseries—rooms in which human-alien hybrid babies are bred. What do these rooms look like? Only the abductees (and Hopkins) know for sure, but we think the researchers are hiding reports of uncovered metallic incubators that take the hybrid fetus through every stage of development.

3. Fetal Removal Hopkins won't reveal how the hybrid babies are actually born. Our best guess is that machines transfer the babies from the incubators to larger, deeper metal containers used as cribs.

4. Mother-and-Child Reunion. Once the hybrid baby is born, it is presented to the human mother, abductees report. What's the exact nature of this interaction? "Let's just say it's not the way we would do it," Hopkins asserts. We think the aliens may not touch the babies at all, perhaps extracting them from shallow metallic containers (the alien cribs) with robot arms and delivering them, via moving conveyors, to the human mother, who provides physical warmth and love.

5. Letting Go. Some of our sources have suggested that abductees are reporting loss of bowel and bladder control. Even Hopkins and Jacobs admit that such incidents would not be un-



TOUR OF A UFO

sual "if a good deal of fear was involved."

6. Alien Garb. Early reports of aliens decked out in seamless, formfitting, unisex bodysuits seem lackluster. We think the researchers may be hiding some form of bodily decoration: colorful clothing patches, brightly colored buttons, even tattoos.

7. Human-Alien Sex. We believe that many abductees report the sensation of paralysis followed by unwilling sexual intercourse with aliens. We suspect that the unpleasant, but possibly arousing, ritual surrounding this experience has been described in great detail by thousands of UFO abductees.

Ever wonder what an alien craft might look like inside? If the information collected by Temple University historian David Jacobs is correct, it may now be possible to know. After interviewing 50 UFO abductees who say they have been whisked off some 275 times, Jacobs has pieced together a picture of what's under the dome.

It's incomplete, says Jacobs, because the atmosphere aboard a UFO is all business and no one is offered a guided tour. Abductees are there for a physical exam, he says, and they see only as much of the

craft as is necessary to get the job done. That's why they invariably describe spartan, efficient, and sterile surroundings with virtually no luxury features at all.

These are clinical-looking rooms with domed ceilings, skylightlike windows, and gray or white walls, Jacobs explains. And the aliens are good housekeepers. "It is clean and neat. We have had some cases where people vomited and it was cleaned up immediately."

Despite these broad similarities, Jacobs adds, there are at least two types of craft, "with the typical large UFO checking in at about two hundred feet in diameter and its smaller cousin at about thirty-five

feet. If the craft is on the ground, abductees climb a staircase that is lowered from the object. But if the vessel is hovering, they are floated up."

Accidental tourists find themselves in a hallway with metallic walls that are usually bare but sometimes contain a floor-to-ceiling window. Usually they are ushered along a curved corridor, which gives them the feeling that they are walking around the perimeter of the ship, although no one makes a complete loop, says Jacobs. Eventually they are led to the vessel's center, the "medical arena," where unpleasant physical examinations occur.

Virtually all medical zones

are illuminated by a mysterious light source that abductees cannot locate, Jacobs says. But they have pinpointed the position of voluminous medical equipment—attached to walls and ceilings, in drawers, or on rolling carts. As for the examination table, Jacobs says, it's generally "hard,

with very little give," and contains lighted, armlike devices snaking up from its sides.

In many cases, Jacobs notes, the examination room resembles the hub of a wheel. The spokes, or hallways, lead from the hub to other chambers, revealed only to some abductees after the exam. Also circular, with domed ceilings, white or gray walls, and built-in benches, some of these seem to be "visiting rooms" in which human-alien hybrid babies are touched, held, or viewed.

Finally, abductees may pass through a control room that sounds nothing like the bridge of the starship *Enterprise*. There is a console with lights, an unpadded seat, and no windows.

While all this is fascinating, equally interesting is what abductees don't report, Jacobs says. His witnesses are remarkably consistent in *not* describing living areas and other details expected to pop up in fabricated or imagined accounts. "Of course," Jacobs says, "that doesn't mean they don't exist in other parts of the UFO."

—Paul McCarthy

THE ALIEN ALMANAC

UNSOLVED MYSTERIES:

From France to New York, the five thorniest sightings of the Eighties

1. Physical traces at Trans-en-Provence, France. On January 8, 1981, Renato Nicolai, an elderly, near-illiterate Italian immigrant, saw a saucer-shaped "ship" land briefly on his property. When the Groupe d'Etude des

Phénomènes Aérospatiaux Non-Identifiés (GEPAN), the French government's official UFO-study project, investigated, it found two large concentric circles, one inside the other. Soil and vegetation samples were brought to plant traumatologist Michael Bounias, whose analysis, conducted over a two-year period at the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, determined that the leaves had inexplicably lost 30 to 50 percent of their chlorophyll pigment and aged in a way that neither expected natural processes nor laboratory experiments could duplicate. Later GEPAN head Jean-Jacques Velasco said, "The effects on plants in the area can be compared with that produced on the leaves of other plant species after exposing the seeds to [a considerable amount of] gamma radiation." Yet strangely, there was no evidence of radioactivity in the Trans-en-Provence plant samples. To all appearances, GEPAN concluded, "something similar to what the eyewitness has described actually did take place."

2. Intruder in the upper atmosphere. In December 1986 U.S. Naval Space Surveillance System radar screens in the southern and western



United States tracked a mysterious flying object as it entered the upper atmosphere, performing complex maneuvers at dazzling speed. The object later entered orbit in a bizarrely random way. A flash alert—the kind of warning that could signal the start of World War III—was sounded at the Pentagon and throughout the North American Air Defense Command, but the object disappeared as abruptly as it had arrived. A report of the incident put on President Reagan's daily brief is said to have led to the creation of a classified UFO working group within the Defense Intelligence Agency.

3. Giant UFO over Alaska. Flying over northeastern Alaska on November 17, 1986, at

5:10 P.M., the crew of a Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 observed fast-moving rectangular lights. The lights were soon joined by a larger object, which was picked up on both the plane's radar and ground radar. Minutes later the "mother ship," as the JAL observers described it, vanished temporarily from the screens, then reappeared behind the 747. Now the crew got a good look at it: It was Saturn-shaped (a disc with a rim extending from and around its midsection) and the size of "two aircraft carriers." Pilot Kenju Terauchi took frantic evasive maneuvers, but the UFO kept its position directly behind the airliner. At 5:39 P.M. the object vanished from sight and radar screens.

4. Texas scorcher. On December 29, 1980, near Huffman, Texas, two women and a seven-year-old boy in a car observed a brilliant, diamond-shaped UFO floating above nearby trees and emitting scorching heat. The witnesses suffered severe and lasting illnesses from the encounter, and a radiologist said the cause appeared to be radiation sickness. Seeking answers and compensation, the witnesses sued the government without success.

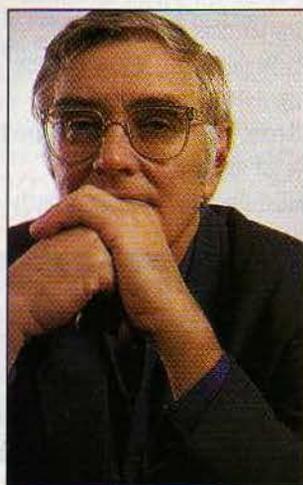
5. Westchester boomerang. In 1983 and 1984 thousands of people in seven suburban counties of New York and Connecticut saw weird flying objects that resembled flying wings. One witness compared a UFO to a "boomerang with lights running up and down its wings." Another said it was "so huge it filled up the entire sky." Sometimes the boomerangs, said to travel at everything from lightning speed to 5 mph, passed no more than a dozen feet above witnesses' heads. Reports of the Westchester boomerang have been complicated by the discovery of pranksters flying ultralight aircraft in tight V formation. Despite this possible cause for the boomerang sightings, some researchers say, the best reports remain unexplained. And identical boomerangs have been observed elsewhere in the United States.

This listing was compiled by Jerome Clark, author of UFOs in the 1980s (Apogee Books), the first of four volumes in the UFO Encyclopedia series.

THE ALIEN ALMANAC

TRUE CONFESSIONS:

The unbearable pain, sorrow, and terror of alien abduction



Budd Hopkins

NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND

Budd Hopkins, author of *Missing Time* and *Intruders*, has written more extensively about the abduction phenomenon than just about anyone. Because he has so eloquently described the plight of the abductee, those who consider themselves part of this strange phenomenon are constantly sending him mail.

In fact, since *Intruders* was published some three years ago, Hopkins has received about five abductee letters a day; his collection of more than 4,000 letters is extensive indeed. Writer Paul McCarthy has excerpted some of these letters, which express the pain, sorrow, and abject terror of the abductee, below:

•In the summer of 1966 I worked at a summer job in the mountains. On the last night of the job, I started driv-

ing back to the coast. I remember driving into a fog on the highway. The next thing I knew, I was passing through St. Louis on the afternoon of the next day... This was followed by several days of confusion and terror. At one point I thought there was something wrong with my car. I left it at a garage and spent at least one night at a motel, where it seems to me a police car parked and shone its lights through my window for 15 minutes. It turned out that there was nothing wrong with my car, and I kept on going.

When I finally got to the coast, I was in the early stages of a complete emotional breakdown. The symptoms included agoraphobia, fatigue, some neuro-motor problems, and extreme depression. It went on for nearly four years.

•It was the fall of 1968 when my friend and I decided to spend an evening away from our parents up on what we called "the aqueduct." It was an area behind our apartment building complex where huge power lines had been erected. It was secluded with plenty of trees on either side.

There was a power substation on top of a hill, and this is where we saw an orange glow descend. We ran up the hill and to the best of my recollection saw a small round disc. It is from this stage on that my memory has become somewhat cloudy. The next thing we knew was that we were down behind one of the buildings (we never

frequented this particular place) and we had somehow lost two hours of time. We looked up and saw another orange glow, only this time it was rising. I laughed a nervous little laugh and we both looked at each other and said, Oh, it's nothing, it's just a UFO. We said good-night immediately without mentioning it further. It was the last time we ever spoke about it.

My friend was never the same after this experience and in a few short years had committed suicide. The next morning I woke up with what I now think was a "sunburn" on one side of my face, but at the time I thought it was an allergic reaction to something I had eaten. I also noticed a brown sore spot in my navel but, again, never correlated it to the experience, if indeed there had been one. This effect lasted for quite a few years.

•Late in June this year I was awakened by Jason calling out to me: He sleeps in the next room. He screamed, "Mom, there are two aliens staring at me."

Normally if ever the boys need me in the night my feet are on the ground before I'm awake, but despite the terror in his voice, I called out to him that it was only a dream and to go back to sleep. About thirty to sixty minutes later I heard him crying, and this time I went in to him. He was sitting up in bed. I cuddled him and he told me two aliens (his words) had stood by his bed and stared at him. They

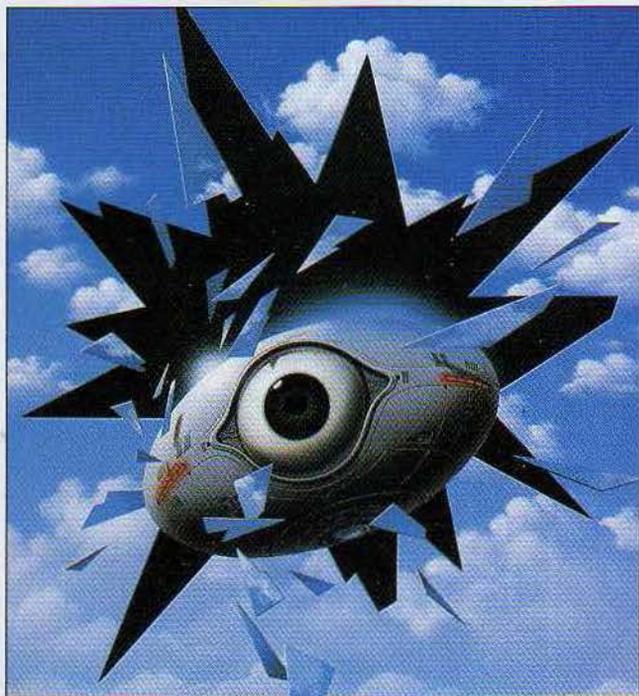
didn't speak, just stood there. There was a light behind them, so their shape was in shadow. One was taller than the other and they didn't move, just stared for ages. He was too terrified to move, he said. After a while they turned and walked away. Then he cried for me.

Normally I would put it down to a bad dream except for his behavior the next day. He was tired first thing, and as I dropped him off at my sister's for two hours while I took Jimmie to an appointment, I thought he would play quietly or watch TV. However, by the time I got back to him he was laying on the floor crying with a bad headache. Also he seemed to have a sore groin. He had told my sister about the two visitors in the bedroom and drew a picture, insisting they were real and not part of a dream.

•We were driving along a deserted road in complete darkness when we turned a bend in the road and came across a brightly lit object beside the road ahead. The object revealed itself to be nothing more than a farming tractor, or something similar, but as soon as I saw it from a distance of about two hundred yards I was absolutely frozen with terror, for no reason. My friend who was driving obviously had the same thoughts as he quickly brought the car to a halt beside the object before we both identified it (from about ten to fifteen yards) as being some sort of tractor.

We often related the

THE ALIEN ALMANAC



experience to others as an amusing incident, and to this day I've never mentioned it to my friend as a serious matter. However, as time has gone by, I'm still haunted by this event. It frightens me, and I have to admit that, but I don't know why. There was something about the way the object was lit, or perhaps the position it was parked in, that must have caused the astonishing reaction I had experienced.

The question I want to put to you is if you know of any cases where UFOs have effectively disguised themselves to the onlooker as everyday objects. I hope this doesn't sound completely wild, but I'm hoping that you'll be able to tell me that this sort of thing has hap-

pened before and I'm not plain crazy!

I often think about the encounter, especially when I'm alone or in bed. Sometimes I just feel concerned, but, more often than not, the thought of those few moments causes me to shiver, and regularly I start to cry. Right now I feel pretty silly even writing this letter, but I know that when I relive the encounter again, on my own, it will have the same effect, but why?

• I became aware of this impression several years ago and it was so very vivid, and I cannot get it out of my mind. I decided it must have been something I had dreamed at one time, but it always seemed much more like a part of me, like a memory, than a dream, and

how could this be? I have this in my memory all the time now, and I have pondered over it many, many times. This is the vision: Someone is taking me somewhere. I don't know where I am. I don't know who is with me, but I feel someone is with me. Perhaps only one person. There is no speaking at all during this whole thing. We come to a place. I don't know where this is. There seems to be a huge tank of some kind. I cannot even see the boundaries of it. I am in front of it. I cannot see the sides of it or the back of it because of the fluid. It is filled with a very dark, clear bluish-green liquid. Hanging inside of the liquid are scores of fetuses, in different phases of their growth. They are hanging on a cord, which is attached to their abdomen (umbilicus?). I cannot see where it is attached up above. I don't know where it is coming from. The fetuses are all hanging with their backs upward. They are facing the bottom of this tank. But they are suspended in this liquid, which seems to be thick, or gelatinous, in nature.

• I remember an incident when I was about eight or nine. I had been sleeping in my bed: Julie was asleep across the room from me. My bed was near the backyard window. I could hear someone call me. I thought it was Julie, so I looked up and there was a thing behind the door. I started feeling sick (scared sick, I think) and I wanted to go to the bathroom and throw up.

But the thing wouldn't let me past the door. I started to cry but I couldn't call my mom. Finally I knew I was going to be sick, and as I tried to call Mom, Julie woke up and I threw up. She called Mom for me and Mom came in and tried to get me to the bathroom, but I was so terrified to go past the door that she had to show me a number of times that there was nothing there. Finally she got me cleaned up and put me to bed. When I woke up the next morning I felt like I had a sore throat, so I sat up and blood ran out of my nose. Not bleeding, but like it had been just laying there. But I figure that it would have to have been recent or it would have coagulated. I had forgotten all about this incident until I read *Intruders*. Now I can't stop thinking about it.

• When I was around five I remember a voice that would come to the side of my bed. I could never open my eyes to see it but it was there for around a week and it knew my name and would talk to me. I think it was a couple of years later that a ball of light came into my house and just traveled around. I was having a slumber party that night and it scared everyone so much that they all backed into a corner. Another time, looking out my bedroom window when I was a kid, I saw a bright light in the back of my house. Staring at that light, I felt strange—then I woke up on top of my covers with blood on my nightgown and a bloody nose, but no blood on my bed.

THE ALIEN ALMANAC

DIPPING INTO THE GENE POOL:
Are you a human–alien hybrid? Take the Omni self-help quiz to find out

During the past decade thousands of people around the world have reported a nightmarish journey to the dark side of the soul. These individuals claim they have been abducted by the alien entities some call Grays.

The Grays' self-professed victims—known as abductees—have filled their reports with dozens of fascinating details on areas ranging from painful medical exams to the interior of the alien ship. But one of the most disturbing claims involves the creation of human–alien hybrids. Abductees insist that Grays routinely extract human egg and sperm samples and combine them with alien genes in special breeding rooms. The resulting human–alien embryos are said to gestate in incubatorlike trays until, some months later, they are “born.” The delicate, beatific-looking hybrids crave the loving human touch, it is said, but can survive only in the protective cocoon of the alien ship.

Virtually all UFO investigators contend that if hybrids exist, they do so only up there, on Gray vessels in the great beyond. But we at *Omni* would like to propose another option: Perhaps the aliens have also created embryos that are, say, 25 percent alien and 75 percent human, and have gestated them not in an incubator, but in an actual earthbound human abductee. If so, this heartier, distinctly more human version of the hybrid might be among us. One of them might even be...you!

If you have always felt

unique, could alien genes be the reason why? To find out whether you fit the hybrid profile suggested by abductee reports and our own perverse reckoning, answer the ten questions below. Choose the answer that best describes you.

1. When you first meet a stranger, you: a) form a powerful, intuitive first impression; b) usually feel bored and unimpressed; c) know exactly what he or she is really thinking.

2. Whenever you think of your parents, you: a) feel a deep kinship; b) wonder how pedestrian people like these could have produced a brilliant, creative genius like you; c) sense confusion and discomfort.

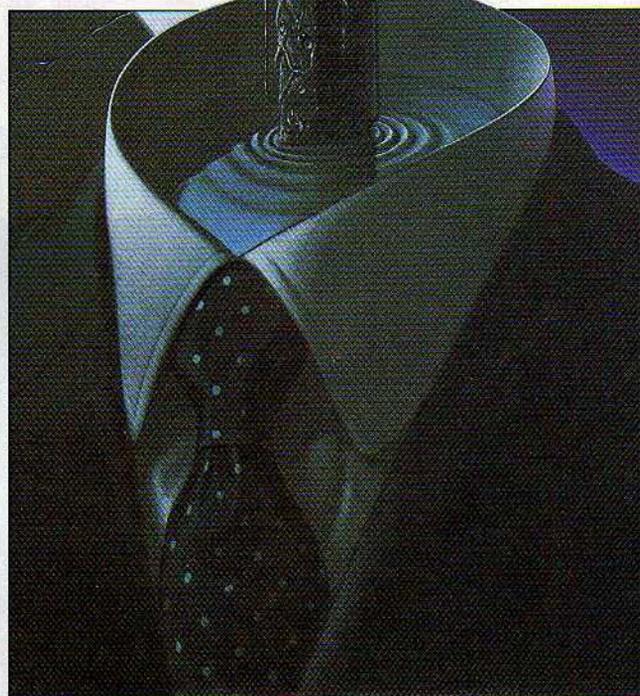
3. When visiting a museum, you are drawn to: a) the swirling lights, flowers, and fields of Van Gogh; b) the abstract shapes and bold colors of Klee; c) the strange hieroglyphic renderings of the Egyptians.

4. Unusual markings along your body include: a) freckles; b) moles or cysts; c) straight, unexplained cuts that appeared mysteriously one day.

5. You experience headaches when: a) you enter a room filled with paints, powerful cleaning fluids, or other noxious fumes; b) you are upset; c) a strange, inaudible signal beckons you to come.

6. The characters in your dreams include: a) relatives and childhood friends; b) rock stars, political figures, and TV news anchors; c) bald figures in bodysuits.

7. For you, summer



vacation was: a) a time for fun and self-exploration; b) a painful test of your popularity and ability to fit in; c) a period when you would disappear for long stretches of time—sometimes even days—yet not remember where you had been.

8. You are on a subway train in New York City when a gang of tough-looking youths demand your money. You: a) give it to them; b) decide to punch and kick your way out of the situation; c) look into their eyes and convince them to desist through nonverbal communication alone.

9. You are most often bothered by: a) blaring music or other loud noises after midnight; b) an insistent inner voice telling you, in English and Spanish, to save the

human race; c) questions from friends about the circumstances of your conception and birth.

10. Your largest physical problems include: a) oversized features, such as a large nose or ears; b) a tendency to put on weight; c) gray skin, premature baldness, and a tiny, almost vestigial, mouth.

SCORING THE QUIZ

Please give yourself three points for every C answer you selected. If you scored between 21 and 30 points, you may truly be out of this world. A score between 0 and 9 indicates a basic earthiness. Scores between 9 and 21 points indicate you may have a few alien genes. But then, don't we all?

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ALIEN ALMANAC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 97

have seen. MIB typically appear in pairs or threes and dress in conservative dark suits. They typically drive black Cadillacs or some other large, dark-colored American sedan.

Missing time. An episode of amnesia reported in association with a UFO abduction or close encounter. Such gaps in awareness commonly surface in a piece-meal fashion, most vividly as a result of hypnotic regression.

Nords. The second most prominent type of UFO occupant reported after the diminutive Grays. The Nordic aliens—or Nords, for short—customarily resemble human beings of Scandinavian descent. They have blue eyes and blond hair and, unlike the malevolent Grays, are generally perceived as neutral or benevolent.

Tectonic strain. The earth's surface is made up of several large, floating plates constantly colliding in slow motion with one another. The result: active tectonic strain released as earthquakes and volcanic activity. Some researchers have suggested that geomagnetic fields produced by the tectonic strain create the strange lights sometimes interpreted as UFOs. Under certain circumstances, theory has it, the geomagnetic fields could directly affect the human nervous system, initiating visual, auditory, and spatial hallucinations that might be interpreted as an interaction with UFOs and their occupants. **DD**

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