

# JUST

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# CAUSE

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NEW SERIES

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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first issue of Just Cause (New Series). The authors of CLEAR INTENT have decided to revive this publication due to the tremendous interest in government UFO involvement. Just Cause hasn't been published since January 1982 when it was printed under the title UFormant and since that time much has happened.

Those who have been working on this problem since the mid-1970s have spent a great deal of time and money building a case against government proclamations that UFOs were not an important problem and that no national security threat was present in sightings of UFOs. The evidence favoring our case was strong but how could we get this data to the people?

UFO organizations like the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) were of great help in printing articles about UFO secrecy. But it was not enough!

We began writing CLEAR INTENT in August 1982 when it became evident that the facts about UFO secrecy just weren't getting out to the widest possible audience. We felt that the book had to be taken by a major publisher to get it the circulation it needed. A proposal for CLEAR INTENT was prepared and our agent, John White, scored on the first try with Prentice-Hall Inc., an encouraging development to say the least since UFO books were notoriously hard to

get published. CLEAR INTENT was finished in May 1983 and has gone well ever since.

There have been distribution difficulties which we can not blame on government interference simply because we have no evidence of this. The problem is an administrative one which is at present being corrected.

We hope there will be strong support for this publication because that will tell us that people care about the UFO problem and want the true facts behind this most perplexing phenomenon.

## "WHATZIT" DIVES INTO PUGET SOUND

According to Associated Press stories on July 28th and 29th, a strange, spark-emitting fireball splashed down into Puget Sound in an area south of Lummi Island, Washington on July 27th at approximately 3:45 AM. An unusual feature of the report was that the crew of the fishing vessel saw the object make two "U" turns before entering the water, implying that the object was under direction. It was also said that the object threw up a "tidal wave" 75 to 100 feet high. The area Coast Guard facility in Seattle investigated but found nothing, according to the account.

Needless to say, newspaper stories cannot always be trusted to be completely detailed and accurate. We decided to pursue the matter through the Freedom of Information Act to get to the bottom of the story.

We allowed a few weeks to pass so that adequate paperwork could have been prepared and filed by the Coast Guard. An FOIA request for all data on the case was filed on August 23, 1984 with the Commander of the 13th Coast Guard District in Seattle.

The District's Acting Legal Officer, J.S. Carmichael, responded on September 6th enclosing a 7 page file describing the events as they occurred. We will summarize the documents since, as usual, they contain acronyms and bureaucratic jargon that are difficult to follow.

At 3:45 AM, July 27, 1984, the 13th Coast Guard District in Seattle received a report from a fishing vessel that a "large, flaming object fell into the water 1000 yards off the south end of Lummi Island in Puget Sound. A loud splash was heard on impact and the vessel said it was going to investigate.

At 4:03 AM, the fishing vessel, identified as the Steeva 10, reported additional details. The object was a white-orange fireball which travelled from west to east on a horizontal course. It suddenly dove toward the water, made a "U" turn upward and then again downward, entering the water. The impact sent up a plume of water approximately 100 feet high. Sparks from the area of impact were still seen shortly after entry. Thereafter, large amounts of air bubbles were seen in the water where the object dove in.

A tug boat, the Delores Foss, reported a flash of light at about the same time but the tug was some distance from the area. They thought that the flash was due to lightning but weather reports were of a clear ceiling with scattered low clouds, visibility 6NM, wind from the south at 10 knots, seas 1-3 feet with the tide going out.

At 4:47 AM, Coast Guard vessel 41381 rendezvoused with the Steeva 10 and took its Master aboard to help pinpoint the object's last location, which was reported to be 48-38.25N, 122-35.54W. (next col.)

Despite a thorough search of the area, nothing else could be found. The object had vanished without a trace. However, at 5:05 AM, the Coast Guard vessel reported that a large, lighted object was seen in the sky going east. It quickly passed out of view. No other activity was reported for the rest of the night.

What was the object that dove into Puget Sound? The most obvious explanation would be a meteor. This time of year is known for above-normal meteor shower activity, particularly the Perseid shower which builds to a maximum on August 12. Yet the Steeva 10 crew reported that the object made two "U" turns, certainly an anomalous maneuver for a meteor. We are not suggesting that the object was an alien vehicle of some sort, as many might be inclined to do prematurely. We are curious as to what natural phenomenon might behave in this manner. Any suggestions?

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#### GOLDWATER REINFORCES BELIEF IN GOVERNMENT UFO SECRECY

Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona, who has gone on record many times as being convinced of the reality of UFOs, recently responded to a letter and gift of a copy of CLEAR INTENT by Massachusetts MUFON member, Merlyn Sheehan. In a letter dated August 31, 1984, Goldwater said:

"I have been interested in this subject for a long, long time and I do know that whatever the Air Force has on the subject is going to remain highly classified."

We would very much like to know what Senator Goldwater has heard about UFOs. Perhaps someday!

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#### WILD RUMORS!

Input is welcome on the following tidbits that we have run across. No endorsement by us is implied:

- The Cash/Landrum UFO of Dec. 29, 1980 may have been seen by the USS Nimitz later in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Huge UFO seen at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska during March 1967.

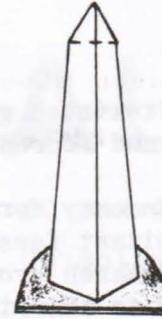
CAUS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

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CAUS  
WASHINGTON

REPORT

October 1984



By  
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C.I.A. Shuts off Access to Its UFO Files ?

UFO-oriented citizens' right-to-know has suffered a setback in Congress.

Both Houses recently put their final stamp of approval on legislation to allow the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency to shield its so-called "operation files" from routine records search when processing requests under the U. S. Freedom of Information Act. These files are maintained within the Agency's office of security and directorates of operations and science and technology -- locations that doubtless contain a wealth of UFO documentation, including the 57 documents that the Agency insists are too sensitive for public release (even in a form sanitized to protect intelligence sources/methods).

What this bodes for in the future is simple enough: researchers will have to find other means by which to compel the Agency's timely, comprehensive release of its growing storehouse of UFO data. And how can that be done? Other than encouraging "leaks" of information -- thus posing the risk of endangering both the leaker's career and the Agency's natural interest in safeguarding legitimately classified information -- there's not a whole lot we can do. As the Government's well of UFO data thus dries up, it becomes necessary for us to start digging another well.

Instead of continuing to knock on the Agency's front door, let's go around back -- to the halls of Congress; for the people who pull the Agency's purse strings can have the last word on the survival of this or that program, policy, or practice in the Agency's funding plans.

Here's the strategy: write to your congressman/senator with the proposal that Congress amend the Freedom of Information Act as follows:

"In cases of FOIA requests for UFO-related information, no agency shall exclude from routine records search any of its organizational elements that reasonably could be expected to house, process, control, or disseminate said information. Since by definition the official collection and analysis of UFO data pertain to the public interest, all fees incident to FOIA records search and reproduction of UFO-related information shall be waived."

In explaining the proposed amendment, cite this two-point rationale:

(1) The oft-stated government position that the reported UFO's pose no threat to U. S. security and represent no superior technological developments;

(2) The tendency for such agencies as the C.I.A. and the Department of State to  
(a) levy exorbitant fees in fulfilling FOIA requests for UFO-related information; and  
(b) deny UFO-research groups a blanket waiver-of-fees, on the ostensible grounds that the groups fail to show they're acting on behalf of a substantial number of citizens.

Of course, we'd like to have a copy of all replies received -- so that we can assess the prospects for this strategy's success, and publish our findings in Just Cause.

#### A Nominal Nomination ?

Meantime, we report one other distressing development from the C.I.A. scene: the Agency's chief counsel, Stanley Sporkin, has been nominated by President Reagan to be a judge on the U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia. This is the same Court that, over the past several years, has heard the various suits brought to it in the interests of greater freedom of UFO information. Can we expect Judge-to-be Sporkin to disqualify himself from hearing any UFO-related FOIA suit that might be filed in his court in the future?

#### A Look Back at a Legal Milestone

And speaking of "suits," do you recall my effort, in July 1983, to perform a "citizen's dis-arrest" via my Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Extraterrestrial? Well, that legal foot-in-the-door on how we hope to free-up the Government's information on crash-landed "flying saucers" (and their retrieved occupants) will receive a "CWR Retrospective Review" in the December 1984 issue of Just Cause.

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