

Allen Greenfield's

S A U C E R C O M M E N T A R Y

Volume One

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CON & CON CRITICISM: 1967 CONGRESS IS ON THE WAY

It will be time for the Fourth Congress of Scientific UFOlogists quite soon now, although not soon enough for our money. We wish it were tomorrow.

Jim Moseley, who is Chairman of the convention is doing an exceptionally fine job. It looks to be the big move up; from the bush league to the majors.

Is it too early to ask where do we go from here? In reality, there has already been some discussion on this. My own thought on the subject as of now is that in '68 we should move the Congress to St. Petersburg, Florida.

Why there, of all places? Well, the following thoughts should make a fairly clear argument for it:

(1) Jim Moseley says "no" flatly to another one in New York next year. If the Con is a success, this would otherwise have seemed the obvious choice. No one can tell what will happen that might change the status quo between now and time for the selection of the new(if new it be) location. But if we, for the moment, assume that NYC is out next year, then we need some other locale.

(2) Atlanta or Cleveland might seem obvious choices. But I would veto my own city from my knowledge of the local situation, and would oppose a move back to Cleveland both on personal and professional grounds.

(3) St. Pete has what appears to be a considerable body of organized UFO activity.....I mean this both in the sense of active workers and activity on the part of the UFOs themselves.

If the locals there go for it, we should, I think, make the move there. This is, let me make it clear, offered as a suggestion only assuming that it continues to be no go with NYC.

Problems have, unfortunately, come up. Here in Atlanta, we were dealt the unexpected factor of a de facto rival, pro-contactee convention right in our own midst. From what we can see, the people working on this appear to be on the up-and-up, and, presumably in the interest of good relations and cooperation, are going out of their way to see that this does not conflict with the New York Con. The man who gave rise to this Atlanta convention is an associate of Dr. Daniel Fry.

(Note: Undoubtedly there potentially might be some conflict with the con. Nonetheless, we note that the contactee group seem. interested in keeping conflicts to a minimum.)

Another trouble that has come up is one that I foresaw to some extent, though I (understandably) did not know either that it would, indeed, come up, or, if it did, what specific form it would take.

In any case, I quote here from the Editorial contained in the January, 1967 issue of UFO MAGAZINE.

"...Upon hearing certain rumors concerning the Congress of Scientific UFOlogists (CSU) we have decided to write this commentary. Rumors have it that this year's CSU will degenerate into another gathering like the Giant Rock contactee conventions in California...."

Hmmm. What rumors? I have contact with a good many folk in the UFO field around the country, and I haven't heard this. However at last year's Congress in Cleveland at the first closed session there was some assertion in this direction in one form or another by a group of delegates who were clearly a minority of those present. The most adamant of these was one Rick R. Hilberg who, oddly enough, is also an Editor of UFO MAGAZINE.

But there is more in this editorial. It is asserted that

"....Laura Mundo, 'crashed' the Open Session of the 1966 Congress by arriving early and not paying the admission fee...."

Hmmm again. I wasn't there at the time, so I cannot attest personally to exactly what happened. Nor have I checked into the matter. But I do know that on the previous day at the closed session (over the objections of Hilberg) our actions on the matter of who could attend seemed to have implied that Laura Mundo & Company would be accepted as delegates upon arrival. As I understood it, and I am sure this is correct, no delegate had to pay anything. So, what gives, eh? How is it crashing to enter as a delegate when that is, presumably, what you are?

Going further into the editorial:

"..... The third issue (which is more of a gripe than a rumor) about the 1967 Congress is that some people have been given appointments as advisors to the CSU by the people in charge of the New York Congress, who did not ask the other members of the Congress committee for approval...."

Shades of 1966! As if the members of the Cleveland part of the Committee last year had consulted those outside Cleveland about what they were doing all the time!

But two wrongs don't make a right. However, the situation this year is somewhat different. Unlike previous years when most of your workers lived in the same city (i.e., the members of the committee), Jim Moseley is isolated. The main factor is that the Congress, while still ultimately under the direction of the Permanent Organizing Committee, is more-or-less on a "farmed out" basis this year, as it

will likely be (with different people) from now on. With this in mind, I see nothing wrong with Mr. Moseley forming a staff of his own, for this particular convention.

What we seem to be dealing here with is no more nor less than rank petty action. The Cleveland people are sore about the Congress being moved, and they are sore about the (well deserved) criticisms made of their own inept handling of the Congress for three years. There is also a difference of philosophy. But their weak voice will hardly effect the outcome of the convention. This is big-time stuff. But the editorialist (and those who agree with him) are being true to form, really, with their small-time thinking.

The editorial asserts:

"....All of these points and rumors are going to have to be resolved or explained before peace can again reign in the CSU..."

To which I reply, humbug.

WHAT? ANOTHER COMMITTEE?

You bet your boots. Under the leadership of Donald R. Cook, Jr., 3648 Potomac Ct., East Point, Georgia, 30044 (telephone Area Code 404-766-4019) a new committee for the improvement of NICAP has been organized.

Cook is the former chairman of the Atlanta area based Civilian Saucer Intelligence Agency and is, at this time, a member of the executive board of the American UFO Committee.

The committee is called the National Committee for the Restoration of the Membership of James W. Moseley in NICAP, or "Moseley for NICAP Committee" (M4N for short).

The immediate aim of the group is to obtain support from leaders in the UFO field and from rank-and-file members and former members of NICAP. It has the more ultimate goals of full apology to Jim Moseley and reinstatement to NICAP membership, plus the more abstract concept of NICAP administrative improvement....the Moseley restoration being a symbolic act in this direction.

Your editor informally acts as an advisor to the group, as well as having endorsed it formally. Others who have endorsed the committee include Gray Barker of Saucerian Publications, Victor Pence of ComSep, and Jeffrey Murray of Universal Report. Other support from leaders in the field is anticipated.

Jim Moseley, let it be made abundantly clear, did not originate this committee, although he was consulted by your editor before the "launch" date of January 1, 1967. Moseley does, indeed, approve, and we urge anyone who feels that his endorsement will be of help (i.e. group executives, member of NICAP and former members) to write Mr. Cook a letter of approval.

N O W A V A I L A B L E O R W H A T E V E R

From Saucerian Books, Box 2228, Clarksburg, West Virginia, 26301, the story of the Mitchell sisters, Helen and Betty: WE MET THE SPACE PEOPLE

The pocketbook edition of George Adamski's INSIDE THE SPACE SHIPS retitled INSIDE THE FLYING SAUCERS is out from Paperback Library (53-428), 260 Park Avenue South, New York, New York, 10010.

"Flying Saucers" subtitled "UFO Reports" is a magazine out from Dell, Publishing Company, Inc., 750 Third Avenue, New York, New York, 10017.

N E W U F O G R O U P ? C O N T A C T S - C

Saucercommentary would like to publish a list of new UFO groups operating within the UFO field. There are indications that, in the wake of recent events in the field, an indeterminate number of new groups (possibly quite large) have been organized. We would appreciate it if the following survey would be filled out; part "A" by an "established" group reporting on others; part "b" by a new group, i.e., one formed since the summer in 1965.

(A) NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF NEW GROUPS HEARD OF:

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

GROUP FILLING OUT THIS FORM:

(B) NAME OF GROUP:

WHEN ESTABLISHED:

WHY ORGANIZED:

ADDRESS:

Your cooperation would be appreciated. Send to Saucercommentary, address below.

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HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED THIS ISSUE.

DONALD R. COOK, JR.

ALLEN H. GREENFIELD