

THIS IS A MAGAZINE DESIGNED TO TAKE YOU ON A

SAUCER CRUISE

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The other night we watched a replay of a late 1975 UFO program on Tom Snyder's "Tomorrow" Show. The guests were contactee Betty Hill and chronic UFO lecturer Stanton Friedman. A lot of thoughts went through our Old Mind, but the strongest one was: "I wish I could believe this woman, but I just can't!"

Why not? Somehow, Mrs. Hill was just too casual, in the way she related details of her "UFO abduction" 15 years ago. Maybe it's just that she's tired of telling the same old yarn for so long, but for some deep reason that we can't explain, we just don't think that's it. Snyder seemed to feel the same way. As for Friedman, he sounded like he was being highly paid to back up every detail of Mrs. Hill's story 105%. If he is really a scientist, one can only believe that the lure of the lecture circuit has overcome his objectivity.

And we couldn't help wondering why no mention was made of the fact that Barney (Betty's late husband & co-contactee) was Black. Not that it matters in regard to the validity of the incident, but there was no need to hush this fact up.

Then our mind wandered back to an APRO meeting at a motel in downtown Baltimore, which we crashed back about 1971 (accompanied by former UFO personality Gray Barker.) That was the occasion of our one brief face-to-face encounter with Betty Hill. It happened at the motel bar, where Betty was in tow by Coral Lorenzen, the grande dame of the Convention. The meeting was brief, mainly because Coral was angry about our having crashed her Scene, and didn't want to lend out her Betty to our unauthorized ears.

But back to the "Tomorrow" Show: The last portion was dominated by a New York Ufologist named Lee Spiegel, who, several months after this show was taped, disgraced himself in the eyes of right-wing orthodox Ufology by showing up at the infamous North Hudson Park seance. (See our Vol. 23, No. 17.) Local MUFON agents are said to be furious about this seance.

Final conclusions from having watched this TV show: None.

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IN WHICH WE MEET "VEGETABLE MAN" AND OTHERS: On a recent visit in West Virginia with former UFO personality Gray Barker, your Editor was privileged to meet Jennings Frederick, the man who is described in Barker's Newsletter #5 as having met a weird space creature called "Vegetable Man." Frederick, as well as his mother, have also had other sightings and contacts, too numerous to describe here.

On the same trip, we ventured into another very rural part of West Virginia which, unbelievably, is called Strange Creek. There we met a personable gentleman named Richard Taylor, who is an amateur astronomer and hard-core UFO buff. He, too, has had several sightings. The most interesting of these was made several years ago, through a telescope, of a huge cigar-shaped UFO near the surface of the Moon. Taylor would like to make contact with any fellow saucer buffs who might be interested in corresponding with him. His complete address is: Strange Creek, West Virginia 26639.

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MORE ABOUT CRASHED DISCS: We've sort of gotten back onto the "crashed disc" kick recently, as a result of our correspondence with the man we called Ted Zilch in our last issue. Since then, we've obtained a magazine called "1954 Flying Saucers at Edwards AFB", published by BSRA (P.O. Box 548, Vista, Calif.), and apparently still in print. A hasty reading of this zine indicates that the Edwards AFB rumor comes mainly from trance information, and from an early BSRA associate called Gerald Light (obviously a pseudonym.)

An updated version of the "crashed disc" thesis appears on Page 14 of "The Ohio Sky Watcher", Vol. 1, No. 1, for November 1974 (published by Charles Wilhelm, 5852 E. River Road, Fairfield, Ohio.) Under the title "Visitors on Ice," Wilhelm picks up on a wire service story inspired by a 1974 lecture in Florida by someone named Robert Spencer Carr. The story quotes Carr as saying: "At Wright-Patterson Field in Dayton, Ohio, there is a deep freeze that contains the bodies of 12 little men who died of decompression, when their flying saucer landed in the Mojave Desert in 1952. Also there are two crumbled UFO's under wraps in Hanger #18." (Our thanks to Bob Schiller for this and much other material.)

We have also received an intriguing letter from Riley Crabb, Director of BSRA. We have already written to Crabb for further information about his letter, which is quoted in full, below:

"Your references to crashed flying saucers in the early 1950's and to the Muroc - Edwards AFB UFO landings of 1954, reminds me of a meeting I had with an Air Force colonel in Mesa, Arizona, seven or eight years ago. It was after one of my flying saucer lectures, in which I referred to the UFO which crashed to earth in northern Mexico in 1949, and the report on it sent to our Founder-Director Meade Layne by a Los Angeles associate. He got his information on the Disc from a university physicist invited by our government to inspect the spacecraft on the site. He said the saucer-shaped craft was 99 feet in diameter and had several small, human-type bodies aboard. (They were) dead apparently of rapid decompression from a broken window. Means of propulsion and control of the craft were a total mystery to the physicist.

"After the talk I found Neva Dell Hunter in the audience. Her companion was introduced to me as a colonel, in civilian clothes. He looked the type, - the erect bearing, close-cut black hair shot through with grey, the penetrating gaze of a man in command of himself and others.

"That UFO that crashed in Mexico wasn't that big," he said to me in his blunt, direct way. 'It was only about 30 feet in diameter. Three completely different crews of men were used in bringing it into the United States, to cover up all trace of where it came from and why, or even what it was.'

"I nodded and smiled in appreciation of this direct confirmation of the old story, but refrained from asking if the UFO had been taken to the Air Force Base at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio.

"(He then added:) 'I had the opportunity of listening to a tape of one of your lectures. It was given in Hollywood about ten years ago. Some time I'd like to hear all you know about flying saucers.'

"He shook my hand again and we parted, to exchange small talk with others lingering there in the church recreation hall. I don't remember his name, nor have I seen him since"

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LETTERS TO THE HEAD EGOTIST:

George Fox, UFO & psychic researcher, writes: "I can't comment on your latest issue. You are the only one I know who could write such a beaut. Beyond compare, that is."

John J. Robinson, who publishes a UFO newsletter of his own, writes: "Thanks for all the photocopies and newsletters. I cannot say that the 'Sirius Mystery' sounds anything but fishy. We do know that many ancient civilizations which originally lived near the Mediterranean used to have replicas of ocean denizens, but the other information, regarding the worship of the companion star and a white dwarf at that, needs a lot of checking out.

"I also remember a tribe of people in China who had some type of recordings which were made by the space people, who had sired them. The tribe were the descendants of those people who came from another planet. I have a record of the article, somewhere in my clipping and article notebooks, which have now reached a total of 16.

"There is also Von Daniken's rocks of the Sahara with space people visiting, complete with helmets and air tanks.

"But if Semple (author of the book in question) is an orientalist and astronomer, please tell me what he was doing in the interior of Africa. It is not the Orient, and telescopes are far away!"

A recent anonymous letter raves as follows: "This is a non-scheduled letter regarding your Vol. 23, No. 19 issue of 'New Saucers.'

"I beg (with size double B cup in hand) to differ with Dr. J. Allen Hynek's comment on the Zilch information. He said, 'On a scale of one to five, I would give it three quarters.' How miserly; I'd give Mr. Zilch at least 80 cents.

"Furthermore, such absurd babbling as: 'A high point in the book (Gray Barker at Giant Rock) is a photograph at the bottom of Page 15, showing Moseley with a (hopefully) imaginary 27-foot wingspan', does not warrant (nor does it option) printing! Everyone knows that your wingspan is 28.39 feet.

"What irks me the most, however, is that you black militants are all alike. A typical ploy: Calling us white dwarfs; and you have the audacity to further overtly express your gleeful conviction that we white dwarfs 'are in the early stages of collapse.' Wait till my 3' 6" brother meets you in a white alley, some night!

"All in all, I find your newsletter is saturated in pomposity, haughtiness, and pretentiousness. Above all, it is too highly opinionated."

From Brandon Blackman, free-lance writer & former movie star: "I have been meaning to write you since the big, brash premiere issue of your newsletter reached me. However, I waited this long to be certain that your sense of humor sustained - having known you for years and not having been privileged to enjoy it; so I thought it was accidental.

"I must tell you that I really enjoy the few pages - and I'm not talking about the information but the humor. Your newsletters arrive at just the right time to make a gloomy day bearable."

(We had hoped, more, to make a bearable day gloomy. - Editor.)

And now for John Keel's latest blast, which was "censored" from our last issue, because of lack of space:

"I can't understand why the C.I.A. permits your coprophilous publications to pass through the U.S. mails unimpeded, particularly when you are blatantly violating your legal agreement with Gray Barker.

"As the new editor of Pursuit, I have issued an edict that your name is never to be used in any fashion in our august journal. If you apply for membership in S.I.T.U., or even attempt to subscribe to Pursuit, you will be rejected with a very impolite letter.

"I trust that Mr. Barker's henchmen will soon be visiting you to break your kneecaps and perform unspeakable acts on your person.

"Who the hell is Harry Belil?"

We finally have received a letter from Allen Greenfield.

BRIEFS FROM HERE, THERE, & NOWHERE: Our sincere thanks to Eugene R Steinberg for many helpful suggestions, none of which we have accepted.....Dr. Leon Davidson, a SAUCER NEWS contributor whom we have known for 20 years, is of the opinion (which we tend to share) that John Kennedy's assassination was the work of a group within the CIA. If interested, send for his sheet called "Inside, Straight" (#3); Address: 64 Prospect St., White Plains, N.Y. 10606.....A fellow called "Hoppy" in Georgia is putting out a zine of sorts. The terms sound complicated. Write to him for details, at: 6905 Eunice Drive, Riverdale, Ga. 30274.....UFO pioneers Rick Hilberg & Robert Easley have now combined efforts, to produce "UFO Magazine News Bulletin," published at 3403 West 119th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44111. (One buck for four issues.) Carol J. Hilberg is the token female on their Staff.