

# SAUCER SNOOZE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER AND UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

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RE-HASH OF THE NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE: As planned, the 13th National UFO Conference met at a motel near Cleveland, Ohio on the weekend of August 28th. This year, for the first time, there was no public session, but only one "closed session" on Saturday afternoon, at which the delegates devoted themselves to parliamentary business (yawn!) and informal discussion of recent events in the UFO field (yawn!). Also, there were the usual highly informal meetings Friday and Saturday evenings in various motel rooms, devoted to boozing, snoozing, and such.

Under the enlightened chairmanship of your "Saucer Snooze" editor (yawn!), several important motions were passed this year: The governing body, called the "Permanent Organizing Committee" was expanded from 7 to 9 members, to include Eugene R Steinberg of New Jersey, and Dale Rettig of California. Steinberg (and several others) had been thrown off the P.O.C. last year, in a move that proved to be controversial and possibly ill-advised. Rettig had been active in the Conference (then called Congress of Scientific Ufologists) in its early years, but had dropped out of the field until recently.

At the prodding of key delegates, Rettig agreed to host next year's Conference near his home in San Francisco. This was most pleasing to the chairman, as all the annual meetings so far have been held in the eastern third of the country. Thus, after next year, the title "National UFO Conference" will be a bit less pretentious. Hopefully, we will attract some "new blood" from among the many ufologists of all stripes on the West Coast. It will be most interesting to see how next year's meeting turns out.

Each year the Conference gives an award (usually called the Loftin Memorial Award) to one outstanding ufologist. This year's award went to Rick Hilberg of Cleveland, a co-founder of the group, and a man without whose support the Conference might well have folded up in recent years. It was also decided to put all winners of this annual award on a special life membership list, whether or not they are currently members of the organization. This list consists of:

1967 - John A. Keel  
1969 - John J. Robinson  
1970 - Al Manak  
1971 - Gray Barker  
1972 - Allen Greenfield  
1973 - James W. Moseley (blush, blush!)  
1974 - Yonah ibn Aharon  
1976 - Rick Hilberg

Although delegate attendance was about 2½ times that at last year's Conference, we were disappointed that several people who had promised to come, chickened out at the last minute for various reasons. It can be presumed that the cost of traveling out to San Francisco will deter most of the eastern delegates from coming next year. But hopefully, this loss will more than be made up for by the new West Coast people that we attract.

One final remark: Dale Rettig came up with an excellent but scholarly 10-page treatise, vaguely along the lines of the "3½ D Theory", and we highly recommend it to all "Saucer Snooze" readers with sufficient vocabulary to understand it. The title is "Middle Ufology as Metaufology". To find out what the title means (not to mention the contents), write to Dale for a free copy. His address is: 3233 Buchanan St., San Francisco, California 94123.

Eugene R Steinberg writes: "Basically, the '3½ D Theory' that you and Ted Zilch have come up with is probably out-dated already. Those in the forefront of so-called '4 D' speculation - Greenfield, Keel, Vallee, Hynek, and I'll modestly include myself last - have gone beyond it in their quest for some answers to the UFO enigma.

"Today, subjective ufology appears to have the greatest hope of applying to all the known facts about our mysterious visitors. It does not preclude interplanetary, interstellar or inter-dimensional travel of highly advanced beings to our little spec in the universe.

"Credit for establishing the theory in modern times should go to the late Swiss psychiatrist Dr. Carl Jung, Peter Kor (alias Tom Comella) and perhaps even Ray Palmer, who has presented a glimmer of it in his own editorials on the subject through the years.

"In part, the subjective theory states that UFOs, religious miracles, and related phenomena are reflections of a subconscious need on the part of man to bring his spiritual and physical selves into balance; or, more precisely, an accomodation between his conscious and subconscious minds. It's a process that Jung called 'individuation.'

"It explains the constant warning on the part of so-called extraterrestrials, particularly in the early years of our nuclear age, that we were in danger of destroying ourselves. It explains the message of peace and brotherhood brought forth in our various religious teachings.

"Such diverse people as Erich von Daeniken and Timothy Leary have said that our very genetic structure is programmed (by higher beings, extraterrestrials, god, or whoever), and that certain myths or archetypal phenomena are necessary at certain times in our history to help us better understand ourselves and to take human progress to its next stage.

"Naturally, the psychological basis for UFO reports does not mean there are no physical UFOs. Jung himself talked of a 'collective unconscious' that creates reality out of mass belief in something. The power of the human mind may be limitless.

"But the close association of UFOs and related phenomena in our affairs might be the result of the fact that the 'force' or 'beings' responsible created mankind in the first place, or have strong reasons to be concerned with its progress through history. This implies a presence very close to us. They may be taking advantage of our natural psychological proclivities, or generating certain thought impulses to achieve their ends.

"This does not imply a beneficial presence either. Certain actions of the UFO force have shown non-interest and even evil intent. Shaver's deros and teros indeed!

"The precepts of the New Physics show a universe that is not as physical as we thought it was - such as the presence of Black Holes and other phenomena. As Dr. Hynek says, perhaps our understanding of the UFO phenomenon and related mysteries will advance scientific knowledge to an unprecedented degree.

"In any case, subjective ufology calls for a closer examination of the percipient of UFOs, to ascertain what the cause is behind it all.

"Finally, on a miscellaneous note: As much as I respect Ms. Croy's efforts to hold a successful UFO convention, perhaps she will realize now that good local publicity, national publicity, and an accessible location are necessary to promote success. It does not guarantee it; but holding a convention in an obscure part of Colorado surely puts a few strikes against a favorable outcome. A few miles from a major city, in a suburban area, would have been better. Apathy, yes; but don't make it too hard or too expensive for the public to get there, even if they know about it! Anyway, good luck to Ms. Croy, and I hope she will not be deterred from her UFO research by this bad experience."

Lucius Farish writes: "'3½ D Theory', eh?! Well, it sounds interesting, assuming we aren't expected to take it too seriously! If you get very far beyond three dimensions, you lose me quickly. Not that I'm implying there isn't (or couldn't be) anything 'beyond', but I think all of us have enough trouble understanding the three dimensions with which we're familiar.

"Re current UFO literature: I can send along the publisher's address for Constable's 'The Cosmic Pulse of Life', if you're interested.....I'm supposed to receive a copy of the book in a week or so. Another one coming out shortly (from McKay) is George H. Leonard's 'Somebody Else Is on the Moon.' An excerpt from it appears in the current 'Argosy UFO', which you may have seen. Leonard seems to be taking up where Jessup left

off in 'The Expanding Case for the UFO'. I'd also recommend 'The Unexplained', compiled by William R. Corliss (Bantam). This consists of material taken from Corliss' series of Fortean 'Sourcebooks.' Really excellent stuff. You should give it a plug. Hans Holzer's 'The Ufonauts' is out in paperback from Fawcett; I haven't had time to read it yet!

From UFO researcher Dave Fideler: "Thanks for the postcard and newsletter received today. Enjoyed your '3½ D Theory' of UFO origin. Makes sense. While I currently lean toward thinking like that of Keel, I remember, especially while collecting data, that theories are rather useless at this point in the game....."

From UFO publisher Steven Elliott: "Thanks for your latest issue of 'Saucer Jews'. Once again, you have proven that ufologists over 40 do retain some mental mobility.

"Although I won't be able to attend this year's National UFO Conference, I'm hoping to attend the fourteenth edition, next year.

"I enjoyed your speculations upon the '3½ D Theory of UFO Origin.' Seems as if I have heard something similar to it in the past, but keep trying. In any case, it was one of the most lucid treatises I have ruminated upon in quite awhile.

"I was grateful for your frank comments on the Freibergs. I was wondering, before reading your latest issue, just what your true opinion on them was....."

"I still am eagerly awaiting your reply to Barker's accusations in our last issue of 'Unknown Worlds'. In the September/October issue, now under preparation, your short note of early July.....is reproduced. Also, another letter from Barker is included, in which he further mentions your name in connection with the AF and CIA. Looking forward to hearing from you soon."

Our sizzling reply to these charges (yawn!) is already in the mail. - Editor.

From Jeff Anderson, a California researcher: "Thanks for sending me copies of 'Saucer Booze', etc. Regardless of the tongue-in-cheek intent, I find the newsletter a good outlet for some opinions and comments on the current happenings in ufology....."

"Just in case you're interested, the '3½ D Theory' isn't exactly new. However, the brilliant idea of calling it 3½ D is all yours. I presently don't see why a mixture of ET, 4D, ESP, giant amoebas, etc., can't all be working together or independently to cause the various UFO sightings.

"As to Janice Croy's comment on apathy, I can only agree, and I would add that a recent tally of 'Flying Saucer Review' subscribers in the USA is only 680. That's not even a drop in the bucket.

"Another random comment: I'll second Curt Sutherly's comment about spending less time blowing off steam and more time on the UFOs....."

"Finally, re your Giant Bicentennial Issue: It's amazing how you were able to fit the Giant issue on the same 3 pages as always, and using the same sized print!"

Mr. Anderson obviously overlooked the several additional pages which exist only in a 3½ D time-space continuum. - Editor.

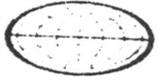
From Benedict L. Murple, alias John Keel: "This letter rescinds our previous communique. After reviewing your case we have decided not to deport you. Instead, we intend to put you in jail for defaming a great American author and future Nobel Prize winner. You are obviously a close associate of one Stanton Freedburg, (sic) the notorious propagandist for the Dark Forces, and this unsavory relationship has been an important consideration in our deliberations. Mr. Freedburg's (sic) Nuclear Physicist license has been revoked, and he will shortly be removed to our hospital in Alaska to be reprogrammed.

"At last report, Mr. Richard Jackman was organizing a goon squad to invade Fort Lee and terminate your existence on this plane. So we ask you to surrender peacefully to our agents and voluntarily enter our custody.

"Mr. Allen Greenfield will soon be sending you a long and detailed letter further explaining our intended action."

We should note that the above letter, like Keel's last one, is written on stationery of the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare, where Keel once worked.

We print the letter on Page 4 with only this comment: If it is true, as we believe it to be, it is a sad commentary on the present state of ufology! - Editor.



# COUNTRYWIDE PUBLICATIONS, INC.

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August, 1976

Dear Correspondent/Contributor/Interested Observer of the UFO Scene:

It is without joy that I announce my termination as editor of Official UFO. I wish I had the opportunity to write each one of you a personal letter. Perhaps I will in the future.

To those who have had to struggle through two recent shifts in editorship (especially Bernie O' Connor's former writers), I'm particularly sorry about this unfortunate event. It means an additional period of waiting and not knowing exactly where you stand with this magazine. Informed sources tell me that D. William Hauck, editor of Ufology, will be taking over. I hope he fares better than I did.

The circumstances relevant to my dismissal came in rapid order. A local newspaper printed an out-of-context quotation of mine in which I admitted that some of our letter writers are pretty eccentric. The publisher, Myron Fass, fumed that this comment showed incredibly "bad judgement" and that the magazine "would be set back a year" because of it. Mr. Fass told me that our readers are mostly "true believers" who desperately need to believe that UFOs are extraterrestrial beings who will someday come to earth to bring salvation. Fass informed me that I must clear all statements about UFOs with him. When I replied that that was both "absurd" and an infringement of free speech, he retorted that "you can say anything you want about UFOs to your friends."

Another incident occurred in which I attempted to have Mr. Fass okay a controversial article attributing UFOs to a secret earth technology. He suppressed the article, asserting that "Official UFO endorses the extraterrestrial hypothesis." The reason for this, once again, was our readers' supposed need to believe the ETH at all costs. To put it mildly, at that point I became more than a little confused about just who Official UFO was. It seemed apparent that Mr. Fass considered me to be a mere mouthpiece for his opinions.

The last hassle occurred over the status of "unsubstantiated sightings." This was Mr. Fass' term, a somewhat vague concept referring to undocumented, single (or few) witness accounts with a sort of "true confession" slant. Even before my editorship -- according to former editor O' Connor -- Fass had been pushing for more trumped-up, sensationalized "unsubstantiated sightings," once again in the belief that our hypothetical "true believer" readers wanted them. When I resisted his pressure and asserted that integrity and ethics were being compromised, he replied with statements like "we're an entertainment magazine, so ethics are irrelevant."

Well, those are some of the problems behind my dismissal. I'm willing to provide a fuller account to anyone interested.

Some of our contributors will find returned manuscripts with this letter. In certain cases, I felt it better to give contributors the chance to re-negotiate with my successor. In other cases, I turned over manuscripts for future issues to the publisher. It should be noted that any commitments I've made for regular features, assignments, exchanges, etc., are no longer in effect. There's nothing I can do about that.

I'm very sorry things couldn't have worked out better. Perhaps someday commercial publications will be less prone to exploit Ufology.

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