

SAUCER GROAN

"MAY THE FARCE BE WITH YOU"

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER AND UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 163, FORT LEE, N.J. 07024

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NON-SCHEDULED NEWSLETTER

Vol. 25, No. 8

June 15th, 1978

MISC. RAVINGS, ONCE AGAIN:

We have learned that non-subscriber John J. Robinson of Jersey City, N.J., has just been hospitalized with a possibly serious condition. Jack Robinson is a long-time friend and research associate, as well as being a member of the Permanent Organizing Committee of the National UFO Congress. Friends of Jack who wish to communicate with him while he is in the hospital, can write to him at: Room 518, Christ Hospital, 176 Palisade Ave., Jersey City, N.J. - or they may telephone 201-420-8700, extension 1611. Our best wishes to Jack Robinson for a speedy recovery!.....In the wee morning hours of June 11th, your "Saucer Groan" editor was on the Candy Jones (formerly Long John Nebel) radio show again, on WMCA in New York. The "real" guest of the morning was an English astrologer named Frederick Davies, whom we had also been on with in January. At that time Davies had made a prediction for us, off the air, to the effect that January and February would not be good financially, but that we would have very good financial aspects for about a year and a half after that, beginning in March. So far, this prediction has come true precisely, month by month, in regard to our stock market investments. We still don't believe in astrology, but this Davies either is a very good guesser, or else he has "something".....

Ever since we started this series of newsletters in early 1976, we've been waiting for some curious non-subscriber to ask: How come the Volume number at the top of the first page is (at the moment) 25, after only 2 years of publication? Well, no one has ever asked, so we'll just tell you anyhow: The Volume numbers go back to the beginning of the old SAUCER NEWS (originally called "Nexus"), which started publication in 1954. If you figure it out, allowing one Volume per year from 1954 to 1978 would make the year 1978 Volume 25. So there!.....Our Special Groan Award for this issue goes to the U. S. Government, for raising the postal rates again, and in such an unusually assinine manner. As we understand it, millions of sixteen cent stamps were printed up by mistake, before the Post Office found out that fifteen cents was all they could gouge us for at the moment. So, when the new rates went into effect, there were no fifteens available for the first few days. GROAN!.....

"Saucer Groan" Headquarters has received Vol. 1, No. 2 of a very interesting new UFO zine called "Just Cause", billed as the official newsletter of Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS). The editor is none other than Todd Zechel. Other officials include his lawyer, Peter Gersten of New York City and (ugh!) Brad Sparks of UFO fame. The zine discusses the current status of GSW's lawsuit against the CIA, and goes on into some recent military UFO sightings. Since Zechel is always on the move, Gersten's address is used. Send inquiries, donations, threats, or what-have-you to: "Just Cause", 191 East 161st St., Bronx, N.Y. 10451.....Todd Zechel does get around, however mysteriously. He is mentioned favorably in a UFO article in the June 10th-16th issue of "TV Guide", in regard to his continuing battle with the CIA. In recent phone conversations with us, he seems to express renewed interest in writing a UFO book, together with lessened interest in repaying the money we lost with him in phone calls & loans, last summer.....Another man who is currently working on a UFO book is Yonah ibn Aharon, alias Yonah Fortner. In the late 1950's, Yonah wrote a series of articles for the old SAUCER NEWS that spelled out, in more literary and scholarly terms, the same sort of thing that Erich Von Daniken later made a fortune on. Yonah's SAUCER NEWS series, called "Extraterrestrialism as an Historical Doctrine", is a little-known and little-recognized classic in UFO literature.

Now Yonah will, hopefully, up-date this material and present it to the general public, finally.....

Last but not least, the June 5th edition of the New York Post (known to some as the Post) carried a headline story about UFO sightings over Brooklyn and Queens, N.Y., the night before. Maybe the star-like object that was seen was merely a night-light advertising plane, and maybe it was creatures from Beyond who were buzzing the world's dirtiest city that night. In either case the sighting doesn't seem to be a very important one. We mention it here merely because it is the first (for us) local mention of UFOs in quite awhile, and because we don't want you to think we never discuss sightings in this zine. And now, on to the Mail:

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES

Dave Schroth, a brand new non-subscriber, writes:

"Thanks to my good friend Steve Erdmann, I have had the dubious privilege of reading several issues of your UFO newsletter. As a UFO advocate-turned-skeptic, I herewith submit the following trivia for your possible interest:

"First, a question for Dr. Leon Davidson: In 1961 you wrote that in your opinion the 1952 'Utah UFO film' (Tremonton, Utah; July 2nd, 1952; Delbert Newhouse, photographer) was 'a clever job of faking'. Do you stand by that opinion today in 1978? If so, what is your response to GSW's claim that computer-enhanced photo analysis has revealed the Utah film to be genuine?.....

"Historians of the UFO controversy will not want to overlook the following two statements about UFO sightings reported by members of 'Project Moonwatch' teams (the Optical Satellite Tracking Program for the International Geophysical Year, July, 1957 to December, 1958.) Both statements are by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who is described by his publisher, Dell Publishing Co., Inc., as 'the world's leading expert on UFOs'. (Whom he is leading is not explained.)

"(First statement:) 'When I was in charge of the United States Optical Satellite Tracking Program during the International Geophysical Year, we received many reports from our Moonwatch stations concerning the strange lights that certainly weren't satellites. Many of these witnesses were amateur astronomers and generally well acquainted with the skies.' (Source: J. Allen Hynek, 'The Hynek UFO Report', Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 1977. Page 78.)

"(Second statement:) 'I can quite safely say that we have no record of ever having received from our Moonwatch teams any reports of sightings of unidentified objects which had any characteristics different from those of an orbiting satellite, a slow meteor, or of a suspected plane mistaken for a satellite.' (Source: Statement by Hynek quoted by Edward J. Ruppelt in 'The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects', Enlarged Edition, Doubleday and Company, Inc., circa 1959. Page 271.)

"Is this an example of the credibility of 'the world's leading expert on UFOs'?
"Keep up the good work, and feel free to use any of this for publication."

Dr. Thornton Page of NASA writes:

"Dear Professor Moseley:

"'Saucer Clone' is good - but no 'boil on the ass'.....I have forgotten what I last wrote about, so it must have been something trivial, like when did Phil Klass explain the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society? Now I'm ashamed of Jim Oberg, who can't purchase NASA photos of both Earth poles, unclouded. As my little sister, aged 60, would say, 'His eye is clouded o'er with little drops'. What we need is clearer vision and saucerity clarity."

"Unsincerely,

T. Page

UFO Control Center, Houston and USSR."

Weird! - Editor.

Jim Maney writes:

"In honor of the three-day holiday weekend, and the increase in postage rates this

morning, I thought I would send you a note before the 'X' appears on my mailing label.

"The latest issue of Hynek's 'International UFO Reporter' arrived a few days ago, all hermetically sealed in plastic. The last magazine I saw sealed up that tight was 'Hustler'. Is Hynek trying to tell us something?

"In moving around a bunch of old magazines the other day.....I ran across the May, 1958 issue of the late Ray Palmer's 'Flying Saucers', with an interesting ad in the 'Flying Saucer Club News' section from an organization called 'Ground Saucer Watch' in Cleveland, Ohio. It seems one Ted Starrett (sounds unfamiliar) and one Bill Spaulding (sounds familiar) were operating their skywatch tower on 'a ten-hour a day basis'. I guess UFOs could appear during the other fourteen hours without fear of detection. What a long road it was to computerized photo analysis!

"Also, on a more serious note, it is interesting to note the growth of interest in the concept of UFOs as a religious manifestation (either objectively or subjectively). In recent weeks, several of the major Protestant and Catholic journals of opinion ('America', 'Christian Century', etc.) have carried articles on this topic by Ted Peters and others. Many critics, of course, have interpreted the closing scenes of 'Close Encounters' as some type of technologically influenced substitute for traditional religious worship. I can't buy that 100% myself, but it is interesting food for thought. As challenges to the 'nuts and bolts' explanation of UFOs become more common, the religious manifestation thesis seems right now to be as popular as the 'parallel universe' notions. But then, some would cop out by saying that what others consider as religious manifestations are phenomena which are in reality caused by the 'whatever' that runs the parallel universe. Then the ETH proponents would say that the extraterrestrials control the parallel universe. It's all getting too much for my poor weak mind!"

Let us all put our Faith in the blessed 3½ D Theory, and pray for guidance from the Great Something from Somewhere! - Editor.

UFO researcher Jennings Frederick of Fairmont, West Virginia, sends us the following philosophical Food for Thought:

"He who knows not why he knows not, knows nothing; but he who knows why he knows not, knows all about himself....."

Non-subscriber Jim Harris writes:

"Thanks for 'Saucer Clone, Saucer Clone'. It was your best ish for some time. Pardon me for being so naive about such things, but why must there be a huge gaping hole at each pole for the Earth to be hollow? Why can't there be just a small submarine entrance somewhere in the Arctic Circle?

"Please pass along to your non-subbers, a few of whom are UFOCUS readers, that our next ish will be a month late. That is, we'll be out in July instead of June.

"We have no idea who Paul Caruso is, but we'd sure like to have those cue cards! No wonder Hynek was peering forward so intently (in his scene in 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind')....."

Jerome Eden, editor-publisher of the 'Eden Bulletin', sends us the following press release:

"Countrywide Publications, Inc., publishers of 'Official UFO' and 'Ancient Astronauts', has agreed to an out-of-court settlement of a claim brought against them by UFO author-researcher Jerome Eden.

"Through his attorneys, Eden charged that Countrywide Publications, Inc., had wrongfully and without permission republished two of his articles, 'The Scientist Who Disabled UFOs' and 'UFOs and Weather Chaos', in the April 1978 edition of 'Close Encounters' magazine, and, as a result his 'reputation and writing have been held up to ridicule and embarrassment.'

"Eden further charged that 'if permission had been requested' by Countrywide Publications, Inc., to republish his two articles, 'he would have refused' permission, inasmuch as Countrywide Publications' efforts currently 'mock the sincere efforts of those scientists and observers who wish to advance the dissemination of serious information concerning UFO phenomena.'

"Countrywide Publications, Inc., agreed to an out-of-court settlement of Eden's claim, which includes publication of a 'Notice of Apology' to Eden in a forthcoming issue of its magazine.

"Jerome Eden is a leading exponent of the UFO research of the late Dr. Wilhelm Reich, and author of several books on Dr. Reich's research, including 'Orgone Energy' and 'Planet in Trouble'. He is editor-publisher of 'Eden Bulletin', a quarterly UFO publication based on Reich's research."

Bob Tarte writes:

".....Thank you for faithfully sending 'Saucer Clone, Saucer Clone', etc., to cheer me through the bleakness of other printed pages (Beckett, Coleridge, Kafka, notably), as I prepared for my recent Master's Degree in English. I have sworn an oath against blackening blank pages for at least a year to come, until I have ascertained what the hell it was I was supposed to have learned and if, in fact, a degree in Creative Writing is preparation enough for Ufology. But it must be, judging from the fine phrases of your publication. Many thanks. I might in print appear somewhere; I have at least ten UFO theories of origin at hand, all as confusing as the famed 3½ D Hypothesis.....All my best, and keep up the good work."

Sincere thanks to Bob Tarte for his nice letter. - Editor.

Janice Croy writes:

".....I received 'Saucer Spud' yesterday. A lot has happened here lately. For one thing, UFOSN is no more. In its place is now 'Twilight Zone Fanzine'. The reason - well, you could say that there was some back-stabbing in the club I had started. Also, I felt that UFOSN should expand to include other things, like 'Star Wars', Bigfoot, and other strange phenomena.

"Why 'Star Wars', you might ask? Well, I and some of my Denver staff feel that 'Star Wars' and UFOs go hand in hand. After all, 'Star Wars' could very well be our future. Remember how people scoffed at H. G. Wells, Jules Verne, etc., and look what happened. The things they wrote about have now come to pass. We will still have UFO reports, and all of your readers are asked to send me any reports they have....."

Ms. Croy can be reached at: 664 South Lincoln, #202, Denver, Co. 80209. - Editor.

Non-subscriber Gary Buell writes:

"The dreaded 'X' again so soon? Please don't take my name off the non-subscribers list. (Do you want me to beg?) Rest assured that each and every issue is read and not thrown away with the junk mail. And after each issue I think about writing, but never get around to it until I see that 'X'. I'll try to do better.

"I was fascinated by Richard Heiden's letter about the Adamski cult. I mean, contactees have been around for a long time, but this is the first I've heard about a UFO cult along the lines of the Moonies, etc. - except for 'The Two', of course. (Whatever happened to Bo and Peep, anyway?) I agree with your views on 'deprogramming', which is a form of brainwashing. Who is to decide which religious and quasi-religious groups are fair game for self-styled 'deprogrammers'? It is true that many of these groups use high-pressure techniques to gain conversions or sell their beliefs, but so do the Jehovah Witnesses and door-to-door salesmen. To accuse them of hypnosis and brainwashing is a gross oversimplification! But enough of that.

"Have you seen some of the other magazines that Jeff Goodman is editing? If you think 'Official UFO' is bad . . . I saw one about Punk Rock at the newsstand, and something called 'Star Encounters'. Yech! If Jim Moseley is the first Bonzo Ufologist, then Jeff Goodman must be the first Punk Ufologist.

"I guess I've made the Big Time in Ufology. My picture was in Gene Duplantier's 'Ufolk'. I'm one of the anonymous people in one of the photos of the S. F. convention.

"Well, I have to go now. Elvis' clone just dropped in for a drink."

Committee to

REBUKE UNCOOUTH DESPOTS

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MARTIN OSTREICHER, DIRECTOR

May 28, 1978

Mr. James W. Moseley, Editor
SAUCER NEWS
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Dear Mr. Moseley:

It has come to my attention that you are bandying about the C.R.U.D. name in an undignified manner through your yellow journalistic endeavor with questionable circulation.

Since I own the copyright, trade mark and patent to C.R.U.D. I hereby demand that you cease and desist from such slander that reflects badly on our organization.

I have heard you on the radio from time to time and would not want you to meet me in a dark alley. Need I say more?

Yours very truly,
Martin Ostreicher

Martin Ostreicher, Director
C.R.U.D.

MO:cc
enclosures

cc Roy Cohen