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SAUCER SMEAR

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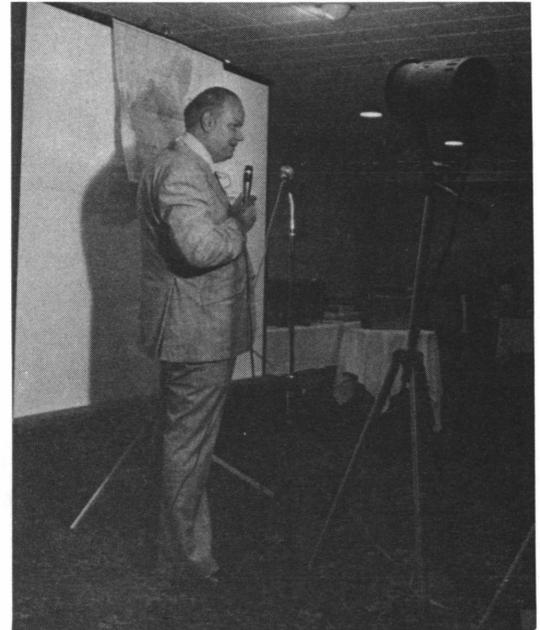
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NON-SCHEDULED NEWSLETTER

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EDITOR AND
SUPREME COMMANDER:

James W. Moseley



THE S.B.I. INVADES ALBANY, NEW YORK!

On the weekend of August 12th-14th your editor attended the first annual SBI (Scientific Bureau of Investigation) convention, held at a luxurious Ramada Inn in Albany, N.Y. (Left photo shows the little group that accompanied your editor to the Con: Left to right are Anna Montgomery, Patrick Montgomery, and Betty Moseley.)

Naturally what we enjoyed most of all was the "get acquainted" cocktail party on Friday night. On Saturday and Sunday, supreme host & master of ceremonies Pete Mazzola guided us through an array of mostly lesser-known ufological speakers, including himself. Among those offering presentations were John Keel, Antonio Huneus, Arthur Bray, Marcello Galluppi, David Waters, Pat de la Franier, Peter Robins, Christopher Centi, Dan Lowenski, and Colman VonKeviczky. Our friend and NUFOC co-worker Rick Hilberg of Cleveland was listed on the program, but chickened out at the last minute for obscure business reasons, just as he did this past May in regard to the NUFOC convention in Tucson, Arizona.

Although only about 50 people were present, Mazzola tells us that many others paid but failed to show up, and that he (miraculously!) made a profit on the event. This fortuitous eventuality has led him to state that he intends to hold another SBI conclave next summer - this time in New York City.

Among those who did show up in Albany was Mary Robinson of Jersey City, widow of famed researcher John J. Robinson. Accompanying her was Sol Lipsky of Brooklyn. Mary has been promised a spot on the speak-

ers' program in New York next year.

Of the speakers we managed to listen to (the nearby pool was more tempting!), by far the best lecture was given by veteran researcher John Keel - at least in our opinion. (See right-hand photo.) Although he later reconfirmed his own skepticism in the course of private conversation, John treated the tiny audience to perhaps the greatest presentation of his entire career. Gesturing wildly with a pointer aimed at a map of the world, John beguiled us with a discussion of such things as "atomic hand grenades"; "steel nets across the fjords of Scandinavia", possibly put there by the Space People; "black urine", which became a problem for one Swedish contactee (as it might for anyone!); and the astounding little-known fact that "the Miracle of Lourdes took place at a garbage dump". Let us hope indeed that this colorful skeptic/believer never retires from the ufological scene!

In all, an entertaining weekend, and our thanks to Pete Mazzola for his hospitality.

MISC. RAVINGS:

To further update the Wendelle Stevens story: After our last issue went to press, Howard Kashman, Stevens' defense attorney, returned the phone call we had made to him a few days earlier, and confirmed to us that our court documents are authentic. And we now have it from several sources that Stevens has indeed given himself up & has started serving his Time. (See further details in the Letters section of this issue.)

An interesting UFO convention will take place in Lincoln, Nebraska on Nov. 11th-13th, sponsored by the University of Nebraska. Though the speakers will include many of our olde favorites (Hynek, Schuessler, Stringfield, etc.), the whole thing sounds too far away and frigid (temperature-wise) for your editor's humble tastes; so we are more apt to be seen - perish the thought! - at CSICOP's First International Conference of Scientists and Skeptics, to be held in Buffalo, New York, on Oct. 28th and 29th. Such lurid skeptics as CSICOP Chairman Paul Kurtz will be on hand, not to mention James Randi, Philip Klass, and Robert Sheaffer. Maybe if we behave properly there, we'll get more free skeptical books to review!.....

Our olde pal William Moore (P.O. Box 189, Dewey, Az. 86327) is really grinding out the literature these days. His latest effort appears to be "The Mystery of the Green Fireballs", which goes for \$12.95. Give Bill a break and send for his free book list. (List is free; the books are not!)....Our thanks to a new non-subscriber named Philip Imbrogno for sending along a batch of UFO clippings and a free copy of his book "Crosswalks Across the Universe - A Guide to Amateur Astronomy" (Vantage Press, Inc.).....

An airplane called the XM-5 Commuter is coming onto the market later this year. Called an "aerial run-about", it is shaped like a saucer 15 feet in diameter, is made of molded plastic, and has a top speed of 215 mph. It can take off and land vertically from a back yard. If you would like a XM-5 Commuter of your very own, send about \$25,000 to the Moller Corporation, 1222 Reston Park Drive, Davis, Ca. 95616....Dr. Richard Haines has been elected Director of the North American UFO Federation (NAUFOF), the new "umbrella" organization that was born at MUFON's Toronto convention last year. Other officers include Henry McKay, Deputy Director; Pete Mazzola, Secretary; and Ann Druffel, Treasurer.

Air force tries to retrieve bodies

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

Just at Press Time we received the following letter from HOWARD KASHMAN of Tucson, who served as Wendelle Stevens' defense attorney:

"Thank you for the copy of your Newsletter dated Aug. 25th, 1983. I expect that you will print a correction to the 'Update on Wendelle Stevens Story' found on Page Two of said issue in two particulars: (1) that his defense attorney returned your call in a timely fashion, delayed only by the Mountain Bell strike; and (2) that Wendelle Stevens definitely turned himself in as ordered to on June 1st, 1983, and has since that time been serving his sentence under the auspices of the Arizona Corrections Training Facility (A.C.T.F.), at 10,000 South Wilmot Road, Tucson, Arizona...."

Notice that the letter at the top of the next page differs considerably in regard to point #2. - Editor.

Also at Press Time, KAL K. KORFF of California writes as follows:

"While this may come as a surprise to some in the Field, I honestly think that it's a shame that Stevens will be spending the next several years in jail. It has been my experience from associating with him that the man does indeed have some interesting UFO data - if only he could learn to study it properly!

"Incidentally, I have been told (by those who think that I have nothing better to do with my time than pester Wendelle, which is absurd) that Mr. Stevens is being held at a minimum security facility called 'Santa Rita', just outside of Tucson. If anyone wishes to write to him, he can be reached there.

"Some final comments regarding this matter: (1) Contrary to what the pro-Pleiadean people are saying, the CIA is not responsible for putting Stevens behind bars. Anyone who reads the court documents, especially the Colonel's plea bargaining agreement, can easily see that this is true. - This type of 'martyr' bullshit is just that!

"(2) I am glad that you did not present the news regarding Wendelle, which a lot of us already knew (plus more) in an ad hominem fashion. - While Stevens often throws mud at others, I should know - to do the same would make one just as bad.

"(3) Stevens never left for South America or anywhere else. He simply stayed in Tucson and turned himself in, as per his agreement.

"On to another matter: I don't see how you can possibly compare Phil Klass' 'scientific training' to that of Dr. Bruce Maccabee. While I am not taking anything away from Phil, it should be obvious that Bruce's academic credentials - his expertise in optical physics, etc. - are far greater than Phil's. Remember, Phil is an editor/author and Bruce is a scientist. It is not the other way around...."



BOB GIRARD of Arcturus Book Service writes as follows:

"....Regarding Wendelle Stevens, a lot of what you said about him, especially the after-flash about him not being in jail, sounds suspiciously like words I myself used in relaying such information as I had from an equally anonymous source among my own few correspondents.

"One of the court documents, the July 11th bench warrant for his arrest for not showing up at the slammer to begin serving his time, combined with his conversations with me last year in which he indicated forthcoming trips to South America (to visit Javier Cabrera in hopes of translating his book, among others), as well as his daughter's denial of any knowledge of his legal troubles, gave me hope (of a sort) that he had skipped the country rather than go to jail, and South America seemed the most likely place.

"To set the record straight without you having to go through a middleman, Stevens has been heard from from jail, a minimum-security place in Pima, Arizona. His attitude, according to my source, is good ('things could be worse...'), and he is as interested as ever in UFOs. Furthermore, though his publishing schedule will be pushed back a few months, he still plans to continue with several titles which were in the mill before he left for prison.

"I was glad to see how you handled the whole thing - rather gingerly, I thought, but not viciously. What Stevens the man did is lamentable at best, but what Stevens the publisher has done is far more worthy, having given us some of the most interesting & controversial UFO reading in years. I hope the UFO community will give him the chance to continue 5 years from now...."

CHARLES WILHELM of OUFOIL writes:

"....Sorry to hear of Stevens' situation. I liked the man, regardless of the hoax material he put out.

"I do know that the Hermann case is a hoax...."

KEN BEHRENDT, who almost had Stevens publish his own forthcoming book, writes as follows:

"After reading about Wendelle Stevens' alleged bizarre double life in the last issue of 'Smear', I must admit that even my ultra-liberal/radical eyeballs momentarily popped from their sockets and dangled by their optic nerves! I hope that you have thoroughly verified the details you presented, for if they are true, then Wendelle will most probably lose any credibility that he may have earned through his UFO research. If they are false, then it may be the end of 'Saucer Smear'!

"Whatever the ultimate reality of the situation - if he ever needed a Pleiadean saucer to lift him away from this lurid mess - now is the time!...."

Non-subscriber LETHA HAMRICK writes:

"....I was happy to see in your article about Wendelle Stevens that you do not agree with the severity of the laws under which Mr. Stevens was convicted, in regard to voluntary sex acts, even with minors. I agree with your sentiments (and disagree with the laws)...."

Moseley Boots Cards

HOWARD KAUFMAN writes as follows regarding the Bill Jenkins Show, a pro-Offbeat radio program in Los Angeles that your editor has also been on:

"Just a few lines to let you know that Wendelle Stevens did not make it onto KABC here in Los Angeles last August 27th, though he was scheduled. Bill Jenkins, the host, stated on the air that Stevens couldn't make the program and that he was indisposed (you could hear Bill had a slight laugh to his voice), and that he will be on as soon as he takes care of his business.

"The third or so caller who called in stated that Stevens is in jail, and that he will be there for five to seven years. Bill stated that he does know about it and that there is more to the story than meets the eye. Bill continued to say that Stevens won't be in jail for any long period....The caller then stated again that he knows for sure that Stevens will be away for a long time....

"I listen to that program whenever I can if I'm not out, and if & when Stevens is on the show I will let you know and I will try to tape it...."

"Saucer Smear" is honored by the following missive from DR. BRUCE MACCABEE:

"I was somewhat disappointed in your recent review of the latest Klassic tome. In particular, my heart sank when I read the shocking and offensive (as you predicted it would be) phrase 'we happen to agree with Klass regarding the New Zealand UFOs.' Oh woe, said I to myself. Verily the Supreme One is bereft of his senses. How could this be? Then I remembered that you read the book upside down, as proven by the picture you supplied (unless it was a - - hoax?), and that Klass' arguments do look more convincing when read upside down. However, you should try reading them rightside up.

"As evidence that you are not the only ufologist to read Klass' book from cover to cover, I enclose a copy of my review. I think you will find it a bit more detailed than your own. A shortened version of this (35 page) review will appear in FATE, but you have a chance to read the unexpurgated version. I hope you will then see the error in your ways and repent.

"I am also enclosing a small portion of supplementary information on the New Zealand case which is either not reported or is only barely referred to in Phil's book. I assume you also swallowed the Iranian Jet case explanation (Jupiter) hook, line & sinker. You would have known better had you read the information on that case in Volume 2 of the documents being sold by the Fund for UFO Research (Box 277, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712), a copy of which I sent you some time ago. Should any of your elite group of readers also wish a copy of the review, they can write to me at the Fund address.

"Sincerely saddened, (signed) Bruce Maccabee"

Editor's Note: Dr. Maccabee is a neat guy & a sincere, painstaking scientific researcher - something we desperately need more of in the UFO field. But we have waded through all of the pro-New Zealand UFO material he sent, and still feel that his case is insufficiently proven. As for the Iranian incident, we're on the fence.

Dreadful skeptic DR. GARY POSNER of St. Petersburg, Fla. writes:

"Your generally Klassy review of Phil's new book was tarnished by your comment regarding the Val Johnson case, in which you accuse Phil of 'merely guessing...when he calls (it) a hoax.'

"After a recitation of the medical, physical (impact), thermal, and magnetic data (as developed largely by Allan Hendry), Phil's conclusion actually reads as follows:

"The hard physical evidence leaves only two possible explanations for the case. One is that Johnson's car was attacked by malicious UFO-nauts, who...hit one headlight with a hammerlike device, then hit the hood and windshield, then very gently bent the two radio antennas...then ...set back the hands (of Johnson's watch and the dashboard clock).... (then took) off Johnson's glasses, aimed an intense ultraviolet light into his eyes, and replaced his glasses, while being careful not to shine ultraviolet on his face...Or, the incident is a hoax."

"Phil thus concludes that both proposed explanations fit the data, to the exclusion of any other conceivable ones. Additionally, he reports Johnson's refusal to submit to polygraphy, which may or may not influence the opinion of the reader.

"If, after reading this chapter, our humble editor is left with 'HOAX' ringing in his ears, this is a reflection of his own powers of rational thinking (whether conscious or subconscious) rather than any 'guessing' on the part of the author...."

And, PHIL KLASS himself hits us with:

"....As for your alleged 'strongly pro-UFO friend (who) claims to have read one page of "UFOs: The Public Deceived" before putting the book down in a rage': Did he start with the first page of the introduction, where a reader normally begins? Most of this page is devoted to quoting the Good Grey N.Y. Times account of a Bill Spaulding/GSW charge of cover-up. Or was it the first page of Chapter One, which is devoted mostly to setting the stage of World War II developments against which UFOs emerged. Hardly anything controversial here. Or was it the very last page, where I quote extensively from Arthur C. Clarke and John F. Kennedy? (Perhaps your alleged friend hates science fiction and is a hard-core Republican?) Or perhaps he started with page 308 (Index) and was enraged not to find your name listed there? Sure is curious.

"Anyhow - it was a charming review in my opinion...."

TOM BENSON, using the name "Daedalus", writes as follows:

"In the latest issue of 'Saucer Smear' you truly exposed your skeptic self when you reviewed Phil Klass' newest ravings. Your agreement with Klass regarding the New Zealand UFO sightings - i.e., that they were squidboat lights and false radar returns - gives the clear impression that you have not yet read the definitive book on this case - 'The Kaikoura UFOs' by Capt. B. Startup and N. Illingworth, that comes to a different conclusion. Perhaps 'Saucer Etc.' will now come full circle and be entitled 'Saucer Skeptic'. Then you and your fellow skeptic 'gas bags' can link assholes and float off into the sunset as Icarus did."

HAL STARR of sunny Phoenix, Arizona writes:

"I am fascinated (but not surprised) at the reaction of Bob Sheaffer to the disclosure that we found a 'bug' in my room just prior to my delivering my paper, 'The UFO, The CIA, & The KGB', at the recent National UFO Conference in Tucson. I am fascinated because to my knowledge no published mention had ever been made of this discovery prior to your most recent 'Smear' edition, in which very edition there appeared Sheaffer's letter questioning the finding. My, he is certainly fast with a pen!

"I am not surprised, because it is in complete character with his, Obstreperous Oberg's, and Klassless Phil's technique of damning all who do not conform to their self-anointed opinion. I had always assumed we were innocent until proven guilty, but apparently all Ufologists must prove their assumptions or forever suffer the fires of CSICOP unto eternity...."

"Typical of the 'Terrible Triumvirate's' style is the condemnation of the discovery - a condemnation which obviously is not founded on the facts of the discovery, because Sheaffer's letter reveals his ignorance of certain particulars behind this discovery. Again, a beautiful example of a conclusion based on flimsy assumption, a procedure his ilk so vigorously condemn...."

"Keep an eye on the sky!"

BILL RETOFF writes:

"....The Antonio Huneus letter was cool. (Back page of the current 'Smear'.) It helps set the record straight, and gets you wondering how many other spurious stories are UFO-ing around the field...."

Famed retired Pan American pilot BILL NASH writes:

"I note David Schroth's hair-splitting conclusions (in the June 25th 'Smear') that the 8 objects Bill Fontenberry and ground witnesses and I watched near Norfolk are not 'UFOs' because Bill & I were positive they were solid craft not fashioned on this planet, therefore 'identified'. Interesting, but hardly important as a 'contradiction'.

"Regarding the 7 ground witnesses - there may have been more. This is the number of reports our Air Force interrogators had at 7 a.m., the morning after our evening sighting. Neither I nor Bill ever personally met or spoke to these witnesses. Mr. Schroth feels this makes their existence suspect. May I ask: Why should we have gone from Florida to Virginia to look them up? Even if the Air Force had given us their names, which they did not, we were busy airline pilots - not UFO investigators.

"I cannot explain why the Air Force was delinquent in filing the ground reports with our report, but James McDonald contacted me and sent me some clippings and was going to send me more, from local Virginia papers, describing the sightings by ground witnesses on the evening of our experience. I never received the follow-up material. He was specifically searching out these witnesses - rather than criticizing from afar.

"I have moved several times and have possessions in storage. That is probably where the clippings from McDonald now are. I have little interest in proving anything to Dave Schroth, however. I suggest, Dave, that if you are all that worried about those witnesses, you do what James McDonald did - go and meticulously research the Virginia newspaper morgues.

"And speaking of James McDonald - I note the reference in 'Saucer Smear' to Hal Starr's lecturing on his 'mysterious' death, as well as the death of Morris K. Jessup. It should comfort all of us laymen who dabble at UFOs to note that the investigators who suffer 'mysterious deaths' are scientific men of competence, rather than shallow nitpickers.

"I also see that Mr. George Earley is using some odd proofs to convince himself that winds aloft blow away the sounds of high aircraft. He speaks of the sound of a symphony orchestra being blown away by the wind. Well, unless he can get that symphony orchestra to play at twenty or thirty thousand feet, his example is purely academic...."

Chaos reigns in New Jersey

The semi-mysterious TOMMY R. BLANN writes:

"Just a short letter to let you know that I received your postcard, and thanks for the comforting thoughts. Some of your subscribers are nutty as a fruitcake, however. I believe that most are very intelligent individuals that use your publication as an escape route to vent their anger and let off a little steam from their more mundane affairs. Did you ever think about becoming a psychiatrist, Jim?

"Enclosed is a recent photo of my meeting with President Reagan's chief scientific advisor, Dr. Edward Teller, father of the hydrogen bomb. The big guy on the left is Dr. Maxfield, who treats certain astronauts and has a number of ties with the space program.

"I will be heading to Washington, D.C. within the next couple of months and if I get a chance, I might drop by to visit with you. No promises though!"

We are duly impressed by Tommy Blann's picture with Dr. Teller, but not impressed enough to print it here, however. - Editor.

The inevitable DR. STEPHEN KURZWEIL, calling himself "an ex-abductee", writes as follows:

"What will it take for you people to understand? You refuse to believe in the sense data of your own experiences. You refuse to believe in 'sightings'; that 'seeing is believing'. You refuse to believe in the testimony of your fellow man who is left confused and frightened (often with skin wounds and psychic abilities) after an 'experience'.

"You will not find the answers by simply reading. Speak personally to the people involved. Ask Budd Hopkins the reason why he wrote 'Missing Time'. Ask Eugene Yeates about 'Project Aquarius' and why all the documents released to Barry Greenwood from the NSA are 'sanitized' with black magic markers. Find out why the Fund for UFO Research never attends UFO meetings.

"Jim, the answers are already there. Find out why all forms of nationalism will fall once UFOs are recognized for what they are. The governments of this world are intent on covering up the real Truth - that they are not in charge. And, Jim, you can thank God for that!"

We can't follow all of this, but we do know that Dr. Bruce Maccabee of the Fund for UFO Research does attend UFO meetings. - Editor.



LEFT PHOTO: Beloved Father-Image Glorious Scientific Leader of the UFO Movement, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, in a photo stolen from one of CUFOS's own magazines, "The International UFO Reporter". RIGHT PHOTO: A cartoon figure we ran across in another magazine, which reminded us a little of Dr. Hynek, somehow. (Please don't sue, Doctor! We'll increase our contributions to CUFOS voluntarily!)