

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER AND UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

EDITOR AND STILL
SUPREME COMMANDER:

James W. Moseley

NON-SCHEDULED NEWSLETTER

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FLASH! Here's an update on the glorious upcoming National UFO Conference (NUFOC), to be held this year on the evening of Saturday May 25th, at John F. Kennedy High School in Fremont, California - near San Francisco. The speakers will be famed UFO author Bill Moore; MUFON consultant Thomas Gates, and local host Kal K. Korff. Your humble "Smear" editor will act as master of ceremonies.

Out-of-town delegates are encouraged to stay at the Mission Peak Lodge in Fremont, where hopefully a group discount rate will be in effect. For details on all this, write Korff at P.O. Box 631, Union City, Ca. 94587. His telephone number is 415-790-3043.

Two days earlier, on the evening of May 23rd, Korff and Moseley will speak at a meeting of the Bay Area Skeptics (BAS), this to be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Campbell Public Library, 70 N. Central Ave., Campbell, Ca; Unlike the NUFOC convention, the BAS bash will be free.

Arch-skeptic Bob Sheaffer, who was kind enough to arrange the May 23rd lecture for us, wants his many friends & enemies in the UFO field to know that he has recently moved. His new address is: 16230 Deodar Lane, Monte Sereno, Ca. 95030.

IN WHICH

YOUR HUMBLE EDITOR RESUMES HIS LAGGING RADIO CAREER AND
INADVERTENTLY SOLVES THE MYSTERY OF FLORIDA'S CORAL CASTLE

For two hours on the evening of Feb. 9th, your "Smear" editor raved about UFOs, Ancient Astronauts, and South American antiquities, on a Miami radio show hosted by one Mike Spandell. (Radio station WGBS.) The secret purpose behind our appearance was publicity for our Key West pre-Columbian art gallery, where sales have not been quite as brisk as anticipated.

In the course of our ravings, we touched upon the mystery of Florida's Coral Castle. For those who do not know, Coral Castle is currently a tourist attraction on Route One a few miles south of Miami. It consists of huge rocks weighing many tons each, transported and carved by a Latvian immigrant named Ed Leedskalnin. Ed died in 1951 without ever revealing the secret of how he, a man weighing little more than 100 pounds, was able to perform such an astounding feat single-handedly. Many people, including your editor, have speculated that he (just as he claimed) had re-discovered the secret of the Pyramids, or even that he had extraterrestrial help in his task. These concepts are not discouraged by the current owners of the Castle, who quite obviously are anxious to make a Buck or two out of all this.

Your editor "discovered" the Castle in the late 1950's, and wrote an article about it for the Sept. 1963 issue of SAUCER NEWS. Our article is paraphrased from a \$1.00 pamphlet that used to be on sale at the souvenir stand there, but which has since been suppressed, apparently, as it obviates the need to take a tour of the place - which now costs \$5.50 or more. Interestingly, our Coral Castle article was chosen by the late Gray Barker to be included in a 1967 anthology he published, called "Jim Mose-

ley's Book of SAUCER NEWS". Then, the late Otto Binder used the anthology as a reference in a discussion of Coral Castle in one of his books; and, thereafter, the former owners of the Castle framed Binder's reference as one of the displays on the wall of the Castle's souvenir shop. Thus, the circle was completed, and your editor became an "instant expert", essentially just by having read and rewritten a brochure for sale in the very same shop! (Sic transit UFO research!)

Your editor, just like a consensus of other "experts", felt that the Castle was at least somewhat mysterious. But at no time did he or any of these other writers make an attempt to locate people who might have known Ed while he was still alive. Such thoughts were discouraged by the tour guides' emphasis on the fact that Ed always worked alone, and would stop work if anyone were watching him. (In those early days, relatively few people traveled along that isolated stretch of Route One.) It was thus assumed by all that such a background check on Ed would be useless and irrelevant.



NOW, getting back to the WGBS radio program: During the phone-in portion, a man called to say that a still-living friend of his used to watch Ed work, back in the late 1920's. At that time the construction was located about three miles south of its present location. Yes, gentle reader, Ed decided to move, about 1935, and took with him, by truck, the huge rocks he had carved up to that time. Then he re-positioned them at the present site, and added many more.

A few days after the radio show, we located and interviewed Earl Lee, the man mentioned by the radio caller. As a boy, he and several friends from the area had spent many hours talking with Ed and watching him work. (This fits in with the well-known fact that Ed liked kids and didn't mind having them around.) Earl Lee, a man now almost 70 years old, told us how, in essence, Ed built his castle with simple levers, counterweights, and hard work. These facts, which are never mentioned in the Coral Castle tour, would take up too much space to give in detail here. Suffice is to say that no rational person could hear Mr. Lee's sincere account without reaching the conclusion that the mystery is solved.

And yet as recently as 1983, someone named Ray Stoner (no pun intended) wrote a horribly-organized mimeographed booklet (on sale at the Castle for \$11.95!) in which he compares Coral Castle favorably with the Great Pyramid of Egypt, Stonehenge in England, and the Pyramid of the Sun in Mexico - all of which he finds mysterious. Stoner concludes that either Ed used esoteric knowledge; or he was a time traveler; or he was an interdimensional being; or he was actually an extraterrestrial! (See P. 28 of "The Enigma of Coral Castle" by Ray Stoner.) Stoner's only attempt to solve the matter is through pseudo-mathematical mumbo-jumbo, which takes up most of the booklet.

Perhaps the worst thing we can say about Coral Castle is another fact we learned from Earl Lee: It is not built of coral at all, but of a different type of stone called oolite! Ed called it "Rock Gate". The current name was conjured up after his death by the money-grubbers.

And yet, let us not sell Ed short. A feat can be impressive even if it is not mysterious! Probably no man in American history ever moved and positioned so many tons of stones single-handedly, and carved them into such interesting shapes to please the eye of the beholder. So, a tip of the "Saucer Smear" sombrero to the late Ed Leedskalnin, even though he was not an extraterrestrial!

Angels protest guru's commune

MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

The U.S. Post Office, in its Supreme Wisdom, has recently seen fit to raise the cost of First Klass mail from 20 cents to 22 cents, which is a 10% increase. As a Silent Protest to this outrage, we have decided to lower the writing quality in "Smear" by 10%. Now, as you read this and future "Smears", see if you can notice the difference. We don't want people writing in saying they can't see any difference. If we hear too much of that kind of thing, we'll go Gung Ho and lower our quality by 15% or maybe even 20%. If that brings on the Postal Inspectors, so be it!.....

From a usually unreliable source we have received the following update on our recent Straith Letter confession. All we can add is that if the information below is true, it is news to us. Says our source:

"The only reason you guys didn't both get on-the-job training in making mail sacks long ago is the fact that Gray was astute enough to thoroughly eliminate the offending typewriter. Like a lot of other people, I have over 400 pages of FBI documents and laboratory reports on the investigation. They knew damn well who did it, but without the Remington corpus delicti, the U.S. Attorney refused to go to a federal grand jury.

"You are probably not aware of the fact that in 1980 the expansion of a shopping center parking lot in Clarksburg, W. Va. uncovered a strange parcel that was so odd it was turned over to the police, who sent it to the FBI laboratory believing that it must have figured in some crime. It was half a Remington typewriter, disassembled, flattened with a sledge hammer, burned with gasoline, doused with battery acid and then caustic lye. It had been put into a 5-gallon paint bucket and filled with roofing tar and then buried deeply in what had been a flower planter at the edge of the shopping center, and then a cubic foot of portland cement was poured on top of the hole. In spite of all that, the FBI lab identified the keys as belonging to the long-sought typer.

"For laughs, I personally talked to the two FBI agents who handled the original investigation and tried to persuade them to reopen the case.Since they already had Gray down as the perpetrator along with you, and both of you had done nothing more serious than to be minor nuisances over the intervening 23 years, they just marked the case finally solved and dropped everything with no chance of reopening. I am aware of one aspect that could be grounds for prosecution now that you have confessed, but since Gray is dead and you were never home when the FBI came to originally interview you, you are home free!"

(What a relief! - Editor.)

NEWS BRIEFIES: There's a nice little write-up about "Smear" on Page 10 of the February issue of "High Times" Magazine. They gave our address, unfortunately, which resulted in a small-scale rush of new non-subscribers....Your editor is wandering around southern Florida these days, spreading the Word about our new antique gallery. More on this in next ish....The Feb. issue of OMNI featured a wonderful in-depth interview with UFO guru J. Allen Hynek. This is "must" reading for everyone who wants to keep up with current thinking in our weird little UFO field.Space does not permit it this time, but beginning with the next "Smear", we're going to print the unpublished poetry of the late Gray Barker. Your editor has what is probably the only existing copy of Barker's collected poems. Some are funny, some are rather sad & pathetic, & some are simply incoherent. We'll let the readers judge....

'Skins knew Moseley would come through

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

(Ed's Note: An unusual number of printable letters came in this time, not all of which we have Space for. Some are below, some will appear in the next glorious issue, and some are in Limbo, wherever that may be. Anyhow, we thank U-all.)

Long-time UFO researcher (?) DOMINICK LUCCHESI writes:

"I received the latest issue of 'Smear' and I must say it is getting worse. It's like a pimple on an elephant's ass. How you could have the intestines to talk about Gray (Barker) when he is no longer around to defend himself is beyond my comprehension, and is not what I consider a sporting proposition. I do realize however that his demise has in all probability brought you great personal relief by decreasing any competition you may have imagined he supplied in the field of saucer investigation. Gray was one of the giants in the field and I am sure he will be missed by those who are aware of his contributions....

"I might add that in a strange way I do feel that 'Saucer Smear' does add something to 'saucerology', but I haven't been able to figure out what it is as yet...."

Neither have we. - Editor

Our olde pal (?) JOHN KEEL writes:

"Your obit of Gray Barker hit a new low, even for you! He was probably your best friend - maybe your only friend, and you chose to write an insulting farewell while under the influence of God-knows what unspeakable libation. Gray deserved better.

"Gray was an extraordinary person, steeped in a tragic loneliness. He had the soul of a poet and a clever and subtle wit. I never understood him fully. Why, I wondered, did he chose to fictionalize 'The Silver Bridge' when the true facts were so fascinating? He sent me the manuscript of the section about myself and I gagged. I rewrote it completely and he used my text in the book. I asked him then what sense of mischief was driving him and why he presented a novel as non-fiction. He answered me with jokes. Perhaps he felt, like Freud, that daydreams are just as authentic maps of the subconscious as nightmares. Perhaps it was his terrible loneliness in a mad world of multiple realities that led him into the strange land of ghouls and goblins that inhabited his books.

"We played many jokes on each other over the years. A few months ago I received the enclosed letter with a West Virginia postmark, bearing Gray's unmistakable touch. I think you should reprint it in your sleazy pseudo-publication as a final tribute to the real Gray Barker. It saddens me to realize that I won't be receiving any more letters like this one. Goodbye, Gray. It was a privilege to know you."

See letter on Page 8. - Editor.

SCOT MORRIS, Games Editor of OMNI Magazine, writes as follows:

"Thanks for the note of a few weeks ago about the OMNI mention of 'Saucer Smear' and all its similarly titled bretheren. I am pleased that we could finally give you a plug. It is well-deserved, because your wit, humor, and willingness to stand 'above it all' month after month make 'Saucer Etc.' fun reading for true-believers and skeptics alike....

"Since our mutual friend, Randi, is also moving from the northeast to Florida, I can only conclude that he is following you and intends to keep an eye on you. That will be a good thing for Science and Truth."

DAVID HARRISON, Senior Editor of "High Times" Magazine (a "Trans-High Publication" according to the letterhead), writes as follows:

"Your wacky, wonderful publication was passed along to me by our editor, John Howell. Besides being Senior Editor here at 'High Times', I am our unofficial Master of Supreme Silliness, under which general category your newsletter falls (soars might be a more appropriate word). While I cannot claim to be a certified UFO buff, much less a qualified ufologist, I am certainly interested in this topic. I have always considered it the height of arrogance for earthlings to believe that our planet would be the only one in this vast universe to play host to living beings. Of course there are extraterrestrial beings! However, whether or not they would want to visit earth is another issue entirely. As a vacation spot of the universe, earth must be about as desirable as Cleveland would be to us earthlings! So I can't be sure that UFOs really contain visitors from beyond. It sure is a nice thought, though.

"Your newsletter is the most fun publication I've ever read dealing with the subject of UFOs, and believe me, I've read a lot of them. (I've written a few magazine articles on the subject.) So I was happy to give 'Saucer Smear' a plug in my 'Flashes' column in our February issue, a copy of which is enclosed herein. Hope you enjoy it."

Ace lecturer & Nuclear Physicist STANTON FRIEDMAN writes:

"At least Phil Klass and I agree on one thing, that your publication provides good moments.

"I've been very busy with my scientific activities and pursuing documents in Canada and the USA. No question that the subject is a Cosmic Watergate and some UFOs are ET spacecraft. Pity that Klass and Kompany refuse to deal with the relevant data. They keep attacking Roswell without the slightest bit of research and with wild personal attacks on the people involved - without having talked to any of them. Bill Moore and I have been in touch with about 90 by now.....

"I had a fine response to 13 lectures in 11 Canadian cities in 17 days in January. Cold country but warm people. People in several places had seen my movie 'UFOs Are Real' and asked where they could get a copy now that everyone has a VCR. I have found out that in general it is not available in the USA so am pleased to offer a copy of the 93 minute feature documentary in either VHS or Beta for only \$45 U.S. including postage. My new address (only a few blocks from the old) is 79 Pembroke Crescent, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada E3B 2V1...."

Famed contactee BETTY HILL, whose famous "star map" has received a lot of support from Stan Friedman over the years, writes as follows:

"Greetings from New Hampshire.

"Good grief, is Phil Klass still complaining that the aliens do not do character checks on people before capturing them?"

A delightful new non-subscriber named ASHTAR HERRON LEE writes:

"Professional skeptics like Phil Klass and the Amazing Randi know very well that there is truth and substance to the subjects they routinely attack. I'll bet Klass has a private UFO file that would knock the socks off anybody not assigned to the UFO branch of the National Security Agency. And as for Randi, he knows that a key can be bent by force of will alone, because he can do it himself! These gentlemen have, however, made such a good thing out of total hypocrisy that I'm sure the truth will never pass their lips. Like others in the privileged position of knowing (at least part of) the real score, they have come to the noble (and lucrative)

conclusion that what the public shouldn't know won't hurt them - much....

"I wrote a letter to FATE in late '83 predicting a massive saucer wave in '84, which, to the best of my knowledge, did not show up. This seems to qualify me as a genuine FALSE PROPHET; but to be honest, I had a lot of help with this - the bastards found out I had blown the whistle on the '84 operation and decided to cancel it until this year. So, '85 here we come! Just between you and Ashtar, Jim - this spring, look out! You can then decide for yourself if I'm a true false prophet or a false false prophet. How's that for an inside scoop?...."

Way to go, Ashtar! - Editor.

JAMES ("The Amusing") RANDI writes in regard to the editorial in our current "Smear":

"Say not so! A serious attack of skepticism! I can hear Klass popping champagne corks! Way to go, Jim!...."

And ROBERT SHEAFFER adds:

"Tottering on the very abyss - Egads! Moseley, you're finally starting to sound sensible, now that you're old. Of course, when you meet the Bay Area Skeptics, you'll plunge headlong into the Abyss. Even Kal K. Korff will love us, once he conquers his fears...."

LARRY BRYANT of CAUS and other good Causes, writes:

"So, the Supreme Commander is mellowing in his old age! Lest he mellow into cerebral fermentation, let me caution him that as one of the judges in relaying the UFO verdict to the masses he not lose his patience. For the jury is still out - and will remain out so long as the various governments of the world still (1) sit on their hands about how best to resolve the UFO problem and (2) sit on any part of the hard-core evidence of UFO reality they've gathered thus far.

"So, despair not, Jim. Merely join (or support) us who persist in asking the right questions of the right people."

JOAN THOMPSON of MUFON - not to mention Harvard College Observatory - writes in part:

"Your latest 'Smear' Vol. 32, No. 2 first page lament hits home. It's Budd Hopkins and Barry Greenwood that keep me going in this area. Just as what appears to be complete despair sets in, they come up with dynamite information & cases, and thus the carrot is once again there to keep me alert and ever hoping for some breakthrough. Anyway, it was a well-expressed editorial about teetering on the very edge of the dreadful abyss of skepticism....'Smear' is always intriguing, whatever the degree of skepticism! Thanks for the latest excellent issue!"

PROF. A. H. LAWSON of California State University writes:

"Glad that you have joined the skeptic crowd. Hope you will have a chance to gander at my Birth Trauma Hypothesis (BTH) skepticism in the March 1985 FATE, whose editors did a fine job of presenting my non-CSICOP critique of CE-III claims.

"The article comes just in time for a rejoinder to a bit of uncharacteristic personal snarling by Dr. J.A. Hynek in the Feb. OMNI. The good doc sez, in dismissing my research, 'Lawson, who is an English teacher, after all, has somehow latched onto a theory. I just think it's nonsense.' Now, Hynek forgets that he twice invited me to give papers at CUFOS confabs, and corresponded with me cordially - until my views turned skeptic-

ish. (Maybe it's only infidel English teechnurs who incur his curses?):

"Hynek's reticence re the birth theories (& also Scot Rogo's, in the same issue of FATE, hilariously!) are quietly buried by Curt Fuller's neat apologia accorded my article, in which he quotes a 'Science' article (7/20/84) hailing birth studies as 'the new frontier'. Sic transit. Sic Hynek. Sick science?...."

Non-subscriber WALTER ROGERS writes:

"....As to your semi-skeptical feelings about UFOs - remember, Jim, that after close to 40 years no man or group has ever come up with the answer to flying saucers, because UFOs have no answer. Your so-called crashed UFO witnesses can't come up with a scrap of proof, much less a crashed saucer hidden at Wright-Patterson AFB. The UFO contactees have no real proof for us, although a lot of them in my opinion may have seen something strange. The UFOs themselves offer nothing really new so far as proof is concerned - no moon landings, no White House lawn landings, nothing! And don't hold your breath waiting, Jim. As I said before, the flying saucers have no answer. The only person who ever came close is John Keel of ultraterrestrial fame....So sit back, Jim, and enjoy the sideshow!...."

Researcher TOM BURCH writes as follows:

"You realize of course that your newly-proclaimed 'skepticism' has severely jeopardized my situation with the Company. With your admission into the card-carrying ranks of the chronically addled-minded you will, no doubt, be raking much less muck than before. Without you to dredge up so much dirt for me to use against individuals, both pro and con, I fear that I will soon be provided with a new assignment. So, smart guy, what good will my VCR club memberships do me in Nicaragua? I'm pleading to you, Jim, don't declare yourself an official skeptic (be one if you want to, just don't admit it out loud); just be what you have always been - an enthusiastic irritant and troublemaker to us all!

Finally, our olde friend GARY UNDERWOOD comments on the infamous Straith Letter:

"....I was very surprised to read about the little hoax you pulled back in 1957. Even more surprising is how you two kept it under wraps for 28 years! It seems like a harmless joke to me too, but it makes me realize how easy it could be to fool the public into believing just about anything, for just about any length of time. I'm glad you told everyone about it, and hope you don't get a lot of flak over it...."

Just maybe we had a serious purpose, to show people the evils of Credulity.
- Editor.

NEW YORK

Kitty Genovese killer loses bid for parole

NEW YORK — Moseley, who stalked and stabbed Kitty Genovese 20 years ago as 38 witnesses did nothing in a case that became a national symbol of public apathy, lost his first bid for parole Tuesday.

Gay sailor claims he cruised with captain

Atari to sue makers of porn video games

Pick Congress Hotel • 520 South Michigan Avenue (Chicago Illinois 60605 (312) 427-3800

March 12, 1984

Mr. John Keel
New York City

Dear Mr. Keel:

It has come to my attention through a reliable Source in West Virginia that you have written or causing to be published a new or reprint book by yourself.

The Better Book League works in the interests of ALL authors by attempting to insure that books reach the publishing market in an orderly fashion. Our research indicates that at the present time there are a number of books on the market that resemble yours in general theme.

Realizing that you are a professional author who must depend upon royalties for survival, it would not be right for us simply to ask you to withdraw your manuscript. In fact, we are prepared to pay you a fee of \$10,000 if you will withdraw this book for a period of five (5) years from the date of contract.

Should you have any difficulty with the Publisher we are prepared to deal with that Entity in an expeditious manner!

Once our offer is accepted, your work becomes a candidate for selection by our BAN-A-BOOK-A-MONTH CLUB, which suggests the possibility of additional revenue.

Should we not hear from you within 30 days, we shall have no alternative but to send one of our Representatives to visit with you personally!

Very truly yours,



J. Emmett Claridge, Rep.
The Better Book League
27 Wall Street 10007

