

# SAUCER SMEAR

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## THE "MAGESTIC 12" DOCUMENTS: AN EXCLUSIVE "SMEAR" UPDATE:

In our last glorious issue, we told you about the sensational government documents, released by Bill Moore & others working with him, which seem to prove that there was indeed a crash of an extraterrestrial vehicle near Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947, with four dead alien bodies found near the wreckage. If these documents are authentic, it would be the "smoking gun" (a la Watergate) that we UFO researchers have been hoping for, for these many years!

We believe Moore to be sincere in his efforts, even though the documents in question, if genuine, conveniently make the Roswell incident (about which he has written a book) the most important event in modern history.

We would criticize Moore on at least one point, however: Namely, the ridiculous way that he and his coworkers have censored the documents to varying degrees, whereas they were totally uncensored when he obtained them.

To the right is Moore's version of one page of the main document, as printed in the June issue of the MUFON UFO Journal. We of "Smear" and many others now have relatively uncensored versions, as released by Moore at our recent Burbank, Ca. convention and elsewhere. The section that Moore has crossed out in the MUFON version is the most intriguing part, as published in our last issue (top of Page 4) and elsewhere. It would seem that Moore is in-

~~TOP SECRET~~

COPY ONE OF ONE.

On 24 June, 1947, a civilian pilot flying over the Cascade Mountains in the State of Washington observed nine flying disc-shaped aircraft traveling in formation at a high rate of speed. Although this was not the first known sighting of such objects, it was the first to gain widespread attention in the public media. Hundreds of reports of sightings of similar objects followed. Many of these came from highly credible military and civilian sources. These reports resulted in independent efforts by several different elements of the military to ascertain the nature and purpose of these objects in the interests of national defense. A number of witnesses were interviewed and there were several unsuccessful attempts to utilize aircraft in efforts to pursue reported discs in flight. Public reaction bordered on near hysteria at times.

On 07 July, 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~EYES ONLY~~

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dulging in a ufological "tease", especially as he has stated publicly and privately that there are more documents, and video-tapes, which he still has up his sleeve.

"Smear" seldom stoops to serious reporting, but we have been so intrigued by "MJ-12" since we first heard about it, that we have indulged in our own in-depth investigation, to the best of our humble abilities. This investigation has consisted mainly of expensive long-distance calls, for which we expect to be reimbursed on the very day that the Space People finally land en masse. Till then, our quest for Truth has to be its own reward.

We are not in a position to contact any of the twelve members of "MJ-12", especially since we understand that they are all dead. Nor are we in a position, as some people are, to contact highly-placed government informants. (We thought of calling Reagan, but figured he is too busy with IranGate, or whatever it is called.)

Thus our investigation has been limited to people known to be on the pro or anti side of the ufological fence, so to speak. We would truly like the documents to be real, with all the exciting implications thereof. However, at this stage we must tell you that the consensus of thoughtful opinion even on the pro-UFO side is that they are not.

We asked ourselves: Are the documents internally consistent, regarding known and possible activities of these twelve outstanding men of 40 years ago, all of whose names are given therein. Of the twelve, the most intriguing was Dr. Donald Menzel of Harvard, who was, ufologically speaking, the Phil Klass of his day. For this reason we contacted Dr. Ernest Taves, a rather wealthy retired psychiatrist whose statement you will read below. Worse than being a psychiatrist, he is an active member of the dreaded CSICOP organization. Even so, his opinion is certainly worthy of respect. He was very close with Menzel and still is close friends with Menzel's widow and his private secretary, with whom Taves has consulted, after receiving the "MJ-12" material from us. This is his statement - slightly abbreviated because of Space limitations:

The Menzel Connection (our title, not his):

I am informed that at the recent MUFON conference Stanton Friedman contributed a paper entitled "The Double Life of Donald H. Menzel." This was preceded by widespread distribution, by the "Moore-Shandera-Friedman Research Project into U.S. Government UFO Policy" (hereafter MSF), of "New UFO Documents." It has become incumbent upon me to respond. (I need not go at any length here into the contents of this material, as the text has been summarized in "Smear", Vol. 34, No. 5.)

First, with respect to the alleged Top Secret document, MSF states that they cannot endorse the authenticity of the document. I state that I can, in my opinion, endorse the fraudulence of the document. MSF asks, "Hoax or proof of alien visitation?" I respond, "Hoax."

As for the document itself: The version that I have seen (apparently a number of versions exist, differing in which text has been blacked out) clearly has not been officially declassified. If the document is genuine, and has not been declassified, one wonders whether MSF might not be in trouble with the FBI, but that is no concern of mine....

As for the comments and questions (by Moore) with respect to Donald Menzel, none of them have any bearing upon his alleged membership in the "Majestic 12" group. MSF has apparently examined Menzel's correspondence and his autobiography, both of which are to be found in the Harvard Archives in Cambridge, and has used this information in aid of making a case suggesting Menzel's participation in a governmental coverup of a crash-landed UFO.

In this overreaching attempt MSF states, for example, that Menzel wrote to John F. Kennedy about such matters. Of course Professor Menzel

wrote to John F. Kennedy about such matters. He and Kennedy had been friends for a long time, and Menzel foresaw that when Kennedy became president, he might wish to consult him about scientific matters. Menzel wanted Kennedy to know about his history in sensitive areas. And Kennedy did, indeed, consult Menzel on a number of scientific matters, seeking his advice. It was certainly no secret to the Harvard community that Menzel had done much classified work for the government over a period of decades. The other points MSF raises are similarly noncontributory to "Majestic 12":

I shall try now to add some information about Menzel that does relate to his alleged participation in a UFO coverup. Donald Menzel, during the latter years of his life, was my closest friend and associate, and I was co-author with him on his last UFO book, "The UFO Enigma." During the last year of his life we spent many, many hours working on the book, and during the course of these discussions we explored, together, any number of related fields including the writing of science fiction (a field in which we had both published), the exploration of space, the probability of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence, and so on. I can surely say that - with respect to Donald's thinking about such matters - I knew his mind and thinking more intimately than anyone else could have. In addition I knew what kind of a man he was. And I state categorically that he would have repudiated with contempt any suggestion that he participate in the coverup proposed in the alleged secret document.

If an alien spaceship had crashed, if bodies of aliens had been recovered, Donald would certainly have been one of the first to be called to participate in an investigation. He would have welcomed this with the greatest enthusiasm. If national security were involved - which some might have thought to be the case for several months or a year or so - Donald would have gone along with that. But as it became clear - as indeed it has, over the years - that if this incident had happened it had no bearing upon national security, he would have been unable to continue to participate in a misguided and unnecessary coverup. His interests lay in the discovery and propagation of scientific knowledge.

Above all, he would have been utterly incapable of the intellectual dishonesty of writing books debunking UFOs while knowing full well that an alien spacecraft bearing alien occupants had crashed in New Mexico. The insinuations in the MSF documents are a profound disservice to the memory of Donald Menzel. (End of Taves statement.)

#### Further Update

Ufological opinions on "MJ-12" vary widely, as you will see from the letters section of this issue. One informant whose opinions we found most intriguing was Tommy Roy Blann, a rather shadowy figure who has long been on the edges of the pro-UFO movement. He has sent us a copy of a document (known to Moore and many others) from June 1952, entitled "Report by the Joint Logistics Plans Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on Joint Logistic Plan for 'Majestic'". This is not the same "Majestic", however, but is a legitimate document about a master plan for attacking the Soviet Union in the event of World War III. It presumably has nothing to do with UFOs.

Then there was also a group called "MAGIC" or some such, which was responsible for breaking the Japanese code during World War II.

Why the similar names? We do not know; but getting back to Blann, he informs us that the so-called Robert Cutler document, found by Moore and coworker Shandera in government archives after a painstaking search therein, is definitely not authentic, due to internal problems such as the watermark on the stationery, etc. This was the only document supportive of "MJ-12" that the Moore/Shandera team was able to find there, and interestingly, it was reportedly found by Shandera while Moore was in the bathroom.

Another supportive document, whose origin into the UFO research scene

is not clear to us, is a supposed CIA memo mentioning "MJ-12" and something called "Project A". We have not seen it yet, but we do have a copy of a letter sent to Blann by a CIA spokesman on June 23rd, 1987, which states: "Your enclosed document was not originated by the CIA. It is a rather poorly done fabrication. We suggest that you contact your source for further information on its origin." Further along, the CIA spokesman goes on to say: "Unfortunately there have been numerous hoaxes perpetrated over the years in the field of UFO investigation. The 'memo' you enclosed is clearly a fake, with 'deletions' made by its originator, whoever that may be, and most definitely not by this agency."

Finally, from various sources, we believe we have the name of the probable perpetrator of the "MJ-12" affair, which at this stage we must sadly label a hoax. (No, it isn't Todd Zechel!) If our information is correct, the real facts of this case are almost as fantastic as is the idea of dead aliens being found on the New Mexico desert. Like Moore, we will not tell at one time all we know; but "Smear" readers will eventually be informed. Don't let your non-subscription lapse!

#### MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

Friend Hal Starr of Phoenix, one of our many highly unpaid "stringers", has sent us an interesting report on the recent MUFON convention in Washington, D.C. We're really sorry we could not have been there, as someone has called this the Woodstock of Ufology! However, here (somewhat abbreviated) is Hal's report:

"It seems that at each UFO Con., we have someone to talk about or to gossip over. At the 24th NUFON in Burbank, it was Erik Beckjord. At the recent Washington, D.C. MUFON event, there were several, not the least of which was our ex-skeptic turned professional debunker, Phil Klass. It was he whom the Washington Post of June 29th, 1987 referred to as 'the uninvited skunk at the garden party'. This reference, along with the rest of a very long news story, made the Post's review of the MUFON/FUROR event one of the finest and most accurate pieces of journalism on the subject of UFOs I have seen in years!

"There was, of course, other gossip. Some were whispering that Bill Moore contrived the whole MJ-12 thing out of whole cloth - that it was either a forgery or a treasonous revelation of classified material. For what reason, no one seemed able to answer, since there appears to be little, if anything, to be gained by Moore in so doing. Indeed, there could be much to lose. Ever-doubted, redoubtable Klass, ever ready to blow the whistle, sent a letter suggesting this to the FBI. Now that's really a sore loser, especially since such action was never revealed to nor discussed with Moore prior to his doing his 'patriotic duty'....

"Dale Goudie of Seattle was another person under discussion. Accused of 'stealing' documentary data from Moore, he tried to jump the gun by holding a news conference on the subject one day early. There was a very small turn-out compared to the legitimate press conference the next day, which gave the Con. rave reviews. Goudie was not very popular as a result. (Tommy Blann was also involved with Goudie's press conference.-Ed.)

"Gary Kinder, author of "Light Years", a book on the mostly officially denounced Meier case, showed up the first day, got almost no attention, so apparently left early!

"Whitley Strieber of 'Communion' was much in evidence, frequently talking to small groups outside the meeting halls. During his official presentation from the stage, Mr. Strieber got up a good head of steam to scream and shout at Klass in the audience that he didn't appreciate being called 'a liar', and waved a copy of a polygraph test administered by the BBC in London showing he believes what he said about his experiences. His apparently complete loss of composure left the audience quite startled. Some even whispered afterwards that he didn't seem to have all the plugs in his switchboard...."

MORE MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

"The Incredible Texas UFO Incident", which we discussed in "Smear" a few issues back, turns out to be even more ludicrous than we imagined. Having sent in our \$20 to the International Space Science Foundation, which has a phony Salt Lake City address, we finally received their ridiculous tape, together with a booklet which is nothing more than a high-pressure sales pitch. The booklet urges us to take advantage of the present "Monster Hysteria" and become a sales representative for their organization. For a mere \$295, I can now obtain a "printing package" consisting of 1,000 sales letters, 1,000 information letters, etc. I am to mail these at my own expense, using their address, and I will then receive a \$25 commission for each sucker who sends in \$295 to them! It's sort of a modified pyramid scheme, using the "UFO craze" as a new angle. Egads!...

On the night of June 24th, ABC's "Night Line" TV show was devoted to the theme of 40 years of the UFO enigma. Stanton Friedman and Phil Klass were there to debate the merits of the "MJ-12" documents and other saucer-related matters.

By weird coincidence, the first part of the show was devoted to a separate film segment about the death of comedian Jackie Gleason, who had died that same day. The interesting thing is that there have been various rumors that Gleason knew something specific about crashed saucers and dead alien bodies. According to one really wild rumor, former President Nixon took Gleason personally to see dead aliens at Wright-Patterson! - ("Would You Believe?")

It is a known fact that Gleason was, at the very least, a serious UFO fan; for, on at least one occasion, he joined Long John Nebel's WOR (New York City) radio panel by telephone, while Gray Barker and others were in the studio. This occurred quite a few years ago....

Finally, Jim Speiser of ParaNet has come up with what he calls the business opportunity of the 1980's: Missing Time-Share (based on the 3½-D Theory.) In this way you can have another couple share your apartment at the same time you are in it, and never even know they are there. Way to go, Jim!

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

PHIL KLASS, defender of Traditional American Values, writes:

"Before you condemn my attitude on the alleged MJ-12 documents, why don't you ask for it instead of leaping to spurious conclusions? If I had been the first to receive the documents, I would have made a photo-copy and submitted the 'originals' to the FBI, asking them to evaluate their authenticity (as I did on June 4th).

"If they subsequently informed me they were authentic, and asked me to turn over all copies in my possession and to 'keep the secret', I would have challenged them to try to convince me that it was essential for the security of this nation. If they provided convincing evidence that public disclosure would embolden the USSR to make a preemptive strike and launch World War III, then I would comply with their request. If the FBI argued that release would cause the "public to panic", then almost certainly I would opt to 'go public'. But I would do so knowing that I would have to face the legal consequences while hoping for clemency.

"If, however, the FBI informed me the MJ-12 documents were counterfeit/hoax documents, as I am confident they are, then I would expect the FBI would try to find the responsible parties and bring them to justice. Counterfeit government documents can cause great international mischief, which is why the Soviet KGB engages in such activities.

"What you characterize as my 'vicious attitude on the subject of national security' simply reflects my respect for the laws of this nation.

If every citizen assumed the right to violate any law with which he disagreed, we would live in a jungle...."

Rather than condemn Klass's attitude on national security, we should have referred, instead, to his apparently vicious attitude toward Stanton Friedman personally, as evidenced by our quote from Klass's June 11th letter to Friedman. (See middle of Page 5 of last issue.) Klass now tells us by phone that he intended this remark as a joke. - Editor.

Long-time correspondent JENNINGS FREDERICK writes:

"In regard to your last newsletter, I've just got to say - if ever your zine had touched upon any truths surrounding the UFO controversy, this was it! I am of course referring to the credibility of the 'Majestic 12' document about a coverup going back to the mid 1940's. I've been in a position to know, and I know for a fact....that this 'Majestic 12' document and its contents are authentic - because I've seen a copy of it (untouched) when I worked for the government....This document is what has got Phil Klass so damned upset. It is the one piece of authentic verification he cannot debunk!...."

DENNIS STILLINGS of the Archaeus Project writes:

"....One big problem with the 'MJ-12' affair becomes apparent when you treat it as a reductio ad absurdum, i.e., provisionally assume it to be true. Then almost nothing makes any sense with regard to government and military behavior since 1947. After all, a crashed saucer indicates vulnerability, and one would expect some defensive moves to be made. Is there any evidence that this happened?

"How about the hoax being concocted by Moore, et al? These people have been committed to the hardware theory so fanatically and for so long that they may have tired of the lack of support for what they see as obvious truth, so to save us from impending doom they have concocted a well-meaning hoax to put us on our guard....This sort of thing has happened before. And speaking of dumb stuff Moore does, one shouldn't forget that Moore co-authored that horrible piece of trash, 'The Philadelphia Experiment', which, in my opinion, comes about as close to a hoax as anything ever does.

"Anyway, one thing about the dead ETs: They can't be too strange; predators eat them, and they rot. This kind of goes against the old 'animals won't go near the place' stories about UFOs & ETs...."

BARRY GREENWOOD of CAUS and MUFON, writes:

"....I sincerely hope that MJ-12 is proven as authentic; it's a great story! But until questions about the origin and appearance of the documents are answered, I cannot endorse them. It's a shaky story."

Skeptic MIKE DENNETT writes:

"Another great issue of 'Saucer Smear':

"In regard to the JC-12 (sic) letter, I believe most skeptics want all the facts about UFOs to be available to everyone. It is possible that the government might have a legitimate reason to withhold some information. I feel, however, that the government should have to support with strong data the withholding of such info. With regard to the specific letter discussed in your last issue, I see no legitimate reason for withholding this info., and I agree with you and R. Sheaffer that the public does have the right to know. I also agree with you that the whole thing sounds like a big hoax. I await your next 'Smear' for your investigation."

## Moseley Chairman Steps Down In Reorganization

STANTON (needs no introduction) FRIEDMAN writes:

"....I shall be working on an article about Menzel for Jerry Clark of CUFOS & will keep you informed. Got a good response in D.C. to my short paper on the Double Life of Donald Menzel. Loads of media people in D.C. Phil Klass stood up at one session of the Convention to correct Bill Moore's story about what Reagan told Steve Spielberg after the showing of the movie 'ET' at the White House - to say that Carter was president then. Bill politely pointed out that the film was released in 1983 and that Reagan was then president. Never saw someone sit down so fast in my life!

"A little research tidbit: Montague and Twining were both in the West Point Class of 1919!..."

Egads! - Editor.

An American skeptic who apparently prefers to remain anonymous (as he signs his card "MJ-12",) writes:

"On the matter of Klass & pals allegedly suppressing Stewart Campbell's skeptical analysis of the Socorro, N.M. case - Campbell, who is not quite as skeptical as some, submitted to CSICOP a proposed analysis that was downright silly, and easily refuted - something about stars seen in broad daylight. This would have made 'The Skeptical Inquirer' look even sillier than England's 'UFO Review'."

But are stars in broad daylight any more far-fetched than Klass's theory about Socorro, which is that the incident was a hoax by officer Lonnie Zamora for the purpose of converting lonely, isolated Socorro into a tourist center? - Editor.

JOHN KEEL, newly self-appointed director of the New York Institute of Fortean Parapsychology (whatever that is!), writes:

"....My guess is that your Burbank convention will draw 32 demented ding-alings, four FBI agents lugging tape recorders, and a couple of misplaced hookers looking for convention trade. Your speech will be attended by the janitor and a couple of elderly people looking for a place to rest their feet!

"Much later, July 6th, 1987: I see that my above prediction came to pass and your Burbank Con was a dismal failure attended by only a few lackluster has-beens and never-weres. But the New York City UFO convention was a rousing success, pulling over 3,000 eager believers, give or take a few. And the MUFON Con in Washington was turning away hordes at the door! It looks like you and your minions were once again left out in the cold, seeking publicity and hungering for an audience that never materialized...."

"I now predict that the 1987 hoopla will mark the demise of ufology in the U.S....Next year's conventions won't even draw the little-old-ladies-in-tennis-shoes crowd. It's all over, Moseley. You might as well look around for a new form of mischief. Maybe you can sell arms to the Arabs or cue cards to the White House...."

Non-subscriber JIM DEHLING writes:

"Got your newsletter. A very nice bit you put in for George Montgomery. Not a bad poem at all. He is sorely missed.

"Those documents are not real! Does anyone really believe that if they were, that no arrests would have been made by now? It's supposed to be classified info., right? I guess somebody's got to keep the interest in UFOs alive...."

Non-subscriber LYNN VOLPE writes:

"Regarding the Alaskan UFO encounter: After the FAA explained its double radar signal as a 'split image', Hal Bernton tracked down controller Sam Rich, who told him that three controllers had seen a radar image of an object near the Japanese airliner that night, and 'all three of us thought there was a track', or aircraft....The track may not have been very strong, but none of the controllers at the time thought it might be a split image of the 747. You can at least admit it's an open case! The official position is not the personal position."

BRIAN PARKS, who works closely with Bill Moore, writes:

"I am very pleased with your write-up on the National UFO Conference (in Burbank) and of course the mysterious Majestic 12. By the way, I have seen some of that as yet unreleased material - Phil Klass beware! This man, who is becoming a menace to his fellow skeptics, has challenged the media to an all-out investigation of the document, on 'ABC Nightline'. That is just what we want. Good work from our alleged enemy!..."

"I noticed that you mentioned talking to Dr. Thornton Page of the Robertson panel. Did Dr. Page mention the fact that Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner of the MJ-12 group was also on that panel? I have a CIA document which quotes Berkner as saying, 'The saucer problem should be thoroughly investigated from a scientific point of view.' The document is dated Dec. 3, 1952."

Non-subscriber GARY CASEY writes as follows:

"...About MJ-12: Something interesting! Maybe the field is not dead yet. I think it's a hoax, though. It's just too good to be true. And if it is real, where is the rest of it? Surely they would have released it all....My big surprise was Phil Klass's reaction....He wouldn't accept UFOs if one landed in his front yard and asked directions to the White House!..."

Inactive researcher BARRY HOFFMAN writes:

"...Wow! So it turns out that Donald Menzel knew about the crashed saucer and the UFO aliens who jumped (or were they pushed?) out of their craft near the legendary town of Roswell, N.M. One would think that extraterrestrials capable of building interplanetary craft might have gotten around to inventing parachutes, or perhaps pogo sticks to break their fall. I thought ET's were supposed to be masters of anti-gravity!..."

## British jet diverted over U.S.S.R. to avoid what crew calls a UFO

LONDON (AP) — A British Airways jetliner made a diversion over the Soviet Union to avoid what the crew reported as an unidentified flying object, airline spokesman Alan Solloway said yesterday.

The incident occurred in April, but came to light yesterday in the London Times.

Solloway confirmed that the crew of the Boeing 747 jumbo jet reported seeing a UFO over the Soviet Union on April 22 while flying from London to Bangkok, Thailand.

He said it was the first such case in the airline's history. "We have had crews report seeing space debris burning, but we can't recall a UFO being sighted and being logged as a UFO," Solloway said.

"Usually, there is a scientific explanation for whatever

was seen, but there doesn't seem to be a scientific explanation for this."

The Times said all five crew members reported seeing an object with twinkling lights fly directly toward them and then vanish quickly over the Kazhakstan horizon.

"It was definitely not an aircraft," the paper quoted First Officer Anthony Colin, 42, as saying. "None of us had ever seen anything like it before. We are all bitter, cynical aviators who like a scientific explanation for everything. But this has got us foxed."

Solloway said the crew checked with Soviet air traffic control, which reported no other aircraft were in the vicinity.