

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR

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RE-HASH OF

THE 1988 NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE'S 25TH ANNUAL CONVENTION:

As noted in a previous issue of "Smear", there was a serious schism between two groups of Cleveland, Ohio ufologists, following the 1984 convention of the National UFO Conference (NUFOC), which was held in that city. This schism was eventually healed, and thus it came about that in 1988 Cleveland (once again!) saved the NUFOC from extinction by agreeing to sponsor our "Silver Anniversary" convention.

The above is a highly condensed version of a long and complex story.

This year we attracted an unusually large & diverse group of speakers, including: John Timmerman of CUFOS; Richard Dell'Aquila; Antonio ("The Man of a Thousand Slides") Huneeus; Dr. Willy Smith (about whom more further on); and the following members of the NUFOC Governing Board: Ed Bielbel; Timothy Green Beckley; Tom Benson; Ron Schaffner; Charles Wilhelm; & yours truly Jim Moseley, who presided as M.C. in both the afternoon and evening sessions.

Three members of our Governing Board (called the Permanent Organizing Committee) were unable to attend this year. They were Bill Moore of MJ-12 fame; Hal Starr; and Ken Behrendt of AURA. Behrendt, whom we thank for long & noble service to our Cause, was replaced on the Board by Jim Speiser of ParaNet, who has agreed to hold next year's convention in Phoenix, Arizona, some time in September. Next year's speakers are expected to include Tracy Torme; Brad Steiger; Bill Moore; Marge Christensen of MUFON; Vicki Cooper of "UFO Magazine"; and of course the inevitable Jim Moseley. (More info on all this in future issues.)

Getting back to this year's Conclave - the most significant lecture, in our opinion at least, was that given by Dr. Willy Smith, who is locked in scientific combat with the MUFON hierarchy regarding the authenticity of the famed Gulf Breeze, Florida, UFO photographs. These were taken during a recent period of several months by a Gulf Breeze businessman known to the world only as "Mr. Ed".

Everyone in our vast convention audience heard Dr. Smith reveal Ed's real last name publicly for the first time; but certain High MUFON Officials nevertheless feel strongly that publishing the name in "Smear" would be harmful to Ed. After a personal plea by telephone from Mr. Ed himself (whom we had never spoken to before), we of "Smear" have decided to suppress Ed's true identity for now. (Children, children!:) Ed seems like a very pleasant, inoffensive person, and we look forward to meeting him in the near future.

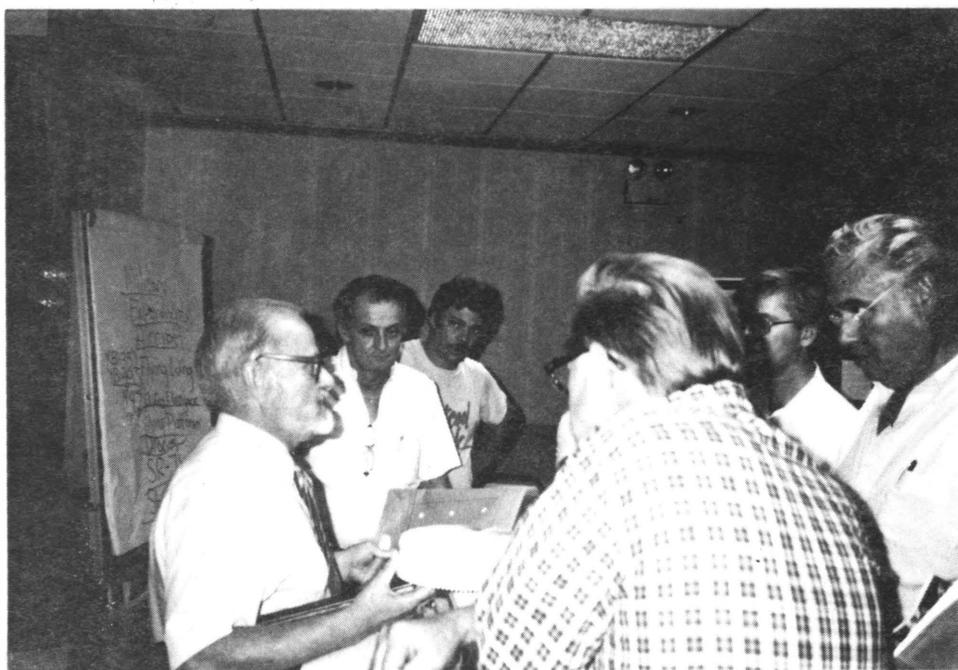
The truth about Mr. Ed's several strange UFO sightings, contacts, etc., obviously rests on the authenticity of the approximately 40 photographs he has taken, and many of these are subject to serious doubt according to the scientific analysis of Dr. Smith. Dr. Bruce Maccabee, on the other hand, together with most of the MUFON hierarchy, now endorse these photos wholeheartedly, while the CUFOS hierarchy leans the other way, together with many rank & file MUFONites and other researchers in general.

Smith's strongest point seems to be that Maccabee refuses to send him originals of Ed's photographs, so that he can have the necessary ma-

terial to work with, in his analysis. Other significant points include: The fact that two women from the Gulf Breeze newspaper followed Mr. Ed one night, and when he took a flash shot of a supposed UFO, they were very nearby, but saw nothing. In at least one of the other photos, one can see a tree and a UFO overlapping, indicating a double exposure. In other pictures, a nearby UFO is in focus but distant trees are blurry, even though a fixed-focus camera was used, i.e., everything over 5 feet from the camera should be in focus. Still other pictures of supposed UFOs seem to be of common flourescent tubing rather than interplanetary spaceships!

Smith admits that further study is needed, and that he hasn't proven the photos to be frauds, any more than MUFON has proven them to be genuine. Thus this case, like so many others, remains literally and figuratively Up in the Air.

Second to listening to Dr. Smith, our most enjoyable experience in Cleveland was appearing with Ed Biebel on the Gary Dee talk show, on radio



LEFT PHOTO: Dr. Willy Smith is surrounded by fans following his anti-Gulf Breeze slide lecture.

BELOW, LEFT: Cleveland researcher Bob Easley in a philosophical pose.

BELOW, RIGHT: Klark Kent (not Superman!) who came on with various weird machines for sale. His address is no secret.



station WWWE. About Dee it can be said, without fear of contradiction, that he is a wild & crazy guy. Nevertheless, his show is said to have the highest rating in town, mainly because of his unique attitude toward telephone callers, guests, staff, and everybody else. Way to go, Gary Dee!

Our thanks to all who attended the 1988 NUFOC convention, and especially to the members of UAPA (United Aerial Phenomena Agency), which was the local sponsoring group. UAPA publishes a quarterly newsletter called "Flying Saucers", the current issue of which was largely devoted to the convention. Members of UAPA include Rick Hilberg, Al Manak, and Bob Easley.

Our special thanks to Easley for his painstaking accomplishment of having listed in "Flying Saucers" all 24 previous conventions with their locations, dates, etc., as well as previous winners of our "Ufologist of the Year" award, and our "Honor Roll" of departed ufological comrades.

Easley also presented to your humble "Smear" editor, in a private convention session, a touching Special Award which we will reproduce in a future issue of this zine if Space permits.

This year's recipient of our "Ufologist of the Year" award was Tim Beckley, for his many achievements including that of being editor currently of a newsstand magazine called "UFO Universe". Also, the following names were added to our Honor Roll: Pete Mazolla, formerly head of the Scientific Bureau of Investigation (SBI); Dr. J. Allen Hynek; and our lifetime friend Gray Barker.

TIDBITS OF TRASH:

This recent Hallowe'en weekend saw a fiftieth anniversary celebration in New Jersey of the 1938 Orsen Welles "War of the Worlds" broadcast; a Fortean convention at Tyson's Corner, Virginia, attended by John Keel, among others; a UFO convention in New York City sponsored by publicist Mike Luckman; and a MUFON mini-convention in Columbus, Ohio. Your "Smear" editor missed all of these, preferring to witness the annual Fantasy Fest celebration here in Key West....

Oxford University scientists state that the famed Shroud of Turin is (as we thought all along) a 14th Century fake....Another UFO convention is being planned for Eureka Springs, Arkansas, to be held April 14th-16th of next year....Christa Tilton has obtained an annulment from her brief marriage to ufological contactee Col. Wendelle Stevens. Way to go, Christa!..

Sorry we missed the 2-hour TV special on UFOs, seen last Oct. 14th by most of the ufological faithful. We understand that "Condor" and "Falcon", two of Bill Moore's alleged high-level MJ-12 informants, gave forth with some of the information which your editor was treated to privately by Moore and Shandera, many months ago. Incidentally, we are reliably informed that "Falcon" is none other than Richard Doty!....And, a serious paper exposing MJ-12 as a hoax, written by a CSICOP member (not Klass, Sheaffer, or Oberg) will soon appear. It will conclude by inference that one of the culprits is none other than Moore himself!....

Skeptic John Merrell is still locked in legal combat with a Florida psychic who beat him in the first round by getting a \$25,000 judgment against him. We hope to give you a detailed update on this in our next issue....Our thanks to George Fawcett for mentioning "Smear" again in his enlarged listing of 162 sources of worldwide UFO information. For a copy of this, send five bucks (no cash) to him at: 602 Battleground Road, Lincoln, N.C. 28092....Or, for merely sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope, you can get Pat Marcattilio's list of out-of-print books on UFOs and related subjects. Address: 138 Redfern St., Trenton, N.J. 08610.....

Nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman now accepts, often for expenses only, invitations to speak to New Age and even religious groups. Thus, last August 21st, he ended up at the Global Sciences Congress in rural Colorado. Other speakers at the same conference told their audience how to "call in"

UFOs; how to contact the spirits of the dead; how to heal with sound; how to "turn your tooth fillings to gold with the right music", etc. Says Stanton, defending the Congress, "They weren't all crackpots"....

Erik Beckjord visited Loch Ness again this summer, apparently with no positive results this time.....We now have it from several reliable sources including famed science fiction writer Lester Del Rey, that our beloved Phil Klass is not (repeat: NOT) the science fiction writer of the same name. Our thanks to non-subscribers Curtis Peebles, Mike Lindner, and others, for detailed info they sent us on this subject.

UPDATE:

ILL WIND FROM GULF BREEZE!

Although your humble "Smear" editor has cleverly avoided demotion from his MUFON post by agreeing to withhold Mr. Ed's real last name, Willy Smith has not been so fortunate. Like Bob Boyd, formerly Alabama State Director for MUFON, Willy is now merely a ordinary subscriber to the MUFON Journal (for which he will presumably pay \$25 per year, as we all do.)

Ray Fowler and Marge Christensen, former Big Wheels in MUFON, have resigned over this mess, although Marge was persuaded to change her resignation to a "leave of absence". Likewise, Barry Greenwood of CAUS has recently resigned, as has Jim Speiser of ParaNet in Arizona and Jim Melesciuc, formerly Massachusetts State Director. No doubt there have been many other defections from the ranks that have failed to come to our attention!

In the August issue of the MUFON Journal, International Czar Walt Andrus seems to endorse the Gulf Breeze case by saying "The overwhelming evidence is in. Gulf Breeze is indeed one of the most incredible cases in modern UFO history". However, in the September issue he seems to back-track, possibly under pressure, and states: "MUFON has opted not to take a premature position on this important case."

A wild article in Issue #24 (October, 1988) of the CUFOS publication called "C.I.Q.", has a screaming headline: "Hoax UFO Cover-Up Exposed". Further along in the article, Dr. Robert Nathan of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory is quoted as saying, "I would have liked to have said differently, but I'm afraid the Gulf Breeze photographs just don't check out." In an insert by Bob Boyd are listed "persons and organizations that have actively participated in the promotion and/or sensationalism of the Gulf Breeze UFO Hoax". They are Walt Andrus; Duane Cook of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel; Budd Hopkins; Dr. Bruce Maccabee; Donald Ware (Florida State Director of MUFON), and several others.

But most amazing of all is a form letter to "MUFON State and Provincial Directors" from Dan Wright, MUFON's high-handed Deputy Director for Investigations. This letter is a 2-page personal attack on Dr. Willy Smith, accusing Smith of having made personal attacks on various investigators and witnesses involved with Gulf Breeze, including of course Mr. Ed!

In a form letter dated Nov. 1st, Smith replies in part: "The time has come to set Gulf Breeze aside as a bad experience, which nevertheless has taught us a lesson: that UFO investigations are done perfunctorily by untrained persons more interested in fame and fortune than in finding the truth. The lack of ethics prevailing all along during the sightings is most deplorable, involving such things as confessed suppression of negative evidence and public fraternization of the investigators with those they were supposed to investigate - no doubt a first in ufological lore."

Incidentally, Mr. Ed is said to be writing a book, with an introduction by abduction researcher Budd Hopkins and technical material supplied by none other than Dr. Bruce Maccabee!

Maybe, however, your "Smear" editor will change his bias on all this after his forthcoming meeting with Ed. As George Adamski used to say, TIME WILL TELL!

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

JERRY CLARK of FATE Magazine and CUFOS writes as follows, in regard to our editorial in the last issue:

"Your analysis, as usual, is less than astute; and my views, once again, are misrepresented in 'Saucer Smear'. These things don't surprise me. What does surprise me is the coverage you give, on 'Smear's' coveted front page yet, of my little piece in the recent 'MUFON Journal' regarding what most ufologists think about the UFO phenomenon.

"Actually, I did get a fair amount of mail on it, all but one letter (from a contactee follower) agreeing with my complaint that Jenny Randles had misrepresented the views of most ufologists who, whatever their faults, are not suffering from delusions about salvation from outer space. Even you don't seriously dispute that point, confining yourself to a citation of a single weird remark from a prominent MUFONite but failing to mention that it was I who first made public note (in an IUR editorial) of it. I did so because the guy's view (that UFOs are 'God's missionaries') is unusual. The fact that you have to draw on the same quote - and are unable to find other examples on your own - validates my point: this is a rare opinion for a mainstream ufologist.

"What seems to have set you off is the reference to ufologists as 'secular scientists'. Actually, as you fail to note, those were not my words but those of religious historian J. Gordon Melton, director of the Institute for the Study of American Religion (University of California, Santa Barbara), author of over 20 books on religions and cults, and (among other things) probably the world's leading authority on the contactee movement. Dr. Melton presumably recognizes a religion when he sees one, and he doesn't see one operating in mainstream ufology. What he sees is what sociologist of science Marcello Truzzi calls a science-in-the-making, a 'protoscience'.

"The UFO literature of recent years (as represented in IUR, 'Journal of UFO Studies', 'Spectrum of UFO Research' and other books and magazines, including sociology, folklore and scientific journals) confirms that good work of intellectual merit is being done by individuals (from trained professionals to skilled field investigators) who have a decent respect for the rules of evidence. None of this, of course, will be apparent to someone who confines himself to the flying-saucer-fandom concerns of 'Saucer Smear'.....

"Come on, Jim. Ufology's growing up. It's time you did, too."

Awwww, come on Jerry. Don't tell us we have to grow up! - Editor.

UFO aliens are spreading AIDS

THE AIDS virus is being spread by spaceships that are bombarding our planet from outer space with a deadly ray.

They're using the disease to take over the planet!

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Send name, address & dues to The National Cryptozoological Society. Box 6534, Zuma Beach, CA.90264

GREG LONG sends along these fascinating thoughts:

"....I know the major goal of your rag is to become the National Enquirer of Ufology. So, in support of that goal, I will pass along this tidbit that you may already know:

"Jenny Randles is a transvestite. She wrote under the pen names Christopher Randels and Chris Randels before the operation. The latest FSR (Flying Saucer Review) is exposing this fact. Of course, what this has to do with the 'science' of ufology, I have no idea. In fact, who cares? But knowing your lust for grit, I am passing it along....

"(On another topic,) what's a 'secular scientist'? I thought scientists were completely and totally secular, being the 'rationalists' they claim to be. My dictionary has several meanings of 'secular': 'of or relating to the worldly or temporal', and 'of, relating to, or forming clergy not belonging to a religious order or congregation' - for example 'a secular priest'. I guess ufologists must be the latter, meaning they're secretly (?) religious people in the guise of worldly scientists. Yep, that's it!....

"Why should anyone interpret UFOs as extraterrestrial aliens? To arrive at such a conclusion is to assume that science has found an alien, proven its extraterrestrial origin and nature, and received consensual belief and support from other scientists who accept the ET hypothesis as fact as expoused by the leadership of the scientific power structure. Then this fact must be transmitted to and accepted by the world at large - something which, to my understanding, has not occurred (but of course, who am I to have an opinion?)...."

We promised JOHN BARLOW that we would print any short statement from him, no matter how ego-shattering it might be. He therefore writes:

"....Did you ever consider that when you invented hoaxes or fronted for frauds that you'd be sacrificing your value as a writer, investigator, and researcher? The only thing a reporter on UFOs has is his credibility. Once that's destroyed, what's left? In your case, a sense of humor."

And, PHIL KLASS writes:

"After hearing Dr. Bruce Maccabee's report on his analysis at the recent MUFON conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, and reading his lengthy (91-page) paper in the MUFON Proceedings, I am convinced that 'Mr. Ed's' UFO photos are 90% authentic and 10% hoax. The trees, bushes, and telephone/light pole images appear authentic. But the UFO itself looks like a 1988 model Adamski, possibly built in a Hong Kong chandelier factory.

"You may quote me."

BOB WILLSEY writes, in regard to the MJ-12 controversy:

"My advice to Phil Klass is that he should take his \$10,000 and hire himself a linguistics expert. Roger W. Wescott is demolishing Phil's little anti-UFO house of cards."

BRIAN CHAPMAN writes:

"Thank you for my non-subscription to 'Saucer Smear'. I most enjoy the libelous level of invective in the letters you print, while noting that the stridency of the arguments seem to be related to their empirical under-



Klass

pinnings: the more irrational the faith, the louder the preacher. However, the crackpots do serve to point out, if only by exaggeration, the non-scientific basis of ufology....

"I have an idea for a movie. It would be about a confirmed skeptic, a scourge of whimsy, who on his deathbed is offered an elixir vitae by a sexy extraterrestrial. It would be called The Last Temptation of Klass."

S & S TOTH (is this one person or two??) write(s):

"After much delay, 'Disneyland of the Gods' by John Keel is finally available. Keel writes with unrelenting derisive humor. He exposes Randi, Menzel, Klass, et al. as sufferers of the Hochstetter syndrome. Alternate realities, sleepers, Snallygasters, and other Fortean anomalies, and even James Moseley dopplegangers, make their appearance, disappear, and reappear again. While Christians may be surprised to hear that their religion was founded on the belief that Mary was impregnated by the angel Gabriel, UFO enthusiasts will find their favorite phenomena woven together in unexpected ways. Though he leaves many questions unanswered and manages to tweak nearly everyone's nose, it is a thought provoking and good read, and we recommend it...."

We do expect to actually read this worthy tome someday soon, if ever. Send \$8.95 directly to the author at: Box 20024, New York, N.Y. 20024. Help make the lights brighter in Keel's humble abode. - Editor.

BARBARA BECKER, a St. Louis ufologist, writes:

"....This might be old news to you, but I was at a UFO meeting in St. Louis recently (Oct. 9th) at which George and Shirley Coyne spoke. During the question & answer period, Streiber's name came up, and they did not have anything good to say about him. (I have this on tape, and they said it to an entire group, so I don't feel that I am saying anything I shouldn't to you.)

"Anyway, Shirley said she was friends with Streiber and had many hours of conversation with him over the phone; and in her opinion maybe 10% of what he wrote in 'Communion' was true and the remaining 90% was total fabrication. Also, she said that he told her that he was going to take the UFO thing as far as he could until there was no money left (in it), and then go on to something else....And Shirley said that Streiber said that he was going to take all the letters he received from people pouring their hearts out to him and put IT into a book and exploit that!!...."

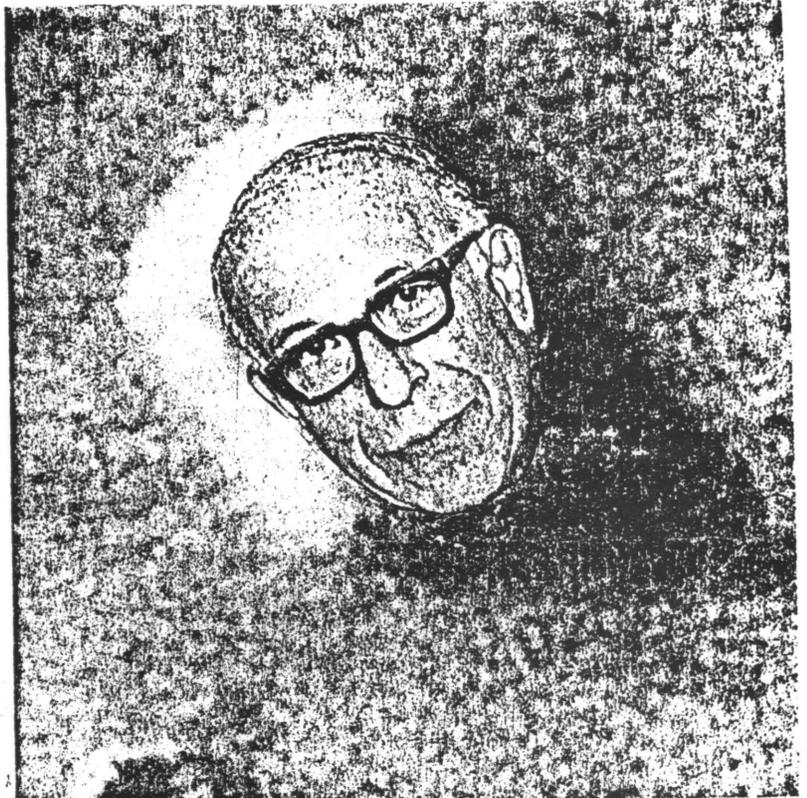
With friends like the Coynes (whom we never heard of before), Streiber does not need enemies. However, we don't believe him either! - Editor.

VICTORIA LACAS, another less-than-Hard-Core fan of Whitley Streiber, writes as follows:

"....I'm halfway through 'Transformation' (his second book). Whitley's spending a lot of time with filler information in this one, as well as background stuff. He spends pages on his inability to go into the woods and meet with the 'visitors'. Throughout all his abductions and now his young son's abductions, his dopey wife is in a deep sleep. Wouldn't she be spending a few sleepless nights worrying about them?....

"I like 'Saucer Smear' so much (because) you don't make your living from it. That's why I like Peter Gersten so much - he thinks it's all 'bullshit' now, and he's saying so. He'd say it publicly but no one wants him to say it. (He refuses to admit to Patrick and me that he's a government anti-UFO agent, even though we try to get him to admit it every time we're with him)...."

THE FACE ON MARS - FINAL RESULTS



ORIGINAL VIKING ORBITER IMAGE

LATEST COMPUTER ENHANCED IMAGE, 1988

In a multi-million dollar effort to resolve the "Face on Mars" question, we can now announce the results of an ultra-sophisticated computer enhancement of one of the Viking photographs. The image shows a face identical to that of well-known arch-UFO skeptic Philip J. Klass!

This stunning revelation has shocked the UFO community, both pro and con, since his true nature was never suspected. He was clearly an object of reverence to be commemorated so grandly.

Reaction has been swift:

MUFFIN spokesman - "I'm dumbfounded! For years we've argued with him, not realizing that he was the proof we all sought. We are taking immediate steps to grant him status on our Board of Consultants and have already appointed him Field Investigator Trainee."

CUZ spokesman - "What a waste of our time! We've spent thousands on documents and court cases. The least he could have done was say something! We are considering filing suit against him."

CUFARCE spokesman - "We've taken no position on the face, awaiting several dozen scientific studies to resolve the problem. We did point out at one time that the face had 'classical' features but no one paid attention."

CSICO spokesman - "We are angry and upset! Mr. Klass has never advised us of his Martian roots. This violates the principles under which this organization operates. We have asked for his resignation."

Saying that he was leaving the area for a very long time, Mr. Klass said in a phone interview, "Those idiots! I told them to commemorate me in profile, not face-on!"

HAVE A NICE DAY! B.G.