

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES
OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER AND UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH

EDITOR AND STILL
SUPREME COMMANDER:

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NON-SCHEDULED
NEWSLETTER

Volume 38, No. 9
November 5th, 1991

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TIDBITS OF TRASH:

Our thanks to Dennis Stacy of MUFON for unsolicited help in improving the masthead above (assuming that we have indeed made an improvement.) Also, be sure to read Stacy's letter to the Editor further along in this issue....

There's a nifty interview with ye olde "Smear" Editor in the current issue of "Shavertron", a zine put forth by one Richard Toronto of 325 Coghlan St., Vallejo, Ca. 94590. Toronto is one of the last remaining fans of Richard Shaver, that legendary fellow of yesteryear who claimed to have been inside the Dero caves. Some said he was just crazy. In any case, he is dead now, but "Shavertron" lives on. Five bucks will get you this issue or reserve a future issue for you. Also send Toronto a stamped self-addressed envelope, and hope for the best....

We keep getting strange communiques from the AI-TRAD organization of Security, Colorado. (If they want ufologists to trust them, why did they choose a town with a name like that?) AI-TRAD stands for Alien Information Technology Research and Development, and is headed by someone named Kim Mikules, who calls himself "Mister" but claims to have a Ph.D. Their literature states that AI-TRAD is a private association and consists of "over fifteen members. Several members are multi-millionaires and three are billionaires". They have offered a half million dollar reward for proof of alien invasion, or whatever....

Famed abductee Betty Hill is retiring from ufology, exactly 30 years after the world-famous abduction experience she shared with her late husband Barney. Betty, who has often been called a "flake" herself, is retiring partly because "too many flakes are making UFO reports". Betty has continued to see and photograph alleged UFOs through the years, and she is thought by many to be unable to distinguish common objects from spacecraft. However, she is a pleasant, decent woman, and we will miss her in the ufological scene....

Veteran ufologist Leonard Stringfield has recently published the 6th in his series of "Status Reports" about the UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome. This one is called "The Inner Sanctum", and contains about 140 pages of text. Wish we had time to read it! The tome costs \$18.50, and can be obtained from Len at his Earth Headquarters: 4412 Grove Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45227.

The Gulf Breeze (Florida) Sentinel, to which your "Smear" editor subscribes, has recently been sold to the Gannett Company, which is said to be

the world's largest media corporation. Ed Walters speculates that the reason Gannett offered editor Duane Cook a price he couldn't refuse, was that "someone" may want to stop the Sentinel's ace coverage of UFO sightings in the Gulf Breeze area. Well, we will wait and see if UFO stories continue to appear under the new ownership....

On the evening of Oct. 18th, the Fox Network ran a well-balanced hour show on UFOs and crop circles, called "The UFO Report". Several of the "old gang" were seen, including Ed Walters, Budd Hopkins, Bruce Maccabee, Linda Howe, and physicist Stanton Friedman, looking as handsome as never. Also present was controversial Roswell witness Gerald Anderson. Mercifully, arch-skeptic Phil Klass was not seen....

THE LAWSUITS AGAINST JAMES RANDI (Part Two)

It seems that the only thing that James Randi and Uri Geller agree on, at this point in time, is that our last issue of "Smear" contained information on their feud that has not appeared anywhere else. This is the greatest compliment that a journalist can receive.

Randi recently phoned us to threaten suit, which did not surprise us. In his own public statements Randi claims to be almost broke, and he may believe that suing your "Smear" editor, who is not almost broke (yet), is the best way out of his financial troubles!

Randi accused us of printing information from his "sworn enemies" and of "careless disregard for the truth". Since neither Randi nor his friends we have talked to are willing to detail his side of the story, we have been forced to talk to other people and to speculate cautiously about the gaps in our knowledge. This is not "careless disregard for the truth". It is a diligent search for truth, which continues herein.

In our last issue, one of our key paragraphs reads: "Here the story gets confusing. Randi claims.... But apparently.... Whatever the truth of this matter may be...." The difficulty is that Randi apparently does not want any discussion of the background of the current lawsuits, and this is the aspect that we insist on writing about, because one cannot understand the over-all situation without knowing this background.

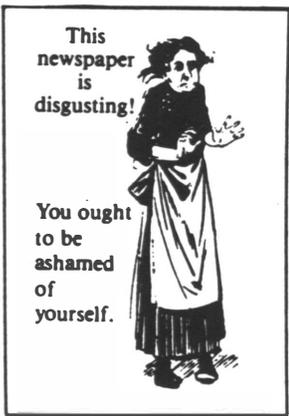
As we stated last time, an approx. 20-minute audio tape recording was made several years ago in which Randi is heard talking to a succession of young males about explicit sexual matters. Whereas we stated "apparently it was the Rumson police who made the tape", Randi states (by phone) that he made it, taping his own phone with the knowledge and consent of the police, because young males were trying to blackmail him. Randi also states that one or more young males was/were eventually tried and convicted for this. Let us take Randi's word on this; but then we must still ask - What made these youths think they could blackmail him? What, if anything, was in Randi's conduct that would give them such an idea? We do not know the answer to this question.

Next, in some manner that we do not understand (though we have heard various versions), this tape fell into the hands of one or more of Randi's much more powerful enemies in the parapsychological field. The tape, together with a covering letter and possibly other items, constituted the "blackmail packet" which was sent anonymously to dozens of people around the country, some of whom sent it back unopened, as Randi asked them to do, and some of whom did not.

Next, Randi (as he stated to us on the phone), supposedly acting on the best information he had at the time, decided that Uri Geller and parapsychologist Dr. Eldon Byrd were



(FORTEAN TIMES)



behind the "blackmail packet". He then made statements about them which they consider libelous and slanderous, and they sued Randi, CSICOP, and others.

Just before press time, some one mailed us anonymously from San Diego an audio cassette which purports to be the infamous above-mentioned "blackmail tape", together with other material. Included with it is a neatly-typed transcript of the tape, which we had never seen or heard before. We won't make further comment just now.

One of Geller's several lawsuits, which we did not mention in our last issue, relates to an interview Randi gave to a Japanese magazine in 1989. The suit quotes Randi as having said: "Wilbur Franklin, a scientist, killed himself because I exposed Geller's trick.

The journalist had believed Geller's 'psychic power' for his honor, but he finally found out that he was tricked by Geller and he shot himself in the head. Geller doesn't care about such stuff. I think he has an abnormal personality and a social sickness...." We understand that this lawsuit was thrown out of court on a technicality in the U.S.A. but has been re-filed in Japan.

We do not have a copy of the current Geller suit, now being discussed in the press; but a trusted source tells us that it charges that Randi told an International Herald Tribune reporter that "Geller tricked even reputable scientists...because they do not understand conjuring tricks", and further that Randi said Geller's tricks "are the kind that used to be on the back of cereal boxes when I was a kid...." Geller's legal filing claims that he "never tricked, i.e., cheated, deceived nor defrauded any scientist, nor has he intended to do so. The Plaintiff (Geller) denies that the feats he performs, as accomplished by him, are tricks...."

We are told that Geller will be required to duplicate his feats under controlled conditions, and this should prove interesting. For several reasons, we believe it is highly unlikely that he can do so; but it may not matter whether he can or not.

In a recent letter to the San Francisco Chronicle, Geller states: "It strikes me odd that Randi and his supporters are emphasizing that they should be able to criticize me on the grounds that I am a public figure. One might have expected them to simply claim that what Randi has said about me is true. Instead, they seem to be acknowledging that what he has said is untrue but somehow all right because I am famous....Since Randi and CSICOP usually try to go after the most publicized psychics, this defense that their targets are public figures, if taken seriously, would amount to a license to lie. Perhaps such a defense has often been invoked by the tabloids that attack the famous, but surely we should expect a higher morality from those claiming to defend science and reason.

"Regarding the originality of my effects: When Randi claims my performances can be duplicated by methods found long ago on cereal boxes, he attacks not only my abilities but also my originality. That is defamation, aside from any paranormal issues. After all, spoon bending is my professional trademark...."

"(Randi) has made easily proved false statements such as claiming my actions produced the suicide of a friend (who actually died of natural causes) and that I engaged in blackmail (a criminal action). I would hope that even those who doubt my paranormal powers would find such defamation tactics reprehensible...."



BY DAYNA SMITH-THE WASHINGTON POST

Eldon Byrd.

(4)

We are told that, although Randi seems to accept his own personal responsibility for the statements he has made about Geller and Byrd, his lawyers do not. Writing in a recent CSICOP publication, Paul Kurtz, CSICOP Chairman, had this to say:

"...One particularly unfortunate aspect of this controversy has not been publicly aired thus far....That is that Randi's attorneys have maintained in their defense that Randi was 'acting as the agent of CSICOP' and that he was explicitly authorized by the CSICOP Executive Council to make the statements that he did about the personal lives of Geller and Byrd. These claims are false. Our insurer's counsel has repeatedly requested that Randi's attorneys withdraw them. Unfortunately they have not yet done so.

"The implications of the Geller and Byrd cases transcend the immediate issues of the suit. For, if the court sustains the claim that Randi was speaking on CSICOP's behalf, then it would be difficult for us to conduct business. Anyone, however vaguely connected with us or friendly to the skeptics' cause, could pose a risk to CSICOP...."

Finally, we must update our report on the lawsuit against Randi, etc., brought by Eldon Byrd and his wife. Randi's precise statements were quoted in our last issue, and it still appears to us that Byrd was probably right in finding these statements inaccurate. However, Byrd's cage doesn't appear to be too clean, either. In a "Memorandum and Order" dated Dec. 21st, 1990, U.S. District Judge Marvin Garbis had this to say, in part, in refusing Randi's request for "summary judgment", i.e., dismissal of Byrd's suit:

"....While the Plaintiff's (Byrd's) factual case has little, if any, apparent 'jury appeal', the Court cannot at this stage simply throw the Plaintiff out of court....The Court has expressed its doubts that any jury would award Eldon Byrd more than a few cents in damages. But the Court's belief as to whether Byrd would ever be awarded more than nominal damages is irrelevant to the matter at hand. It is enough that a jury could conceivably award him nominal damages to prevent summary judgment...."

One reason for the above opinion is explained in another quote from the same document by Judge Garbis: "In 1983, following an undercover investigation by Postal Inspectors and Fairfax County, Virginia police, Eldon Byrd was arrested and entered a plea of guilty to a charge of distributing pornography. Byrd received a 12 month jail sentence, all of which was suspended conditioned on probation. During the course of the investigation of Byrd, it was revealed that Byrd was especially interested in child pornography, vast amounts of which was seized from his home upon his arrest. In an affidavit submitted to the Court, Byrd admitted to engaging in some form of sexual activity with a girl under the age of sixteen....In a statement given to police, Byrd admitted that he became sexually involved in some manner with a twelve year old girl and began to live with this girl when she was fourteen...."

The above quotes are from a 25-page court document, most of which is far more favorable to Byrd's side than are the excerpts we have printed here. The issues are very complex, and we will have more to say in our next issue.

In the meanwhile, we invite input from any knowledgeable party on either side of the dispute. We sincerely do want to be fair to all, within our limited abilities, and we want the whole truth to emerge.



CHILDHOOD ABDUCTION

Abducted by Trash Cans

(FROM "COMMUNION LETTER")

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

CHARLES FLANNIGAN, Florida State Director for MUFON, writes:

"RE: Termination of your MUFON Status as Monroe County (Florida) State Section Director.

"Dear Jim:

"As per my telephone call to you, I am recommending referenced status change. Please discuss with Walt Andrus reassignment to another status.

"Specific reasons given you for this change were: (1) Zero growth in membership since May 27, 1986 (You are the only member in Monroe County.) (2) Zero sighting reports.

"Your immediate response was: (1) This is a slap in the face. (2) Why criticism of me? (3) This is a political move. (4) You receive my magazine - You know I am controversial.

"As mentioned to you, I am recommending Mrs. Vickie J. Johnson of Naples, Florida to be our new SSD for Collier & Monroe Counties. I hope that Vickie, myself and MUFON can count on your support."

Your humble editor was thereupon demoted to Assistant Section Director for Monroe County, and now works under a Section Director from another county hundreds of miles away! A bitter reward for our years of faithless service to the Organization, but that's the way the cosmic cookie crumbles! - Editor.

MICHAEL STRAINIC of Canadian MUFON writes as follows:

"I am writing in the hope that you can be of some assistance. I am doing some research on the 'Kewpie Doll' alien photo...which has been making the rounds of late, and also appears on the back cover of your book. (See photo below - Ed.)

"After it was released by no more than two sources, this photo has managed to circle the globe in about six weeks time, and with an ever-changing tale as its traveling companion. As you might imagine, this could be a fascinating sociological study, and your help would be invaluable....

"I hadn't seen a copy of 'Smear'...in years, until Chris Rutkowski sent me one a short time ago. It's good to see that some things don't change too much, and that the journalistic standards are as high as ever...."

CHRISTIAN PAGE, also of Canada, writes:

"I am writing you these few lines in order to bring to your attention some irregularities presented in your book, 'UFO Crash Secrets at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base'. One of the two pictures offered as a 'bonus' with the purchase of your book (pictures also reproduced on the back cover of your book) and described as 'close up inside Hangar 18'...was taken by myself in Sept. 1981....Evidently, the creature shown in this picture is not an 'Alien' being kept in 'Hangar 18', but simply a wax and plastic dummy presented some years ago at the permanent exposition of 'Man and His World', Montreal, Canada....In July, 1991, because of the illicit utilization that some media did of this picture, I had it officially copyrighted at the Canadian Copyright Office....The second picture, despite the fact that its origin remains unknown, seems to show the same dummy that I photographed in 1981...."

We have called this dire situation to the attention of Tim Beckley, our publisher. - Ed.



CLOSE UP INSIDE "HANGAR 18"

LEE ELLIOTT writes as follows:

"Recently I chanced to tune in a program called "Inside Report". One of the reports was about the running law suits which Uri Geller and several others have brought against James "Amazing" Randi. For the first time since I became aware that Randi existed, I saw him pull off one of his sleight of hand magic stunts, and that was to cause metal in a spoon handle to melt and the spoon drop off. Randi then told the commentator that Geller would not win his case. After seeing Randi at work with his demonstration, my opinion of the man went up 1000%, and in my mind Randi has gained a respectability he never had in people's minds. By his demonstration, he has shown Geller to be a sloppy person who had very little talent to begin with. For the first time, I am seeing Geller to be nothing more than a cheap trickster that Randi has simply exposed as a quack! Strangely, Randi seems to have lost all his conceit and arrogance. I feel certain that if Randi shows the judges how the simple trick is nothing but a magician's method of amusing an audience, they will toss Geller and the rest of the clunkers out of court...."

Whereas MATT RAY writes:

"....It's curious to note that when a recent TV segment featured the feud between Uri Geller and The Amazing Randi, they never, ever mentioned any child molesting charges or countercharges. That's serious stuff, and surely something that an intrepid program would have uncovered. I wonder if there was some kind of requirement by some party (which party, is anybody's guess) not to mention that portion of the lawsuit on the program.

"If the existence of the charges is true, Randi really messed up. He probably had very few people disagreeing with him in his contention that Geller is a fake, but to go and accuse people of crimes like child molesting really changes the complexion of things. Now it is a real toss-up as to who is the real kook (or the kookiest).

"Keep up the great work. You know you're hot when you're handling international sniping matches (Jenny Randles) and getting angry letters from across the ocean. Not bad...."

It was Dr. Eldon Byrd, not Geller, that Randi accused of child molesting.-Ed.

DENNIS STACY, esteemed editor of the MUFON UFO Journal, writes:

"....I know you don't read books (which is why I'm recommending that Walt Andrus appoint you MUFON Librarian in lieu of your present already meaningless title), but I wonder if you've had a chance to go over the infamous Chapter Ten ('Cosmic Journey') of Timothy Good's 'Alien Liason'? Is there anyone out there besides Good (and maybe Bob Girard) who believes Bob Oechsler's outlandish claims of having been inside a NASA anti-gravity chamber, etc.? Do Good and Oechsler think we all just fell off the UFO wagon to Wright-Patterson yesterday or what? Why ask why?...."

We have had our own problems with Oechsler, but of a different sort. - Ed.

Famed ufologist BILL MOORE writes as follows:

"Thank you for having the courtesy to check up on that vicious jail rumor before going to press. I can't imagine why you would have given it any credence in the first place, being that those responsible for repeating it have a collective credibility factor which is somewhat lower than that of the Iraqi government. Christa Tilton undoubtedly got it from Cee Cee Stevens, who does real estate work out of Prescott (Arizona). And Wendelle Stevens, for his part, will do anything to discredit anyone he perceives as inimical to his personal cause. Some years ago, Stevens had an active campaign going to try to pin his incarceration on a plot orchestrated by the CIA, Coral Lorenzen, Stan Friedman, Dick Hall, Colman von Keviczky, and me. He, of course, was all lilly white and pristine pure (not to mention innocent); but we all had 'framed him' and bribed a judge (to the ridiculous tune of \$300)

to get him out of the way because he 'knew too much' about Billy Meier. The campaign against us even included a number of phony letters allegedly written by me and/or Coral. I think I told you about all this during our last meeting on the Queen Mary. Anyway, such smear tactics are common with that crowd. Don't you recall a similar rumor about me being a child molester which made the rounds last Fall? It turns out that the same crowd was behind that one too.

"Certainly I have enemies in the UFO field. So do you, obviously. Just look at the wild stories going around about your neo-Nazi recruitment activities!..."

Which leads us to a very interesting letter from skeptic TOM McIVER:

"....Enclosed is material relating to illustrations of the 'blonde' or 'Nordic' UFO occupants. Some of the people who are telling us about these flying saucer 'blondes' are apparently absorbing a lot of Nazi and neo-Nazi literature.

"O.H. Krill's 1988 'Situation Report on Our Acquisition of Advanced Technology and Interaction with Alien Cultures': Full-page front and back cover illustrations are identical to illustrations in 'The Best of Signal', a collection of articles from 'Signal', the German wartime propaganda magazine. As the 'Signal' captions explain, the figures are from the Nazi-approved art exhibit of 1941 in Munich.

"One of the illustrations is by Arno Breker, a sculptor much favored by Hitler and other Nazis. Specially-commissioned Breker statues stood guard over Hitler's New Reich Chancellery. The illustration of 'Space Brothers and Sisters' in Klark Kent's Super Science catalogue is identical to the illustration on page 63 of Zavrel's book 'Arno Breker: His Art and Life' (1985). Note that the statue on the facing page of the book is used for the cover of the March 1983 issue of 'National Vanguard', a neo-Nazi magazine. The 'National Vanguard' advertisement for the book 'Arno Breker: The Prophet of the Beautiful' says that Breker 'expresses the racial ideals of National Socialism' more than any other artist. (Breker has continued to work since the War, though as a neo-Nazi artist.)....

"The book 'Salubrious Living' in Klark Kent's catalogue is from the Church of the Creator. This is a pro-Nazi group led by Ben Klassen, who wrote 'The White Man's Bible', and puts out a newspaper called 'Racial Loyalty'. When I asked Kent about the book at the Cleveland UFO conference, he said that the Church of the Creator was indeed racist, but that they only publish this book, which was written by 'somebody else', and that he (Kent) does not subscribe to the group's racist theories. But note that Klassen actually co-wrote the book. The book itself is about organic farming natural foods, etc.

"Klark Kent's 'Orgone Energy Blanket' flyer features another Breker work, which also appears on the title page of the Zavrel book. Also, Kent's flyer for his UFO Detector shows a picture captioned 'Communicate

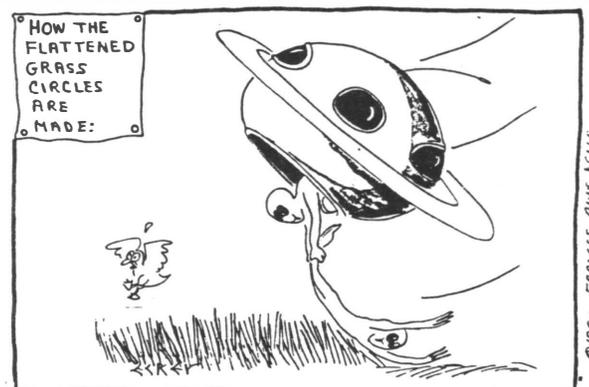
Army admits combat stressful

GIs counseled after battle in Panama



Shocked North Korean air force pilots reported seeing a whole flock of flying pigs during military maneuvers over the Yellow Sea, says a report in an English language Chinese newspaper.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS
May 14, 1991



with rare blonde UFO occupants'. These look like Breker statues also. The female is quite similar to Breker's 'Amazon', shown in the 'Signal' article about the Berlin exhibit....

"Some of your non-subscribers have already pointed out that some of the wilder UFO conspiracy theorists attribute the same crimes and sins to the outer space aliens that Nazis attributed to the Jews, and even endorse the 'Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion' (long exposed as an anti-Jewish forgery). As one of your astute non-subscribers noted, this is the 'Jew as alien' theme carried to new heights, as it were. The sinister, evil UFO 'greys' have much in common with Nazi propaganda stereotypes of Jews; but even more obvious, as the enclosed illustrations show, is the similarity - indeed, the identity - of the UFO 'blondes' or 'Nordics' with Nazi ideals of Aryan racial supremacy!"

An exceptionally fine article! - Editor.

MOLLY HANSON Ph.D. (formerly MOLLY SQUIRE) gives what we hope will be our final comment on the Al Seckel case:

"Enclosed is the letter from the California Franchise Tax Board stating why they suspended the tax exempt status application of Southern California Skeptics (see footnote - Ed.)....

"The state has thus indicated that this organization has been outside corporate protection all this time, and is not exempt. Therefore the tax liability is borne equally by all members of the board who remained after a certain illegal meeting. More than one former SCS volunteer officer has alleged to me that lectures sometimes grossed between five and ten thousand dollars, and many speakers donated their services. If this is true, the number of meetings, one a month for ten months a year, times four years... would seem to suggest a possible \$200,000 income on which tax is due.

"Note, for those interested: If an IRS informant is specific enough to get an investigation started and it led to a recovery, the informant gets 10% of the first \$75,000, 5% of the next \$25,000, and 1% of the remainder. If the information is helpful but not specific, the reward is still substantial, though half as much.... This is not my motivation in reporting this information openly, but I do not know whether former skeptics who have spoken to me of their concerns are aware of it."

The letter from the California Franchise Tax Board states: "No return or payments were received from this Corporation after the incorporation date of Oct. 4th, 1985. We asked for more information on Nov. 11th, 1985, and never received a response." - Editor.

PHIL KLASS writes as follows:

"Crop circles Erik Beckjord's critics may be surprised to learn that he was listed in the third edition of 'Emerging Leaders of America', published by Marquis Who's Who, as well as the first edition of 'Who's Who in Entertainment'. Their faith in Marquis Who's Who will be restored when they learn that crop circles Erik was dropped from subsequent editions of both references."

Whereas ERIK BECKJORD himself writes:

"I have now sent back ten letters of Phil Klass, but since he persists, I now open them, and send the most choice ones to his EDITOR IN CHIEF, Donald E. Fink, Aviation Week and Space Technology, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020. I urge others with the same KLASS PROBLEM to do the same...."

**New Book Out By
Former Writer**

The Main Line Times (Ardmore, Pa.) 5/20/76

**SUSPECT HELD IN KILLING
OF REPORTER FOR VARIETY**

The New York Times 9/24/77