

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES
OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR



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NON-SCHEDULED
NEWSLETTER

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PATHETIC PLEA FOR MONEY: If an "X" follows your name on the envelope in which you received this issue, then you are headed off our esteemed mailing list unless we hear from you shortly, preferably with a Free Will Love Offering Donation of some sort. As in any group, a small number of you have been overly generous over the years, while on the other hand quite a few of you seem to be from the Todd Zechel school of hard core freeloaders. Look deeply into your purse or pocketbook and try to make this forthcoming Yuletide Season a Merry one for your dear old editor here at "Saucer Smear" Headquarters. Please make checks or money orders payable to James Moseley rather than to "Saucer Smear". (OISEAU still stops by the office occasionally, and we really don't trust him!)

ANOTHER BECKLEY EXTRAVAGANZA IN PHOENIX:

On the weekend of Sept. 24th-27th (yes, a 4-day weekend!) UFO promoter Tim Beckley held his "5th Annual National New Age, Alien Agenda & Cosmic Conspiracies Conference" in Phoenix, Arizona. A new record of approximately 50 speakers were advertised, and if things keep going like this, the day may come when Beckley has more speakers than attendees!

A few of the lecturers arrived late or not at all, leading to the astounding fact that your editor was asked to speak twice (for the same fee, of course!) We were breathtaking in our performances, as always.

Among the no-shows was famed British UFO author Jenny Randles, who had an illness in her family, and America's answer to Socialism, Bill Cooper, who also failed to appear. Bill says he will never again lecture at a Beckley convention because Tim made the mistake of sending him a routine tax form to sign. Cooper is a professional non-taxpayer, apparently taking advantage of a weird and complex loophole in the federal tax laws which has enabled a number of dedicated tax-avoiders to simply never file a tax return - and they seem to get away with it! We do not recommend this sophisticated system to the average tax-paying nerd, however, and we ourselves do not intend to try it.

As usual, your editor did not attempt to hear all the lectures, but only those that ran at convenient times or on interesting (to us) subjects.

We must reluctantly admit that Kevin Randle of Roswell fame has become a ufological superstar, replacing our non-hero Stanton Friedman. In his latest update, Randle asserts that he has eight people (still alive??) who actually witnessed the crash of the Roswell vehicle, whatever it may have been. He also has finally pinned down the exact date (July 4th, 1947) and

the exact number of bodies (5), one of which may still have been alive. Randle correctly states that the infamous MJ-12 presidential briefing document is a hoax, because it makes the same internal errors that a knowledgeable researcher (such as Bill Moore??) would have made in the late 1980s, when the document was apparently written.

Other speakers included: Calvin Parker, a very pleasant fellow who was speaking out for the first time regarding the famous abduction in Pascagula, Mississippi he experienced in 1973 together with Charles Hickson; Dr. Brian O'Leary, a former astronaut who made a ridiculous attempt to re-establish contact with the recent disastrous Mars probe by psychic means. (He admitted this attempt was a "long shot"); Dr. (?) Hal Wilcox, who spoke clearly but incoherently about 120 different alien races, etc., etc; Wendelle Stevens' daughter Cece, attempting ineptly to instruct the audience about astrology; and Gary Schultz, whose topic was "The Shadow Government, UFOs, the Bible and You", and who comes off sounding more like a fire & brimstone preacher than a ufologist. He and Bill Cooper cordially despise each other, though right-wing buzz-words such as "Trilateral Commission", "New World Order", etc. pop up in both their spiels.

We enjoyed hearing a man named John Rogers, whose theory is that we all live in a dream world, and outside forces are trying by means of miracles (UFOs, Bigfoot, crop circles, etc.) to wake us up to the real world out there. We also enjoyed Jim Dilettoso's UFO Band late Saturday night, complete with psychedelic props and UFOs floating around the room. This is probably the only band anywhere with a reincarnated alien (Jerry Willis) as one of the musicians!

Other speakers with whom we are familiar included Dr. Frank Stranges, Bill English, John Lear, time traveller Al Bielek, Cope Schellhorn, Bob Short, and Mindy Gerber, an attractive young abductee from New Jersey. Replacing Bill Cooper on the program was Vance Davis, one of the "Gulf Breeze Six" who made headlines a few years ago when they all deserted their Army post in Germany for spiritual reasons related to UFOs. Unfortunately, we had to leave before Davis came on; but it didn't matter, as we later learned that he didn't actually lecture after all - due to Death Threats of some sort! Ufology staggers on!

In our next issue we will review the 30th National UFO Conference (NU-FOC) which took place in Bordentown, New Jersey, on the weekend of Oct. 15th-17th.

MORE ON THE INFAMOUS JAMES RANDI "BLACKMAIL TAPE"

(Another "Saucer Smear" Exclusive!)

On May 25th and 26th of this year, magician & anti-parapsychologist James ("The Amusing") Randi testified in a Baltimore, Md. courtroom in his own defense, regarding charges of libel and slander brought against him by one Dr. Eldon Byrd - a close friend of spoon-bender Uri Geller. (Randi lost this case, but was not fined.)

One of the main items of interest at this trial was the infamous "blackmail tape", which we discussed in our Oct. 10th, 1991 issue, our Dec. 1st, 1991 issue, and elsewhere in past "Smears". At the above-mentioned trial, this tape was actually played for the jury, which heard it through earphones.

Beginning at the top of the next page, we present to you material quoted directly from the transcript of the trial:



I Had a Mind Transplant on a UFO

Winifred G. Barton

MS. LANK (Randi's lawyer - Ed):

Mr. Randi, the Court is going to hear an audio tape. Could you give a little bit of background about that audio tape and what the jury might expect to hear?...When did you make the audio tape, roughly?

RANDI: It was - well, there were more than one tape in existence. I made it during the period of '66, '67, into '68. Over that period of time I was being subjected to a series of harassing phone calls of various kinds. I went to the local police in Rumson, N.J., my home town. I asked the chief of police, Chief Xantos (now deceased - Ed.) what I should do about this. I had already called the telephone company. They hadn't been very cooperative. They said their facilities were tied up on more important things.

The chief of police suggested that if I had some means - he knew that I was handy - that I might be able to do it and he suggested that perhaps you could connect a recorder to your telephone line. This is in the day before telephone answering machines were common, mind you, and before cassette machines were common. I had a reel-to-reel dictating machine and I did connect it across my line. I found out from a friend of mine in electronics how I could do that. Then when phone calls came in, I would press the record button and it would record.

It was suggested by the chief of police that this would not be something I could necessarily use in court to prove anything because, as he said, tape recordings could be doctored, but he said it might be a very powerful weapon in two ways. It could perhaps improve the quality of your case if you did bring a case and certainly, he said, if you were to be able to find out who were making these calls and play the tape back at them over their own number - I know who you are, I know what you are doing, and you better stop it.

He also said it would be very dangerous for you to try to intercept these people in person, he said, but when they call, you will have to make a trace on it. In those days it required five to eight minutes minimum to make a trace because it had to be physically done. You actually had to go in among the relays and check it, believe it or not.

He said the telephone company - he did get hold of the telephone company. A Mrs. Dunn was in charge of that service at the time and (he) asked her to cooperate with me. She said she would, and she did for quite some period of time.

He said two - three things. First of all, try to make an appointment to physically contact these people so you can bring them to a known place, a corner, a store or whatever where, if we need to, we can go there, but it must be in our jurisdiction. So bring them in close to Rumson or Red Bank or someplace close to you where our police can go and get them, so we don't have to go into another jurisdiction or another county or some such thing. Don't try to go and meet them yourself in person because you could be in physical danger. You don't know who these people are, and the telephone company, Mrs. Dunn, was quite frank with me. She said when you get them on the phone, do what they require you to do. Keep talking to them. Some of them will just want to talk and they can get carried away with that sort of thing. Keep them on the line as long as you possibly can, and don't think that just five or eight minutes might do it.

As it turned out, we only got traces on two of the calls - well, later, a third set, but it has nothing to do with this situation. It was very difficult in those days to get this kind of a trace. Someone had to really be up all night at the telephone exchange in order to do it. That wasn't always the case. That person wasn't always available to do it when the time came.

**Some things
are so forbidden,
they can't even
be mentioned on
lists of
forbidden things.**

Nonetheless, I was told those things by the police department. Particularly, if they want to talk dirty, you talk dirty. That will keep them on the line. That was advice from Mrs. Dunn at the telephone company. She sort of apologized to me for it, but she said, Mr. Randi, that is what you need to do if you want to trace these calls. As I say, we had a moderate amount of success in it. (End of quote - Ed.)

On the other hand, we have a very recent letter from Dr. Eldon Byrd, which we quote below, in part. "Smear" does not necessarily endorse Byrd's views therein any more than we endorse Randi's statement above. Byrd states:

As far as I know, the ("blackmail" - Ed.) tape I received was not the original, but only a copy. I never intend to play it for anyone; indeed, the only reason I wanted it played in court was to show that Randi was a liar - not to publicize his sex life. He claimed the tape was made in cooperation with the police, when it was obviously simply solicitations for sex with boys (all over the age of 16). Because there was nothing illegal on the tape and I didn't (and still don't) care one whit about Randi's sex life, I only wanted the jury to hear for themselves that not only was the tape NOT a "blackmail" tape, it was NOT what Randi was purporting it to be. The tape was his basis for claiming I blackmailed him and therefore the jury was entitled to hear it. (End of quote - Ed.)

We of "Smear" have a copy of the "blackmail tape" and three copies of transcripts made from it. One copy of the transcript was sent to us anonymously in late 1991, and the others were sent more recently by sources known to us. Two of these three transcripts are identical to each other, whereas the third differs slightly from the other two. The better of the two versions - made from a clearer copy of the tape - runs 25 double-spaced typewritten pages, with no "breaks" due to the tape being inaudible (as is the case with the other version).

Similar tapes and transcripts have been sent around anonymously to dozens of people - perhaps hundreds - during the past several years, and this has apparently been a continuing embarrassment to Randi. He has made various efforts to stop the flow, so far to no avail.

We are reminded a little of the case of the actress Hedy Lamar, who made a movie called "Ecstasy" in Europe in the 1930s, when she was still a teen-ager. Years later, when she became a big star in America, she tried desperately to buy up every copy of the film, to no avail. Her autobiography, which we have not read, is titled "Ecstasy and Me".

The irony regarding Hedy Lamar is that "Ecstasy" is a beautiful film and not even mildly pornographic by today's standards. (We saw the movie, many years ago.) Miss Lamar would have been better off by far if she had not wasted her energy on such a hopeless task of suppression.

TIDBITS OF TRASH:

We have all known California's Dr. Frank Stranges for many years as a minister, UFO contactee (Val Thor, etc.), author & lecturer. Now he informs us that he has a sideline of helping people from other countries obtain their permanent residence in the United States, i.e., Green Card. Anyone interested in this service can write to Stranges at: 14617 Victory Blvd., #4, Van Nuys, Ca. 91411. Phone: 818-989-5942....

Famed abductee of yesteryear Betty Hill is recovering from a recent operation for stomach cancer. We wish her well!...

There are so many UFO conventions around these days that we can't keep track of all of them, let alone attend them all - though we do get around. We miss-

2 admit accepting bribes from aliens

ed the First Annual Gulf Breeze Conference (Oct. 22nd-24th) even though it was right here in Florida. Speakers included John Mack, Budd Hopkins, and Stanton Friedman, who has been relatively quiet lately. We are told that almost 700 people attended!

Coming up soon is Fortfest '93, in Arlington, Virginia - just outside Washington, D.C. There, old John Keel is still a star, and Bruce Maccabee of CIA fame is another of the scheduled speakers. Then, on Nov. 28th to Dec. 5th, there is another extravaganza in Las Vegas, sponsored by Wendelle Stevens & others. This one is called the 1993 International UFO Conference, which sounds to us entirely too much like the National UFO Conference (NUFOC), of which your editor is Permanent Chairman. Speakers in Las Vegas include Zechariah Sitchin, George Knapp, James Harder, David Jacobs, Charles Hickson, and many others....

Back to the Florida scene - It seems that Fl. State MUFON Director Charles Flannigan recently fired Art Hufford, a leading MUFONite who is Section Director for the Pensacola, Fl. area (including Gulf Breeze). Flannigan quickly re-hired Hufford, under pressure from MUFON czar Walt Andrus. The problem here is that Flannigan insists that authentic MUFONites remain "nuts and bolts" in their orientation, rather than New Age. "Smear" believes that Flannigan is about half right!...

Closing the file on "Open File": A young man in Massachusetts who calls himself "Open File", alias Dave Chase, alias Dave Hickey, alias "The Founder" (of an organization called TOFCON) has withdrawn from the ufological scene, having defeated his arch-enemy Bill Knell. Knell is an independent UFO lecturer who has succeeded in offending nearly every researcher he has come into contact with. We of "Smear" broke off with Knell quite awhile ago after receiving a series of death threats from him through the mail.

MEANWHILE, Knell has been thrown off the college lecture circuit by none other than his arch-rival, Antonio Huneeus. We offer our congratulations to our friend Antonio, while Nasty Knell retreats back into the ufological bush leagues!...

Erik Beckjord has decided to rename the faces he has found on Mars in NASA photos to be: Face 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07 and 08, since the names of similar-looking celebrities has not gone over well. Beckjord has also discovered several faces on Venus, from NASA/Megellan photos, and these are named Face A, Face B, and Face C, to make everyone happy, and also quite bored. Beckjord has also been back to Area 51 recently, and he has again made a splash in the crop circle area of England, accompanied by his current lady friend.

Beckjord & crew sent a complex crop circle type message to the alleged aliens in letters 25 feet tall. This apparently evoked a response in the form of a pictogram which bore an uncanny resemblance to the universal "Disabled" symbol, which shows a matchstick person in a wheelchair. The farmer angrily destroyed this formation soon afterwards, but another "Disabled" pictogram appeared the next day nearby. Erik cleverly interprets this to mean that the Space People take Earthlings to be "Disabled". Way to go, Erik!...

There's a wild zine called Dystopinion (see quote at right), published by Wangifesto Press of Box 45622, Seattle, Wa. 98145. This zine is literally indescribable, but does seem to consist, at least in part, of commentary on UFOs and the paranormal. They have been most kind in their praise of "Smear", so they must be Good People. Send for a sample copy!

DYSTOPINION WAS THRILLED TO RECEIVE WORD FROM "SAUCER SMEAR" THE ULTIMATE IN UFOLOGICAL SKEPTICISM. EXTREMELY CYNICAL AND IN DEPTH, SMEAR GOES TO UFO AND PARANORMAL CONFERENCES AROUND THE WORLD, AND LETS YOU KNOW WHAT IS PHONY, AND IN RARE CASES WHAT MIGHT NOT BE. MIXED IN IS GOSSIP, ODD NEWSCLIPS ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE URI GELLER, AND LETTERS FROM THE LIKES OF ROBERT ANTON WILSON. SEND THEM SOMETHING COOL, AND THEY MIGHT MAIL AN ISSUE OR TWO TO YOU. PO BOX 1709, KEY WEST, FL 33041.

ROBOTMAN

Jim Meddick

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

Anti-CSICOP skeptic TOM McIVER writes:

"Dear Fearless Muckraking Journalist:

"In your last issue I may have inadvertantly given the impression, to readers unfamiliar with the newspaper account ('Magician Defamed Scientist, Jury Rules'), that Randi's lawyer was referring to Klass in the remark of hers I paraphrased. Though I was referring to Klass, her remarks of course concerned Eldon Byrd. I also said Randi was declared guilty, but because libel and slander are civil rather than criminal charges, the jury ruled that Randi defamed Byrd but did not declare him 'guilty'. ('Guilt' can only be declared in criminal trials.)

"Randi's lawyer was quoted as saying that Byrd is 'willing to get down into the mud provided he can drag Mr. Randi down with him'. The newspaper said the trial featured testimony on the 'mud-slinging battle between them', suggesting to me that they were both down in the mud to begin with. Klass, on the other hand, in trying to discredit me, frantically slings mud from his own ample supply (the same mud he slings at many other critics)..."

McIver has also sent us a letter dated Aug. 11th, 1993, written to him by L. PEARCE WILLIAMS, Professor of History of Science, Dept. of Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University, Ithica, New York:

"Thank you for your recent letter, which I must confess did not surprise me. For years I have warned Al Seckel that he was misrepresenting himself, but he paid no heed to me.

"Let me set the record straight, unequivocally, on Al's 'career' at Cornell. He came to me after having dropped out of Engineering before the end of his first term with the explanation that he simply could not take examinations. My colleague, Prof. Will Provine, had told him that I had a wonderful collection of rare books in the History of Science. He immediately latched on to me like a puppy dog. It is an absolute lie that I ever said, publicly or privately, that Al was my best student. In fact, he was never technically a student of mine at all! He never took an examination from me, he never wrote a paper for me, nor did he even show me through oral communication that he was anything but a dilettante who could fake knowledge of the history of science fairly well.

"Seckel certainly never graduated from Cornell University; never to my knowledge received an undergraduate degree and never, again to my knowledge, was either a bona fide graduate student or received an advanced degree in anything.

"I was also not surprised to hear of financial irregularities. As you probably know, Seckel worked for awhile with a rare book dealer in Los Angeles whose name I now forget but who, I think, may now be dead. I know Al had difficulties with him, and I suspect that these were not all the other person's fault. For awhile Al served to buy rare books for me and I also

used him to sell some from my library. It was like pulling teeth to get money out of him. One of the reasons I broke off contact with Al was that I began to suspect that he was defrauding me. I know for a fact that he has withheld money that he owes one of my children for some seven years now. Not being a lawyer, and being rather simple-minded, I would call this theft.

"You may use this letter in any way you wish and have my permission to show it to anyone. I hope it has been of some use to you."

Editor's Note: We are reliably informed that Al Seckel has already resigned from CSICOP and the Southern California Skeptics (SCS) because of Tom McIver's investigation of his academic background. We believe most of our readers would join us in the fond hope that this is the last we will ever hear from or about Al Seckel.

And, lovable old PHIL KLASS writes as follows:

"Regarding your query, yes, your source is correct that half way through my radio interview with Rich Synderman, I said 'goodbye' and terminated the interview - the first time in more than 27 years of doing talk shows on the subject of UFOs. During these 27+ years I've probably done close to 500 talk shows, including some with strongly pro-UFO hosts, such as Don Ecker and George Knapp....But never in all those years have I encountered a talk show host who was so rude and obnoxious. Too bad Rich Synderman's mother never taught him good manners. Too bad his knowledge of UFOs is limited to what he has read in the 'National Enquirer' and its wilder competitors."

SIMONE MENDEZ, a young lady who had a weird UFO-related experience while in the Air Force a few years back, writes:

"Everyone reading 'Saucer Smear' is aware of revelations that surfaced this past Spring regarding Kevin Randle having been provided with an actual fragment from the Roswell crash site, by an unidentified source. In the late summer of 1991, an anonymous self-proclaimed OSI type was writing to the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS). He sent them one of those little logoed calling cards to 'prove' his credentials. When I was in the Air Force, I was given these by AFOSI and the FBI, during my involvement with them, and I became suspicious of this fellow's card because it didn't look exactly like my own very real one.

"On the other hand, I found it extremely curious that 'Mr. Anonymous' claimed to know one of the agents who investigated my own UFO case, which occurred while I was stationed at Nellis AFB. Mark Rodeigher of CUFOS blew this off as a mere coincidence, which I thought was an absurd attitude on his part. Among other things, 'Mr. Anonymous' was offering what he claimed was a fragment from a UFO crash. I therefore have been speculating as to whether this individual is Kevin Randle's source regarding the Roswell fragment he claims to have seen. If this is the case, why would CUFOS feign disinterest, and why would they tout Roswell stuff from a source as unreliable as this one seems to be?"

ELAINE DOUGLASS, MUFON Director for Washington, D.C. and Organizer of Operation Right to Know, writes:

"The anonymous Associated Investigators Group (AIG) is mad at Dr. Bruce Maccabee because he lectures at the CIA about UFOs, and because while Bruce was chairman of the Fund for UFO Research, the Fund gave Stanton Friedman \$16,000 to research MJ-12. AIG, which is circulating a paper in the UFO community, says the MJ-12 documents are a hoax and that the CIA influenced Bruce to go on a wild goose chase.

"I don't know why AIG is so mad. They ought to be happy the Fund tried to find out whether the MJ-12



**Will the REAL Bob
please sit down.**

The Real Yellow Peril

From *Saucer Smear*: "If everybody in China jumped up and down at the same time, they would knock our planet out of orbit. This upcoming synchronized jump is clearly suicidal—when the Earth sails away from the sun and into the dark and icy vastness of space, China's 1.3 billion population will freeze to death like the rest of us. 'The Chinese tried the same thing in 1991,' stated one scientist, 'but the plot failed because tens of millions of Europeans and Americans performed a counter jump, which neutralized the jump in China.'"

the march, while Fred Whiting, who doesn't lecture at the CIA, is the one who opposed it. Cool off, AIG!"

papers are a hoax. But the truth is that it was not Bruce Maccabee's idea to fund Stanton Friedman. It was the idea of Fred Whiting, secretary of the Fund for UFO Research, and Fred doesn't lecture at the CIA. I know because I was at the Fund meetings when those decisions were made. Following that, with others I worked hard to raise the \$16,000 - and I don't lecture at the CIA.

"AIG is also mad because the Fund for UFO Research didn't support Operation Right to Know's July 5th march at the White House. But Bruce Maccabee is a member of ORTK and he did support

Bigfoot researcher RON SCHAFFNER writes:

"...What is this stuff about Erik Beckjord taking credit for Tim Curry's suicide? Some things never change, and I guess Beckjord is one of them. You can take it from me that Tim's death had nothing to do with Beckjord or Bigfoot research. As you know, Tim and I were friends and Beckjord was the least of his problems...."

ROBERT ANTON WILSON writes as follows:

"...Concerning non-reproducible events, I feel that (a) they ain't part of science- but neither is Beethoven or Van Gogh or lots of stuff I find fascinating. Something doesn't have to be 'part of science' to be interesting and amusing. (b) These events may eventually become part of science if we learn how to reproduce them. E.G., 'alien spaceships', if ever encountered, might be induced to come back every three years to exchange their superior technology for all the cow's lips they want (to paraphrase a great line from the film, 'Sneakers'). And finally (c) some of the most idiotic behavior of the dogmatic deniers, like the Committee for Slander and Libel or whatever they call themselves, results from the fact that lots and lots of idiots of the opposite camp can't comprehend the above-stated agnostic position but insist that they have proof when they don't even understand what kind of proof they would really need to meet scientific or even legal challenge.

"Oliver Wendell Holmes' 'Hydrostatic Law of Debate': Eventually the fools drag everybody else down to their own level (Cf Randi-Byrd)!"

ARMAND LAPRADE, editor of "Would You Believe?" (HC 80, Box 156, Marshall, Ar. 72650) writes:

"...At a small UFO gathering in the sixties, I had been drinking beer and watching a ball game on TV with the hostess's husband, while my magazine partner was lecturing. The ball game over, we ambled into the lecture question and answer period. One woman asked: How could we tell the difference between an alien and a human? My partner replied: That is a loaded question. At that point, I blurted in with: That's very simple. You can spot them at the beach if you look closely. They have no belly buttons. I expected the audience to laugh. They didn't. I continued: They lay eggs, much like some species of life on this planet. Hence, their oval-shaped craft. I then received a 'serious' round of applause! No wonder; my partner had been spilling some George Adamski stuff!

"What do the old contactees and the abductees of today have in common? No Proof! With the demise of Gray Barker and Ray Palmer, ufology would have died with them, were it not for James W. Moseley, who keeps it alive with his ego, wit, sarcasm, indignity, etc., in his 'Saucer Smear'. I cheerfully donate \$10 to the Cause! Why don't the rest of you freeloaders do so too?"