

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES
OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR

**TAKE A SERIOUS
LOOK AT THE MOST
STARTLING
EVIDENCE THAT
CAN NO LONGER
BE IGNORED!**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER & UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

EDITOR AND *STILL*
SUPREME COMMANDER:

James W. Moseley, J.S.

NON-SCHEDULED
NEWSLETTER

Volume 41, No. 5
June 15th, 1994

MAILING ADDRESS:
P. O. Box 1709
Key West, FL
33041

MORE ON DR. JOHN MACK, THE UFO ABDUCTION GURU:

In our last issue we briefly mentioned an article about John Mack that appeared in the April 25th issue of Time Magazine. This article, entitled "The Man from Outer Space" is subtitled "Harvard psychiatrist John Mack claims that tales of UFO abductions are real. But experts and former patients say his research is shoddy". Together with this heading is a deliberately goofy-looking photograph of Mack.

The most devastating part of the article is the testimony of one Donna Bassett, a professional writer who infiltrated Mack's inner circle with a fake abduction story and with the deliberate intent of exposing him to ridicule. Her most amusing account is of being on board a spaceship with John Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 (?), and of comforting Khrushchev by sitting on his lap. Mack was sitting on a bed in a darkened room in his house, and when he heard the above story, he "became so excited that he leaned on the bed too heavily, and it collapsed". Apparently Mack believed the yarn, though come to think of it, Donna Bassett is only 37 years old now, and would have been a child at the time of the Cuban missile crisis. Of course, that's hardly the only flaw in the story!

Our interest in all this heightened when we learned that Donna's husband Ed, another professional writer, had once worked for "Aviation Week" in Washington, D.C., and therefore must have known arch-skeptic Phil Klass, who was an editor there for many years. We became obsessed with the notion that Klass must have put the Bassetts up to their expose of Mack; but sadly, it turns out that this was not the case. However, Klass is in touch with them now, trying to steer their intended book into CSICOP's publishing wing, Prometheus Press.

After the Bassetts broke with Mack, they received threats from the "Mackies" (Mack's hard core of abductees), and recently moved from one address to another, both within North Carolina. "Smear" went to a great deal of trouble to locate them, and finally had hour-long phone conversations with both Ed and Donna. (As it turns out, we could simply have asked Phil Klass for their phone number, now that he is in touch with them.)

We learned little from the Bassetts that was not already clear from the Time article. In essence, the Bassetts have serious legal and moral objections to Mack's methods as well as his conclusions. Incidentally, Mack runs a tax-exempt research organization which recently received a \$200,000 grant from the Human Potential Foundation, headed by C.B. Scott Jones, a

shadowy operative in the UFO scene. Jones' organization is funded at least in part by Laurence Rockefeller of the famous Rockefeller clan. Laurence is a man now in his 80s and deeply into New Age interests. Some say that he is Over the Edge.

The Bassetts were very cooperative with us, as was Diana DiSimone, head of MUFON for the state of Massachusetts. Diana does not much like the Bassetts, nor does she approve of Mack, either. In a written statement for "Smear", Diana states in part: "The sting operation succeeded though it wasn't necessary. A legitimate piece of investigative journalism surely could have produced a warranted yet constructive criticism without the use of deception. Even though the expose presented some valid arguments, it also revealed more about being mean-spirited than it did about why researchers as well as experiencers are caught up in a fantasy world....The hoaxter's approach was destructive as well as derisive, linking ufology with the abduction phenomenon well ahead of any evidence connecting them, and dismissing both as a cult..."

Another source familiar with the Mack story writes: "Certainly, even for those who believe in alien abductions, Mack is someone to watch out for. He's not professional, he doesn't do follow-up research, he treats his clients with indifference, and all of his clients seem to walk into his office confused and needy, and walk out infused with millennial New Age self-confidence and political and cultural views identical with Mack's. This is what I keep trying to tell my abductee friends who worship Mack just because he has a Harvard professorship. Avoid any UFO investigator who has a political agenda and who is more interested in New Age religion than in science. That means Mack. Jerry Clark is right. It's the Space Brothers all over again...And why is it that only Mack's abductees have these spontaneous past-life regressions all the time? And why is it that these past lives are all of the cliched kind, like Egyptian hieroglyphic painters and American Indian warriors? I mean, come on!..."

We will have more to say about Dr. John Mack in future issues, as Time and Space permit....

MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

"Dr." Harley Byrd of Hollow Earth fame (not to be confused with "Dr." Eldon Byrd, the parapsychologist) continues to amaze and amuse us. He seems to have made good on his \$20 bad check to "Smear", and has recently sent us reams of letters, publications, and libelous exposes of various ufologists he does not like. Harley is holding a UFO convention at the Burbank, California Airport Hilton Hotel on the weekend of Sept. 17th, which happens to be the very same weekend that our National UFO Conference (NUFOC) is holding a convention in Cleveland, Ohio. (For more info on the NUFOC con., write to P.O. Box 347032, Cleveland, Ohio 44134.)

As mentioned in our last issue, Harley Byrd recently sent out a hoax letter under the name of "Col. Michael Aquino, Hub Four Facility, Stormtrooper Group, Dotham, Alabama". Obviously there is no such group, but we are astounded to find out that there really is a Col. Michael Aquino, who wrote to us after somehow hearing that his name had been used in "Smear". The real Aquino appears to be a retired military intelligence officer and the head of a Satanic church in San Francisco! We certainly don't want to get this gentleman annoyed at us!...

On the evening of May 10th, viewers in southern Florida were able to see James ("The Amusing") Randi's most recent TV "special", entitled "Secrets of the Psychics". This documentary was made for NOVA, and was seen here on the educational channel.

We were somewhat surprised at the high quality of this presentation. In spite of our severe differences with Randi, we would give the show a favorable review. Randi, as one of his other leading critics admits, came off better than ever before on a personal level, though this critic deplores the

(3)

"bad science" he perceives in the presentation. However, to us the science was good enough for the general public, who in any case would have no knowledge of or interest in all the details of how to conduct a proper scientific experiment.

We might add that the reason Randi came off as the epitome of reasonableness and openmindedness, is that the show was pre-recorded and basically scripted. Thus there was no opportunity for him to rave off into slander as he has done spontaneously a time or two in past lectures.

In any case - the show consisted of segments on Randi's arch-enemy Uri Geller; a psychic healer named Popoff; psychic surgery; astrology; and various Russian psychics. To us, the most amusing segment was the one in which Randi passed out identical horoscopes to a group of about 30 people. Nothing was proven by this, but it did give astrology a black eye!

And, best of all, on public television there are no commercials!....

The May 1994 issue of the Mutual UFO Network UFO Journal is an unusually interesting one. In fact, for better or worse, this esteemed zine is starting to read more & more like "Saucer Smear"! The lead story in this issue is an expose of the famed Canadian "Guardian" case, or "Guardian Cap-er", as the Journal calls it. This complex case involves, among other things, a videotaped nighttime scene of a landed UFO, complete with alien. According to this Journal article (part one of a two-part series), the whole affair is a hoax by one of its principal investigators, Robert Oechsler - who, incidentally, is now threatening to sue. Stay tuned!

Also in the May issue is an article about UFOs that are (gasp!) bigger on the inside than on the outside. This is a mind-boggling problem that has supposedly shown up in a number of cases.

Another item concerns the outcome of the voting for the MUFON 1994 Annual Award. Originally, a volunteer postcard vote was taken, resulting in a return of only 3%. The first vote was then canceled, and a second vote resulted in a much larger return, with (ugh!) Budd Hopkins as the winner. Rumor has it that the secret reason the first vote was canceled was that Pat Marcutillio won it, by high-powered pressure tactics and campaigning. Walt Andrus denies this rumor.

Incidentally, anyone at all can join MUFON merely by sending \$25 per year to: Walt Andrus, % MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155. Your editor has been a member for quite a few years. Although demoted twice within the MUFON hierarchy, your editor remains a Journal Subscriber (J.S.) and proudly displays these letters after his name. Wheeee!....

Armand Laprade, editor of "Would You Believe?", has had a serious stroke and is not likely to ever be able to continue publishing his zine. "Would You Believe?" had only a small circulation, and was devoted largely to reprints of articles, etc., from the ufological past, going all the way back to the 1950s at times. We never met Laprade, but corresponded with him regularly, and sent him much material. We hope he can recover!...

On the weekend of May 21st, your editor attended another of Tim Beckley's New Age oriented UFO conventions in San Diego, California. Beckley sponsors annual conventions in San Diego and Phoenix, Arizona, and seems unwilling to try new cities, though his paid attendance generally gets smaller every year. This time there were at least 40 speakers, including your editor, but not more than about 100 people were present in the lecture hall at any one time. In fact, for our "workshop" (in a side room), discussing our 40 years of ufology, only ONE paid person was present! Lea Boldt, the metal bending lady discussed in our last "Smear", was in San Diego as a speaker,



and she beat us out by having TWO paid attendees at her "workshop". Others, like Vance Davis of the famed "Gulf Breeze Six", had as many as fifty. But over all, this convention scene was just another dreary instance of "preaching to the converted", and even Beckley himself was turned off....

On the way to California, your editor stopped off in Clarksburg, West Virginia, where our late friend Gray Barker lived for most of his adult life. A film maker named Ralph Coon was there to do a documentary on Barker's life, and we were grateful for the opportunity to take part in it. The documentary consisted mainly of interviews with Barker's family and with those few local people who knew him. In our segment we told of his wonderfully cynical sense of humor, his sense of "wonderment" (but not belief) in the flying saucer subject, and the tragedy of his death in 1984 - which almost surely was from AIDS. In short, we simply told it as it is - or was....

The publishers of "The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell" (M. Evans & Co., New York) seem to have responded to our broad HINT in the last issue, and have kindly sent us a review copy of this new book by Kevin Randle and Don Schmitt. We greatly appreciate this, but we can say little more about the book now than before we received it. Your editor is not an expert on the fine points of the extremely complex Roswell saga, but we are aware of the fact that most Roswell experts as well as "experts" are disappointed in the book and very critical of it. In fact, we have heard of only one really favorable review within the UFO field. See also the Letters section of this issue.

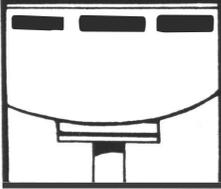
Although our readers won't want to hear it, we remind them that the extraterrestrial answer for the Roswell incident is not the only possibility. Skeptical Curtis Peebles has a section on Roswell in his current book, "Watch the Skies - A Chronicle of the Flying Saucer Myth", reviewed in our last issue. Peebles concludes that the object was merely a Rawin target balloon, or possibly a nuclear detection balloon, which can pick up the atmospheric shock waves from a nuclear explosion thousands of miles away. In conversation with your editor, Peebles notes the fact that the alien bodies were found intact rather than hideously damaged as would be more normal in a crash. This fact casts suspicion on the account of dead aliens at the crash site, though it does not prove anything one way or the other.

And Todd Zechel - not too reliable a source, unfortunately - states in his latest publication (called "AIR 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") that the Roswell mystery object was "probably a cluster of balloons launched from White Sands in late June 1947, under the auspices of the Central Intelligence Group (CIG), forerunner of the CIA....CIG wanted to develop a secret reconnaissance capability that could be flown over the Soviet Union...The cluster launched in late June 1947 was lost and never recovered - at least not by White Sands personnel." (Peebles does not agree with this explanation.)

Still another version of the "terrestrial theory" will hopefully be forthcoming soon from the pen of Robert Todd, a conservative pro-UFO investigator who has been doing research on Roswell for many years....

Another current UFO book of more than passing interest is called "Ice Falls and Angel Hair - A Chronological Catalogue of Ice Falls and Angel Hair Anomalies". The author is Allan J. Manak, who, together with Rick Hilberg, is a co-sponsor of the 1994 National UFO Conference, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio on the weekend of Sept. 17th. Manak's 58-page soft-cover book is very adequately described by the title, and can be obtained for \$10 by writing to the Convention address: P.O. Box 347-032, Cleveland, Ohio 44134....

Von Tramm's -
UFODOOLES TEST YOUR UFOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE



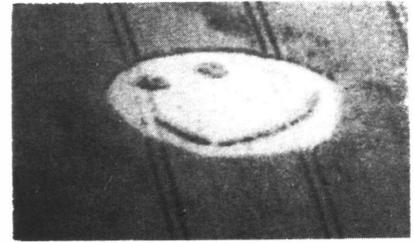
CHOOSE ONE

- (A) A FAT LADY ON A BARSTOOL.
- (B) A RETICULIAN TRANSPORTER AT AN ASHTARIAN WEIGH STATION.
- (C) A SIDE VIEW OF A GREYS OPERATING TABLE AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF AN ABDUCTEE (UFO INTERIOR WINDOWS SEEN IN BACKGROUND).

ANSWER -

(A) IS CORRECT - BUT, YOU ARE ALSO POLITICALLY INCORRECT BECAUSE THE DOOLES DEPICTS AN OBESE INDIVIDUAL, NOT A FAT LADY SEATED ON THE BARSTOOL... OR, CHUBBY LESBIAN AS THE CASE MAY BE?

For those of you who don't have enough to worry about, here's a cheery thought: On July 16th, a shattered comet the size of a mountain (whatever that means) will crash into Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system - causing the most violent encounter humanity has ever witnessed. Nothing prevents the same sort of thing from happening here on Earth some day, in which case all human life would doubtlessly be destroyed....



Hoax of the Month

Photo of a faked UFO crop circle.

—Circular Evidence

In our Sept. 10th, 1993 issue of "Smear", we told you about a long tract called "AIR #1", knocking Dr. Bruce Maccabee of FUFOR and others, published by a shadowy outfit called Associated Investigators Group. Although the infamous Todd Zechel was known to be one of the people behind this report, his name did not appear.

Now Zechel has stepped out of the shadows, at least for the moment, and has used his own name on the second tract of this series, this one cleverly called "AIR 1½". Now the attack is primarily against Karl Pflock, who claims to be genuinely interested in UFOs but admits to having worked for the CIA in the past. The title of this diatribe is "Who is Karl Pflock and Why Is He Trying to Spy on Us?"

Bruce Maccabee, who admits that he does currently work indirectly for the CIA, has come to Pflock's defense, and has written a counter-tract defending his friend. This we have not yet seen. Meanwhile, we have tried to phone Pflock, who is a "Smear" non-subscriber, to get his comment on "AIR 1½". However, Pflock has changed his phone number recently, and may indeed be hiding out from ufodumb!

Pflock has been in the news recently because of his interest in the current General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation into the Roswell UFO case (so far, apparently with no results.) Zechel, as always, is known for his biting wit and sarcastic sense of humor, among other things. (See his letter on Page 8 of this issue.) We will have more to say about all of this in the next issue....

"Smear" has a great "exclusive" about the life and recent death of a man named Robert Spencer Carr (not to be confused with the pseudo-inventor Otis T. Carr), who in 1974 made headlines with wild statements about crashed saucers and little men. We're going to have to let our friend Antonio Huneus at FATE Magazine scoop us on this one, as Space considerations force us to postpone this interesting story until our next issue.

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

Hard-core Roswell fan JERRY LUCCI writes as follows:

"...The recent book by Randle & Schmitt has some very serious flaws; and before I go further I will say to you that I was certainly in their corner. But even a casual reading leaves you feeling that they are selling into the money trap of accepting too much testimony at face value for the sake of expanding on their story. That's not to say that this is not an important book, as I believe they have uncovered more revelations regarding the crash, and have fine-tuned some of the details. However, their evidence regarding the bodies is thin at best, with six of the eight witnesses already deceased and the other, Frank Kaufman, dubious enough to perhaps be considered another Gerald Anderson.

"In addition, their revelations about finding the Roswell archaeologists were premature at best and very wishful thinking at worst. Unfortunately, this is the kind of book that Phil Klass will have a field day with. As a matter of fact he probably had an organism!..."

We do not believe that Phil Klass had an organism! - Editor.

Similarly, HERBERT S. TAYLOR writes:

"...My own reaction to 'The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell' is decidedly not positive. I was expecting this book to be the definitive work on the Roswell event. It turned out to be so much less. While it is an interesting and important work, it is also a flawed work, and some of these flaws are very serious. It is a book filled with contradictions, inconsistencies, and omission of much critical data. I am amazed that Randle and Schmitt could come up with a finished work so easily open to legitimate criticism. Rather than shedding light, the authors have added to the heat!...."

PHIL KLASS delights us with:

"Your anonymous source who told you that Ed Bassett and I 'even shared the same office space for a while (at "Aviation Week")' is correct. Because of the relatively high cost of space in the National Press Building, we 'senior editors' each had a private office which measured only about 6 by 9 feet - barely large enough for one desk, two chairs, and a couple of file cabinets.

"When Bassett joined 'Aviation Week', I was asked to share my office cubicle with him. To accomodate both of us, we agreed that he would sleep under my desk while I worked at my desk from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Then, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., he would work at the desk and I would sleep under it. This worked out reasonably well except for a couple of incidents when I completely forgot Ed was under the desk and accidentally kicked him in the face - fortunately not disturbing his sleep. And on a couple of occasions, he accidentally kicked me in the balls - without serious damage.

"Because of this arrangement, we seldom had time to talk about UFOs, except when one of us was suffering insomnia. It was because of this arrangement that you will find some 'Aviation Week' articles carried the By-line of 'Philip J. Bassett' while others carried 'Ed Klass'. These were articles started by one of us and finished by the other...."

And, HOWARD KAUFMAN writes:

"...I saw that TV program that Phil Klass wrote about on Page 7 of your last issue - his appearance on the Rolanda Show. Klass was his usual self, acting like an ass with a lot of class!

"Klass says that he wants you to ask your readers for their response regarding equal time for exposure pro and con on the UFO subject. I would not mind watching him on such a program - that is, if he acts human. Gee, maybe he isn't!?"

ROBERT ANTON WILSON writes:

"Yes, I've heard that Jacques Vallee is a government agent. I've heard the same about every living writer on anomalistic, conspiratorial, or otherwise controversial subjects. In fact, if I had a dollar for every time I myself have been accused of being a government agent, I'd have the dinero to buy the World Trade Center by now.

"Mae Brussell, the Queen of political conspiracy buffs, once accused me of working not for the CIA or any government agency, but directly for David Rockefeller. She made the charge in a now-defunct mag called 'Conspiracy Digest'. I replied in the following issue, confessing that she had found me out and that my cellar is stacked from floor to ceiling with bars of gold delivered by David personally. I added the eldritch postscript, 'Woof, Woof, Woof'. I'm sure some of the political-and-UFO buffs saved that issue and still show it around as the 'smoking gun' - a True Confession of the Wilson-Rockefeller link and a coded hint about the Hounds of Tindalos and the demons of the Dog Star, Sirius."

Shouting Match Ends Teacher's Hearing

Long-time researcher & writer GEORGE EARLEY writes:

"The 'ball lightning' story in the May 15th 'Saucer Smear' appears to be a case of reinventing the wheel. My files contain an Aug. 6th, 1952 story, headlined '"Saucers" Produced by Army Engineers in Huge Test Tube; May Reveal Secret of "Objects" in the Sky Picked Up by Radar'. This front page piece was accompanied by a 5-photo spread showing what appears essentially like what Bob Golka has reportedly produced.

"Mr. Golka claims he has been using 'millions of dollars of sophisticated equipment obtained through U.S. government grants...' to create quarter-inch balls having a 'life' of 3 to 4 seconds; but the ones the Army scientists created in 1952 were several times larger and lasted several times longer. I'd also like to see documentation of those alleged government grants before I put any credence in Mr. Golka's claims."

And, KODY RYAN writes as follows:

"...There's some question as to whether artificially-produced 'ball lightning' is the same as the natural kinds. Plural indeed, because we are apparently dealing with several types of phenomena covered under that umbrella term. Incidentally, quite a few people have produced the artificial kind of 'ball lightning' using unsophisticated equipment and without using the taxpayers' money. But that's another story....

"It's sad to learn of the passing of Augie Roberts. The old pioneer circle shrinks every year, it seems. The 'old guard' were less abrasive I think, and certainly more fun than today. The train is headed in a direction I don't care to go. Maybe someone will set a record and hold a UFOcon that no one will attend! Now won't that be exciting? You can hardly wait!"

Famed pilot, UFO researcher, & CIA fellow traveler JOHN LEAR writes:

"Dear Commander:

"I still think I believe in flying saucers but I have been busy flying a lot of MAC flights for the company I work for, taking up the slack the grounded C-141's left. I got to Kwajalein, Midway, and most interestingly Johnston Island a few weeks ago, on what the Air Force calls the Coral Run. (Mail, food, & supplies.)

"Now that General Doolittle, bless his loyal and patriotic heart, has passed away, you can share our secret that he was my source that MJ-12 exists...."

Famed professional hoaxer, writer, etc. ALAN ABEL writes as follows:

"I always enjoy your musings, rantings, etc. My schedule remains hectic - many lectures, an occasional prank, and other activities...."

And, the inevitable MONTY CANTSIN writes:

"Dear Negative Quantity:

"Our extraterrestrial savior said, 'By their fruits shall you know them.' That's how you know I work for the aliens. They don't pay till the job is done, i.e., till they've taken over the planet.... Obviously you earthlings couldn't be more confused and divided than you already are. My job is to help earthlings develop a sense of humor, so they can learn to laugh at themselves. Once that's achieved, earthling power structures will be laughed into the ground, & the aliens will institute the rule of reason. I'll be well paid as court jester!"

ALIENS ARE GETTING
MUCH MORE CREATIVE
THESE DAYS →

WANTED: down and/or disabled cattle,
over 500 lbs. Must be alive. Phone 1-
482-7815 before 6 a.m. for same day
pickup. 6-36p

409-pound inmate
risks decapitation if
hanged, lawyer says

(Page 8)

P.O. BOX 247
Madison, WI 53701-0247

Saucer Smear
P.O. Box 1709
Key West, FL 33041

May 24, 1994

Dear Supreme Commander:

Now that you've risen to a rank higher than your father's, I thought I'd point out to you that it appears our mutual friend, Phil, has gotten to the point in his fabled life, post retirement, when one starts drooling spittle during TV debates and forgets the names of people he has known for years... or for a few minutes. Sadly, there is no Phil Jr., full of skeptical fire & brimstone, to step up and take daddy's place. It's too bad the CIA couldn't have found a wife for him years earlier, before his gonads turned to stone.

I thought for a long time that good old Captain Oberg was being groomed for the chief attack dog position, but he seems to have wimped out after expending most of his energy flogging Commies rather than those dangerous UFO believers. It just goes to show you how even the well-intentioned can lose focus.

I hope this doesn't make Phil or the Captain too upset or jealous, but I decided to start my own skeptical group, since the two of them have lost most of their drive--sexual or otherwise. Our position is that there probably are valid UFO cases, but the UFO believers will never talk about them. Instead, all we'll hear about is Roswell, MJ-12, Linda and Ed, and crap like that. So, we contend the real UFO cover-up is being perpetrated by mainstream UFOlogy.

A while back, Phil told Gyrome Clark that he wished he could hire "1,000 private investigators" so he could find out all my dirty secrets. Well, since Phil has nearly reached the end of his rope, I thought I'd save him the trouble and the expense, and what follows is the rest of the story (as Paul would say).

I had to declare bankruptcy after I discovered Bob Lazar had pumped most of the huge profits from our chain of whore houses into some silly UFO propulsion scam, not to mention the money he invested with Bill Moore. Anyway, then I met this really hot South American gal named Lorena who was on the rebound from a bad marriage to some macho Marine, but I had to dump her when she kept mumbling something about "making a woman" out of me. Not long after that I was supposed to marry Tom & Roseanne, but they didn't seem to be able to make up their damn minds. Around the same time I was slated to become Chevy Chase's sidekick, a la Ed McMahon, but those bastards at FOX pulled the rug out from under us. Meanwhile, I keep kicking myself for not investing in cattle futures after I got a hot tip from my friend, Billary. He wanted to appoint me to the Supreme Court until he found out my views on abortion are too radical (I think it should be mandatory in some cases).

Oh, well, maybe my new syndicated TV series, "STAR TRUCK: THE NEXT GENERATOR," will be a big hit. (In the first episode, Scottie tinkers with Folgers crystals trying to get the truck rolling again.) If it does, perhaps I'll be able to pay off some of my old debts.....yours, of course, excluded.

With love:

W. Todd Zechel
W. Todd Zechel

P.S.1 - If you're going to edit this, see if you can't make me look as ridiculous as possible.

P.S.2 - Meaningless threatening letter from my attorney to follow.