

"...He (Streiber) has been criticized for creating folklore; he has been called insane, labeled a liar and a cult leader. Naturally, he wants to correct the record..."

- taken from the jacket of Whitley Streiber's latest book "Confirmation", which is reviewed in this issue.

DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES
OF UFOLOGICAL JOURNALISM

SAUCER SMEAR



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SUPREME COMMANDER:

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NEWSLETTER

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1998 NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NEAR TRENTON, N.J.:

After several false starts, your "Smear" editor has finally pinned down a location for the 35th annual National UFO Conference (NUFOC). The event will take place on the weekend of November 7th-8th at the luxurious Days Inn in Bordentown, N.J., about thirty miles southwest of Newark Airport, and just off the New Jersey Turnpike at Exit 7. This is the same place that our 1993 conference was held, and the local host will again be Pat Marcattilio, a major ufological entrepreneur in that area.

Not all of the speakers have yet been scheduled, but as of this writing they include Karl Pflock from Albuquerque, who will talk about his recent re-examination (on a "Sightings" TV Special) of the classic 1952 Scoutmaster Sonny Desvergers contact case. Other speakers include Antonio Huneeus, Tom Benson, David Huggins, Dr. Richard Sauder, Ph.D., and of course your humble "Smear" editor, who is Permanent Chairman of the NUFOC.

For further information, write to the "Smear" snail-mail address (above), and ask for a copy of our Convention flier.

"THE DUBIOUS DETECTIVE":

Phoenix radio personality Erskine has sent us a hilarious account of a trip he made to Switzerland last March with skeptical ufologist Kal K. Korff and a friend of Korff's named Dorothy, whom he brought along as a body guard. Among the people they interviewed was Billy Meier's ex-wife Popi, who again stated for the record that Billy's UFO photographs are all fakes.

Korff, of course, had visited the Meier camp in Switzerland once before, leading to his debunking book about Meier published by CSICOP's Prometheus Press, a couple of years ago. This time, according to Erskine, Korff "brought with him Dorothy plus fake Mossad & Interpol badges; he wore a bulletproof vest, and carried with him a fake bomb clock & various and sundry articles of intimidation". All of this, just to face

down a group of 6 to 8 hippies living at the Meier camp!

At a nearby restaurant, Korff asked so many pointed questions about Meier that he was quickly spotted as a "negative" person and was in effect asked to leave the area. Surely his methods were overly intense in dealing with people who, though selling fake UFO pictures, are nevertheless physically harmless!

For further information on this and other ufological projects that Erskine is involved with, you can write him at 6313 E. Sandra Terrace, Scottsdale, Az. 85254, or E-mail @ JPayton 790 @ AOL.com.

SEX AND SAUCERS:

A Los Angeles jazz singer named Pamela Stonebrooke is writing a book, due out next Spring, about her sexual affair with a reptilian from outer space. Shockingly, she says she was the one putting the moves on her alien captors. Far from being a victim, "in a hideous sexual encounter she conquered her fear and carried the sexual action to the reptilians". So says the book proposal, and it then goes on to say: "She recounts this act of interspecies intercourse in a graphic, no-holds-barred way, unique in UFO literature, replete with precise physical and emotional detail". Egads!

Says Stonebrooke, "Why would I make this stuff up? It doesn't exactly help my singing career, does it?" Motive: A \$100,000 advance! We are jealous!

A BRIEF OBITUARY:

Famed psychedelic guru Carlos Casteneda, quoted at the top of Page One of our last issue, died at his Los Angeles home on April 27th of this year. Because of his strange reclusive nature, his demise was not reported in the newspapers until almost two months later.

MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

Here's another update on the Roswell Incident - the story that will never die. Now we learn that James Bond Johnson, the military reporter who photographed the famous debris in General Ramey's office on July 8th, 1947, has digitally enhanced enlargements from the original negatives, and is able to see strange symbols in bas-relief on some parts of the wreckage. This, if true, would prove that this was the real debris, not a substitute, as has been claimed by some people. It would also supposedly prove that an extraterrestrial craft, not any sort of weather balloon, was involved in the Roswell crash.

The trouble here is that members of FUFOR (Fund for UFO Research) and other respected investigators such as Bob Durant have looked at these enlargements, and are not able to see any such thing. Furthermore, one should assume that if there really was alien writing on any part of the debris, General Ramey would not have allowed it to be photographed in the first place!...

Does anyone out there remember John Ford, formerly head of the Long Island (N.Y.) UFO Network? He was arrested on June 12th, 1996 on charges of plotting to murder several Long Island public officials. He is still in prison, unable to raise bail of half a million dollars.

Not a flying disc. Brigadier General R. Ramey and Colonel F. Dubose identify metallic fragments found near Roswell, New Mexico, as a Raywin high-altitude sounding device used to determine wind velocity and direction



It is unclear why he has not yet come to trial after all this time. Ufological friends of John's, including Don Jernigan of PIC (Phenomenon Investigation Committee) and Elaine Douglass of ORTK (Operation Right to Know) are still trying to raise money for his defense, on the tenuous assumption that the charges are bogus, and that John's legal troubles could happen to other UFO researchers as part of a conspiracy to silence them...

In our Feb. 15th issue we told of an absolutely terrible UFO abduction TV show in which our old pal Stanton Friedman is one of the main narrators. Now Friedman has outdone himself by appearing on an even worse show, on the Discovery channel, entitled "Beyond Bizarre: UFOs & Alien Implants". Here the main narrator is a deliberately crazy-looking guy, made up to look and sound like a ghoul of some sort. Friedman in a straw hat is one of the interviewees, along with Don Ecker of UFO Magazine, Derrel Sims, and Dr. Leir, the wild podiatrist who finds weird implants in people's feet. The line between truth and science fiction in the UFO field is becoming more & more blurred!...

On August 1st through 8th, the Second Annual Summer Seminars of the International UFO Conference will take place in Laughlin, Nevada, sponsored by Bob Brown and Wendelle Stevens. Your "Smear" editor was invited to speak at this, having lectured briefly at their similar conclave last February. However, a conflict arose in our busy (?) schedule, so we will be at next February's conference, instead.

Many of the speakers at the upcoming August event are of special interest, as they include several ufological old-timers whom we thought had faded away. Foremost among these is England's Desmond Leslie (now Lord Desmond Leslie!), who co-authored the original George Adamski contact book in 1953, "Flying Saucers Have Landed". Little has been heard of Leslie since that time. Other old-timers include Bill Hamilton, Wayne Aho, Dr. Frank Stranges, and Rev. Robert Short. There is even a "Giant Rock Survivors Panel", and talks by one of George Van Tassel's daughters and by a son-in-law of the master of Giant Rock! Wish we could be there. Your editor attended California's famed Giant Rock conventions two or three different years - all the way from New Jersey.

There are also more than twenty other speakers, including Guy Kirkwood (alias Mel Noel) and Mia Adams (alias Sheila Franklin). For more information, phone 303-543-9443....

Longtime Las Vegas writer-editor Jim Barrows says he has heard word of a military base on the Nevada desert that is even more mysterious than Area 51. It is Area 58. We kid you not! Remember that you read this in "Smear" before seeing it anywhere else....

From Karl Pflock comes this item (and many others, for which we give due thanks): Maria Reiche, the "Guardian Angel" of Peru's famous Nazca Lines, has died at the age of 95. Since 1946, Ms. Reiche has explored & studied the details of this huge system of straight-line markings and animal figures, which were carved out of the desert topsoil about a thousand years ago. Needless to say, she did not believe they had anything to do with extraterrestrials or space travel, in spite of their superficial resemblance to an airport landing field.

Your "Smear" editor wrote an article about the Nazca Lines which was published in the October 1955 issue of Fate Magazine. At that time we had not actually seen the Lines; we wrote the Fate article from an uncopyrighted English-language booklet written and distributed by Ms. Reiche, whom we never met.

About 1956, your editor became the only non-archaeological person ever to obtain legal permission to actually dig for buried treasure on the ancient Lines. Sadly, we found nothing there, but we did find many Inca and pre-Inca treasures in other parts of Peru....

A press release from the publisher informs us that Jerry Clark's

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most recent UFO encyclopedia, called "The UFO Book", has won the 1998 Benjamin Franklin Award in the Science/Environment category. Though we have often had serious differences of opinion with Jerry, there is no doubt that he is the numero uno UFO historian. Way to go, Jerry!...

Well, gentle readers, the dreaded Millennium gets ever closer; and while we seriously doubt that society will be burdened by the arrival of the anti-Christ or any such entity, there is one realistic menace that most people don't seem to know about or care about. This problem is detailed in an interesting article in the June 15th issue of Time Magazine. It is called Y2K, and is undoubtedly more of a threat than even MJ-12:

As we understand it, in the early days of computers, space was at a premium, and some bright programmers decided to save space by leaving out the "19" in a date such as "1998". After all, everyone knows that "98" means "1998". But when the year 2000 arrives, the computers will treat "2000" as if it were "1900". Get it? Everything will go wrong, and all hell will break loose, because our society is now so terribly dependent on computers in so many ways.

In general private industry is hurrying to make the proper preparations for Y2K, but the scary part is that the government isn't. The Federal Aviation Administration, the Defense Department, and the Internal Revenue Service are far behind in their preparations, with little or no hope of catching up soon enough. This will bring about the remote possibility of nuclear annihilation, and even worse, Social Security checks for us worthy oldsters simply will not be delivered! No one knows for sure just how severe the madness will be, starting immediately after midnight on January 1st, 2000; but hopefully we will all live long enough to find out.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST:

Recently, through a strange & unusual coincidence, we apparently obtained the address in Los Angeles of Albert K. Bender - the original UFO "hush up" victim, who closed down his International Flying Saucer Bureau (IFSB) in 1953 due to an alleged visit by Three Men in Black. This event brought on Gray Barker's classic book, "They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers", which discussed the Bender "hush up" case and several others.

We met Bender a few times, and he even lectured for our UFO group in New York City in the early 1960s. Bender eventually moved to California from his apartment in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and he dropped out of the UFO field altogether. The late August C. Roberts, a co-worker, kept in touch with Bender for many years, but he was apparently the only ufologist Bender would write to.

When we obtained the California address a few weeks ago, we wrote to Bender, and received the letter back unopened, inside a larger envelope. This makes us believe that we have the right guy but that he still does not want to correspond. The address is: Albert K. Bender, P.O. Box 45713, Los Angeles, Ca. 90045. Maybe one of you CIA operatives, self-appointed



who wants to fly on Jan. 1? (2000)

IBM is urging the FAA to replace outdated traffic-control computers, and the FAA says it will—by 2003. Midair collisions are unlikely, but you can count on some delays

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detectives or just plain snoops can find out his home address and/or phone number from this. If so, let us know!...

Incidentally, we now have an address for the new fake APRO organization, headed by Bill Heft. It is: 119 Harrison Ave., Dixon, Illinois 61021. Write to them and ask if they have the files from the original APRO, founded by Jim and Coral Lorenzen in 1952!

"GIVING THE WOMEN BABIES":

This is the title of one of several new interplanetary paintings produced in recent months by UFO abductee/contactee David Huggins of Hoboken, N.J., whose artistic works have graced our pages two or three times in the past. A black & white rendition of this colorful painting is at the left.

Says Huggins, in describing this work of art: "The two women are holding me and stroking me. I reach my climax in a container. The insect being is in the foreground. To the right is a group of women behind the curtain..."

"As to how this came about, one night I found myself in a room with many women. The tall thin man came by and in passing

he said, 'You will give all these women babies'. I asked, 'Make love to all of them in one night?' The tall man laughed....I was given a bowl, and two of the women to arouse me. I remember them making soft, purring sounds as I reached my climax. The insect being was there and the other women were there. The women were artificially inseminated..."

David Huggins' works have been exhibited in New York City and Huntington Beach, California. This particular painting has not been shown in public however, due to the vestige of Puritanism in this country. "Smear", however, is fearless.

Some of Huggins' other paintings will be displayed at our Bordontown, N.J. NUFOC Convention, in connection with his slide lecture there.

ANOTHER LOOK AT SOUTHERN FLORIDA'S SEMI-MYSTERIOUS CORAL CASTLE:

The lead article in the July 1998 issue of Fate Magazine is called "Mysteries of Coral Castle", written by Frank Joseph, who has a special interest in so-called Sacred Sites. The article is well written, but ends with a vast amount of pure speculation as to how and why Coral Castle was built.

Coral Castle, for those unfamiliar with it, is a group of huge stone carvings, each weighing several tons, constructed during the 1920s and 1930s by a Latvian immigrant named Ed Leedskalnin. It is now located in Homestead, Florida, a few miles south of Miami on Route One. (Originally most of it was built a few miles away, and then moved to its present location by Ed, always working alone!)

Your editor first heard about the Castle in the late 1950s, and visited it many times. We wrote an article on the subject for the September 1963 issue of "Saucer News". This article was quoted in a book by one Otto Binder, and for many years that page from Binder's book was in a frame on the wall of the souvenir shop next to the Castle, which has become a well-known tourist attraction in southern Florida. Thus your edi-



tor became a pseudo-expert on the Castle, even though our "Saucer News" article was taken from material available at the souvenir shop itself. We even were allowed to visit without paying the usual admission price!

The mystery of Coral Castle was in regard to how Ed was able to move stones weighing several tons each, while using nothing better than primitive tools - which are still on display there. In the course of our visits we became friendly with a woman named Virginia, whose last name now escapes us. She was in charge of the little souvenir shop, and claimed that she and her husband had known Ed quite well before Ed's death in the early 1950s. We begged Virginia to tell us the secret behind Ed's amazing work, and she always insisted that he did not use levitation or any other mysterious force. In those days we had the Will to Believe, and resisted Virginia's prosaic explanation.

Then in 1985 your editor went on a Miami radio station to talk about UFOs & various other mysteries, and one of the telephone callers claimed to know a man who, as a boy, had watched Ed work. (It is known that Ed liked kids, and apparently he would let them watch him, but he would not work in the presence of adults.)

The man in question was named Earl Lee, and we interviewed him at his home in Florida City, which is near Homestead. Lee was then in his late 60s, and may no longer be alive. But he told us in some detail about Ed's work methods. Unfortunately we did not make sufficient notes about what he said, but the gist was that he and his friends had talked at length to Ed many times in the old days, and watched him do his work - and there was simply nothing mysterious going on. (See the April 1st, 1985 "Saucer Smear" for more details about this.)

There is a lot more to our involvement in the Coral Castle story. In the late 1960s your editor almost bought the Castle and surrounding empty land, but the price was too high. We met the owner, who, however, had never known Ed. Eventually the place was sold to someone else. The souvenir shop was enlarged and remodeled, and our claim to fame was taken off the wall. Time and pollution turned the stone walls of the Castle darker, modern metal fences were put up, and somehow the place lost some of its charm.

One last interesting thing: Ed apparently built the Castle in honor of his "Sweet Sixteen", a woman long ago in his native Latvia who had promised to marry him and then changed her mind at the last minute. Her name was Agnes Scuffs. Just a few years ago she was still alive and was invited by the state of Florida to come, all expenses paid, to attend a tribute to Ed that was to be held here. She declined to come.

B O O K R E V I E W :

Whitley Streiber, well-known author of "Communion" and several other UFO books, has now come forth with "Confirmation - the Hard Evidence of Aliens Among Us" (St. Martin's Press, \$23.95).

Unfortunately, the "hard" evidence is, by Streiber's own admission, far short of proof. The book is in three parts - the first devoted to the many, many UFO videos of recent years, primarily from Mexico; the second consists of testimony about ET contact and abduction from a few of the thousands of people who have written to Streiber; and the third & presumably most exciting part of the book is about alleged alien implants, including one which Streiber recently had removed from his own ear.

In the course of the book the author seems to rely (among many others) on several researchers whose reputations in the UFO field are extremely poor - such as Jose Escamilla, who has videotaped endless anomalies in the sky near Roswell, N.M., while others around him see nothing; Jim Diletto, already familiar to "Smear" readers; and Derrel Sims, who has been compared to a snake oil salesman.

Sims is in partnership with Dr. Roger Leir, a podiatrist who is a UFO believer, and who has personally operated on alleged implants. Leir seems

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sincere, and incidentally he has the lead article in the latest (June 1998) issue of the MUFON Journal, in accordance with the new, more "liberal" policy of that magazine.

"Confirmation" ends with a long interview with Monsignor Corrado Balducci, a Catholic prelate who believes in extraterrestrials and who implies that the Vatican does also. However, an interesting recent item from the Internet states that "the Pope is set to issue an edict warning of New Age groups undermining traditional religious beliefs with claims of alien abductions and visiting spirits."

We did manage to read all of this book, as we have more spare time than before, in our semi-retirement from the business world. What impressed us most about this tome was the author's obvious sincerity. In spite of a very excusable Will to Believe, he painstakingly avoids jumping to conclusions, and manages remarkably well to keep an open mind. We wish that other abduction researchers (you know who you are!) could do this well!

The implants that have been surgically removed under controlled conditions in about a half dozen operations have all been made of known materials, though in peculiar combinations. Worst of all, no one has been able to demonstrate what use they have, to the aliens or anybody else. One test that Strieber has overlooked but would probably agree with: Why not choose say a hundred people at random out of the general population - people with no special interest in UFOs - and see how many of them have peculiar small objects under their skin. If some of this random group did have implants, would this maybe mean that they too are abductees unaware of their personal experiences?? Probably not.

Incidentally, Strieber has made the Big-Time. He and his new book are mentioned favorably in the June 23rd National Enquirer, from which the above photo is taken.

And our apologies to Whitley Strieber for misspelling his name all through the first part of this review. (We're too lazy to go back and change it!)



RESPECTED "close encounter" author Whitley Strieber

LETTERS TO YE OLDE EDITOR:

MARTIN KOTTMEYER, a ufological writer whom we admire greatly, writes:

"You mentioned that Martin Cannon is a conspiracy writer. You maybe should have said ex-conspiracy writer. There was a message by him posted on the net in 1997 stating that he disowns his Controllers theory and has left the field.

"The full text runs, 'Is there any way you could remove my name from your list of ufologists? I am out of the field. I have disowned the theory in my work "The Controllers" and have requested everyone carrying the piece on the web to remove it. That damned thing has caused me nothing but trouble. If you can't remove my name, at least be good enough to inform your readers that I have changed my tune. Frankly UFO buffs and conspiracy nuts kind of make me ill these days. I am so damned sick of being called an "agent". Thanks...'

"Such things don't happen often enough, and I applaud the man."

STANTON FRIEDMAN writes as follows regarding the quote at the top of Page One of our April 25th issue:

"Thanks for the quick response and promoting my products.

"I had meant to ask you for a copy of the quoted article. I am glad that you were quoting the newspaper and not me. I have often been misquoted. But I would like to see it. If it is really what I actually said, I guess it shows how naive I was..."

Researcher JERRY LUCCI writes:

"Dear Captain Jim:

"Let me start by saying that the latest issue of 'Smear' is a classic. I predict it will become a collector's item. It seems you have managed to touch base on all current events and lunacy currently affecting the field. Bravo!

"I particularly get a kick out of Stan Friedman, through the back door advertisement for all of his publications. If I were you I would send him a bill for the free ad space!..."

"BOB" WILSON writes:

"So you like the Evil Tube? Many regard it as barbaric, destructive, the enemy of literacy, etc. - sort of what you think of the computer..."

"In researching my three historical novels ('The Earth Will Shake', 'The Widow's Son', 'Nature's God'), all set in the 18th Century, I found that the major new media feared as sinful and decadent was, at that time, the novel. In the 19th Century it was the waltz. In the early 20th, the film. (I know a guy who still can't believe I regard some movies as highly as some novels, some operas, etc.) In the mid 20th, the TV. Now, the computer.

"Some people always fear and hate the new and different. In my social psych books ('Prometheus Rising', 'Quantum Psychology') I call that reflex infophobia. The opposite, always fascinated by the new, I call infophilia. Those who always fear the new, the infophobes, imprinted Mother as Safe Space in infancy and imprinted everything else as noxious or threatening. The infophiles imprinted Mother and World as both Safe Space and fun to explore and play with. (This is not really 'my' theory; a lot of it I owe to Harry Stack Sullivan, Tim Leary and Konrad Lorenz.)..."

"I loved your new issue. Since I am as much of an egomaniac as anybody else on this backward planet, I may have been unduly influenced by your lovely review of my new book. (It was the first review to appear in print so far. You have another exclusive scoop.) "

Skeptic MICHAEL DENNETT writes:

"Thank you for your recent post card. I do share some of your misgivings concerning the 'net'. At present the amount of junk on the 'net' is tremendous. Do you remember the CB radio fad of the '70s? Do you see any similarities to the Internet? I do have e-mail where I work, but I am not overly impressed. I still like to get cards & letters. I guess we are just old fashioned!"

Researcher ART WAND writes:

"My mother has recently been confined to an Adult Care Center. Her first week there, the place was visited by alien craft which she captured in this photo. Note the powerful glow of light which the Mother ship beams ahead of it, the semi-translucence of the ribbed hull which reveals a row of lights illuminating the interior, and the single, laser-like light on the satellite disc beside it!

"3½-D Forever..."

"How much longer can you & I hold out against Computerworld?"

