

**SHOCKINGLY
CLOSE TO
THE TRUTH!**

SAUCER SMEAR



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER & UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

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DONATIONS FROM THE DEAD!

We have received a hilarious item from CAUS (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy), headed by an eccentric lawyer named Peter Gersten. Apparently Gersten is giving up his law practice entirely, except for litigation against the government, related to UFOs.

In this recent Internet posting, Gersten states: "CAUS has taken the first step in what will ultimately be lawsuits against each of the 50 states under Article IV, Section IV of the U.S. Constitution, which requires the federal government to protect the states against 'invasion'".

We doubt if the framers of the Constitution had interplanetary invasion in mind. Furthermore, we are now wondering if Gersten was as off-the-wall as this, back in the early 1980s, when he took charge of the unsuccessful attempt to hold the government responsible for the injuries sustained in 1980 by the three victims in the famed Cash-Landrum Case. In other words, that was a legitimate lawsuit, but it needed to be handled by a really competent lawyer. Was it?

Further along in his posting, Gersten thanks the 3% of his members who have answered his very recent appeal for financial support. About 200 names are then listed, which means he is claiming to have around 6,000 members. The really weird part is this: Among the approximately 200 names of recent contributors are: Donald Keyhoe, Kenneth Arnold, George Adamski, Barney Hill, Jim Lorensen, Coral Lorenzen, and Gray Barker. All of these are leading ufologists of one sort or another, long deceased! Is this a joke of some sort??

Also listed are: anonymous (a frequent contributor to many causes); "UFO Colonel"; Bruce MacCabee (probably referring to Dr. Bruce Maccabee, a living ufologist); John Schuessler (a deputy director of MUFON); "Linda" (maybe meaning Linda Cortille, alias Linda Napolitano, of abduction fame); and Joe Firmage - the new rich guy in the UFO field that we are all trying to get money from!

Something is definitely wrong here! (Our thanks to Antonio Huneus, Tom Benson & others for this item.)...

CLARK IS MODERATELY MAD AT US

Predictably, UFO historian Jerry Clark is upset with our lead article in the last "Smear", in which we pointed out his overreaction to Kevin Randle's attempt to join the UFO abduction conference to be held in New York City on April 10th. Randle, a long-time Roswell advocate, has a somewhat skeptical book about abductions coming out shortly, co-authored

with Russ Estes and Dr. William Cone.

In his "Not for Publication" letter to "Smear", Clark whines that we are picking on him. Actually, we believe Clark to be an excellent UFO historian, but as an arbitrator of ufological Faith & Morals, he falls short...

THE INSIDE SCOOP ON HARRY S TRUMAN'S UFO VIEWS

A full-page ad in the Feb. 19th issue of the newspaper USA Today is of interest. It was placed there by the International Space Sciences Organization, which is in reality millionaire saucer enthusiast Joe Firmage. Fourteen celebrities or public figures are quoted as to their positive feelings about UFOs. The ad is nicely done, but unfortunately several of the quotes are misleading or taken out of context.

The most extreme example of this is the quote from Harry S Truman which reads: "I can assure you that flying saucers, given that they exist (italics ours), are not constructed by any power on earth". This statement is from a 1950 White House press conference and sounds very impressive, except that the phrase in italics is the key part. We had a brief private meeting with Truman in 1954, after he was out of office, and the quote he gave us regarding flying saucers was simply "I've never seen a purple cow, I never hope to see one..." He refused to add to that statement.

Several years later we attended a Truman press conference (not at the White House), and received similar negative responses from the ex-president in answer to our UFO-related questions. Naturally we never asked about Roswell or MJ-12, as these were still unknown to the public at that time.

This Truman story is one of the items we were saving for our forthcoming book with Karl Pflock, but it looks like the millennium may end before said book is ever published. (Our thanks to hard-core non-subscriber Denis Corey for this item.)...

APRO IS REALLY DEAD THIS TIME

We recently had an interesting telephone conversation with Reverend William Heft, who, a couple of years ago, seemed to be reviving the ancient UFO research group called APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization). We found this revival hard to believe, because Jim & Coral Lorenzen founded APRO in 1952 and lived in their later years in Tucson, Arizona. Anyhow, Heft now tells us that he has given up on APRO, the new headquarters of which was Heft's home in Illinois. He also admits that he does not have the APRO files. Indeed, Heft has given up on saucer research in general, and is now convinced that there is probably nothing out there to investigate, after all...

"CUTLER MEMO" SHOWN TO BE A FAKE

Due to the renewed interest in MJ-12 in recent months, we have decided to share with our readers a fascinating Reference Report from the



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National Archives in Washington, D.C., dated July 22nd, 1987. You see, the only MJ-12 document actually found in an archive, instead of appearing from an unknown source, was the so-called Cutler Memo. It was supposedly found by either William Moore or his friend Jaime Shandera, or both. If it were to be proven genuine, this could be considered proof that a mysterious UFO-related group called MJ-12 actually did/does exist. But alas, this memo is not even a little bit genuine!

The memo in question is from Robert Cutler to General Nathan Twining, dated July 14th, 1954. This was during the Eisenhower administration. The document mentions a meeting of the National Security Council which Twining attended, and where MJ-12 was discussed. Unfortunately, Cutler was out of the country at the time, and there is no record of any NSC meeting on the date this meeting was supposed to have occurred!

There are numerous other problems, of which ten are listed in this Report. It appears that a sincere effort was made by the government to find any other MJ-12 reference whatsoever in governmental files, but none could be found. Obviously the Cutler Memo was placed in the National Archives, by someone with a motive to do so. Who could that possibly be?...

KEEL GETS A BAD DEAL

According to information we have received, a science-fiction movie called "The Mothman Prophecies" is in the works, and there may even be two separate but similar movie projects - both based vaguely on ufologist John Keel's supposedly true 1970s book with the same title. A title can't be copyrighted, and apparently Keel, who could well use the money, is getting nothing out of either project.

The hero of one of these movies is named John Klein, a name which is obviously similar to John Keel. Weirdly, there is an entity in the movie named Indrid Cole, which is almost the exact name of the spaceman who was met by contactee Woodrow Derenberger many years ago - but this had nothing whatever to do with the Mothman syndrome.

In the UFO field, science fiction and science fact have become so intermingled that it really boggles the mind. Egads!

NEWS ABOUT THIS YEAR'S NUFOC CONVENTION:

The 36th running of the National UFO Conference (NUFOC) will take place in San Antonio, Texas, on Saturday September 25th, at a location to be announced shortly. Dennis Stacy, former editor of the MUFON Journal, will be the local host. Confirmed speakers include Karl Pflock, Kevin Randle, Patrick Huyghe, Rick Hilberg (a co-founder of the NUFOC), and your humble "Smear" editor. More info in our next ish!

What may happen.

By ILENE GOLDENBERG and SARAH GATLING
Citizen Staff Writers

What effect will the Year 2000 bug have on you?

Here are a few of the things that could happen if people do not prepare:

■ Electronic switches in the water pipeline may go down without guidance from software in Florida City.

■ Power may go out.

■ Telephones and fax machines may not work without guidance from computer software that routes calls.

■ Banks may not be able to accept your ATM card, or be able to access their records on how much money you have in your account.

■ Traffic lights may malfunction.

■ Investment companies

may not be able to access their records on the money you have in your account.

■ The city and the county may lose their ability to dispatch emergency vehicles.

■ The federal government may be unable to access your tax, social security, Medicare and Medicaid records.

■ Airport control towers may lose their ability to track planes.

■ Hospitals and pharmacies may be unable to access their records on your insurance and drug allergies.

■ Grocery stores may be unable to accept debit cards or credit cards that expire after the year 2000.

■ Cash registers, fax machines and elevators with embedded chips may freeze.

TIDBITS OF TRASH:

If you enjoy paranoia as much as we do, you will love the little Millennium Bug article at the left. This tells you what may happen in our home town when the dreaded Y2K virus strikes at midnight of December 31st of this year. Of course, things in your home town - large or small - will probably be about the same as they are here. Or maybe nothing will happen; but at least we can all enjoy worrying about it until we find out for sure, one way or another....

Incidentally, we have finally learned what the word "Y2K" really means: It

ONLY SEX WEBSITES exceed UFO sites in number.

— Walter Andrus,
Mutual UFO Network Journal

Saucer Smear, a free "non-scheduled" newsletter edited by Jim Moseley, is available by sending a "love offering"- a check made out to Jim Moseley (you become a non-subscriber!) Mail to PO Box 1709, Key West, FL 33041.

means year 2K, or year two thousand. We found this out by watching radio talk show host Art Bell on the Larry King TV Show, the other night. Bell, whom we had never seen or heard before, came across as an intelligent, articulate crackpot. (Obviously your editor does not expect to be invited onto the Art Bell Show any time soon!)...

For our many, many fans in the vicinity of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, we include the following information: Tim Beckley of Global Communications, who has published UFO and New Age books & magazines for many years, is sponsoring a special Happening in Fort Lauderdale on April Fool's Day this year. A former lady wrestler, now turned psychic, named Suzanne Miller, will be present in person at the Galerie Macabre, at 207 S.W. 5th St., from 8 p.m. to midnight on April 1st. Ms. Miller is the author of a new Beckley book called "Omens, Curses and Superstitions". Beckley ("Mr. UFO") will be there in person, and your "Smear" editor will probably be there as well. Ain't Science grand?...

On the evening of Feb. 17th, NBC had a two-hour TV Special called "Confirmation: The Hard Evidence of Aliens Among Us?" Shamefully, your humble "Smear" editor did not see the show, but we are told that most of the ufological Biggies - even on the debunking side - were seen, with the notable exception of UFO physicist Stanton Friedman.

Among the sub-topics: Abductions, implants, the famous Mexico City video, Freedom of Information documents, and even a very good 1994 case from Ohio involving police having seen and chased a UFO close-up. This sighting was identified by third-string skeptic James McGaha as astronomical, which is probably a far-fetched explanation for this particular case.

Perhaps the most interesting item in the show concerned an "implant" which apparently is chemically unique. But we would still ask - what does it really mean, in regard to being any sort of a link to the alleged aliens? So far, it is nothing more than an interesting anomaly.

In general, most viewers we have spoken to seem to feel that this was a rather mediocre production. On the other hand, Whitley Strieber, who co-produced the show, wrote a letter to the New York Times chiding them for being "unfairly critical"...

Finally, we have an Internet item about Jim Dilettoso, the UFO photo expert whose judgment and honesty have been brought into serious question by skeptic Kal K. Korff and many others. In this posting, entitled "Pending Lawsuit", Dilettoso threatens to sue Korff unless he removes all of his negative statements about Dilettoso from the Net - statements such as "court records show a two million dollar swindle of investors". Korff is a serious and determined young man, and we will wait to see just how he handles this situation! (Our thanks to Wm. LaParl Jr. for this & other items in this issue.)

"Malls Try to Attract Shoppers"

— *Baltimore Sun*

"Teen-Age Girls Often Have Babies Fathered By Men"

— *Sunday Oregonian*

"Low Wages Said Key to Poverty"

— *Newsday*

Man jailed trying to save ex from aliens

Associated Press

ELIZABETH — A man who claims he killed his ex-wife to protect her from being kidnapped by aliens has been sentenced to 40 years in prison.

Brett Steingraber, 39, of Roselle Park was sentenced Friday in Superior Court. He must serve at least 15 years before becoming eligible for parole.

He pleaded guilty last month to aggravated manslaughter in the death of his ex-wife, Suraia Sadi, 36. He also pleaded guilty to endangering the welfare of their three boys, ages 11, 10 and 9.

PFLOCK TALK - LITERARY LICENSE

by Karl Pflock, "Smear" Contributing Editor & Fifth Columnist

In his new book "Alien Abductions: Creating a Modern Phenomenon" (Amhurst, N.Y.: Prometheus, 1998, 317 pp., \$26.95), University of Saskatchewan English professor Terry Matheson argues that what many think they know about UFO abduction experiences just ain't so. He also contends abduction stories have struck a strong popular chord because they meet needs similar to those that generated classical myths, and are in fact the building blocks of a modern myth addressing fears of such demons as dehumanizing technology and untrustworthy government.

Matheson's first point is on target. What too many take to be accurate abduction accounts in popular books and articles actually are significantly restructured renderings. As a Practicing Ufologist (P.U.), I find original abduction and other UFO testimony and evidence very often differ in many important and often critical respects from the retold published versions, even when the re-tellers are the principals themselves.

The imperatives of constructing a consistent, coherent, and entertaining (i.e., salable) narrative all too often conflict with those of straightforward factual representation. The narrative process abhors ambiguity, uncertainty, and neutrality. Things are left out, others are under- or overemphasized. Even with the best of intentions, the biases of the author, pro or con, inevitably creep in. Then there are the variations produced by other writers, further confusing things.

Bottom line: If you're doing UFO research, get as close to the original testimony and evidence as you can. Unfortunately, Matheson often ignores this rule in his dissection of the works of John Fuller, Budd Hopkins, Travis Walton, and others, relying on skewed nth generation accounts for comparison. For example, he gets a lot wrong about the Hill case. Still, his analyses are instructive.

Matheson's related argument is that abduction authors have participated in the creation of a myth, "rearranging the material provided by the abductees in a manner that appealed to the public, and in doing so fulfilled a function similar to those that classical myths served", explaining "an aspect or aspects of a culture to itself". He makes an interesting if too broad case, one worthy of thoughtful consideration.

Unlike other Prometheus authors, Matheson seems not to have an ax to grind with respect to the reality of UFOs or the true nature of abductions. To a remarkable degree, his book is a debunking-free zone. His aim is to demonstrate that how and why the abduction narrative came "to be created is an area just as worthy of investigation as is the question of what is actually behind the claims the abductees are making". He's right, and this has very important implications for ufology and any hope we may have of ever understanding the UFO phenomenon(-a).

Fearless Predictions: Ufological True Believers will denounce Matheson's work as mere literary criticism or stealthy debunkerism in the guise of literary and social analysis. Ufological True Unbelievers will seek to kidnap it as proof that alien abductions are (de) bunk. And so The Field will squabble on.

WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD: A small tin of excrement, one of eight works by Piero Manzoni, an Italian conceptual artist who died in 1963, was sold for £17,250 at Sotheby's in London on 2 July. Manzoni produced a series of 90 tins of *merda d'artista*, labelled in English, French, German and Italian. Each tin of shit was signed, numbered and priced according to the daily market rate for gold. [PA] 3 July 1998.

BLIND PANIC: Judge Claudia Jordan caused panic in her court in Denver, Colorado, on 20 November when she passed a note to her clerk which read: "Blind on the right side. May be falling. Please call someone". The clerk rang for emergency help. Informed that paramedics were on the way, the judge gave a cry of dismay and pointed to the sagging venetian blinds on the right side of the room. "I wanted someone from maintenance," she said. *West Wendover (Nevada) High Desert Advocate*, 25 Nov 1998.

GETTING THE MESSAGE ACROSS: The Bureau For At-Risk Youth in Plainview, New York, sent hundreds of pencils to primary schools in the state bearing the slogan: "Too Cool to Do Drugs". Once they had been sharpened a few times, the message read: "Cool to Do Drugs" and then: "Do Drugs". The Bureau withdrew the pencils and planned to reprint the words the other way round... but how can they ensure that kids sharpen the right end? [AP] 12 Dec 1998.

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

Famed MJ-12 investigator WILLIAM MOORE writes as follows:

Thanx for yours of Feb. 8th.

No, I did not know about Mr. Klass' "present delicate state of health." Since I wouldn't wish ill health or the suffering that goes with it on even a dog, I certainly won't wish it on him. Rather, I will only offer my opinion that his mother should have had an abortion because the world would be better off without such people.

Here's a man who (perhaps in imitation of Adolf Hitler) has spent a large part of his life trying to make himself look good by making others look bad-- others who, when you get right down to it, did nothing either to him or against him except to offer up opinions or points of view with which Mr. Klass, in his holier-than-thou, mean-spirited self-righteousness, happened to disagree. How DARE this son-of-a-bitch try to have me investigated, perhaps even arrested and thrown into jail, just because I held to a particular point of view or took a particular course of action with respect to Roswell which he didn't like and didn't want to hear! What did I ever do to him? Not only did he attempt to place my life and my freedom in jeopardy with what he did, but he never once stopped to think what effect such an action might have on my four children.

Until Posner's tongue-in-cheek comments about Klass and MJ-12 got me to thinking about it, the idea that Klass might somehow be behind MJ-12 never occurred to me. And even afterwards, I still harbored considerable doubt. I have less doubt now that I've learned he tried to set the FBI on my tail. That action, more than anything else, tells me what frame of mind this man was in-- and I don't use the word "frame" lightly. Seems to me that a man desperate enough to stoop to something like that just to cause trouble for someone he didn't agree with, would stoop to just about anything. I hope they put him in the same cell in hell with Ken Starr. The two deserve each other. They could spend the rest of eternity trying to decide which one is the more self-righteous.

But he's just teasing me, you say. He's only playing with me "in his delightfully evil way." (Well, at least you admit he's evil.) Tease a dog, and you may get bitten. Tease a cat, and you may get scratched. Mr. Klass' mother (the one who should have had the abortion) should have taught her spoiled only child that it's not nice to tease-- that he who teases must be prepared to accept the consequences.

If the above has caused you to notice that I'm OUTRAGED about this, then perhaps I've said enough.

Now-- as to your thinking it is unfair that you are not on the list of suspects, perhaps it will smooth your feathers if I tell you that I have always thought of you as being something of a suspicious character. It's just that your character isn't suspicious enough to make one suspect that you might be a suspect.

Cooper??? You mean Bill Cooper? I admit he's "shadowy;" he's just *not very smart*, that's all. IF MJ-12 is a hoax, then it seems to

me that whoever is behind it has to meet four qualifications: He (or she?) has to be evil, has to have a diabolical sense of humor, has to be smart enough to have created those documents, and has to have had a motive. You've already admitted Klass is "evil" and that he likes to tease and play with people. That fills the bill for the first two items. And since I don't think anyone would dispute that he is intelligent enough to have done the job, that leaves only "motive." I submit to you that Klass was so enraged and upset by all the publicity Roswell was getting that he would have done anything to discredit the case and get back at those he felt were responsible for promoting it, and that his letter to the FBI should be looked upon as Exhibit "A" in support of just such a scenario.

Remember, Jim, that Klass didn't agree with what Dr. Jim McDonald was doing either, and we all know what the outcome of that one was, don't we? And what Jim McDonald was into didn't incense Klass nearly as much as Roswell did.

So maybe you still feel Klass didn't do it. A few months ago, I would have agreed with you. Now, however, I am not so certain. One thing that IS certain however, is that if Gary Posner had kept his big mouth shut, none of this would have ever come up. Somehow it's only fitting that it was one of Klass' fellow skeptics who got him into this cauldron.

Nothing new on Shandera.

Editor's Note: We were referring to the mysterious Tim Cooper of California, not Bill Cooper the Militia sympathizer. Tim was behind most of the MJ-12 documents that the Woods are now talking about. - Jaime Shandera is Bill Moore's former co-worker, who is alleged to have disappeared mysteriously.

And, famed debunker PHIL KLASS writes as follows:

Reference Bill Moore's letter (Feb. 20), if the MJ-12 papers released in late May of 1987 by Moore and his associates were authentic, then the person responsible for "leaking" them had violated their "Secrecy Agreement" and might be supplying other far more important Top Secret documents to the Soviet Union. If the documents were bogus, the person who created them was violating Federal law against making and distributing counterfeit government documents. (Without such a law, someone could make and circulate a counterfeit FBI document falsely claiming that Moore was suspected of sexually harassing young girls.)

I felt that the FBI should be promptly informed and provided with a copy of the MJ-12 papers, which I did in my letter of June 4, 1987. If the MJ-12 papers were authentic, Moore had nothing to fear because he had not himself violated any "Secrecy Agreement." If the MJ-12 papers were bogus and if Moore was not involved in creating them, he had nothing to fear from an FBI investigation.

If Moore is being truthful, I URGE him to report his suspicions to the FBI and provide them with all possible evidence to support his suspicions. I agree to provide the FBI access to all of my files--except the one marked "Letters From Monica Lewinsky."

BOB BROWN of the International UFO Congress, which recently held its 8th Annual Conference in Laughlin, Nevada, has kindly sent us the following "scoop". (Brown can be reached at 9975 Wadsworth Parkway, #K2-504, Westminster, Colorado 80021.)

The Speaker line up was extraordinary and a great time was had by all 500 plus attendees. The Art Bell Chat Club coordinators also had their first meetings as well during the Event. There were continuous UFO sightings during the week (especially at the end of the week), culminating in two dramatic sightings on the last day. The first was daylight, when a stationary black object was observed for at least 20 minutes. It was very strange looking, with a sort of bulbous middle, and elongated triangle "spires" coming out at the top and bottom. Then, at dusk, a really dramatic "light show" was put on by a ship (or ships that later broke into 6 ships)! The later sighting was simultaneously observed by no less than Peter Davenport of the UFO Reporting Center, Perter Gersten (The "Ufo Lawyer"), Dr. Roger Leir (The "Alien and the Scalpel") and Steve Basset (The UFO Lobbyist), and 30 or 40 more! But, the highlight of the week was perhaps the first public disclosure of what we now believe to be an alien skull!

During the week of the Congress preliminary examination of the skull was undertaken by many people including medical doctors, an investigator with his minor in anthropology, and a teacher of human anatomy. It was also "viewed" by remote viewers in attendance. The initial report was made to the Congress on the closing evening. The preliminary conclusion reached is that "the skull is not human, nor is it any kind of "missing link". It was definitely an adult; standing perhaps 3 feet tall. The bone density was less than a human's. It resembled the "general" shape of what we commonly recognize as a "Grey"; but perhaps it was a hybrid, as it more closely resembled the drawings made by witnesses that claim to have seen their own hybrid offspring. Complete data on the preliminary conclusions will be posted on our web site within the next couple of weeks. The investigation is headed by Lloyd Pye.

The next Congress Event will be the "3rd Annual Summer Seminars" scheduled for August 15th through 21st, 1999.

We now return to our usual practice of printing edited portions of letters, rather than pasting in the whole letter.

JOHN SCHUESSLER (9862 West Unser Ave., Littleton, Co. 80128), author of "The Cash-Landrum UFO Incident", writes as follows:

"Thank you for the book review. I appreciate it.

"Sorry I am not at liberty to give medical records to unqualified people like Phil Klass. Those records have been reviewed by several medical doctors, and they found no pre-Incident anomalies. I really don't care what the debunkers say. It won't bring Betty (Cash) back..."

DICK FREEMAN of "Batteries Not Included", writes:

"I wonder if anyone but me is worrying about all of those UFOs that are going to come crashing to earth next Jan. 1st when their computers go on the fritz! What a mess that's going to make, as all of the military will be in the cities, shooting rioters & there will be no one left to hide the damn saucers anywhere! Forewarned is fourarmed. Fourarmed is Hindu."

Researcher MILLER JOHNSON writes:

"Your comments on the I-Beam are well taken. Weak and spindly perhaps, but not necessarily a spaceship structural member. Could it have been an alien dining utensil emblazoned with people-eating instructions?!"