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SAUCER SMEAR

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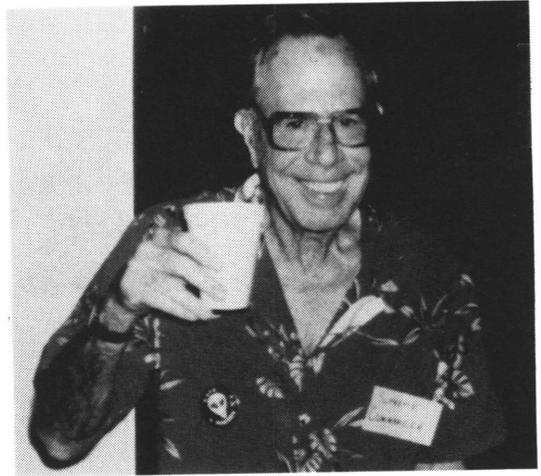
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RE-HASH OF THE 2000 NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS:

The 37th running of the National UFO Conference (NUFOC) was held on the weekend of September 23rd-24th in a pleasant Ramada Inn located in downtown Corpus Christi. Co-hosts for the event were a pair of MUFON alien abduction researchers named Doris Upchurch and Susanna Washburn, and they deserve great credit for the energy and perseverance they put into the planning of this convention!

Unfortunately, a number of things went wrong - mostly beyond the control of the convention sponsors. Walt Andrus, the recently retired czar of MUFON, was to be a speaker, and we were prepared to present him with our coveted NUFOC "Lifetime Achievement" Award. Sadly, Walt's wife Jeanne died just two days before the start of the convention, and obviously he was not able to attend. Similarly, Rick Hilberg of Cleveland, who is one of the co-founders of the NUFOC, was unable to be there because of the illness of his wife Carol. Substitute speakers were found for these two no-shows.

The program began with your humble editor giving his standard lecture, "Weird Personal Experiences of a Skeptical Believer", and the "Lifetime Achievement" Award - a small plaque - was then given to Doris Upchurch to pass on to Andrus later.

Next on the program was a Mexican gentleman named Jeronimo Flores, who showed a whole lot of UFO videos from his native land. He was accompanied by a charming female interpreter named Diana Perla Chapa, whose enthusiasm easily made up for any possible lack of authenticity of the videos.

The morning session closed with a long talk by nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman, pictured on Page 2.

The Saturday afternoon program was somewhat spoiled by sporadic loud music from a Christian evangelical group that had rented the lecture hall right next to ours. Obviously the hotel banquet department erred badly in booking these people so close to us, and a lawsuit is pending!

The afternoon program included Ann Druffel

From a garbled newspaper account of the Corpus Christi convention:

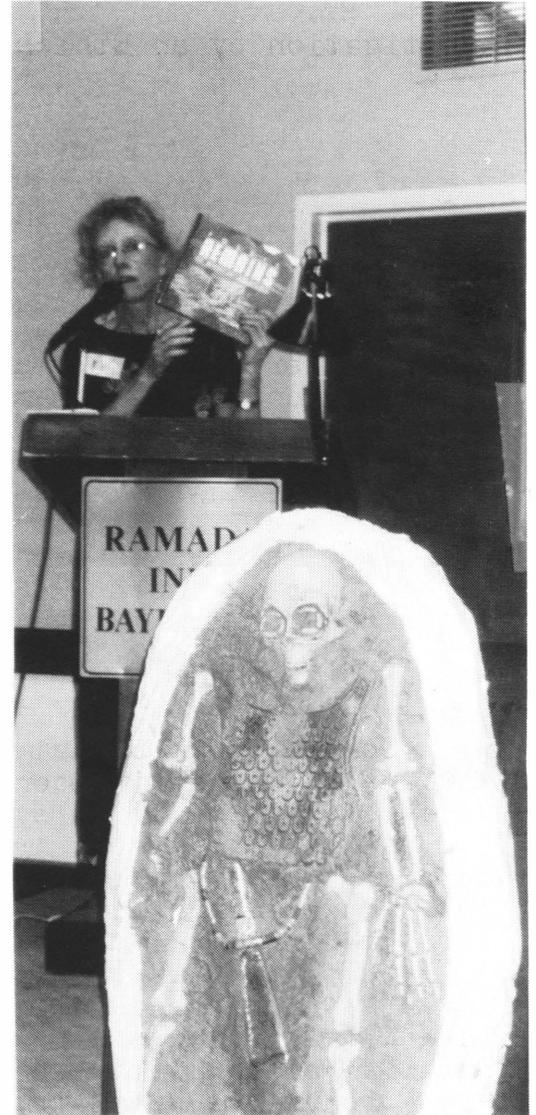
James Moseley, the author of several books that document sightings as far back as the mid-1950s, said he remains somewhat skeptical about UFOs. "I accept the fact that I have seen them," Moseley said. "The trouble with the sciences like 'ufologism' is interpretation. You have a mystery that is beyond our current understanding, one that can't be measured more than once."

of Pasadena, California, who is the author of "How to Defend Yourself Against Alien Abduction". Ann's instructions seem to work, at least in her own case, as the lady has never been abducted as far as we know!

The Sunday morning program included Dennis Stacy, co-editor of the "Anomalist" magazine, and Constance Clear (pictured below), who seems to be on the program everywhere we go. She is another energetic lady, whose current book "Reaching for Reality" is one which we intend to read & review shortly.

Our special thanks go to Judith Slaughter, who brought her (alleged) alien skeleton all the way from Dallas, to illustrate her late husband's interest in anthropology and folklore. (See picture below.)

Next year's NUFOC will take place in Austin, Texas, on the weekend of September 14th-16th, and the local sponsor will be a young MUFON fire-brand named Miles Lewis. The most important thing we can tell you at this time is that the format will be quite different from any NUFOC convention of the past! Possible speakers (not yet firmly booked) include: Joe Firmage, Timothy Green Beckley, Karl Pflock, Ray Stanford, Jenny Randles, Hal



SCIENCE AT WORK, AT THE NUFOC: Above: Psychologist & abduction researcher Constance Clear hawks her new book "Reaching for Reality". Below: Nuclear Physicist Stanton Friedman makes change for eager customers at his vending table. At the right: Judith Slaughter hawks her late husband's book "Fossil Remains of Mythical Creatures". One such Creature, thought by some to be a deceased space alien, is encased in plaster and leaning against the podium. (Photos by OISEAU.)

Puthoff, Jacques Vallee, Linda Moulton Howe, Loren Coleman, Brent Raynes, John Shirley, Kenn Thomas, Greg Bishop, Tim Brigham, Kinky "Big Dick" Friedman, Allan Greenfield, Patrick Huyghe, Harry Lime, Dennis Stacy, Tom Deuley, Jim Marrs, Linda Cortile, and Constance Clear. Stay tuned for more details in future issues of "Smear", or hit the Con. web site: www.nufoc.net.

Our next issue will contain brief accounts of two other conventions your editor attended recently. The first was in Bordentown, N.J., hosted by veteran con-host Pat Marcatillio. The other was in Fort Walton Beach, Florida (near famed Gulf Breeze), run by a group called Journeys Beyond - formerly known as Project Awareness. Stay tuned!...

FOLLOW-UPS ON RECENT "SMEAR" STORIES:

Our readers will recall that in our Sept. 5th issue, we told you of the internal scandal in MUFON regarding the fact that John Carpenter, their Director of Abduction Research, sold one hundred and forty (140) abduction case histories to wealthy John Bigelow of NIDS (National Institute of Discovery Science). John Schuessler, the new czar of MUFON, has promised an investigation by an Ethics Committee consisting of four unnamed members of their Board of Directors, and he has stated that the results of this internal investigation will be published in the MUFON Journal.

However, we have recently received the October issue of the Journal, and there is not a word therein about the John Carpenter affair! On the contrary, the lead article is authored by Carpenter, who uses the letters "MSW" and "LCSW" after his name. We have no idea what these letters mean, but we do know that the article in question is an absurd defense of the ludicrous "abduction video" which was the topic of Carpenter's presentation at this year's MUFON symposium in St. Louis. It thus appears that Mr. Carpenter is still riding high in the MUFON hierarchy!...

Now, on to the latest lawsuit against arch-debunker James ("The Amusing") Randi, which was also mentioned in the Sept. 5th "Smear". We had hoped to have a meaningful update on this matter, but all we have learned is that Randi has mounted a defense based on technicalities, rather than dealing directly with the alleged libel and slander that he has been accused of. Yes, we know that a preposition is an improper word to end a sentence up with, but we are so incensed by this matter that we tend to lose our grasp of English grammar - or whatever! Hopefully we will have more to report next time!

TIDBITS OF TRASH (formerly NEWS BRIEFIES) :

Some of our "Smear" fans may have noticed that the recent September issue of FATE Magazine contained an article called "UFOs: 3-D or 4-D+?", co-authored by Jim Moseley and Karl Pflock.

The current November FATE has another article by the same dynamic duo, this one called "Saucer Logic". The material in there is rather humorous, if we do say so ourselves, and an expanded form of it (plus much, much more!) will be found in our soon (?) to be published UFO book, "Shockingly Close to the Truth".

The November issue of FATE is noteworthy for at least two other reasons: It features a very strange cover, consisting of a cartoon of a Big-foot-like creature, fully clothed and walking down a city street. The creature (or human?) seems to be taking the same stance taken by the alleged Bigfoot in the famed Paterson Film, which many people believe to be fake. This unusual drawing is by R. Crumb who, we are told, is a well-known contemporary artist.

The other thing we liked about the November FATE is the article called "The Ghosts of the St. James Hotel", written by one Robert L. Allen. Your fearless "Smear" editor has visited the St. James Hotel in Cimarron, New Mexico twice in recent years, looking desperately for ghosts that we never found. But we do accept the idea that strange things have happened

there, very occasionally...

From Super Secret Sources we learn the hilarious news that former Sergeant Richard ("Rick") Doty now does research & investigation for the prestigious NIDS (National Institute for Discovery Science), though this must be on a part-time basis, as Doty is, as far as we know, still employed by the New Mexico State Police. The reason we find this news amusing is that Doty's competence and veracity have frequently been called into question, particularly in regard to his connection (if any) to the original group of MJ-12 documents that were discovered by William Moore and Jaime Shandera back in 1987. Doty claims that he successfully passed two lie detector tests in regard to the MJ-12 matter, but we still wonder what amount of stability he can bring to a scientific organization!

Further, we hear that our olde friend John Alexander, of non-lethal weapons fame, has been downgraded in the NIDS hierarchy, possibly because of a personal falling-out with Robert Bigelow. Bigelow is the cash machine that runs the NIDS organization...

Arch-debunker Phil Klass underwent a serious spinal operation on Friday the 13th of October, to correct the results of a previous spinal operation that did not turn out right. He is now in rehabilitation (physical, not mental), and should be back on line within a few weeks. We wish the old fellow well!...

An article in the Oct. 12th edition of the New York Post tells us of a bizarre cult that worships flying saucers and which claims it is gearing up to produce the world's first human clone - duplicating a baby that died when she was ten months old. An anonymous American couple, the parents of the dead baby, have given the cult half a million dollars to perform the feat, which would be the first-ever cloning of a human being. Scientists interviewed for this article say that such cloning is theoretically possible, though highly immoral.

The cult is called Rael, and was founded by a 53-year-old former sports writer from France named Claude Vorilhon. They claim to have fifty thousand members spread out over 85 different countries. Raelians have already set up a company called Clonaid, whose purpose is to produce babies for homosexual couples. Obviously, this is a very unusual cult!...

A science fiction movie called "Mothman Prophecies", starring Richard Gere, will begin production next January. The movie is based on the legendary John Keel's book describing his investigation of UFO and Mothman reports around Point Pleasant, West Virginia, in the late 1960s. It is unclear whether Keel, who has been racked by poverty for many years, will make any money at all out of this venture; but our Sources tell us that he probably will not! Pity!...

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE ON ONE OF THE BEST OF THE "CLASSIC" UFO CASES:

DID UFO CAUSE PLANE TO CRASH?:

New evidence has been uncovered in the mysterious Frederick Valentich UFO encounter/plane disappearance case. Recently three people who were rabbit hunting near the area where the Valentich UFO encounter occurred reported that they saw a green light hovering over his plane moments before it disappeared. It is now believed the plane crashed into the ocean south-east of Cape Marengo, Australia, minutes after losing radio contact on October 21, 1978. The three witnesses reported that they saw an airplane descending downward at a steep angle of 30 to 40 degrees with a much larger object with green lights flying just above it. The Victorian UFO Research Society is now seeking sponsors to launch an underwater search for the wreckage of the aircraft. (Credit: UFO Newsclipping Service, #2 Caney Valley Drive, Plumerville, Arkansas 72127 & the Standard, Warmambool, Victoria, Australia 6/1/00)

A one billion dollar giant radio telescope, capable of scanning more than one million stars for signs of intelligent life, will be operational by the year 2015. Stars as far away as one thousand light years will be surveyed, according to a report in the London Times. Impetus for the plan has grown in recent months, with astronomers announcing the discovery of more than forty planets in distant solar systems. These planets are mostly very large and too hot to support life as we know it, but

(Continued to Page 8)

PFlock PTalk / KEVIN RANDLE FLIP-FLOPS AGAIN?**by Karl Pflock, Our Contributing Editor & Fifth Columnist**

On September 7th, the PAX-TV Network's new series "Encounters with the Unexplained" was devoted to Roswell. This "docudrama", produced by David Balsiger and Charles Sellier's Grizzly Adams Productions, was Roswell as never before imagined by anyone. It was the most entertaining Roswell I've ever seen - so bad it was good, so unintentionally funny it was impossible to switch off, like those old Japanese monster movies.

There was a re-enacted Mack Brazel running from soldiers across the "saucer"-debris field in a bid for freedom. There was the real J. Bond Johnson, who snapped the famous photos of the "Mogul" radar targets and such in General Roger Ramey's office, telling us that, while waiting for the general, he arranged the junk to make his shots more interesting. There were the soldiers chasing poor ol' Mack, hassling Glenn "Bodies" Dennis, and generally running amok, their demeanor and floppy black berets suggesting the producers had hired extras from the Iraqi army. There was Air Force (sic) officer Philip Corso, unquestioningly portrayed as the Johnny Appleseed of alien technology and all-around unappreciated hero.

"Skeptic" magazine editor-publisher Michael Shermer and I were the token - but fairly represented - skeptics, surrounded by the usual suspects, including Stan Friedman (looking a bit like an extra from the Middle East himself) and Kevin Randle. Randle has long since repudiated Glenn Dennis and his story, saying so in print at least three years ago and many times in many ways and places since. Imagine my surprise as he enthusiastically supported Dennis' story, on camera and in voice-over, as the Tale of the Missing Nurse and the Hassled Embalmer was "re-enacted". Ye ghods, I thought, has he flip-flopped again?!

I queried Kevin by e-mail, and soon learned that not only had he not seen the show, he had never even heard of it. Balsiger and company - the folks who brought us such gems as "The Search for Noah's Ark" and the out-and-out hoax production "The Lincoln Conspiracy" - had used file footage from a much earlier Randle interview, and had done so without checking to see if it still accurately represented his views. To make matters worse, the show is slated to air eleven more times on PAX-TV and who knows how many again in 25-30 foreign countries over the next two or three years.

Kevin, does the word "sue" come to mind? I sure hope so!

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AND WHAT'S NOT REAL

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LETTERS TO YE OLDE EDITOR:

This letter from famed conspiracy writer KENN THOMAS refers to our second story on Page 4 of the Sept. 5th, 2000 "Smear":

"...As I mentioned in the book 'Flying Saucers Over Los Angeles', I made a failed attempt to contact DeWayne Johnson before publishing his thesis. The settlement reached with Mr. Johnson includes the statement that I admit no wrong doing. Frankly, although I think it is great that Mr. Johnson is getting some compensation late in life for his UFO writing of 1950 (more money, in fact, than I have ever received from any of the four books I have published by Adventures Unlimited Press), it is a shame that it took all the legal wrangling. A simple phone call from him would have straightened everything out, but Mr. Johnson felt it necessary to involve lawyers.

"The lawsuit did not establish that I did anything illegal, although it might give me a civil lawsuit framework to pursue some retirement money on my own when, 50 years down the road, someone uses my work for their own purpose. That person, though, at least would have the gratitude I was trying to express to Mr. Johnson by keeping interest alive in obscure UFO/conspiracy research.

"Also, you refer to Adventures Unlimited Press (AUP) as 'my' publishing house. I do not own AUP. I have books out by four different publishers, including AUP, and I publish my own conspiracy magazine, Steamshovel Press. AUP and I were named separately in Mr. Johnson's suit..."

Roswell diehard BOB GALGANSKI writes as follows:

"Attached is a check for \$15 for another year of 'Saucer Smear'.

"I strongly disagree with your assessment that Project Mogul debris is 'close enough' to the stuff found by Mac Brazel (Sept. 5th 'Smear', top of Page 7). Please share my reasoning with your readers in the next issue:

"The debris shown in the photos taken in General Ramey's office is undoubtedly from a rawin radar target. Assume that the other two targets carried by Project Mogul Flight 4 were broken into a small number of relatively large pieces, similar to the one pictured. Three targets contain 54 square feet of metalized paper. It's incomprehensible to me that such a paltry amount of material - some of which would have been hidden by the grass - could have been distributed to give anyone the impression of even a moderate amount of ground coverage. Even the Air Force's estimate - a 600-foot-diameter circle enclosing about 283,000 square feet of pasture - is an order of magnitude too big!

"Another point: Jesse Marcel Jr. indicated that the thin-shell debris he saw and handled as a boy consisted of apparent all-metal fragments (no paper backing) ranging from about one inch by one inch, to six inches by six inches - a far cry from the stuff depicted in the photos.

"These observations reinforce my earlier mathematical modeling and experimental research. Bottom line: A downed Mogul balloon train can't explain the debris field."

Famed Roswell/MJ-12 expert WILLIAM MOORE writes as follows:

"Regarding Christopher Allan's 'challenge' to me concerning Dr. Hynek, if he's truly interested in the subject he can prove it for himself. Hynek's 'consultant' contracts with USAF ought to be available via FOIA from the FTD (or whatever they're calling it these days) at Wright-Patterson. Let him obtain the documentation he seeks directly from them. That way he won't be able to accuse anyone of 'document forgery'.

"It was Bennewitz himself who first told me about Hynek's 'visit', and when I later (in '82) asked Hynek about it, he confirmed it without hesitation. In the late '80s, researcher Brian Parks succeeded in obtaining copies of several of Hynek's 'day-a-year' USAF consulting contracts via a carefully crafted FOIA request, and I can still recall how surprised he

was to learn that the USAF had maintained a contractual relationship with Hynek long after Project Blue Book had ended. As far as I know, this relationship continued until the year before Dr. Hynek died.

"Since Mr. Allan can certainly satisfy his own challenge if only he will do his homework, I respectfully suggest that he either take me at my word or use his own best efforts to obtain whatever 'proof' he requires for himself....

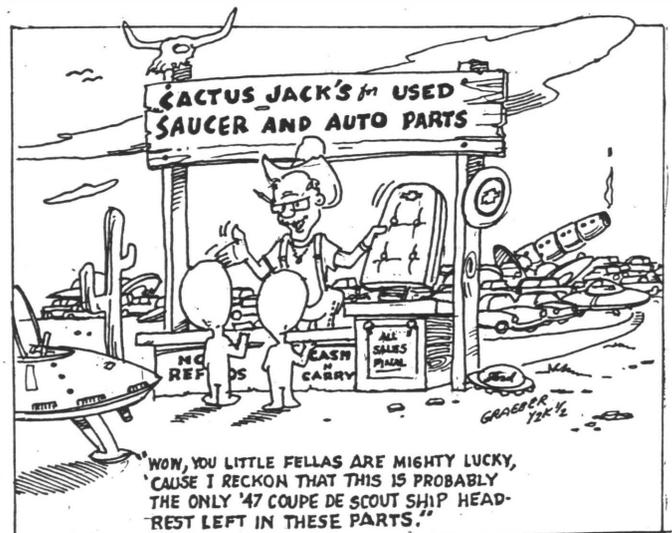
"You write that 'if Roswell isn't real, neither is MJ-12'. That, indeed, is one possible way of looking at it. However, you mistake yourself in believing it is the only way. Another possibility is that MJ-12 (or a group like it) did (or does) exist - perhaps not during the '40s and '50s, but during the '70s and '80s - and for some reason they wanted to foster belief in UFOs, not for any extraterrestrial reason, but for some other entirely different and self-serving purpose. Perhaps that purpose was well-served by my coincidental opening up of the Roswell question c. 1980, and they merely glommed onto my tailor-made synchronicity and hastened to use it for their own purposes. Further, perhaps their purpose was to con the Soviets into believing we had UFO technology, thus luring them into sending agents to try to learn more. Maybe I (and Roswell) was to be a focal point (i.e., 'bait') for such activities. Need I go on, and maybe I have said too much already. These are things I do not know, but merely suspect as possibilities."

Here Moore has made a good speculative point. It is possible, as I have said in print a time or two, that the government secretly wants us to believe in interplanetary saucers, rather than the other way around. The only sane reason for that would be to suggest to the Russians (or now maybe the Chinese!?) that we have captured technology far in advance of theirs. I hate to think that our intelligence agents waste their time on such nonsense, but it is not beyond reason to think that they might. - Ed.

Ace cartoonist MATT GRAEBER writes as follows:

"Here is another Roswell-related cartoon to grace the pages of "Smear". As you can see, Tom Carey and his fellow Roswellians may not find it to be amusing. Hopefully, Carey won't actually return from Roswell with a UFO tailpipe or something equally spectacular, as I wouldn't want to be forced to write another ufological apology!...

"Interestingly, I happened to be thinking of 'presidential UFO sightings' the other day, (e.g., Jimmy Carter's observation of a gigantic peanut-shaped object, etc.), and I thought it might be fun to share this historical/hysterical case (pictured at the right) with my fellow ufologists and 'Smear' readers; Unlike the reports of Frank Kaufman, Glenn Dennis, Jim Ragsdale and many others, I believe that young Lincoln's account is probably 'a genuine hallucination', or if not, it is an observation of a pre-Civil War military test vehicle. But in either case, the cartoon is worthy of gracing the pages of some future issue of "Smear"..."



ALTHOUGH NO ONE ACTUALLY BELIEVED THE LAD'S STORY... HE WOULD LATER BE KNOWN AS "HONEST ABE."

British UFO & crop circle researcher PAUL FULLER writes as follows:

"...I've read through and photocopied parts of the official record for Britain's D-Notices Committee. Defense Notices are the things we ask our press not to publish in case they contravene the Official Secrets Act or give our enemies information we would prefer that they not know. I looked through the minutes of the Committee's quarterly meetings from 1952 to 1969. There was not the slightest hint that UFOs were a matter of defense concern or that pressure had been brought to bear on publishers and/or broadcasters to not mention UFO incidents. There was not even a hint about unusual aircraft or phenomena. It was all stuff about our latest aircraft, ships in port, spy trials (Blake) and not photographing atomic weapons research establishments. All fascinating, but sadly not supportive of the Great Conspiracy that so many ufologists like to promote. Yes, you can quote me on this if you like!..."

(TIDBITS OF TRASH - Continued from the bottom of Page 4)

their discovery suggests strongly that many smaller, Earth-like planets may also exist.

The telescope will also serve several other purposes...

A Canadian web site called Montreal Line tells us about a prominent Canadian ufologist named Richard Glenn who has just been sentenced to a year in jail for having sex with underaged boys. He claims that he first had sex with aliens when they abducted him at the age of five. Three men testified against Glenn, describing events that happened in the early '80s, when they were between the ages of 10 and 13.

For about twenty years Glenn has had a popular cable TV show about extraterrestrials, and he also gives workshops on the occult, aliens, and parapsychology. We had never heard of him till this trial publicity came up, but Glenn has been a speaker at one of Pat Marcatillio's series of Bordontown, New Jersey UFO conferences in the recent past!...

We haven't heard much lately about the legendary chupacabras (literally goat sucker, in Spanish), but an interesting article in the Sept. 5th Miami Herald tells of a big flap on this subject in northern Nicaragua. For some reason, the chupacabras is always tied in with Hispanic culture. There have been several incidents in the United States in recent years, but only in Spanish-speaking neighborhoods.

In Nicaragua, a mysterious skeleton thought to be the dreaded chupacabras, turned out to definitely be an ordinary female dog. Thus it was not a cross between a wolf and a crocodile, as some local agricultural officials had described it.

The man who shot the beast disagrees strongly with the dog theory. Says he: "The animal discovered in that rural area was different from a mere dog. Its teeth were rose-colored. It reared on its hind legs and sucked the blood from at least 120 sheep." The killings had been going on over a period of about six weeks, according to the story...

The September 2000 issue of Barry Greenwood's "U.F.O. Historical Review" has a fine article about the classic Nicholas Mariana Great Falls, Montana UFO film, taken back in 1950. The question has always been whether or not this amateur film shows two airplanes or two truly mysterious objects. Greenwood concludes that the Air Force handled the investigation of the film very badly, and that it was clipped or shortened two different times while in military hands. The conclusion is that the film probably shows genuine unknowns. For details, write to Greenwood at: Box 176, Stoneham, Massachusetts 02180...

We have just heard of a new web site with a title something like "UFO Hall of Frauds, Morons, Dirtbags and Dupes". Mentioned very unfavorably thereon are Peter Gersten, Richard Boylan, Ray Santilli of alien autopsy fame, Billy Meier, Donald Schmitt, Steven Greer, & Richard Hoagland. Details in next issue!