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SAUCER SMEAR



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Mexico Air Force video creates UFO stir

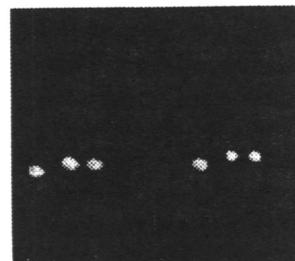
The Mexican Air Force has released footage of what are said to be eleven invisible unidentified objects that harrassed one of their drug surveillance planes over the eastern part of that country last March 5th. The story reached the Net, and was seen at least twice very briefly on CNN television around May 15th. It is not clear what caused this delay.

The objects in the night sky were invisible to the eye, but were seen on radar and were photographed with an infrared surveillance camera. At one point they seemed "intelligent", in that they changed direction and surrounded the plane that was chasing them. In the video, the objects appear as blobs of light that hover or dart about, sometimes moving into a cloud. These weird events apparently went on for quite awhile, as the video released by the Mexican Air Force is about fifteen minutes long, including commentary.

Unnamed scientists are trying to solve the case as being "gasses in the atmosphere". No details are provided. At the very least, this is obviously an exceedingly rare type of atmospheric phenomenon! Or, it could well have been a squadron of new stealth strike aircraft operating from the U.S.A.

Our only problem with this sighting is that the man promoting it is Jaime Maussan, a Mexican journalist and UFO enthusiast who has lectured many times in the United States. (He was recently booked at Pat Marcattilio's last convention, but couldn't make it.) Maussan appears to be a "true believer", and in the past several years he has been linked to many UFO videos from Mexico - some of which were of very dubious validity. But since he was only involved in the publicity for the present sighting, not the making or analysis of the video, we will assume that the case is authentic.

"This is historic news," said Maussan. "Hundreds of UFO videos exist, but none have had the backing of the armed forces of any country. The armed forces don't participate in frauds." (Credit: Denis Corey, Gene Steinberg, and others.)...



Mexican Air Force infrared footage of what one expert claims was a close encounter with UFOs. (Reuters)

MOSTLY MYSTERY

The Sloan Digital Sky Survey and a study by a satellite called the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe, which

produced a detailed picture of temperature variations of the Universe when it was a mere 400,000 years old, have concluded that the Universe is

four per cent visible, 23 per cent undetectable (dark matter) and 73 per cent unimaginable (dark energy). *Guardian*, 12 Feb 2004.

E D I T O R I A L :

Throughout the years, most UFO researchers have been strongly of the opinion that our government knows a lot more about the subject than they are telling, and thus, if the government released all of its information we would probably have proof of interplanetary spacecraft.

We have never believed this to be the case. In the early 1950s, the government fretted that UFOs might be a threat to national security, and once they determined this was probably not the case, they tended to lose interest. The media attitude toward the subject is not because of government censorship, but because superficially, UFOs lend themselves to ridicule; because there is never any final proof; and because more urgent things are always going on!

The media attitude reflects the public's attitude. Most people do have a mild interest in flying saucers, but especially in this country, our thinking is dominated by career and other monetary considerations. Since there seems to be no urgency about it, the UFO subject is relegated to an intellectual pursuit - only important to a handful of intellectuals and to the relatively few people who have had personal experiences. There is, in general, no motive to pursue the subject vigorously.

Especially since 9/11, our focus is on survival. Just a few weeks ago, when a UFO appeared on radar near Washington, D.C., the government took it very seriously for a short time; but once it became clear that there was no threat, the matter was forgotten!

We of "Smear" strongly believe there is a genuine scientific mystery here, probably not involving visitors in 3-D interplanetary spaceships. What it does involve, we do not know; but science is advancing so rapidly that someday - maybe as soon as the next few years - an objective solution will emerge. In the meanwhile, the subject will remain irrelevant to everyday life for most people.

Perhaps "Smear" too has become increasingly irrelevant, but we intend to press on!

M I S C E L L A N E O U S R A V I N G S :

Awhile back we printed a rather negative review of "Firestorm", a biography of UFO scientist James McDonald, which was written by researcher Ann Druffel of southern California. Then in our latest issue, we printed a letter from "Harry Lime", also critical of the book. Ann Druffel has written us, asking for an apology, which we are glad to give her. However, we have reminded her of our policy of printing material on all sides of controversial ufological issues. Certain aspects of her book are very controversial, although other aspects have been highly praised, including by our reviewer. Ann Druffel is a nice lady, and we are sorry if we have offended her...

We are disappointed that, so far, none of our vast array of non-subscribers has made a complaint about the Bigfoot sighting we printed on Page 5 of our last issue. Unfortunately, this story was a "ringer", made up out of Whole Cloth (whatever that means), to see if our readers were paying attention. Alas, there is no Claude Balsworth, and no one noticed the deliberate clues put into the story to indicate that it is a fake!...

Martin Kottmeyer, whose latest letter appears further along in this issue, has kindly sent us excerpts from a new book by William Birnes, publisher of the ufological newsstand disgrace called "UFO Magazine" - which we have commented on in this zine from time to time. Under "Acknowledgments", Birnes states: "...No acknowledgments list would be complete without a thank-you for keeping all of us in the UFO community honest - to our friends at 'Saucer Smear', CSICOP, and 'Skeptical Inquirer'. In particular, acknowledgments need to be handed to Michael Shermer, James W. Moseley, Karl Pflock, and of course, Phil Klass".

We appreciate the compliment, even if sarcastic, but the truth is that James W. Moseley and Karl Pflock are not complete skeptics on the UFO subject. Shermer, who is the publisher of "Skeptic" Magazine, and retired ufologist Phil Klass are complete skeptics (= debunkers.)

As Kottmeyer points out in his letter to us, the worst, most horrible error in the Birnes book is his belief, expressed on Page 152, that the U.S.'s first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, who died in 1804, is the same Alexander Hamilton credited

with a sensational saucer sighting in 1897, during the famous "airship" flap. The 1897 sighting was correctly exposed as a hoax by Jerome Clark in recent years. But back in 1966, Frank Edwards' best-selling book called "Flying Saucers - Serious Business", took the 1897 story very seriously (before it was exposed), and your humble "Smear" editor used it many times in his lectures to college audiences. However, ~~never~~ did we go so far afield as to think this was the same man as the historical Hamilton. Birnes needs not just a proof-reader but a psychiatrist!

We should add that among the sincere skeptics who should be acknowledged is Martin Kottmeyer himself!...

Don Ecker, "research director" of the above-mentioned "UFO Magazine", devotes most of a full-page editorial in the June-July issue to bashing your "Smear" editor. In this weird diatribe, the only true thing he says about us is that we smoke too much. Nasty, nasty!...

In another Blast from the Past, a book is about to come out regarding the classic Flatwoods Monster case of 1952. The author is Frank Feschino Jr., and the title is "The Coverup of the Flatwoods Monster Revealed". (Why would there be a coverup of something that was never said to be a "conventional" flying saucer in the first place??) - There is a foreword by Stanton Friedman, which is expected to add authenticity.

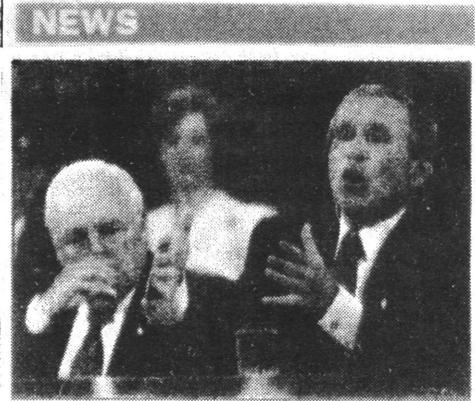
The incident in question occurred in the tiny town of Flatwoods, West Virginia, near the birthplace of the late Gray Barker. It involved a "monster" seen briefly one evening on a rural hillside. Barker began his long career in the UFO field by writing the story up for FATE Magazine, and Ivan Sanderson, who was another offbeat investigator of that era, also did his own separate investigation. Little ceramic dolls are still available, showing the supposed creature in vivid colors, but in spite of a recent festival in Flatwoods, the sighting never reached anywhere near the stature of Roswell. Some of the witnesses are still alive, and participated in the festival.

In his Web posting about the Flatwoods book, Friedman modestly adds that he was inducted into the "PRG Hall of Fame" at the recent X-Conference near Washington, D.C. Also inducted, among others, were the late Dr. J. Allan Hynek and the late Lt. Col. Philip Corso. The reasons for this particular trio being chosen are not clear, but Friedman can bask in the fact that in 1980 and again in 1987, he received the Ufologist of the Year award from the National UFO Conference, of which your editor is Permanent Chairman. This does not mean that his research is beyond reproach (far from it!), but merely that he has been a leading figure in the field for a long time...

Also about to emerge from the ether is a documentary film featuring the Flatwoods case, plus two other classic incidents which deviate considerably from the ufological norm. The culprit here is Barcon Video Productions of Glendale, California, and the name of the documentary is quite simply "Monsters of the UFO".

The primary event being studied therein is not really a monster case at all, as it involves "conventional" little humanoids which appeared at a farmhouse near Kelly, Kentucky in the year 1955. The event occurred on August 21st of that year, when several residents of the farmhouse saw the glow of a landed spaceship on their property, and then battled for hours with several "little green men", perhaps called green in later versions because of the Irish name Kelly. Actually, the creatures they shot at were not originally said to be green at all, and there were not 12 of them, as reported in the current Net version. The residents of the house never knew how many there were, as they would keep appearing outside the house one by one over a long period of time, and were duly blasted with shotguns. When so blasted, they would fall down and leave, but apparently they were never hurt. No physical evidence of their visit was ever found.

The third topic dealt with in this film is the Point Pleasant, West Virginia Mothman syndrome, which occurred back in 1966-67, and has received a lot of attention in very re-



Cheney Vows Sept. 11 Commission By Drinking Glass Of Water While Bush Speaks

cent years. Is John Keel the perpetrator of the Mothman scenario or merely its best-known chronicler? In any case, we look forward to this documentary, which will probably air as a two-hour special on the Sci-Fi Channel around Halloween of this year...

We continue to be intrigued by crop circles, whatever they may ultimately turn out to be. The obvious explanation is the cynical one - that they are all made by pranksters; but upon careful examination, this does not really seem to be the case.

Again the lead article in the May 2004 MUFON UFO Journal is from the respected BLT Research Team, for which Nancy Talbott, pictured above, is the spokesperson. The article is quite technical, but the tentative conclusion, based on precise scientific studies, is that "some sort of atmospheric plasma system might be involved...The fact (is) that plants and soils at crop circle sites have been shown to exhibit abnormalities consistent with their exposure to brief bursts of intense heat...Plasmas are known to emit microwaves when they spiral, and this could be a possible source of the heat."

The best story yet is in a different, apparently unpublished article by BLT Research, which was kindly sent to us by researcher David Perkins. On the night of July 21st-22nd of 2000, a Polish farmer named Jerry Szpulecki was working late, building a new house at the edge of a wheat field, when the electric lights in the whole area went out; and he proceeded to watch two crop circles as they were actually being formed. (He and his neighbors had not even heard of such a phenomenon, and he did not realize till the next day just what had happened.)

As Mr. Szpulecki watched, a strange red light came down very slowly toward the field in front of his house. The object was spherical in shape, about 20 meters in diameter. As the light came closer, he saw what looked like a misty "white fog" above the red light, which appeared to be a solid craft. It was directly in front of his windows, at very close range. As the object descended to about 20 meters above the ground, he began to feel a "pressure" on his body, but he was not hurt or frightened. When it touched down there were brilliant flashes, like lightning; and, as it landed, multiple "arms" suddenly extended out from the center of the object, slowly bending down toward the ground.

The witness reported that the UFO sat touching the ground for at least one minute, with sparks flying, and giving off an intense light. Thereafter the protruding arms retracted and the object rose a few meters into the air, and then descended into the field again, a short distance away. Finally, after sitting on the ground this second time for about a minute, the arms again retracted and the "red shell closed in again around the white center" so that all he could see was the original red ball of light, which slowly drifted away across the fields and disappeared in the distance. The whole thing took about seven minutes.

The next morning a neighbor informed him that a peculiar marking - a pictogram-style crop circle - was flattened into the wheat in the precise location where the amazing object had landed the night before. It looked "something like a cross", and was thus shaped very similarly to the strange object itself when it had its "arms" extended. A second circle, about 20 meters in diameter, was found at the place where the object landed for the second time.

Other people came forward as having seen the UFO while it was in the air, but apparently Mr. Szpulecki was the only one who saw the amazing (if true) details described above.

We should add that there are also much larger & more complex crop circles, especially in England, and these are probably manmade....



Nancy Talbott

Terrace, B.C., Canada - March 17, 2004

■ What in the world?

SCOTT AVE. resident Jean Thomson watched in amazement last week as mysterious circles began appearing in her grass ditch. They began to multiply, becoming more visible with each passing day. The perfectly-shaped "crop circles" didn't appear on anyone else's lawns, she noticed, wondering why her house appears to have been singled out for the curious phenomenon. "They're small enough to be a leprechaun circle," she speculated, pointing out they arrived in time for St. Patrick's Day (today, March 17). Otherwise, she said, aliens could be the culprits, provided they were very small.

JENNIFER LANG PHOTO

Most of you have heard of the dreaded "chupacabras" ("goat sucker" in English) which has been spotted off & on for years in several Spanish-speaking countries and also in Spanish-speaking areas of the United States, such as Miami. This peculiar pattern has never been explained, and most of the stories are so weird and varied in detail that they are very hard to believe.

Now we have a somewhat similar creature, in Argentina (also Spanish-speaking), but this fellow has a different name - "El Unudo", meaning "the clawed one". He has been described variously as "large with a mask and horns; small and apelike; black or brown; with a nude upper torso and covered with tattoos; walking upright or on four legs; leaving goat-shaped hoofprints; climbing trees, pipelines or metal silos; jumping over wire fences and large lagoons; swift and elusive". Strange indeed! (Credit: Lucius Farish).

We are highly intrigued by an item boldly entitled "Another Flying Humanoid", in the current issue of a UFO/Forcean zine called "The Messenger" (address further along in this issue). It seems that in a Mexican town, on the night of January 16th of this year, a policeman named Leonardo Samaniego was making his rounds in his patrol car, when a decidedly unusual event occurred. We swear that if anyone has made this story up, it is not us!

As the police officer turned a corner, a large black object fell from a tree. It stopped falling before it hit the ground, then slowly turned around to face the patrol car. What he saw was a woman dressed in black - not standing on the ground, but floating several feet above it. She then softly floated to the ground and stood there looking at him. She was almost "witch-like", with a cloak and a cape. The scene turned ugly when this creature suddenly jumped onto the hood of the car and tried to grab the officer right through the windshield with her claw-like hands. He put his car in reverse and raced backwards to the end of the street, where he covered his eyes and fainted!

Minutes later, backup patrol cars arrived with an ambulance, but Officer Samaniego was not injured. An extensive search for clues was made in the area, without results....

Bob Girard of Arcturus Books is still unhappy about how his UFO and related books are selling, and in a recent Net posting he threatens to scrap printed catalogues entirely, "perhaps as early as July". Thus if you're not on the Net, you're out of luck - though frankly we don't remember ever having bought anything from him anyhow! He has, in the past, sold "Shockingly Close to the Truth!" for us, and also some UFO buttons we had a long time ago.

Girard thanks one unnamed customer for having bought loyally from him over the years, and about all the others he says: "Your deepening neglect of the non-material aspects of life has not only made perfectly clear your apathy toward spiritual growth...but you have also managed to completely collapse the market for UFO literature." Girard is bitter, but he has a point here. Though he hates the Net (as we do!), he will apparently be on it exclusively from now on.

Girard can be reached at Arcturus Books, 1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952. (Our thanks to K.P. for this one.)...

Another demise of a rather obscure (in this country) pro-UFO advocate, this time in England: Lord Hill-Norton, aged 89, has died, presumably from natural causes. At the peak of his military career, he was Chief of the (British) Defense Staff and Chairman of the NATO Military Committee. After his retirement, he became greatly interested in the UFO phenomenon. He wrote forewords to a number of flying saucer books, and was particularly interested in the still-debated Rendlesham Forest incident of 1980. He appeared in several UFO documentaries and was frequently quoted on the subject in the media. (Credit: Tom Benson.)...

Sadly, we have recently learned that our organization, the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society (S.A.U.C.E.R.S.) is not the oldest such group in the world after all. Under the direction of Denis Plunkett and his late father Captain E.L. Plunkett, the British Flying Saucer Bureau was founded in 1953 - one year before us! Although they no longer have a publication or regular meetings, they are still out there, according to a recent letter from Denis, explaining the details. As a matter of fact, their letterhead stationery boldly states: "Founded in 1953 - The Oldest Established Flying Saucer/UFO Organization".

Plunkett's group was originally merely a branch of the International Flying Saucer Bureau, founded in 1952 by Albert K. Bender of Bridgeport, Connecticut. When Bender claimed to have been visited and frightened out of his wits by "Three Men in Black", he folded his group in 1953 - but the British branch of it kept right on going. To this day, in spite of various books and endless speculation, no one knows for sure just what got into Bender back in those early days. When last heard of, he was still alive, living in the Los Angeles area, but he refuses to discuss the flying saucer topic with anyone. A strange man indeed, and a strange case in the history of ufodom!

B I Z A R R E B O O K R E V I E W :

In its own unique way, "UFO Warning" is arguably the best flying saucer book ever written - not so much for its unprovable content, but for the way it captures the ufological paranoia of the 1950s. (Bender, of course, was an important part of this syndrome.)

The author of "UFO Warning" is John Stuart of New Zealand, who once headed a group called Flying Saucer Investigators. The original publisher of the book is our late, great friend Gray Barker of Saucerian Books, Clarksburg, West Virginia. Though the events described are from the early 1950s, this volume - now reprinted by Tim Beckley of Global Communications - did not see the light of day until 1963.

Says Barker in his introduction, "If the struggle with Satan were easy, the muscles of the angels would be flabby!" This sets the scientific tone!

Beckley's contribution is only on the back cover, where he proclaims in huge type, "FORCED INTO SEX ABOARD A FLYING SAUCER". This is not accurate, however, as the heroine of the narrative, named Barbara Turner, was actually forced into Sex while alone in her bedroom. There were thirteen invisible creatures involved, though only three of them participated in the rape, we are told.

John Stuart joined the New Zealand Flying Saucer Investigation Society in 1953, intrigued by several of his own UFO sightings in his earlier years, but within six months he was "expelled in disgrace" for misusing the organization's stationery. He then formed his own group, which consisted only of himself and Barbara - though (GASP!) John was married at the time and living with his wife! This research group - or relationship - lasted till December, 1954, at which time they dramatically CLOSED their Files!

But, for awhile there, John and Barbara were getting together almost every night, discussing flying saucer sightings and theories into the wee hours. (Sure!) There were "Warnings" that Barbara might be in physical danger from "Them", but this valiant couple pressed on.

Then one evening they saw a "loathsome, hideous, evil, disgusting, horrifying" creature about eight feet tall. Barbara seemed ready to succumb willingly to its sexual advances (see illustration), but for some reason the monster abruptly departed. Another night, some time later, it (and twelve other Beings) apparently returned for the rape scene already described. Barbara ended up with scratches on her lovely body!

Nowhere is it explained what kind of work John and Barbara do, if any. The only thing mentioned is that John was once in the military, and we suspect that this must have had some adverse effect on his Nerves!

Illustrations, such as the one on this page, are by Barker's friend Gene Duplantier, who is alive and still living in eastern Canada.

There is much MORE to this story, but it's better if you find out for yourself! BUY this RARE collector's item, at a special price to "Smear" readers of only \$25. Send to Global Communications, Box 753, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903. And keep your EYE out for invisible monsters! (Shudder, gasp, etc!)



PFlock PTalk / LONG LIVE BIGFOOT! (PART 2)**by Karl Pflock, Our Contributing Editor & Fifth Columnist**

Greg Long's book "The Making of Bigfoot" (Prometheus, 476 pp., \$25), all but demolishes the credibility of the iconic 1967 Roger Patterson film of a loping female Bigfoot. In the process, the leading Bigfooters who swear by the flickering frames take major credibility hits (or should).

Long establishes beyond any doubt that Patterson was an utterly unreliable character. By itself, this doesn't make his film a hoax. But link it with the clear evidence that, rather than being a less than credible guy who just happened to innocently get lucky, Patterson had been attempting for some time and in various ways - including shooting film for a "documentary" - to make his

mark and fortune as a Bigfoot hunter-investigator. Now the odds of a hoax are sky high. A hoax isn't proven, but darn close.

The smoking Bigfoot (Bigfoot hotfoot?) that would finish off the Patterson film would be answers to four questions: Who wore the monkey suit? Where is the suit now, or how was it disposed of? Where did it come from? Can Patterson's footage be recreated, or shockingly close to it, using materials, equipment, and skills available to Patterson?

Long fairly credibly gives us "who" with the claims of Bob Heironimus, a Patterson associate who says he played Mrs. Bigfoot for a promised but never paid \$1,000. (Note: Heironimus is only the latest, albeit the most credible of a number of men who have "confessed" to being Patterson's lady Bigfoot.) As for where the suit is now or what became of it, oddly, Long did not pursue this with any vigor and offers no answers.

It is with "Where did it come from?" that Long fumbles badly. He inexplicably attempts to lash together two utterly incompatible explanations in a sort of Unified Bigfoot Suitology Theory. Moreover, one of these is critically at odds with Heironimus's recollections of how the suit he alleges he wore was constructed, the awful smell, the number of separate sections it was comprised of, and how he donned it. One is left to wonder how Long's publisher let such a glaring and clumsy mishmash pass, especially since the suit issue is central to the author's case.

It remains to be seen if Robert Kiviat will include a believable reenactment of the Patterson mini-epic in his upcoming TV expose based on Long's work. To be convincing, it will have to exhibit all the features of body-mass movement, stride, posture, etc., that have persuaded several primatologists and others with relevant expertise that Patterson filmed a genuine cryptid. If Patterson hoaxed his flick, it should be easy enough. Time will tell.

Even if Patterson's filmic proof ultimately goes conclusively poof, there remain all those other accounts of Bigfoot sightings and encounters dating back literally for centuries and down to the present day - not to mention the many Bigfootprints, smelly hair tufts, and such. Long live Bigfoot!

41st NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE**TO BE HELD IN LOS ANGELES AGAIN!**

We are very pleased to announce that, under the local leadership of UFO researcher John Miller, this year's National UFO Conference (NUFOC) will be held at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel in Hollywood, California - not far from the location of last year's convention. This gala event will take place on Halloween weekend - October 29th, 30th, and 31st.

The convention room rate is \$119, which is less than half the normal rate. The Renaissance Hotel is located at 1755 North Highland Ave., Hollywood, California 90028. Phone: 323-856-1200. Web address: www.renaissancehollywood.com.

The mailing address for the convention is: NUFOC 2004, 1621 West 26th St., San Pedro, California 90732. Phone: 310-548-4420. E-mail: jm@nufoc.org. Web site: nufoc.org. - Details regarding speakers will be forthcoming shortly!

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES :

DR. BRUCE MACCABEE, the Flying Saucer Physicist, writes as follows:

"I noticed in your most recent 'Smear' the mention of General Garland's memorandum for General Samford. This has been around for almost twenty years now. It is in my UFO FBI book, published in 1999.

"For your amusement I have enclosed a portion of the recent paper I presented at the X-Conference. This portion includes Garland's memo and puts it into a context of the times (the beginning of 1952). There is also more information going beyond his memo. Note that Captain Ruppelt said Garland was a UFO witness!...

"I would have included more pages - like the whole 60-some page paper - but I realize that your reading attention span would be stretched by just the 15 pages I have included here. So Enjoy!"

Editor's Note: Apparently the General Garland memo discussed in our last issue has been around for a long time. Maccabee also makes the point that Garland himself was a moderate believer in the possibility of interplanetary saucers. BUT none of this changes our basic point: The fact is that, if there had been crashed UFOs with physical evidence (such as Roswell in 1947), none of this discussion would have been going on in 1952!

Genial skeptic MARTIN KOTTMAYER writes:

"I felt you might enjoy knowing you are mentioned in the new 'UFO Magazine UFO Encyclopedia' by William Birnes. Not in any of the entries, mind you, but in the acknowledgments, where they thank you, among others, for keeping them honest. My hunch is that this is insincere, since the book is filled with nonsense that any skeptic would have recommended rewriting or cutting. My favorite howler is an entry that thinks the 1897 Hamilton calf-napping yarn involved the Alexander Hamilton who wrote the Federalist papers, even though that Hamilton was shot to death by Aaron Burr in 1804! Any skeptic would also have told them that Jerry Clark wrote a famous expose of the case, providing evidence that it was a Liar's Club prank!

"I was updating my prediction file this week and it reminded me that Don Johnson's prediction for a UFO flap last year was an even worse failure than I realized. He predicted the flap for what turned out to be the lightest period of saucer activity of the whole year! As you may recall, I mentioned that his theory was likely based upon Saunder's 61-month cycle theory. The original theory by Saunders would have predicted the flap would have happened in May, but that, too, flunked! The best numbers happened in September.

"You may enjoy learning that those folks who predicted there would be a poleshift cataclysm last May have reported that the pole did finally shift this past January. It first shifted to Iceland, but later moved to Mongolia. They also allege that Venus has been backing up in its orbit, though last I checked, it was exactly where it was supposed to be, according to the star chart program I consulted. I wonder if that means that the Venus transit of the Sun that is famously supposed to take place in June should not happen?"

Researcher JERRY LUCCI writes:

"...Regarding the Patterson Bigfoot film, for starters there are now four different individuals claiming to be the man in the monkey suit. All have agents and are writing books, doing TV, etc. No one has produced the kind of evidence to bury the film, photos of costume, etc. As a matter of fact there are now several costume makers taking credit for the construction of the suit, although when one company was challenged to recreate it, the imitation was not even close. While I don't have a particular belief on this, I don't believe 'The Making of Bigfoot' is a legitimate book."

RAY CECOT of "The Messenger" (P.O. Box 12333, Albany, N.Y. 12212) writes:

"I have difficulty understanding why it is so hard for science to explore the possibility of the UFO reality. In fact NOT exploring it, is not what science is about, at all! Science, by its very nature, is exploratory - looking into things that would be otherwise unknown. The only explanation for their lack of interest has to be the government telling them that the subject is 'off limits'..."