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SAUCER SMEAR



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAUCER & UNEXPLAINED CELESTIAL EVENT



SOCIETY

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MISCELLANEOUS RAVINGS:

We are not hard to find!

IN WHICH YOUR EDITOR SUDDENLY CLOSES HIS "OPEN MIND":

In recent years your Editor has become increasingly aware of the many bizarre possible solutions there are in regard to the UFO mystery. Almost certainly the "nuts & bolts" solution is inadequate. Beyond that simple truth it's all guesswork, in our opinion.

Thus we were amazed to find a 2-page UFO sighting report in the April-May issue of "Open Minds" that is, even to us, down near totally unbelievable. It is completely different from any flying saucer report we have ever heard of, and strangely comes just a few pages following an interesting account of sophisticated recent UFO hoaxes. Our friend at "Open Minds", Antonio Hunneus, assures us that the story we are talking about here is not known to be any kind of hoax.

The article we are telling you about is called "Sighting Report: Little Visitor from Another World".

Briefly, the author is a man named Alvah Buckmore Jr., described as a "supervisor for a small security company in Springfield, Massachusetts". On Sept. 11th, 2011, he was driving into a paved parking lot when he saw a group of five or six teenaged boys playing with a motorized remote controlled toy car, which is not unusual.

Then suddenly he saw something very small slowly flying toward him about 15 feet above the pavement. It was blue and thin with an elongated shape, about twelve inches long and with a series of concentric rings on top. Not surprisingly, he thought at first that the teenagers had thrown something at him, but supposedly they had nothing to do with the incident.

The details go on and on, but the gist is that Buckmore soon came to believe that the object had intelligence and was aware of his existence. By far the strangest aspect of this account was that the object soon crashed into the cement floor and not only disintegrated but disappeared completely, leaving no trace whatever of where it had come down. Is this possible??

Then the author goes into long-winded speculation regarding his belief that the device was made by a highly advanced civilization, etc., etc. If this had happened to us, we would certainly start our investigation with an intense interrogation of these teenaged boys!...

THE "MIRACLE" OF FATIMA: We are indeed grateful to UFO researcher/contactee Tom Benson for the loan of a three-volume set of books about the exceedingly strange events near the little village of Fatima, Portugal, in the year 1917. These books were published starting in 1982 (65 years after the events!), and are translated from the Portuguese language. They run over 700 pages in all, so not even a proper summary is possible here.

The important thing is that, possibly for the first time, the "miracles" are pursued in an objective manner. These events are not "mass hysteria" or hallucinations as the skeptics would insist, nor are they supernatural events of a religious nature. Indeed, they seem to be UFO/paranormal events, similar to many other occurrences around the world during later years. In fact, Fatima is sometimes called the first major UFO case of the 20th Century. It is amazing that it has received so little attention from ufologists, while Roswell, which is far less documented, has received so much!

The story begins on May 13th, 1917, when three peasant children saw an apparition in an oak tree of a humanoid being they took to be the Virgin Mary. The only trouble is that the creature was little more than three feet tall, and looked like a female child about 15 years old. That's not your typical Grey, but it's not the Virgin Mary either!

The creature stated that similar "miracles" would occur at the same place on the 13th of every month until October, at which time it would reveal very important information about World War I and the future of mankind. The "13th of every month" prediction turned out to be absolutely accurate, which is amazing in itself. The three political well-publicized predictions were complex and obviously heavily burdened by Catholic dogma by the time they were revealed to the public. One simple prediction made on October 13th was that World War I would end that same day, but this did not happen. (That war ended in late 1918)

On the morning of Oct. 13th, 1917, 60,000 to 70,000 people of all political and religious persuasions assembled in Fatima. In the early afternoon, apparently everyone present saw something very weird, though the details of their descriptions vary. It was the "Sun", doing things absolutely impossible for the real Sun to do. We quote:

"Phase One: Spinning upon itself, wherein the stabilized object showed a dull silver, metallic color; Phase Two: Rotation on its periphery, wherein the object showed iridescent borders of dark red, purple, and even black; Phase Three: Oscillation (sudden movements or tremors), tied to its rotation, wherein the object descended toward the ground and rose again, producing a color sequence; Phase Four: Return to the stabilization achieved during Phase One." The whole apparition lasted about ten minutes.

There had been heavy rain, but when the object descended below the clouds, many people claimed there was enough heat to dry their clothes. Yet, unlike the real Sun, this object could be looked at directly without injury to the eyes.

The three peasant children were relatives named Lucia, Janita, and Francisco. All three saw the "Virgin", but strangely only the two girls could hear her speak. Apparently members of the crowd near the children could also see the "Virgin", and it seems that she descended from the craft overhead (= the "Sun") by means of some sort of ladder, and then returned to it the same way. Other religious entities were also seen by some, and these appeared similar to our concept of St. Joseph and the baby Jesus.

Lucia was the leader of the three children, and was responsible for the predictions. She very soon became a nun, and all of her statements during her very long life thereafter were carefully controlled by the Church. The other two children died of natural causes within three years of the "Miracle".

Forewords to the three volumes are written by famed ufologist Dr. Jacques Vallee; UFO reporter Jim Marrs; and (ugh!) William Birnes of "UFO Magazine" and Roswell fame. These books are not perfect, but they represent a sincere well-researched effort to find an objective solution to a very complicated series of events...

The above is lifted from the February 15th, 2009 issue of "Smear! What follows are various additions, corrections, etc. that should be of interest. These come mainly from Curt Collins.

(1) The apparition of Mary (?) was either hovering or standing on a branch of a small tree, so that she was just perhaps six feet above the ground. The children were only a few feet away from her.

(2) The monthly apparitions began on the 13th of May and ended as the "big one" on the

(3)

13th of October, 1917, = six months in a row. The dates were predicted ahead of time, but not necessarily the content of these coming events.

(3) The idea that the Lady descended by ladder from a UFO is obviously conjecture, though it has also been mentioned that she descended on a beam of some sort. Obviously we will never know for sure.

(4) The three peasant children were Francisco, who was nine years old; Jacinta, seven; and Lucia, ten.

(5) Lucia died as recently as 2005, of natural causes. The other two children died within 2 or 3 years after the visions.

(6) Lucia started out calling the apparition "Our Lady", or "a small very pretty lady", rather than the Virgin Mary, because she did not look very much like Mary is thought to look.

(7) At least 8 years went by before the Sun aspect was researched, rather than just the background, etc. of the 3 children and the content of the prophecies. The reasons for this time lapse are not clear.

(8) The possible UFO explanation did not come along till quite a few years later, in books such as "Anatomy of a Phenomenon" by Jacques Vallee (1965) and "A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies" by Carl Jung (1958). As for Jung, in our opinion Jung was often ambiguous as to whether UFOs are real in a physical sense or merely "mentally", or whatever.

(9) The following is quoted from literary criticism written by noted UFO researcher Martin Kottmeyer:

"...The Sun obviously did not rush toward Earth that day. It was a misimpression confined to a small region of Portugal. If you start thinking about this too much, it looks like the mir-

acle is, to some degree, a gigantic illusion and not something you might want to attribute to a loving, benevolent God. It does not help that Lucia, the child visionary, stated that the Lady...proclaimed that the Portuguese expeditionary force in France would return home soon. This did not happen...

"The 'proof' of the miraculous nature of the October 13th event was that the child visionaries predicted there would be a miracle at the time they predicted. It was the reason tens of thousands of people had gathered in the Cova de Iria. It would have been a bit more impressive had they said in advance that the miracle would involve the Sun...

"Still, one can't deny there is an element of coincidence in the timing of this meteorological marvel that provokes an element of wonder. When one looks back on it though, the meaning is elusive. What is really served by a powerful being sending an illusion of the falling Sun to terrify and inspire awe in a mass of faithful and unfaithful listeners to the message of Mary? Miraculous cures have a pragmatic dimension easier to revere."

(10) Finally, we should make it clear that written evidence regarding Fatima through the years has been very contradictory. A good example is this paragraph from Life Magazine of December 3rd, 1951: "Two weeks ago, the Vatican newspaper L'Osservatore Romano published new information in picture form. This picture, showing the Sun near the horizon, was dated 12:30 p.m., Oct. 13th, 1917, the day of the final vision...The picture, said L'Osservatore, was of 'rigorously authentic origin', and had been taken by a witness with a camera who succeeded in fixing the exceptional scene".

However, this picture turned out to be irrelevant (= fake), as Life Magazine soon admitted. Said they: "Life merely quoted the claims of the Vatican newspaper. Subsequently the official newspaper of the Shrine of Fatima stated that the picture was taken in 1922 (not 1917), at sunset (not noon), and several miles from Fatima. - Editor."

(11) Your "Smear" editor has labored long and hard to put together the above material, which admittedly is far from perfect. But at least you hopefully now realize what a complex, fascinating case this is.

Obviously we prefer the UFO explanation to any religious answer; but we are still left with more questions than answers. As orthodox science is rapidly learning, we live in a far more complicated universe than anyone would have imagined just a few years ago!



Fig. 2 - The Being of Fátima, as drawn by Claro Fângio, according to the initial description provided by Lúcia to the Parochial Inquiry.

FLASH: THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS OUT ABOUT ROSWELL!

A March 22nd item from the White House's Office of the Press Secretary gives us some of Obama's remarks while on his recent trip to New Mexico:

The President said: "It was a wonderful trip over here. We took the helicopter. We landed in Roswell. I announced to people when I landed that I had come in peace. (Laughter.) Let me tell you, there are more 9- and 10-year-old boys around the country - when I meet them, they ask me, 'Have you been to Roswell and is it true what they say.' (Laughter.) And I tell them, 'If I told you I'd have to kill you.' So - and their eyes get all big. (Laughter.) So we're going to keep our secrets here..."

We here at "Smear" are wondering just what all the conspiracy buffs out there are going to say about this. Remember that a lot of true words are spoken in jest. (Shudder!)

UPDATE ON THE "STARCHILD PROJECT"

The "Starchild Project" refers to a human (?) skull found in a cave in Mexico at least fifty years ago. It was discovered accidentally by a child. Some of the experts who have examined it accept the possibility that, for various reasons, it is not of strictly human origin. Therefore it may be a "Starchild", i.e., a very humanoid creature from another planet or star system. Others think it is just a deformed human skull, and therefore not of any special importance.

Somehow a researcher named Lloyd Pye acquired this skull quite awhile ago. We can't remember offhand just what his scientific qualifications are, but he seems to sincerely believe that this artifact is of cosmic importance. We heard him speak one time, several years ago, and we have a genuine photograph of the skull.

Specific sophisticated DNA tests could settle the matter, but these tests are very expensive. His problem for years has been to prove his point by raising enough money to settle things for once & for all.

Now, he is almost there. A very important human gene called FOXP2 is said to be identical in all humans. Pye insists that the fragment of the Starchild's FOXP2 that has been recovered is vastly different from the human version. It is unmistakably from a FOXP2 gene, is human-like, but it is unmistakably not human.

So - not surprisingly, still more money is needed for further testing. For more details about all this, go to <http://www.starchildproject.com/dna2012.htm>...

SUNKEN TREASURE, ANYONE?

As we have mentioned several times, your editor used to hunt for (and find) buried treasure in Peru. To do this, our basic costs were a few shovels and one dollar a day per man, as salary for the diggers.

Sunken treasure is quite different, as you need a huge pile of money just to get started. In 1986, the late Mel Fisher of Key West discovered the location of the Atosha, an ancient Spanish treasure ship. Over a period of time, his group brought up many millions of dollars worth of gold, silver, and emeralds, and they are still finding more every so often.

A few months ago, "Smear" printed an item describing how a boat load of Swedish treasure hunters have located a large underwater "something", in the waters of the Baltic Sea. Their sonar picked up a 60-meter diameter cylinder-shaped object with a "rigid tail" about 400 meters long. It's not a ship, but no one quite knows what it is, so we will call it a UFO. Whatever this object may be, it lies about 80 meters below the surface of the water.

This could turn out to be merely an unusual formation on the ocean floor, but the treasure hunters are intrigued, and will return to this secret location in the Spring (=now), then try to raise enough money to proceed further, if it seems worthwhile to do so.

Stay tuned!...



**Darkness visible
only to a few**

**WRAP calls for big
freeze to reduce UFOs**

**Huge mysterious hole
in the universe found**

A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE:
"HUNT FOR THE SKINWALKER"

Who or what is a Skinwalker, you might ask. Though the origin of the word itself is not explained in this book, the concept comes from similar superstitions of several southwestern Indian tribes. Basically a Skinwalker is a human witch capable of altering his/her shape at will to assume the characteristics of certain wild animals, such as a wolf, coyote, bear, or bird.

The "Hunt for the Skinwalker" book was published in 2005, authored by a research scientist named Dr. Colm Kelleher, together with a noted Las Vegas news reporter named George Knapp, who has a history of UFO research. Details are not clearly stated, but some time around 1990 a southwestern zillionaire named Robert Bigelow became interested in UFOs and other paranormal events; and he therefore founded a well-financed group called NIDS (National Institute for Discovery Science). Apparently this organization is no longer active for some reason.

At some point Bigelow became aware of a large ranch in northeastern Utah, near Indian territory, where unbelievable events were said to be happening in a frequent but unpredictable sequence. This included small spherical moving "orbs" of various colors and sizes; much larger low-flying UFOs; apparently supernatural animals (= skinwalkers); gory cattle mutilations; poltergeist events involving objects moving around for no apparent reason; and other strange happenings not fitting into any specific category.

This ranch, owned by an experienced farmer and his family, was surrounded by other areas nearby where similar nonsense was taking place. Gorman became fed up with all the disruptions in his daily work running the ranch, and sold out to Bigelow for an undisclosed price.

After the sale the NIDS team moved in, part-time apparently; but strangely, Tom Gordon stayed on as manager.

The financial arrangement here is totally unstated, nor are we given many details regarding the scientists' methodology, etc. Kelleher and Knapp are real names, as is Tom Gorman (probably), but that's about it. We should also mention that outsiders (even ufologists) were strictly forbidden at the ranch, then and now.

Now that the NIDS investigation has ended with no provable results at all, the ranch is inactive, but still off-limits to intruders of any kind. (The good side of this is that it avoids hoaxes.) It is said that in very recent years the paranormal stuff has slowed down or stopped; but how do we really know, if no one is there to watch?

As we have stated endlessly, your editor is open-minded to almost anything, but some of these alleged events are just too much. Space allows us to mention only two of them in some detail:

This story is our favorite: From a distance of about 300 yards, the Gorman family spotted a huge, wolf-like animal moving slowly and gracefully toward them in broad daylight. Amazingly, it came right up to them, to be petted, which is exceedingly strange for a wild animal to do. Suddenly it changed mood, sprinted to a nearby corral and fiercely tried to kill one of Tom's calves. By brute force the humans saved the calf's life. Then Tom, an expert marksman, shot the unknown animal several times at point-blank range without harming it. The beast let go of the calf but stood nearby calmly, with no visible blood or any other sign of injury!

Then, as the mystery animal calmly trotted into the nearby woods, Tom and his teen-aged son Tad quickly followed it, each carrying a high-powered rifle. They easily could see the animal's deep tracks. Eventually they broke through the woods at a point next to a river. The tracks ended there, and the wolf-like creature was nowhere to be seen. It had literally dematerialized!

We next turn to an event which is unique in the history of weirdness, as far as we know:

On the afternoon of April 2nd, 1997 (a rare case that includes the date), the Gorman family and others drove by and observed their four prize bulls together in an outdoor enclosure. Forty-five minutes later they drove by again, and the corral was empty. All four animals were soon found, standing in a locked trailer adjacent to the corral, and acting as if they had somehow been hypnotized. When Tom made loud noise, the bulls recovered, went into a panic, and stampeded for a considerable distance before Tom could patiently round them up and put them back in the corral. The question is: How did they get from the corral



into the locked trailer? These animals each weigh about 2,000 pounds!

There are several other equally bizarre events chronicled in this book, published 7 years ago, which you should surely read.

As for Bigelow, it seems that his main interest turned elsewhere. He is most noted for his attempt to eventually put a privately-owned space hotel into orbit around the Earth. The only real mention of him in "Skinwalker" is in the dedication, where he is praised for "his brilliant and far-sighted vision".

We know that Bigelow has also made at least two attempts in recent years to finance MUFON and other private UFO groups. Each has terminated ahead of schedule because of Bigelow's overly strict control of how his money is spent. He seems to be in a hurry for results in a field noted for no meaningful results!

Three important but unrelated thoughts come to mind as we try to wrap this up: (1) there are no photos whatever in the book; (2) In all of the incidents related, none involve deliberate physical harm to humans on the part of the unknown entities; (3) It is admitted that no proof was obtained for any of these events. Whether by accident or design, the entities never perform when & where you want them to. Weird indeed!

Our sincere thanks to MUFONite Rob Swiatek for giving us the "Skinwalker" book. Long live MUFON!...

"NEW" ROSWELL CRASH AND A NEW AZTEC BOOK

We have a lot of info to give you in the Space we have left;

First, researcher Anthony Braglia, together with someone named Ray Grasse, has come upon a new Roswell tale, this one concerning a UFO crash that definitely occurred in December of 1947, not in June-July 1947 as the well-known Roswell story runs. So now we have two separate but similar crash events from Roswell, within the same year.

Is this possible? What would the "Dream Team" think of this? Whoops! Braglia is on the "Dream Team"!

All we can say here is that this new story contains the three essential elements: Wreckage of a spaceship; Weird-looking little dead aliens; And, of course, dire warnings from the Military not to ever tell anybody - or else - etc., etc.

MEANWHILE, a long-awaited book by researchers Scott and Suzanne Ramsey called "The Aztec Incident" is just out. It includes a glowing endorsement in the foreword by (who else?) Stanton Friedman, and a preface by William Steinman who, with the late Col. Wendelle Stevens, was co-author of a second-rate 1986 book called "UFO Crash at Aztec".

Briefly, the Aztec crash allegedly occurred in early 1948 near the little town of Aztec, New Mexico. The original publicity for this event came in a 1950 book called "Behind the Flying Saucers", by a then-famous Hollywood journalist named Frank Scully. His information came from a very shady oil man named Silas Newton, plus a mysterious "Dr. Gee" and others. There were the necessary three ingredients - wreckage, dead bodies, & Military threats. This little paperback book became a best seller.

Your editor read this tome when it first came out in 1950, Yes, our interest in (Continued on the bottom half of Page Eight)

MISSIVES FROM THE MASSES:

Our helpful friend ROB SWIATEK writes:

"...Re: Your long-running scrutiny of the Cash-Landrum Event;

"A few, albeit late comments; I don't think ascribing it to a government project gone amuck - a nuclear experimental rocket - makes 'perfect sense' at all. In fact, it makes no sense. A nuclear reactor is a tremendously heavy affair, and to stay above the ground while moving laterally would require simultaneous vertical and horizontal thrust. An upright diamond-shaped object - as Cash and Landrum reported - isn't lift-generating (like an airfoil) when air passes over it. Moreover, a few periodic blasts of flame from a presumed rocket nozzle wouldn't do the trick either, and none of the witnesses reported seeing a propeller or horizontally-arranged jet engine impelling it horizontally. Sure, some kind of unknown field can be invoked, but that's explaining one mystery with another; or the object itself could have been lighter than air, but that wouldn't explain the radiation effects the witnesses suffered.

"So, we're left to say we don't know what the hell it was, just like we don't know what Kenneth Arnold saw, despite the dozens of 'explanations' pelicanists have proffered..."

Sad, but probably true! - Editor.

Skeptic BOB SHEAFFER writes:

"Recently I was on a panel at the ConDor science fiction convention in San Diego, Ca. Also on the panel was Lowell Cunningham, who is the author of the comic book series about the Men in Black, that later were made into the Men in Black movies. Our panel was about aliens and folklore.

"It was Cunningham who changed the MIB from bad guys to good guys, a protective agency. I asked him why he changed that. He said it's because you really can't have a long-lasting series where the protagonists are bad guys. I asked him if he was familiar with the books by Barker, Keel, Bender, etc. when he first wrote those MIB stories. He said no, he read them later.

"Cunningham told me that his publisher forwarded to him a letter from John Keel they thought was a threat. The gist of what he said was, 'We know what you're doing. And if you don't stop doing it, we're going to singe your nostril hairs with a blowtorch!'"

Yes, that sounds like the John Keel we knew and loved (?) - Editor.

Another skeptic, TIM PRINTY of "SUNlite", writes as follows:

"...Mr. Braglia seemed to take offense about my latest comments in 'Smear' about the 'Dream Team'. He seemed to think that I felt there was another explanation for the Roswell story. I responded that I felt the best explanation is Project MOGUL, but I will be willing to alter that opinion if he could provide evidence that was convincing. I still wonder if the 'Dream Team' would alter their conclusions if they discovered evidence it was not an alien spaceship crash. So far, all I have seen is writings from the principals describing how it was all a conspiracy to cover up an alien spaceship crash. This is such a refreshing new approach!..."

Our old friend STANTON FRIEDMAN, who is certainly no skeptic (he's more like a True Believer!) writes as follows:

"I just finished reading 'Smear' of March 15th. I must agree that you have told me several times that Menzel was not a member of MJ-12, and there was no Mj-12. You had provided no facts, data, or evidence to substantiate your claims, then or now. You seem to be basing your debunking of MJ-12 on proclamation. It couldn't be. (Presumably if it had been true, you believe you would have known about it.)

"The fact is that neither you nor anybody else has refuted my research showing there was an MJ-12, and Menzel was part of it. You have plenty of people who agree with you who also have not done any research, nor have they refuted my refutation of their false arguments. If you had read my book 'Top Secret/MAJIC' you would have seen (page 55) that Men-

zel died in Decemer, 1976 (not 'around 1960' as you stated). He participated in the 1968 Congressional Hearings and the 1969 AAAS Symposium. Did you know that he had more than a 30 year connection with the National Security Agency and did classified work for many companies, and had a Top Secret clearance, and was a world class cryptographer. There is very much more.

"I would be happy to send you my article 'The Secret Life of Donald H. Menzel', which appeared in the International UFO Reporter for Jan./Feb. 1988. If anybody else wants a copy, just send me a SASE to P.O. Box 958, Houlton, Maine 04730-0958. I am glad that you, unlike Kevin Randle, didn't misrepresent what I said about Menzel.

"I am a little surprised, since you commented about Phil Klass, that you didn't mention his paying me \$1,000 - for providing more than ten NSC documents using the same pica type as was used in the Cutler Twining memo. He had obtained nine documents from the Eisenhower Library, all in elite type, and had jumped to the ridiculous conclusion that all of the NSC documents (there were over 250,000 of them, and of course he had never been there), must have all been written with elite type.

"I surely would like to hear any good arguments against the reality of MJ-12, hopefully after the facts have been reviewed, rather than as a result of proclamation."

Ravings by your editor in regard to the above letter:

(1) Friedman sent us a (free) copy of his above-mentioned article about Dr. Menzel. It shows that he has really done an unbelievable amount of research; but as for Menzel being in the (unproven to exist) MJ-12 group, Friedman admits that: "It is certainly true that I have not been able to provide a smoking gun about Donald Menzel's involvement in Operation Majestic-12. This is not surprising..."

(2) Friedman's arguments are generally reasonable, but he really blows it on this one; He writes; "Menzel had learned Japanese during his work in cryptography. He had even taught cryptography before the War, and continued as head of Communications Unit #1 of the U.S. Naval Reserve in Cambridge after being mustered out. He would have been an ideal person to show the symbols found in Roswell, since he already had the high-level security clearance to go with his cryptographic skills and an understanding of an entirely different symbolic language."

As we have screamed in several recent "Smears", there is now no doubt in our mind that the Roswell "hieroglyphics" are nothing more nor less than the Roswell "stylized flowers". They are personal interpretations of the same thing: Strange but true.

You don't need a cryptographic expert to study stylized flowers.

(3) We knew and kind of liked Dr. Menzel. His UFO views were absurd, but he's not the only one! We did like his science-fiction oriented paintings, which include one showing a bare-breasted Martian maiden cavorting on a bridge that crosses one of their (mythical) canals. Sex and Saucers!...

(Continued from Page Six)

UFOs goes back that far. In 1953, on a long trip around the country interviewing UFO witnesses & such, we had private, personal interviews with both Frank Scully and Silas Newton, separately. We still have our original detailed notes on this, and they have never been published. None of the other self-appointed Aztec experts have anything like this. We may publish selected parts of it some time soon.

As for the authenticity of the Aztec case, it is indeed fair to say that it has a much smaller group of hard-core Believers than does Roswell. We no longer have our copy of Frank Scully's book, but we clearly remember one passage which turned us off completely from the very beginning. For some reason none of the the other Aztec critics have ever mentioned it, as far as we know.

We refer to this: In the text a great deal is made of the "fact" that these aliens use a "System of Nines", rather than our system of tens, which is based on our having ten fingers and toes. (We made an issue of this same point in a very recent "Smear", but apparently nobody cared.)

If we remember correctly, one dimension of the spaceship was 99 feet, 9 inches. Unfortunately, this is not a valid "system of nines", nor do Spacemen use feet and inches. The binary system, used in computers, etc., is much more likely to be a universal system.