

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

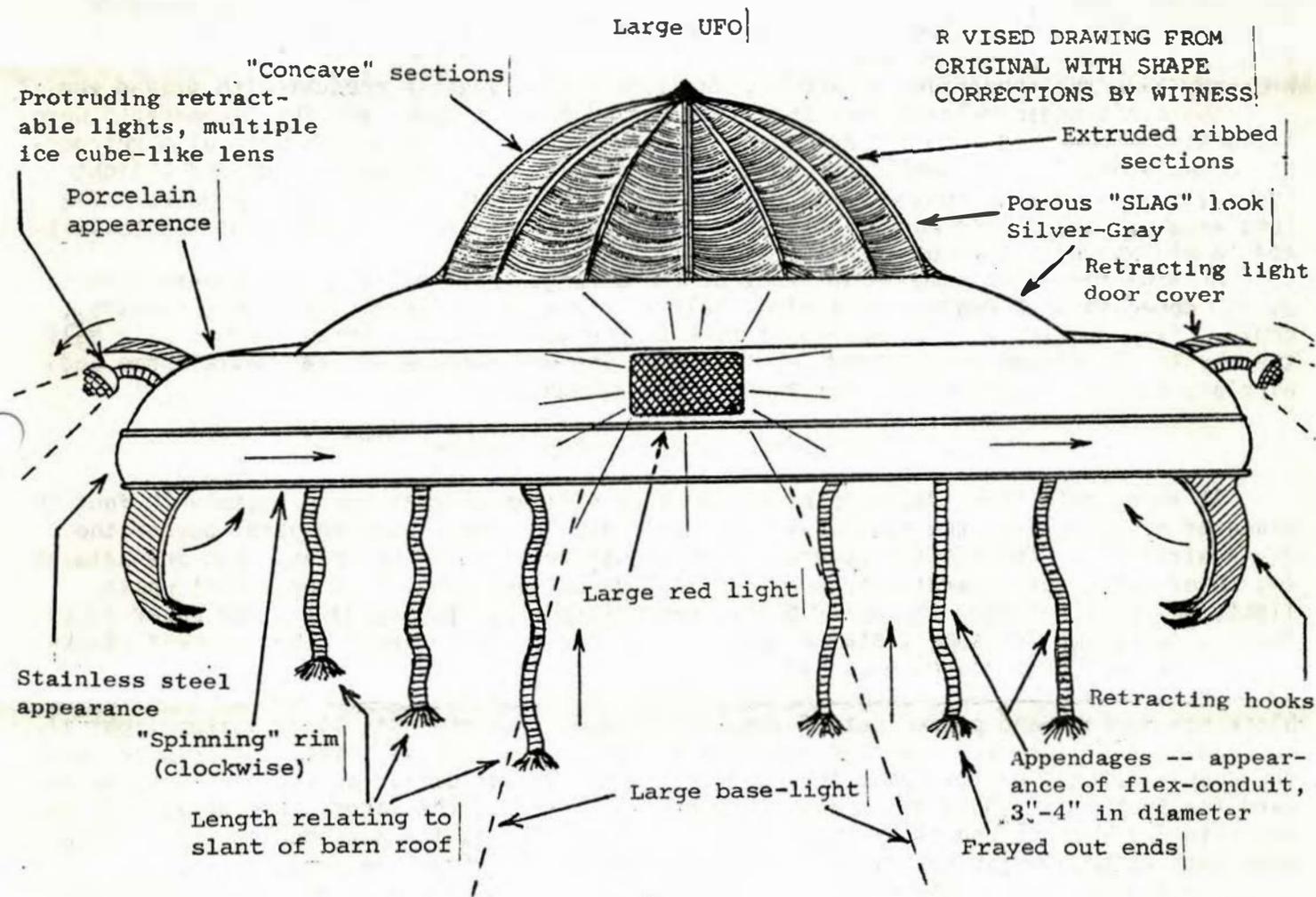
A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

vol. V, No. 3

December, 1976 - January, 1977

## WITNESSES OBSERVE UFO ELECTRICAL BLACKOUT

Bill Pecha, 39, is "a rather fearless, healthy, husky individual" with "a keen mind and photographic memory for remembering intricate detail." The heavy machine mechanic has perfect eyesight. But his highly stable physical and mental attributes were severely tested at about 12:45 a.m., September 10, outside his home in Colusa, Calif.



Sketch of UFO Seen by Bill Pecha and Others, Colusa, Calif., September 10, 1976

(Courtesy: Paul C. Cerny)

While Pecha was watching television alone, the set and the air conditioner "suddenly went dead." A circuit breaker had probably "kicked out from a short." The witness went outside to check. Approaching the corner of his mobile home, "he became increasingly aware of a static electricity effect on his body." The hair on his head, arms and chest stood up. The hair on his head also crackled and snapped.

*UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. V, No. 3. Published monthly or bi-monthly by UFO Research Associates (UFOR), 3122 N. Beachwood Dr., Los Angeles, Calif. 90068  
 Editor: Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.  
 Business Manager: Martha D. Lore  
 Subscription rates (12 issues): \$7.00 (U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$8.00 (foreign, surface rate); \$11.00 (foreign, air mail). Single copies: \$.60 (U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$.80 (foreign).

Pecha looked up into the clear, full-moon sky and was startled to see a tremendous circular UFO hovering at about 50 feet altitude over his barn and the corner of his home. (See sketch, p. 1). He watched for 4-5 minutes as his heart beat rapidly.

The estimated diameter of the object was a whopping 140 feet. Its "dome had vertical ribbed sections." The surface between each of these sections was concave and reminded the mechanic "of the old fashioned glass lemon juice squeezer." There was "a slight peak or point" on the gray dome, which looked like "mildly rough and porous 'slag.'" The craft's edges and rotating perimeter

had the appearance of stainless steel. A smaller section -- around "a large diameter light source" -- at the bottom of the saucer rotated counterclockwise and slower than the rim. Six narrow appendages 3-4 inches in diameter hung 6-8 feet from the bottom of the UFO and "gave the appearance of loosely dangling heavy flexible conduit with frayed ends."

The craft began heading over the field behind Pecha's home, and the "appendages were immediately retracted into the bottom." Two "hook" arms on the bottom were also retracted. Simultaneously, "a small door opened on each side just above the arms and a light seemingly mounted on a curved piece of tubing protruded out and slightly downward. The lens area... looked like many glass cubes clustered together." The two side lights emitted "a bluish-white beam of light."

A large red light came on in front of the strange craft as it backed toward Slim Davis' home and crop dusting airfield a half mile away. The large light on the bottom, center, "intensified to a bright white cone shaped beam downward which reached only half the way to the ground and stopped in mid-air!" The UFO maneuvered over Davis' home and airplane hanger, "lighting up everything like daylight."

#### *Power Lines Glow; Blackout Occurs*

At about this time, Pecha observed two more similar objects approximately 70 feet in diameter hovering over the 500,000-volt power lines "a couple hundred yards beyond the Davis airfield." The craft "appeared to be almost resting on the lines, each one between two power poles but separated by one span section between poles." A brilliant white light, which illuminated the power poles, was emitted from each object. The power lines "were glowing red for some distance out on each side of the poles." Then a power blackout of the surrounding area occurred.

Pecha made a beeline for his home, yelling for his wife, Lenda. He ran into the now-black mobile home and peered out of the back window. The UFO, its large bottom light illuminating the area, was hovering over Davis' home. Lenda Pecha joined her husband, and the couple watched as the mysterious object "suddenly shot off at an incredible speed toward the foothills" 18-20 miles away. According to Pecha, the large UFO covered this distance in 2-3 seconds and illuminated "the tops of the hills for a second or two." Then it sped back to once again hover over the Davis home and light up the area.

"Everywhere around the immediate countryside, all the lights were off, ranch yard lights and the whole town was in darkness except for the moonlight and the UFO," stated Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) Western States Director Paul C. Cerny, who investigated the incident with others and sent a report to UFOR.

By now, Pecha began experiencing real concern for his family's safety (his two children, 8 and 10 years old, were still asleep). He began turning from the window when he saw the UFOs over the power lines "suddenly break way at the same time, shooting up and out of sight."

Pecha rounded up his family and headed for the door as the TV set and air conditioner resumed functioning. The family jumped into their pickup truck, and Pecha "raced backwards out the driveway with the lights deliberately turned off." The backup lights were on, however, which "may have attracted the UFO."

Pecha floored the accelerator, attaining speeds estimated up to 90 m.p.h., and the object paced the truck. The UFO would "appear on one side, then cross over and appear on the other side of the truck within a few hundred feet." The mechanic slammed on the brakes in front of a friend's house. Les and Gayle Arant joined the Pechas and saw the UFO, which was now "over the edge of town again, somewhat higher in the sky." Then it rapidly climbed at an angle and disappeared toward Sacramento.

Elaine McGowen, a sheriff's department employee, and her son, Fred, also reportedly saw the object.

Pacific Gas and Electric officials said the nine-minute blackout was "of undetermined nature," according to Cerny. "All of Colusa County and some adjoining areas were affected."

Some leaves on the tops of the trees in the area of the Davis home and airfield "were turning brown... as if heated or scorched."

"One small pear tree and a nearby lilac bush are beginning to have a number of blooms appearing," Cerny remarked. "This tree and bush have never bloomed this time of year (late October) before.... The pear tree was slightly scorched or damaged on one side."

As the UFO maneuvered over the Davis home, "their dogs reacted, howling and barking in an unusual manner."

An occupant; equipment that was affected after a flying object was seen; UFOs that maneuvered over the Imperial Palace, Tokyo, and a drive-in theater; an object that paced a car; another that hovered over an automobile; a UFO "about four football fields long"; an object that emitted a sound; a UFO that responded to signals; and objects that caused animal reactions and frightened witnesses were characteristics of other sighting reports from six states and two foreign countries during the period April-August.

Numerous witnesses in and around the Gitche Manitou State Park-Sioux Falls, S.D., area have seen UFOs during April-August.

#### *Witness Slows to Avoid Collision with UFO*

Linda Sehr was driving on a road near the park at about 11:30 on an evening in April when she observed "a large oblong, glowing white object with flashing lights 'like sparks' around the edges." It looked like it was about to land in front of her car, but when she slowed down to avoid an apparent collision, the UFO "moved very fast, with a wobbly motion, to the side of the road over a field."

The object looked like "a World War I Army helmet with a bulging top and bottom." A dim glowing light was on top and "a very bright white light" on the bottom. A dark line with "glittery" lights circled the middle. Miss Sehr reported the UFO "seemed to follow her car, heading any direction she went."

Four brothers -- Chris, Tom, Andy and Joel Rygh -- were in the park at 9 a.m., July 5. They heard "strange noises followed by a grunting sound and then a high, shrill whistle." Standing about 70 feet away was a seven-foot tall creature with a "shiny blue" leg. After running from the entity, the boys saw "a glowing object" emitting a humming sound rise above the trees, hover for a moment, then speed to the south and disappear. The witnesses said the UFO "was about the size and shape of a large haystack."

#### *Animal Reactions Reported*

Around a week later -- at about 1:30 a.m. -- Mrs. Linda Roozenboom, who resides near the park, heard the sound of dogs barking. She observed a pulsating, oblong, bluish-white object that flew behind some trees, then "dimmed down" and gradually faded out.

"I don't know if it went off or landed...", she stated in the August 15, 1976, edition of the Sioux Falls *Argus-Leader*. "After that, I couldn't sleep for two weeks."

Meanwhile, Jack Wright, who saw a UFO "about as long as four football fields," arrived on the scene to investigate the Rygh boys' sighting. He discovered some lower leaves on some trees that "were splotched and curled." Five days later, "the upper leaves had dropped off," but the lower leaves were then "healthy."

Wright and his wife made their sighting a few miles from Sioux Falls. The frightened couple saw it fly over them, then turn east.

At approximately 1 a.m., August 6, Rick Shoultz "heard a loud buzzing noise and saw a 'big red ball of fire' shoot up in the air from behind a hill near Hartford. The object "stopped, changed directions three or four times and then shot up again out of sight."

Debbie Focken was driving near Council Bluffs, Iowa, at about 11 p.m., July 31, when she spotted an oblong UFO with "windows and lights" that hovered over Eldon's Standard Service Station. The frightened witness drove to the home of her brother-in-law, Roger Davids.

Davids saw police cars at the gas station the next morning and called owner Eldon Berg, who said "lightning had struck the station and burned out all the wiring." The big hitch was that there was no lightning in the area that night. This was confirmed by Robert Ruggle, the lead forecaster at the National Weather Bureau in Omaha, Nebr.

Ralph De Graw, field investigator for Dr. J. Allen Hynek's Center for UFO Studies, arrived on the scene and found that Robert and Raymond Stanfill had also seen the object. They said it had "two stories of windows" and moved slowly "close to the ground."

#### *Strange "Lightning" Causes Lights and Equipment to Malfunction*

But De Graw's most startling discovery came when he questioned Mark Holtz and Dan Stone, attendants at Eldon's service station. They were on duty that night and said it rained from 9 p.m. until after midnight. *No one else in the area reported any rain or lightning that evening.* Holtz and Stone said that, during this time, "lightning" hit an area in front of the station, knocking out the lights momentarily. The lights came back on, but the cash register, burglar alarm and citizens' band radio ceased functioning.

(Sources: Council Bluffs *Nonpareil*, August 9 and 18, 1976).

Douglas County (Minn.) Deputy Sheriff Scott Eustice was talking to Jeff Banks, night watchman at Carlos State Park, at the entrance to the park at about 12:30 a.m., July 20, when they saw a lighted disc.

"It would come and go," Eustice said in the July 27, 1976, edition of the Alexandria, Minn., *Lake Region Echo*. "Once it went over the lake and then it came back."

Eustice flashed the red lights on his patrol car, and the UFO responded by "turning red." About six other people also saw it. Eustice and Banks chased the object, but "it was so far away, we just quit following."

On August 17, policemen and others in the Clawson-Pontiac-Troy, Mich., areas saw UFOs.

Around 1 a.m., Patrolman Michael Walsh, Clawson, observed a hovering, "flashing red, green and blue object." A patrolman in neighboring Troy made a similar sighting.

At about 9:30 that evening, Mrs. Beth Hamblin spotted a UFO in Pontiac.

#### *Object Hovers Over Car Hood*

"Suddenly I saw a big, metallic object at eye level hovering right over the hood of my car," she remarked in the August 19, 1976, edition of the Royal Oak, Mich., *Daily Tribune*. "I got so scared I nearly ran off the street."

The UFO was 30 feet wide, 25 feet high and had "bright lights all around it."

"It didn't make a sound," the witness continued. "It started up and moved ahead of me. The bright lights went off and a red flashing taillight came on."

Connecticut residents sighted the mysterious objects.

It was about 3:45 p.m., July 28. Camp Counselor Ira Leifer and 13 hikers were near Camp Delaware on Blueberry Mountain. They heard "a whining noise similar to electronic feedback" and saw a silver, rotating saucer with a red light on top, stated the July 30, 1976, editions of the *Winstead* (Conn.) *Evening Citizen* and *The Phoenix* (Ariz.) *Gazette*.

"It left and we ran," Leifer remarked.

Police Officers Thomas Dacosta and Angelo Mascato were sitting in their patrol car in New Haven at 4:30 a.m., August 17. They observed a brilliant, metallic UFO that "flew in a very tight zig zag pattern from west to east," crossing the horizon in about 25 seconds.

The witnesses said "all the animals in the area, including dogs, began growling and barking," stated the *New Haven Register*, August 17, 1976.

At 9:30 p.m., August 11, Gary Bennett and at least five others observed a rotating disc over a drive-in theater in Lynn, Mass. The UFO, the size of two large houses "put together," hovered, ascended, descended, "and went backwards and forward... before moving away to the south," stated the Lynn *Daily Evening Item*, August 12, 1976.

Three school officials and about 90 children at Treleigh CP School Redruth, England, saw a UFO resembling "two dinner plates face to face" at around noon, July 8.

"It was white and spinning... and seemed to have an aura or halo," stated Deborah Foster, teacher, in the Truro, England, *West Briton*, July 15, 1976.

Sam Hawkins, also a teacher, saw "silver and yellow flashes at 90 degrees to the object's direction."

"It went through high cloud, yet we could still see it," he remarked.

Sylvia Harris, school secretary, also saw the flashes, as did the students.

"They were like lightning and were spasmodic," Mrs. Harris said. "I have never seen anything like it before."

Seven staff members of the criminal identification section of the National Police Agency observed a UFO over the Imperial Palace, Tokyo, Japan, at about 6:30 p.m., July 15. The saucer circled the palace for 10 minutes, *The Daily Yomiuri*, July 17, 1976, reported. The brown object was about 10 meters in diameter and changed shape from round to square to "an amoeba."

#### FIRST BOOK ON AIR FORCE (AF) UFO ARCHIVES (Book Reviews)

*Project Blue Book -- The Top Secret UFO Findings Revealed*, edited by Brad Steiger, apparently provides only a glimpse of the tip of a mammoth iceberg of declassified AF UFO reports reposing in the National Archives, Washington, D.C. (See *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. V, No. 1, p. 1). But this glimpse provides some interesting insights and speculation. It is just possible, for instance, Project Blue Book, despite its limited personnel and resources, did a more thorough job of investigating reports than most serious scientists and ufologists hitherto suspected. There is little doubt -- as recounted in the book -- there were detailed investigations on such "classic" cases as the Kenneth Arnold sighting of June 24, 1947; the Mantell tragedy of January 7, 1948; the Lt. George F. Gorman encounter with a UFO over Fargo, N.D., on October 1, 1948; the Lubbock (Texas) Lights of August 30, 1951; the Washington, D.C., sightings of July, 1952; and the Socorro, N.M., experience of Police Officer Lonnie Zamora on April 24, 1964. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, then scientific UFO consultant to the AF, was one of the principal investigators in the Socorro case, in which Zamora observed a landed UFO with a small "creature" that blasted off, leaving a burned area on the ground. In a letter to UFO debunker Dr. Donald H. Menzel, Harvard University astronomer, Hynek said: "I wish I could substantiate the idea that it was a hoax or a hallucination. Unfortunately, I cannot. I have talked at length with the principals in the sightings, and unless my knowledge of human nature is utterly out of phase, I feel that [Zamora] is incapable of perpetrating a hoax.... Major [Hector] Quintanella [then head of Project Blue Book] is convinced that the Socorro sighting is neither a hoax nor a hallucination, but he feels that perhaps some sort of test object (war games, etc.) might have been going on... Although I tried to find negative character references for [Zamora] or some sort of medical history, I met nothing but a wall of good character references. The guy doesn't drink, cavort with women, or recite poetry." The Northwestern University astronomer also displayed a sense of humor in regard to examining physical evidence in the Socorro case: "I now have a slightly infected finger from the thorns on the bush that was originally charred. The bush drew blood when I attempted to get some soil samples. Undoubtedly, the finger will now wither away from radiation burns. Unfortunately, I do not have interplanetary Blue Cross coverage!" Hynek also interviewed 45 astronomers from eight observatories during and following a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, June 25-28, 1952. There were sightings by "five professional astronomers that were not explainable by them," and this is a higher percentage than among the populace at large." This, Hynek indicated, was significant because astronomers "will not likely be fooled by balloons, aircraft, and

similar objects, as may the general populace." One astronomer -- Clyde Tombaugh, discoverer of the planet Pluto and then in charge of optics design and rocket tracking at White Sands Proving Grounds -- cited an apparent hitherto unreported incident to Hynek (Tombaugh's *known* sighting has been fairly extensively covered in UFO literature): "Briefly while at Telescope No. 3 at White Sands, he observed an object of -6 magnitude (four times brighter than the planet Venus at its brightest) traveling from the zenith to the southern horizon in about three seconds." If officially requested, Tombaugh said, he would place his telescopes "at the disposal of the AF" with "observers alerted and ready to take photographs should some object appear." Hynek strongly recommended that this be done. In a briefing for the Air Defense Command, Blue Book offered this explanation for the early Top Secret stamp on UFO reports: "The only reason for the original [Top Secret] classification was that when the project first started the people on the project did not know what they were dealing with and, therefore, *unknowingly* put on this high classification." (UFOR editor's italics). There is also some evidence the AF *did* consider the extraterrestrial (ET) hypothesis, particularly in the earlier days of its investigations, though officials never really acknowledged it publicly. G.E. Valley, member, Scientific Advisory Board, Office of the Chief of Staff, USAF, said: "If there is an extraterrestrial civilization which can make such objects as are reported then it is most probable that its development is far in advance of ours. This argument can be supported on probability arguments alone without recourse to astronomical hypotheses. Such a civilization might observe that on Earth we now have atomic bombs and are fast developing rockets. In view of the past history of mankind, they should be alarmed. *We should, therefore, expect at this time above all to behold such visitations.*" (UFOR editor's italics). Capt. Edward J. Ruppelt, first head of Project Blue Book, stated in *Air Intelligence Digest*, August, 1952: "It is just possible that some of the unidentified objects may be space ships from another planet.... In the USAF's study of unidentified objects, space ships have been given serious consideration." The book is woefully short on sighting details from the AF files and is, in some ways, reminiscent of the University of Colorado UFO Project report released in 1969: there are numerous pages explaining such phenomena as ball lightning in such a way as to make them seem almost totally unrelated to the observations of structured, detailed objects. But it is the first public look at the declassified AF files and, as such, deserves close scrutiny.

[Brad Steiger, editor, *Project Blue Book -- The Top Secret Findings Revealed* (New York: Ballantine Books, 1976), 423 pgs., \$1.95, Paperback, Photographs, Appendices].

Is the UFO ET hypothesis going the way of the dinosaur? It would almost seem so, judging by the rash of books and articles -- as well as the theories of some respected scientists -- attempting to explain the mysterious craft as just about any far-out psychic or other manifestation *but* ET. The latest tome in this genre is Brad Steiger's *Age of Aquarius; UFOs and the Transformation of Man*. While the author says "it is quite possible" man and/or UFOs may "once have had an extraterrestrial origin," he prefers the theory UFOs are our neighbors "in another Space-Time continuum." What we have been calling "spaceships" he believes "to be multidimensional mechanisms or psychic constructs of our parapsychical companions," and they could be "a form of higher intelligences rather than vehicles transporting occupants." Furthermore, Steiger asserts, UFO entities "have been lying to us about their true identity and their true fatherland" since earliest times. "Has some as yet unidentified agency set in motion an extensive educational campaign designed to prepare the whole of mankind for a dramatic confrontation with an alien race or culture?" he asks. The author adds that "parapsychical, multidimensional gods have always co-existed with us," but, during the last three decades, "they have been accelerating their interaction with us in preparation for a fast-approaching time of transition and transformation" from the learning stage of Pisces to the action age of Aquarius. Whether or not this means Armageddon or a new, enlightened paranormal awareness, Steiger indicates, depends upon us. His nondiscriminatory interviews include a witch who says UFOs are related to "the feminist movement"; a "good friend" who claims to have traveled to many planets in spirit form and once even awoke from a dream on Jupiter; a transmission by "Raymere," space being, "channeled through Aleuti Francesca at the Solar Light Retreat"; and a woman who "carried on a 10-day continuous mental contact with 32 other physical worlds, which

resulted in her receiving revelations of the Interplanetary Confederation that is presently being formed." Steiger says, as a child, he saw an elf. Later, he observed "ghostly materializations, unmistakable UFO maneuvers, and authentic seance manifestations." He has also often heard ethereal music, disembodied voices, and the sounds of a host of unidentifiable things going bump in the night." All this signifies, to the author, that "we are part of a larger community of intelligences, a far more complex hierarchy of powers and principalities" than anyone realizes. Steiger also says he has "come to recognize Star Maidens" -- an attractive, unique group of people who "share a feeling, a knowing, an awareness that their ancestors came from another world, another dimension, another level of intelligence." All are being "activated" to serve during the coming transition period, "the great cleansing" of Earth. Unfortunately, books such as this only tend to cloud, not clarify, the UFO problem. While UFOR fully subscribes to the Shakespeare premise that "there are more things in heaven and earth... than are dreamt of in your philosophy" and that incredible, unexplained, documented paranormal events have occurred down through the ages, we believe the evidence -- usually ignored in Steiger-type works -- for the ET theory above all others is overwhelming.

[Brad Steiger, *Gods of Aquarius; UFOs and the Transformation of Man* (New York and London: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1976), 264 pgs., \$8.95, Photographs, Sketches, Index].

#### ET COLONIZATION THEORY EXPOUNDED BY PROMINENT FINANCIER

God-like spacemen landed on Earth 450,000 years ago and "created and bred *homo sapiens* thru artificial insemination to be their slaves" in gold mines, according to Zecharia Sitchin in his forthcoming book, *The Twelfth Planet*, to be published by Stein and Day, New York.

Before you shatter the window panes with derisive laughter -- and aside from the fact Stein and Day is hardly noted as a sensation-mongering press -- consider the author's credentials. He is the head of Intercontinental Trailsea Corporation, a consortium of 11 world trade companies specializing in brokerage and financial services, warehouse operations, trailers and containers. The Soviet-born, Palestine-reared, New York-based corporation executive reads a whole slew of languages, "including the ancient languages of the New East, and is a scholar in the literary and archaeological lore of the Sumerian, Chaldean, Akkadian and Babylonian civilizations." Also, "the book already has received favorable advance reviews from the publishing trade press, particularly for its heavyweight scholarship."

"It is the fruit of 30 years of study and even longer reflection," Sitchin remarked in an interview with UPI's Leroy Pope.

According to the financier, the beings -- whom Sitchin calls the "nefilim" -- are now "back home, far out in space on the twelfth planet, Marduk, which is unknown to man although its existence has been postulated by mathematics." He added Marduk is so deep in space its "annual" orbit of the sun takes an incredible 3,600 years and indicated the nefilims' (in ancient Hebrew, "those who descended from heaven") may have had life spans as long as 40,000 years.

Sitchin's work is based, in large part, on translations of a myriad of clay tablet cuneiform writings, drawings and sculptures dug up from Middle Eastern ground during the last 100 years. Using the Hebrew Old Testament "as an anchor," the author interpreted these findings "in the light of modern scientific knowledge."

The executive said the nefilims landed on Earth 450,000 years ago, "mainly in search of gold for their advanced electronic systems." They resided in Mesopotamia and Southeast Africa for about 300,000 years and "bred *homo sapiens* through artificial insemination to be their slaves in the mines." Eventually, the ETs were outnumbered and corrupted by their creations. They blasted off for home in their UFOs without warning man "that a great flood was coming from the Polar caps."

For years Sitchin has been concerned "not only by apparent discrepancies in the Bible and the scriptures of other ancient peoples, but by impossible contradictions between the workings of evolution and the observed history of life on Earth." The sudden and mysterious appearance of Cro-Magnon man nearly two million years ago "cannot be explained scientifically."

"The answer is that life did not evolve naturally on Earth," he said. "It was brought here from elsewhere, the result of a mighty collision in space from which Earth was born."

Sitchin added *homo sapiens* did not spring from ape-men, but "were created whole and in the image of their god, as the Old Testament says." He said the Marduk spaceships "were serviced by larger craft circling the Earth in the asteroid belt." Also, "Sumerian pictographs show nefilim spaceships and astronauts and that what [Sitchin] has discovered was already known... by the Akkadians and Babylonians, who followed them." Sitchin said ancient literature tells of Earth being ruled in the distant past by "god-like men who came down from heaven and were immortal."

After some period of time, to the nefilims' horror, "man soon developed the ability to procreate," and "he began to outnumber his creators and began closing the gap between his abilities and theirs."

#### CRONKITE AND GRAHAM: UFOs EXIST

Walter Cronkite, the nation's top newsman, and Billy Graham, America's best-known evangelist, firmly believe UFOs are real, according to the November 30 and December 14, 1976, editions of the *National Enquirer*.

"Senator [Barry] Goldwater told me that he believes the earth has been and is currently being visited and is under observation by extraterrestrial intelligence," the CBS news anchorman stated. The Arizona Republican and 1964 presidential nominee is also a retired major general in the AF Reserves and a board member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

Cronkite indicated the government has been "hushing up" some top UFO reports and revealed a startling case as backup.

"One of the most incredible cases of a UFO sighting that I ever heard about was the Andros Island sighting," Cronkite said. "The story was told to me by a person of very high authority, whom I can't name but believe totally."

During the mid-1960s, just before a Caribbean missile tracking test, a radar operator observed the night sky "had suddenly turned a bright green." He saw "a huge cylindrical craft hovering above." The site's mascot dog ran barking toward the object and leaped into the air. Suddenly, "a shaft of green light beamed down on the dog." The paralyzed animal *hung in mid-air "for several seconds"* before being dropped back to the pavement. The operator filmed the UFO and two more objects that hovered over the original craft before it "quickly sped off." Officials seized the film and told the witness "what he'd seen was classified information." Two other radar operators, who said their screens had blacked out for eight minutes, were transferred.

"Everything about that has been kept a total secret -- and it's not the first time that this type of incident has occurred," Cronkite remarked.

As further evidence of UFO reality, Cronkite cited reports by a CBS executive and top astronauts.

"I firmly believe there is intelligent life in outer space... and I feel they have developed space vehicles capable of reaching Earth," the Rev. Billy Graham stated.

Graham said he has talked with "leading U.S. space experts" who believe there are intelligent beings in space.

"And if we should eventually make contact with these civilizations, it would be one of the biggest breakthroughs in the history of mankind," the evangelist remarked. "It's mind-boggling to imagine how much we could learn from them."

---

We desire to take this opportunity to wish our readers a very Happy New Year.

---

The next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing on or about February 15, 1977.

---

We would appreciate receiving any UFO clippings or sighting reports you may care to send.