



1
00:00:26,550 --> 00:00:08,109

[Music]

2
00:00:28,550 --> 00:00:26,560
ufo's flying saucers in the bender

3
00:00:30,390 --> 00:00:28,560
mystery by charles lear

4
00:00:32,229 --> 00:00:30,400
in the early days of the flying saucer

5
00:00:33,910 --> 00:00:32,239
mystery the us air force was the only

6
00:00:35,830 --> 00:00:33,920
organization doing any sort of

7
00:00:38,470 --> 00:00:35,840
significant investigation

8
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:38,480
then in 1952 a number of private groups

9
00:00:41,430 --> 00:00:39,440
were organized

10
00:00:43,190 --> 00:00:41,440
and the first citizen investigators went

11
00:00:44,950 --> 00:00:43,200
into the field and endeavored to solve

12
00:00:46,790 --> 00:00:44,960
the mystery for themselves

13
00:00:48,630 --> 00:00:46,800

the first of these to rise to global

14

00:00:50,549 --> 00:00:48,640

attention was the international flying

15

00:00:52,470 --> 00:00:50,559

saucer bureau founded by albert k

16

00:00:54,470 --> 00:00:52,480

bender they put out a quarterly

17

00:00:56,310 --> 00:00:54,480

publication called space review

18

00:00:58,389 --> 00:00:56,320

and were taken seriously by their fellow

19

00:01:00,150 --> 00:00:58,399

enthusiasts they didn't last long

20

00:01:02,069 --> 00:01:00,160

however as bender put an end to his

21

00:01:03,670 --> 00:01:02,079

creation in 1953

22

00:01:05,910 --> 00:01:03,680

after telling his followers he had

23

00:01:06,230 --> 00:01:05,920

solved the mystery he later informed

24

00:01:08,230 --> 00:01:06,240

them

25

00:01:09,990 --> 00:01:08,240

he'd been visited by three men wearing

26

00:01:11,910 --> 00:01:10,000

black suits and hamburg hats

27

00:01:13,270 --> 00:01:11,920

who'd threatened him into keeping silent

28

00:01:15,109 --> 00:01:13,280

about his discovery

29

00:01:16,390 --> 00:01:15,119

the mythos of the men in black entered

30

00:01:18,390 --> 00:01:16,400

flying saucer lore

31

00:01:20,550 --> 00:01:18,400

and the bender mystery became a subject

32

00:01:24,230 --> 00:01:20,560

that is still being debated today

33

00:01:25,990 --> 00:01:24,240

albert k bender was born on july 16 1921

34

00:01:28,230 --> 00:01:26,000

in doria pennsylvania

35

00:01:29,190 --> 00:01:28,240

what the k stood for seems to be a part

36

00:01:30,870 --> 00:01:29,200

of the mystery

37

00:01:33,350 --> 00:01:30,880

he served stateside as a dental

38

00:01:36,550 --> 00:01:33,360

technician in the u.s army air forces

39

00:01:39,670 --> 00:01:36,560

from june 8 1942 to october 7

40

00:01:40,630 --> 00:01:39,680

1943 he was stationed at langley field

41

00:01:42,469 --> 00:01:40,640

virginia

42

00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:42,479

after his service he moved to bridgeport

43

00:01:44,870 --> 00:01:43,840

connecticut with his mother and

44

00:01:47,350 --> 00:01:44,880

stepfather

45

00:01:48,950 --> 00:01:47,360

his mother died shortly thereafter

46

00:01:50,230 --> 00:01:48,960

bender lived in the attic which had a

47

00:01:52,310 --> 00:01:50,240

bedroom and a den

48

00:01:54,149 --> 00:01:52,320

he was employed as the chief time keeper

49

00:01:55,910 --> 00:01:54,159

at the acme shear company

50

00:01:58,389 --> 00:01:55,920

it may have been a conscious nod to his

51
00:02:00,550 --> 00:01:58,399
profession or just an ironic coincidence

52
00:02:01,990 --> 00:02:00,560
but bender had 20 clocks in his living

53
00:02:04,630 --> 00:02:02,000
space that would all ring

54
00:02:05,990 --> 00:02:04,640
chime and clang every 15 minutes the

55
00:02:08,150 --> 00:02:06,000
clocks were just one of the many

56
00:02:08,630 --> 00:02:08,160
manifestations of bender's eccentric

57
00:02:10,710 --> 00:02:08,640
nature

58
00:02:12,150 --> 00:02:10,720
that increasingly expressed itself as he

59
00:02:13,910 --> 00:02:12,160
entered his late twenties

60
00:02:15,350 --> 00:02:13,920
he was a fan of horror movies ghost

61
00:02:16,869 --> 00:02:15,360
stories and the occult

62
00:02:18,949 --> 00:02:16,879
he adorned his attic space with

63
00:02:21,350 --> 00:02:18,959

halloween decorations fake skulls

64
00:02:21,990 --> 00:02:21,360
shrunk heads rubber spiders and snakes

65
00:02:24,390 --> 00:02:22,000
and his own

66
00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:24,400
macabre paintings when friends came over

67
00:02:28,309 --> 00:02:26,640
he put on recordings of spooky noises

68
00:02:30,470 --> 00:02:28,319
and enjoyed showing off what he called

69
00:02:32,790 --> 00:02:30,480
his chamber of horrors

70
00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:32,800
his offbeat interests in living space

71
00:02:35,750 --> 00:02:34,720
were interesting enough that an article

72
00:02:38,550 --> 00:02:35,760
was written about him

73
00:02:40,550 --> 00:02:38,560
and published in the may 25th 1952

74
00:02:41,670 --> 00:02:40,560
sunday herald a local bridgeport

75
00:02:43,589 --> 00:02:41,680
newspaper

76
00:02:45,350 --> 00:02:43,599
flying saucers were added to bender's

77
00:02:47,190 --> 00:02:45,360
list of interests and they eventually

78
00:02:49,830 --> 00:02:47,200
became as chief interest

79
00:02:51,750 --> 00:02:49,840
bender and some friends formed the ifsb

80
00:02:53,750 --> 00:02:51,760
in april 1952

81
00:02:55,350 --> 00:02:53,760
and its membership quickly grew beyond

82
00:02:57,110 --> 00:02:55,360
the borders of connecticut

83
00:02:58,790 --> 00:02:57,120
the first space review put out in

84
00:03:01,270 --> 00:02:58,800
october 1952

85
00:03:03,670 --> 00:03:01,280
included a list of representatives in 14

86
00:03:05,190 --> 00:03:03,680
states and one in ontario canada

87
00:03:07,030 --> 00:03:05,200
bender had a letter announcing the

88
00:03:08,710 --> 00:03:07,040

formation of the group published in the

89

00:03:11,110 --> 00:03:08,720
december 1952

90

00:03:12,470 --> 00:03:11,120
issue of the ray palmer publication

91

00:03:14,070 --> 00:03:12,480
other worlds

92

00:03:15,910 --> 00:03:14,080
the letter captured the attention of

93

00:03:18,149 --> 00:03:15,920
flatwoods monster investigator

94

00:03:20,470 --> 00:03:18,159
gray barker who contacted bender and

95

00:03:22,309 --> 00:03:20,480
expressed his desire to become a member

96

00:03:24,470 --> 00:03:22,319
bender convinced him to become the state

97

00:03:26,070 --> 00:03:24,480
representative for west virginia

98

00:03:27,910 --> 00:03:26,080
barker would later become the chief

99

00:03:29,670 --> 00:03:27,920
investigator for the organization

100

00:03:31,589 --> 00:03:29,680
and he became good friends with many in

101
00:03:33,430 --> 00:03:31,599
the group by this time the group had

102
00:03:34,470 --> 00:03:33,440
lived up to its name and was truly

103
00:03:36,390 --> 00:03:34,480
international

104
00:03:37,990 --> 00:03:36,400
there were chapters in south america

105
00:03:39,750 --> 00:03:38,000
europe and the ifsp

106
00:03:41,990 --> 00:03:39,760
was in contact with newly formed

107
00:03:42,869 --> 00:03:42,000
organizations in australia and new

108
00:03:44,550 --> 00:03:42,879
zealand

109
00:03:46,070 --> 00:03:44,560
they inspired people all around the

110
00:03:48,149 --> 00:03:46,080
world to form their own groups

111
00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:48,159
and civilian investigators were here to

112
00:03:53,030 --> 00:03:50,560
stay the ifsp however

113
00:03:56,149 --> 00:03:53,040

was not barker wrote about the events

114

00:03:58,789 --> 00:03:56,159

leading to its demise in his 1956 book

115

00:04:00,070 --> 00:03:58,799

they knew too much about flying saucers

116

00:04:02,149 --> 00:04:00,080

according to barker in his

117

00:04:04,030 --> 00:04:02,159

book he received a letter from bender

118

00:04:06,710 --> 00:04:04,040

dated september 16

119

00:04:08,309 --> 00:04:06,720

1953 it contained the mysterious

120

00:04:09,190 --> 00:04:08,319

instruction not to accept any more

121

00:04:10,949 --> 00:04:09,200

memberships

122

00:04:13,270 --> 00:04:10,959

until he'd seen the october issue of

123

00:04:15,429 --> 00:04:13,280

space review he then received a letter

124

00:04:18,150 --> 00:04:15,439

on tape from new jersey based member

125

00:04:20,069 --> 00:04:18,160

dominic lucesi this was common among

126

00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:20,079

members as according to barker

127

00:04:23,670 --> 00:04:22,079

a saucer investigator without a tape

128

00:04:26,469 --> 00:04:23,680

recorder is considered

129

00:04:28,550 --> 00:04:26,479

almost a non-entity lechesi described

130

00:04:28,790 --> 00:04:28,560

being present when fellow member august

131

00:04:39,030 --> 00:04:28,800

c

132

00:04:41,430 --> 00:04:39,040

review

133

00:04:43,670 --> 00:04:41,440

after october bender then said he

134

00:04:45,670 --> 00:04:43,680

discovered the secret of flying discs

135

00:04:46,790 --> 00:04:45,680

and told roberts about the visit by the

136

00:04:48,870 --> 00:04:46,800

three men

137

00:04:50,710 --> 00:04:48,880

he said they confiscated his copies of

138

00:04:53,430 --> 00:04:50,720

back issues of the magazine

139

00:04:55,590 --> 00:04:53,440

and as an american citizen he was sworn

140

00:04:58,950 --> 00:04:55,600

to secrecy about his discovery

141

00:04:59,749 --> 00:04:58,960

in the october 1953 space review bender

142

00:05:02,230 --> 00:04:59,759

announced

143

00:05:03,590 --> 00:05:02,240

the mystery of flying saucers is no

144

00:05:05,350 --> 00:05:03,600

longer a mystery

145

00:05:07,510 --> 00:05:05,360

he apologized for not being able to

146

00:05:09,510 --> 00:05:07,520

elaborate saying because of the nature

147

00:05:10,790 --> 00:05:09,520

of the information we have been advised

148

00:05:12,790 --> 00:05:10,800

in the negative

149

00:05:14,710 --> 00:05:12,800

barker got in touch with roberts and

150

00:05:15,510 --> 00:05:14,720

suggested roberts and lucey go to

151
00:05:17,909 --> 00:05:15,520
connecticut

152
00:05:19,510 --> 00:05:17,919
and speak to bender in person barker

153
00:05:21,430 --> 00:05:19,520
emphasized it was important they

154
00:05:23,270 --> 00:05:21,440
remember everything that was said

155
00:05:25,189 --> 00:05:23,280
they were sure bender wouldn't allow a

156
00:05:27,189 --> 00:05:25,199
tape recorder or a notepad

157
00:05:29,189 --> 00:05:27,199
and barker suggested robert should slip

158
00:05:31,350 --> 00:05:29,199
away to the bathroom periodically

159
00:05:33,510 --> 00:05:31,360
where he could make notes unseen he

160
00:05:36,070 --> 00:05:33,520
could tell bender he'd taken a laxative

161
00:05:37,350 --> 00:05:36,080
or had bowel issues roberts complained

162
00:05:39,270 --> 00:05:37,360
he wasn't a good actor

163
00:05:40,950 --> 00:05:39,280

and barker suggested he should actually

164

00:05:43,270 --> 00:05:40,960

take a laxative

165

00:05:44,710 --> 00:05:43,280

roberts and lucy interviewed bender and

166

00:05:45,430 --> 00:05:44,720

while they didn't get the answer to the

167

00:05:47,350 --> 00:05:45,440

mystery

168

00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:47,360

they did get some interesting replies to

169

00:05:50,469 --> 00:05:48,720

some of their questions

170

00:05:52,629 --> 00:05:50,479

he told them the government had known

171

00:05:54,230 --> 00:05:52,639

what the saucers were for two years

172

00:05:56,309 --> 00:05:54,240

and if they didn't tell the public in

173

00:05:58,390 --> 00:05:56,319

the next five months it would be four

174

00:06:01,590 --> 00:05:58,400

years before they did so

175

00:06:03,189 --> 00:06:01,600

after the october 1953 issue only three

176

00:06:03,909 --> 00:06:03,199

more issues of space review were

177

00:06:05,670 --> 00:06:03,919

published

178

00:06:08,070 --> 00:06:05,680

these were for members that didn't want

179

00:06:08,870 --> 00:06:08,080

refunds flying saucers were not even

180

00:06:11,430 --> 00:06:08,880

mentioned

181

00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:11,440

and the articles focused solely on space

182

00:06:15,510 --> 00:06:12,720

the ifsp

183

00:06:17,110 --> 00:06:15,520

was closed barca was putting out his own

184

00:06:18,790 --> 00:06:17,120

magazine the sausarian

185

00:06:20,870 --> 00:06:18,800

and he reached out to his readers to

186

00:06:22,870 --> 00:06:20,880

help him solve the bender mystery

187

00:06:25,029 --> 00:06:22,880

some of them speculated but no one came

188

00:06:26,629 --> 00:06:25,039

up with a convincing explanation

189

00:06:28,629 --> 00:06:26,639

the aerial phenomena research

190

00:06:31,749 --> 00:06:28,639

organization had formed in the fall of

191

00:06:34,469 --> 00:06:31,759

1951 just prior to ifsb

192

00:06:35,510 --> 00:06:34,479

apro's director coral lorenzen offered

193

00:06:39,350 --> 00:06:35,520

the suggestion

194

00:06:41,510 --> 00:06:39,360

in the november 15 1953 apro bulletin

195

00:06:44,309 --> 00:06:41,520

that a pulp magazine publisher ray

196

00:06:46,950 --> 00:06:44,319

palmer had been funding ifsb

197

00:06:48,469 --> 00:06:46,960

and had backed out lorenzen reasoned

198

00:06:49,510 --> 00:06:48,479

that with no funds to run the

199

00:06:51,350 --> 00:06:49,520

organization

200

00:06:53,270 --> 00:06:51,360

bender had made up the story in order to

201
00:06:54,309 --> 00:06:53,280
be done with it barker assures the

202
00:06:57,110 --> 00:06:54,319
reader in his book

203
00:06:59,189 --> 00:06:57,120
that this was not the case david houchin

204
00:07:01,270 --> 00:06:59,199
curator of the gray barker collection at

205
00:07:02,469 --> 00:07:01,280
the clarksburg harrison public library

206
00:07:04,230 --> 00:07:02,479
in west virginia

207
00:07:06,309 --> 00:07:04,240
came up with a theory during a great

208
00:07:09,029 --> 00:07:06,319
barker tribute on the radio show

209
00:07:11,189 --> 00:07:09,039
exploring the bazaar houchin presents a

210
00:07:12,950 --> 00:07:11,199
scenario based on two letters to bender

211
00:07:15,189 --> 00:07:12,960
that are housed in the collection

212
00:07:16,950 --> 00:07:15,199
according to him a man in clarksburg

213
00:07:19,110 --> 00:07:16,960

suffered an epileptic seizure

214

00:07:20,390 --> 00:07:19,120

and was taken to the hospital someone

215

00:07:23,189 --> 00:07:20,400

had taken his wallet

216

00:07:23,830 --> 00:07:23,199

but he had barker's ifsb business card

217

00:07:25,589 --> 00:07:23,840

on him

218

00:07:27,189 --> 00:07:25,599

an official visited barker and

219

00:07:28,550 --> 00:07:27,199

interviewed him in an attempt to

220

00:07:30,230 --> 00:07:28,560

identify the man

221

00:07:32,550 --> 00:07:30,240

barker claims in his book that the

222

00:07:34,469 --> 00:07:32,560

official showed him fbi credentials

223

00:07:36,309 --> 00:07:34,479

while halton feels he was probably a

224

00:07:38,390 --> 00:07:36,319

local police detective

225

00:07:39,510 --> 00:07:38,400

barker got paranoid called bender and

226

00:07:41,909 --> 00:07:39,520

got no answer

227

00:07:43,270 --> 00:07:41,919

because bender was on vacation he then

228

00:07:43,990 --> 00:07:43,280

wrote to bender that he'd been

229

00:07:46,629 --> 00:07:44,000

investigated

230

00:07:47,350 --> 00:07:46,639

by the fbi and others should expect the

231

00:07:49,830 --> 00:07:47,360

same

232

00:07:50,469 --> 00:07:49,840

barker also called washington d.c based

233

00:07:53,350 --> 00:07:50,479

member

234

00:07:54,469 --> 00:07:53,360

reverend s l dawg and gave him the same

235

00:07:56,390 --> 00:07:54,479

information

236

00:07:58,390 --> 00:07:56,400

doll had been seeing flying saucers

237

00:07:59,830 --> 00:07:58,400

everywhere was taking pictures

238

00:08:02,390 --> 00:07:59,840

and some of them were taken at a

239

00:08:03,029 --> 00:08:02,400

restricted site the day after barker

240

00:08:05,990 --> 00:08:03,039

called him

241

00:08:07,830 --> 00:08:06,000

three actual fbi agents visited him and

242

00:08:08,710 --> 00:08:07,840

he wrote a letter to bender to tell him

243

00:08:10,550 --> 00:08:08,720

about it

244

00:08:12,469 --> 00:08:10,560

bender came back from his vacation to

245

00:08:13,350 --> 00:08:12,479

find barkers and dawes letter waiting

246

00:08:15,749 --> 00:08:13,360

for him

247

00:08:18,070 --> 00:08:15,759

houchin suggests this panic bender and

248

00:08:20,710 --> 00:08:18,080

he adopted dawes three-man scenario as

249

00:08:22,550 --> 00:08:20,720

an excuse to shut down the organization

250

00:08:24,629 --> 00:08:22,560

barker played up the paranoia in his

251

00:08:27,189 --> 00:08:24,639

book and the mib mythos took

252

00:08:28,790 --> 00:08:27,199

root bender wrote his own book flying

253

00:08:30,469 --> 00:08:28,800

saucers and the three men

254

00:08:33,350 --> 00:08:30,479

which was published by barker through

255

00:08:35,670 --> 00:08:33,360

his salsarian books in 1962.

256

00:08:37,750 --> 00:08:35,680

in bender's book the three men become

257

00:08:39,430 --> 00:08:37,760

three ethereal creatures with glowing

258

00:08:43,029 --> 00:08:39,440

eyes from the planet chaoc

259

00:08:44,389 --> 00:08:43,039

spelled k-a-z-i-k silent z

260

00:08:47,350 --> 00:08:44,399

could chaoc have been what the

261

00:08:49,350 --> 00:08:47,360

mysterious k stood for in bender's name

262

00:08:51,750 --> 00:08:49,360

bender's book was met with dubiousness

263

00:08:53,829 --> 00:08:51,760

by most in the flying saucer community

264

00:08:55,829 --> 00:08:53,839

there are now three major speculations

265

00:08:57,350 --> 00:08:55,839

making the rounds in ufological and

266

00:09:00,310 --> 00:08:57,360

paranormal discussions

267

00:09:02,070 --> 00:09:00,320

on radio the web and in literature one

268

00:09:04,389 --> 00:09:02,080

is that bender came up with a story to

269

00:09:07,030 --> 00:09:04,399

get out of the flying saucer business

270

00:09:07,990 --> 00:09:07,040

one is that he was visited by mib of

271

00:09:10,550 --> 00:09:08,000

either governmental

272

00:09:12,310 --> 00:09:10,560

or extraterrestrial origin and the third

273

00:09:14,150 --> 00:09:12,320

is that his interest in the occult

274

00:09:15,430 --> 00:09:14,160

caused him to call up some entities he

275

00:09:17,110 --> 00:09:15,440

couldn't get rid of

276

00:09:19,269 --> 00:09:17,120

where one comes down on the bender

277

00:09:23,400 --> 00:09:19,279

mystery is a good indication of one's

278

00:09:30,230 --> 00:09:23,410

place in the world of the paranormal