

subject of UFOs, "and the sums are not always done properly, or written down properly, as for example on pages 21 and 51". (Our Consultant's comments on these two pages are, respectively, "wrong" and "unintelligible".)

In the circumstances we consequently do not find it possible to make any sort of review or evaluation of these books. We shall of course be glad to hear from anyone who can clarify these abstruse matters for us. G.C.

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THE CONTACTEE KEY

John A. Keel

Our valued and highly experienced Consultant John Keel informs us that he wrote this important article in 1978, and that it subsequently appeared (February 1979) in the now-defunct magazine *UFO Reports*. Very few of FSR's readers are likely to have ever seen it, and in view of its great significance we do not hesitate to accept Mr. Keel's offer to allow us to reprint it now. — EDITOR

WHEN Dr. J. Allen Hynek visited the Nixon White House in 1973 he was shunted off to Presidential Advisor Walt Rostow. After explaining that he planned to open a UFO research center in Illinois, Hynek threw out this feeler: "I don't want to duplicate official efforts with a private organization. I don't want to take on another burden if it isn't really necessary."

Mr. Rostow stared at him blandly and replied: "You do not need to know."

In other words, Rostow was telling the famous scientist that government UFO research was none of his business!

Foreign leaders concerned with the UFO question have approached the U.S. government directly for concrete information and also received the runaround. Sir Eric Gairy, Prime Minister of the tiny Caribbean state of Grenada, complained publicly about this in a speech before the United Nations on Oct. 7, 1976. "One wonders why the existence of UFOs continues to remain a secret to those in whose archives repose useful information and other data," Gairy stated. "While we appreciate that some countries consider this to be in the interest of military expedience I now urge that a different view be taken because it is my firm conviction that the world is ready, willing, and ripe enough to accept these phenomena in relation to man and his existence on earth and in relation to earth and life in outer space."

Apparently not even Gairy, ruler of a land on the fringe of the mysterious Bermuda Triangle, has a "need to know."

Since the late 1940s there has been an abundance of rumours and poorly documented allegations that the U.S. Government is engaged in a widespread but completely covert investigation of the UFO enigma. Civilian researchers have bemoaned the fact that nobody will tell them what is going on. When they try to

find out for themselves, they are often subjected to incredible harassment. Their phones are tapped, their mail is tampered with*, insidious, carefully organized campaigns are launched to destroy their credibility. In several incidents, important witnesses, even entire families, have inexplicably disappeared after their sightings were made public. Hard-boiled newsmen and professional investigative reporters have spent 30 years trying to squeeze substantive information from the Washington bureaucracy without success.

Strangely, during these three decades there has not been a single important leak of any kind. If a government UFO research project exists, not a single participant has given a speech or written a book. Yet we all know that it is practically impossible for the government to keep a secret for very long. Several former CIA agents have written books and traveled the lecture circuits, telling all. Innumerable military boon-doggles have been exposed by the press despite strenuous cover-up attempts. President Nixon was unable to conceal the facts about Watergate even though most of his staff was working around the clock to do so. How, then, could any government agency manage to keep the wraps on the UFO mystery for 30 years? There are two possible answers:

A) No cover-up exists. The government is not actively involved in UFO research and has no interest in the subject.

B) The civilian UFO investigators have been masterfully misled. They have been looking for the wrong clues, examining the wrong evidence, asking the wrong questions, applying the wrong sciences.

There are two ways for a government to deal with a problem of this type. When UFOs first appeared, it was assumed they were technological hardware from an unknown source so, logically, the problem be-

longed in the hands of military intelligence. In 1947-48, the Air Technical Intelligence Command (ATIC) assumed responsibility for the study and attempted to determine the exact nature and source of the objects. Standard intelligence techniques were utilized in an attempt to uncover the source of bases of the objects, and to interpret the technology used. It was a sound approach but apparently ATIC discovered something unexpected and, as every ufologist knows, the Air Force dropped out of UFO research in 1949 and the project was passed on to the then-infant Central Intelligence Agency. After 1949, the Air Force maintained a flimsy public relations effort *while another branch of government turned its full attention to UFO contactees.* This suggests that the military specialists actually reached a dead end; that they concluded UFOs were not real in an ordinary sense, did not have manufactured hardware, and were not coming from tangible bases either on this planet or from some other point in the universe. If this conclusion is valid then the subject does not belong to military intelligence but can only be investigated by another kind of specialist.

There are thousands of specialists in government and civilian practice who, in fact, are sworn to secrecy the day they receive their college diplomas. Retaining confidences is a vital part of their profession. They are, of course, medical doctors and psychiatrists.

Beginning as early as 1950 there were important leaks in the curtain of secrecy. Individuals who claimed direct encounters with the UFO occupants reported that shortly after their experiences became known they were visited, and examined, by doctors professing to work for the government. Some were flown to government hospitals at tax-payers' expense. A few were even railroaded into mental institutions where they could be examined extensively.

At the same time, civilian UFO organizations were maneuvered into adopting a firm anti-contactee stance. Maj. Donald Keyhoe, an influential figure in ufology in the 1950's, led the anti-contactee movement and his Washington based National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena. (NICAP) campaigns vigorously against all the contactees who surfaced at that time. Other organizations followed suit, believing the contactees were all hoaxers and were exposing the ufological movement to ridicule. Had these groups applied some fundamental logic to the situation they might have realized their approach was wrong. If UFOs are intangible, parapsychical objects, then the most sensible avenue of investigation is a careful study of the contactees. By publicly disassociating themselves from the contactees, the early ufologists left this fruitful aspect entirely in the hands of the government. The federal agencies were able to study these people freely, with little or no conflict with the civilian groups.

NICAP always proudly listed Adm. R. H. Hillenkoetter as one of its key board members and advisors.

Admiral Hillenkoetter had also served as head of the CIA in the early 1950's.

A few cases of medical investigation became celebrated in UFO literature. In 1957, both Reinhold Schmidt and Olden Moore experienced strange after-effects with their contacts. Schmidt of Nebraska was placed briefly in a mental hospital while Moore (who came from Ohio) was flown to Washington by unidentified agents. Both men underwent extensive mental and psychological testing, tests which were sophisticated and far beyond anything even present-day ufologists employ. These tests were not designed to merely confirm the reliability of the witnesses. Rather they were geared to find out how much the contactee actually knew or suspected.

By the 1950s the art of psychological warfare and brainwashing was quite advanced. The use of drugs, hypnosis, and techniques for altering brain patterns were already a part of our psychological-warfare arsenal. Government specialists could induce amnesia, introduce imaginary experiences into the subject's brain, even alter his entire identity and personality. An eyewitness who "knew too much" because he or she had accidentally seen something they shouldn't have could be made to forget the experience totally, or could be manipulated into erratic behavior that would forever discredit their UFO story.

At least one contactee — Howard Menger of New Jersey — finally confessed publicly that his experiences with the UFO entities had somehow been engineered by the CIA. Others recalled being hauled aboard unmarked vehicles (not flying saucers but ordinary cars, trucks and vans) where they were hypnotized by flashing lights and injected with hypodermic needles.

These strange episodes have not been limited to the U.S. Contactees in England, Italy, and throughout South America have reported enjoying free trips to the U.S. Recently a Venezuelan contactee told me how, in 1974, he had been approached by two men claiming to represent the U.S. Embassy. They flew him to Washington, D.C., where he submitted to a variety of tests for several days. Obviously such investigations cost a great deal of money. Some branch of government must have an overwhelming interest in UFO contactees ... and has had this interest since the early 1950s.

The official investigators assume many guises. Woodrow Derenberger of West Virginia was flown to the NASA Installation at Cape Kennedy, Fla., where he was studied for five days in a basement somewhere on the rocket installation. Others have supposedly been examined by officials from the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Navy, and even the U.S. Marines.

In 1966, Mort Young, a reporter for the New York *Journal-American*, investigated a case in which two young seamen reported seeing a UFO while on duty. They were immediately hustled into a mental hospital. Young found, somewhat to his own astonishment, that

this was standard naval procedure at that time. In fact, numerous Air Force personnel, including high ranking officers, had received the same kind of treatment after reporting a UFO. That is, they were subjected to thorough medical and psychological testing . . . not to find out if they were nuts but to find out every detail of their experience — to find out how much they really knew.

My own field investigations began in earnest in 1966 and because of my varied background as an investigative reporter I quickly discovered the hidden complexities of the UFO situation. I found silent contactees in every state and uncovered many unpublicized abduction cases. I admit I had been influenced by the early UFO literature and was prejudiced against all contactees at first. But my personal investigations and experiences quickly changed my attitude. So much so that I willingly faced the wrath of the ufological establishment by writing my first two articles in 1966 about these seemingly unsavory aspects. My first article in *SAGA* (February 1967) dealt exclusively with UFO abductions. Paradoxically, the ufological establishment tried to ignore abduction cases until the outbreak in 1973 . . . six years later.

As I explored these cases I also was disturbed to find many Men-In-Black incidents, another aspect long held in disrepute by UFO believers. While some of these MIBs appeared to be apparitions or — even more hair-raising — entities directly related to the UFO phenomenon itself, others seemed to be real government agents. The latter were concerned solely with the contact cases. I naturally reasoned that the contact episodes must be of particular importance since the government was so interested in them.

Originally I assumed that if there was anything to the UFO mystery, if the objects were real and interplanetary, systematic field research should quickly prove the fact. To my chagrin, I found that psychic manifestations overlapped into the UFO cases and I made myself quite unpopular by questioning the reality of the objects. It occurred to me that the real answers, if there were any, could only be found in a careful study of the contactee cases. Obviously, someone within the government had arrived at the same conclusion as far back as 1950. If the contactees were all hoaxers and lunatics I doubt if the government would have continued their expensive contactee studies for such a long period.

As a newsman I had many excellent sources within the federal government. One old friend held an important position in the office of the Secretary of the Air Force in the 1960s and he did his best to penetrate the alleged Air Force secrecy surrounding the subject. Although he came up with small bits of interesting gossip and information, he drew a blank with the more important questions.

Having worked for the government in the past, I knew how the bureaucracy operated and thought. A secret UFO project would be carefully concealed,

probably in a seemingly unrelated department like the Department of Transport or some sub-agency not connected with the Air Force or CIA. The standard journalistic method for ferreting out such projects is to study the budgets of the agencies and search for large, unspecified expenditures. I wasted a lot of time on this without result. In any case, duplication of effort is common in government and it is quite possible that several different UFO projects are being conducted by different agencies without any co-ordination or co-operation.

While I was living in Washington in 1971-72, the newspapers were filled with stories about a mysterious windowless building that had been constructed on government property there. Curious reporters tried vainly to find out which agency had built the structure, even though such basic information is supposed to be freely available since tax dollars were spent on the project.

If a government group can construct an expensive (and illegal) building in the heart of Washington and keep it a secret, then other groups could possibly set up sub rosa UFO study projects. If such projects are largely medical and run by doctors, our chances for learning anything about them are, alas, slight.

When I realized the contactees might hold the key, I enlisted the aid of a number of doctors and psychologists in the New York area to help me. Some of them later threw up their hands in despair, partly because what they were learning could never be made public without jeopardizing their careers. Another medical man, well-known in UFO research, recently told me the same thing. "The best cases involve such ethical considerations and uncertainties," he said, "that one is pledged to secrecy."

There's the rub. The very nature of our investigations makes it necessary to keep the identities of the witnesses secret, and the deeply personal aspects of the UFO experiences have an automatic silencing factor. In essence, when a responsible investigator does stumble onto important information he finds he cannot reveal it publicly without seriously affecting the lives of the witnesses. This is undoubtedly why some government investigators have advised certain witnesses to keep quiet.

Only a few of the many hundreds of MIB cases have been made public for the reasons stated above. It is apparent, though, that the MIBs often employ the same techniques as the elusive government agents. In many cases it appears that two different groups are involved, and that these groups are actually working against each other. A kind of underground war of nerves is taking place around the world.

A large part of the UFO mystery is nothing more than myths based upon the speculations of bewildered outsiders. The government successfully diverted civilian research for two decades, and if Menger and others like him are correct, official brainwashers may have actually worked to create the extraterrestrial

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theory to misdirect the civilian ufological establishment while some covert government agency quietly tried to get at the real truth.

Postscript: The above article was written in 1978 and published in the now-defunct magazine *UFO Reports*, Feb. 1979. Not much has changed since then. Today when someone tries to report a UFO sighting to the U.S. Air Force, a Public Information Officer (PIO) usually refers them to a civilian UFO organization or local civilian UFO investigator! Several UFO contactees have been sent to me by U.S.A.F. personnel in recent years. Indeed, government officials have often referred to me as "the world's leading authority on UFO contactees"... a title I don't deserve and constantly disown.

We now know that most genuine contactees have a fragment of special information planted in their subconscious minds and it is apparent that the government tried to extract such fragments in the early days. Contactees continue to receive this programming but the government is apparently no longer interested. It is probable that this programming process has been going on since the beginning of the human race. All kinds of cover-ups have been employed to keep the truth from us, with particular emphasis on religious, occult and political beliefs. The extraterrestrial concept is simply a 20th Century propaganda device which has now effectively reached every country, every society and every belief-system.

Motion pictures of the past thirty-five years have spread the ETH idea everywhere and today there is not a single world leader, scientist or journalist who is not conversant with it... and, in many cases, a whole-hearted believer. UFO buffs can no longer cry: "Why don't they contact us?" They have. The whole population of the planet Earth has been exposed to the ETH idea and has accepted it without a single shred of actual evidence!

No government has been able to cope with this propaganda movement. No government has been able to censor the UFO movement. It is as unstoppable as the Christian movement of 2,000 years ago (no scholar or archaeologist has been able to produce any evidence whatsoever that Christ ever actually existed).

The bottom line, as we say on Madison Avenue, is that we are dealing with forces which can distort reality and manipulate the human mind. Governments and agencies like the CIA and KGB are incapable of dealing with, or even recognizing, such forces. If we were actually able to interfere with this mysterious programming process, the human race would probably cease to exist. — John A. Keel, June 29, 1985

*** FOOTNOTE**

In our Mail Bag section, in FSR Vol. 30, No. 6, we have published a letter from Mr. Keel himself which illustrates the volume of the interference. — EDITOR.

PERSONAL COLUMN

(£0.50 per line or part, e.g. £2.00 for 3 lines plus a part line)

UFO MUSEUM. I am currently working on a UFO Museum project both as a tourist attraction and a research center. Anyone able to donate some of the earlier FSR issues (prior to Vol. 12, No. 6, Nov./Dec. 1966) please mail them to me. And receive my grateful thanks and appreciation. George D. Fawcett, Fawcett Publications and Research, 602 Battleground Road, Lincolntown, North Carolina 28092, U.S.A.

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Beyond the Known

by John Keel



Strait jacket panache

What have you been reading lately? Have you been studying lofty works of advanced philosophy like most FATE readers, or have you been rotting your brain with cultist sleaze? Have your reading habits turned you into an intellectual giant envied by all your peers? Or are you becoming a slobbering sub-moronic slave to other people's half-baked ideas?

There are three basic kinds of books dealing with the subjects embraced by this column and FATE magazine in general. You probably have examples of each on your own shelves. Reading some of them will make you eligible for the Nobel Prize. Others will put you in line for a fitting for a custom-made strait jacket. Measure your personal library against the following criteria.

First there are books that tell you what to think, even what to believe. They relieve you of all responsibility for thinking and quickly turn your gray matter into tapioca.

Secondly, there are books that tell you what other people think, usually by quoting other writers and

citing their books until you are ready to throw up.

Thirdly, there are books that simply lay out the available facts and let you decide for yourself what to think and how to respond.

What are we really talking about here?

Books in the first category are classified as cultist. For example, suppose you are interested in the old notion that the earth is really flat. If you have an emotional involvement in the notion, you may choose to read a book about the flat earth because you expect it to support your personal belief. You are a Flat Earther and the book tells you that you are absolutely right—that the governments of the world are actively suppressing that truth.

The author's "evidence" is that NASA and all the other government agencies refuse to acknowledge the flatness. Therefore there is a vast conspiracy underway to suppress the flat truth. You are expected to accept this without question. The author tells you flat out that the earth is flat. The author knows this because, he claims, he almost fell off the edge

once. All cult books use this kind of reasoning—or lack of reasoning. The more NASA denies that the earth is flat, the more certain you are that it really is. If the President should announce to a press conference that the world is a sphere, you would view the announcement as absolute proof that it is flat. Those sneaky bureaucrats can't fool you!

Vain vanity publishers

All cults are centered on the premise that they are not really cults at all. Every religion—and there are thousands of religions on this planet—tries to convince its followers that they belong to the only true religion. Eccentric political ideas and fallacious scientific philosophies follow the same course. Cultist books are written by True Believers who are usually rank amateurs at communicating, horrid writers, over emotional obsessive-compulsives who want the whole world to think the way they do.

They want you to hate whoever they hate and accept their tangled conspiracies as part of your reality. Their books and pamphlets are usually self-published (a process known as “vanity publishing”) or are issued by obscure specialty houses. If you read enough of their scribblings you might very well begin to think the way they do. You might start writing to your congressman, demanding that he come clean and accept the proven fact

that the earth is flat.

If someone should be foolish enough to write a book pointing out that even the ancient Egyptians and Greeks recognized that the world was, in fact, round you would be quick to condemn them as a minion of the C.I.A. or part of the great communist conspiracy. This is known as “criminal thinking.” Arch criminals often spend their years in jail plotting ways to get even with someone on whom they focus their troubles. In all cults, and cultist literature, you can find examples of this criminal behavior. This naturally escalates into new conspiracies and childish feuds. In religious circles it often leads to violence. In other cults, insane ideas lead to total insanity and, frequently, suicide or murder. Evidence of this abounds in the histories of the different cults. A devout Flat Earther might get into a rowboat and set out across the Pacific intent on proving that there is an edge to the world and that he will sail over it to prove it.

Don't even think it!

Our second category is books that tell you what other people think—if they think at all. The worst offenders of this type are, of course, academics and college professors. Academic writers will often start with a very small idea. One that might deserve an 800-word column in the back of some obscure journal. Instead they will expand it and pad it out by quoting all the literature

The UFO Press

A John Keel classic gets a paperback update and Salvador Freixedo his first English translation

Whether you love John Keel or loathe him, the one thing that almost all people agree on is that the man is rarely dull. Here, for example, is the opening sentence to "Beelzebub Visits West Virginia," the first chapter of Keel's recently reissued classic, The Mothman Prophecies: "Fingers of lightning tore holes in the black skies as an angry cloudburst drenched the surrealistic landscape."

This is gothic prose at its purplest, but the man certainly knows how to grab the reader's attention. And he doesn't let it go until some 270 pages later, after 46 people have died in the collapse of the old Silver Bridge over the Ohio River at Point Pleasant, West Virginia.

Keel also knows how to tell a story, and what stories are in store for the unwary reader of *Mothman*, first published in hardback in 1975 by the Saturday Review Press. The red-eyed, winged monster, the "Mothman" of the book's title, is only the half of it. Before the 700-foot-long Point Pleasant bridge takes its fatal plunge, readers are regaled with almost every element of the modern UFO horror story, from well-meaning contactees and big dark American sedans with Men in Black inside (and out), to animal mutilations and even aerial vampires giving chase to the local Red Cross Bloodmobile! After awhile, telephone taps and government conspiracies are almost a welcome respite.

But if it's comic relief you're looking for, look elsewhere. Keel takes his saucers and such seriously, wondering at one point if Charles Fort, his spiritual godfather, might not have been right after all. In other words, if there is a universal mind, why necessarily assume it's sane? Perhaps there is some humor in *Mothman* somewhere, but if so, it's as dark as the tail-fins of a black 1968 Cadillac with which the book is laced.

Mothman is undoubtedly a thrilling ride, but it rarely stops for documentation or backs up for a footnote. Unlike Fort, who was given to meticulous citations, Keel rarely lets a reference get in the way of a good story. Of course Keel was living this one in the first person, so the omission doesn't loom as large as it does in some of his other works. Keel simply assumes that his readers have already read their Fort and share his unshaken assumptions that the world is a very weird place indeed.

Nor is Keel out to make friends, which, ironically, is probably one of the reasons why so many of his readers find him so endearing. Here he is, for example, in the new Afterword written for this edition, addressing the reception of another of his books, *The Eighth Tower*: "But the hardcore UFO buffs are as baffled as ever by the electromagnetic spectrum, atomic structure and other basics. They are forever

the outsiders, peering through a window made murky by their own belief systems, always crying sadly, 'Why doesn't someone tell us what's going on?' The truth, of course, is that they are incapable of understanding and, worse, it is plainly none of their business anyway!"

If Keel the curmudgeon is your cup of tea, this \$16.95 paperback reprint is available from Arcturus Books or the publisher, IllumiNet Press, P.O. Box 746, Avondale Estates, GA, 30002. (Write for details.) The art is by Frank Frazetta and, if memory serves, once graced the cover of an old issue of *High Times* containing a feature article by Keel.

The same theme is continued in the introduction Keel contributes to another recent IllumiNet publication, Salvador Freixedo's Visionaries, Mystics & Contactees, translated from the Spanish by Scott Corrales (\$12.95, 165pp). Unbowed and unmellowed, he claims that "the average UFO reader wants to be stimulated to a fit of irrational anger with tales of conspiracy and government suppression. As a result, you don't need an I.Q. to deal with the material, you just need suspension of disbelief and a naive gullibility. Crashed saucer stories are accepted as blindly as the impossible antics of James Bond in the movies. The padre is not offering this kind of porn. He is trying to jar your thinking apparatus into functioning."

Maybe, John, but unfortunately, the padre tends to read like warmed-over European Keel (or in some cases, Vallee). I'm not saying this is a bad book, mind; in fact, if you're a Keel addict, *Visionaries* is probably a better hit than the former's last collection of essays, *Disneyland of the Gods*. The language, as translated, is certainly vigorous enough, and Father Freixedo proves every bit as opinionated as Keel himself. The main themes are also familiar, namely that religious "miracles" are relatively commonplace, that reality has always been altered, so to speak, and that the claimed interaction of humans with other, non-human intelligences is certainly nothing new and can, in fact, be traced back to the dawn of history.

But Freixedo's faults and shortcomings are also Keel's multiplied to excess. It is one thing to be coaxed or badgered into thinking for oneself, for instance, but it's another to be asked to accept tale after tale of this or that miraculous religious or UFO event on faith alone. And time after time this is what Freixedo asks his readers to do. In discussing a series of other odd events associated with the appearance of the Virgin Mary at Garabandal, Spain, for example, Freixedo writes that "I have been unable to verify any of these events, but if they did in fact take place, they would be in accordance with what has happened elsewhere." Unless, of course, what has reportedly happened elsewhere were equally unverified.

Keel frequently dispenses with documentation himself, but at least he generally names names. Often, Freixedo does not even do that. A typical example: "A young Jesuit died in a car, returning from Garabandal. He died in his seat, without any evident cause beyond shock from what he'd

witnessed. The bishop of the diocese died inexplicably at the wheel of his car. This took place shortly after a note was made public in which he discredited the apparitions. Even more curious is the fact that he died the day of the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, who was one of the apparitions." Moreover, "a German tourist who had gone to Garabandal out of curiosity and who had also asked improper questions of the girls, causing a great deal of anger, also died suddenly."

Freixedo acknowledges the research of one Fernando Calderon for this information, but no works by Calderon are cited in the rather perfunctory bibliography. Again it's all very well to be forced to put one's thinking cap on now and again, but thinking in a vacuum is just that — vacuous thinking. At some point, one has to use facts to think with, facts that can be at least roughly verified, or else one is simply adrift at sea, trying to cling to whatever flotsam is floating by.

What is being attempted here is an overthrow of Catholic dogma and the establishment of a synthesis of religious and UFO-related phenomena to be achieved by new advances in physics, theology and parapsychology. That's a tall order for any book, even one by John Keel, and especially for one without a single footnote.

I certainly don't mean to make light of *Visionaries*, nor am I suggesting that footnotes alone would somehow establish Freixedo's case, although God, after all, is in the details. The thesis is vigorous enough and worthy of consideration. But without verified facts to back it up, it's basically a case of singing to the choir, and in this particular case the choir is clearly Keel's.

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

READERS' CLASSIFIEDS

HUMAN REACTIONS STUDY: George D. Fawcett's unique four-year study of "Human Reactions to UFOs Worldwide" (1940-83) covers 31 distinct human reactions to UFOs in over 25 countries. Available for \$7.90 (includes p&h) from Arcturus Books, P.O. Box 831383, Stone Mountain, GA 30083-0023.

UFO SOUNDS: Researching personal experiences of sounds associated with UFO sightings or recurring anomalous light phenomena. Looking for patterns, old and new cases alike. Send brief description, location and date and any recordings done on audio cassette to: Lindy Tucker, P.O. Box 627, Sebring, FL 33871. Can be kept confidential.

EUFORA (Experiencers of UFO-Related Anomalies) SUPPORT LINE: for persons experiencing abduction and other types of encounters. Call professional counselor (abductee/experiencer) Granville Angell, Med, EdS, NCC. 1-800-331-1117. 95¢ per minute. VISA or Master Card only.

COMPASS EFFECT REPORTS: I will pay \$35 each for photocopies of all published UFO reports which I don't have which mention that a magnetic compass or a magnetic detector was affected. Because I have already collected numerous such cases, interested persons should first request my list of known reports. Eric Herr, P.O. Box 15044, San Diego, CA 92175.

SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER: Published bimonthly by Philip J. Klass \$15/year for U.S., Canada; \$20/year overseas airmail. Sample copy \$2.00. 404 "N" St. SW., Washington, DC 20024.

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James Greenen, owner of the International UFO Center had the honor of visiting the UFO ENIGMA MUSEUM in Roswell, NM. I would personally like to congratulate John Price on the excellent job he has done on the Museum. If you are in Roswell, NM, please stop by. It's worth the trip. Enjoyed the chat, John, keep up the good work.

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Central Texas UFO Mini-Conference

The Austin-MUFON section is sponsoring the Central Texas UFO Mini-Conference on Saturday, September 26, 1992, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel located at IH-35 and U.S. 290 in Austin, Texas. Speakers and their subjects will be George Wingfield, "1991 and 1992 English Crop Circles Update"; Karla Turner, "Abduction Research with Recent Developments"; and Ed Conroy, Author, "Report on Communion Recap and Update." Registration opens at 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$15 to the public or \$12 for MUFON members. For more information call Ellen R. Stuart at (512) 288-0505.

UFO Intelligence Digest

UFO "SLEEPER" AGENTS

In the slang of the intelligence community a "sleeper" is a spy who is deliberately kept inactive for years while living in "deep cover." He or she remains a loyal agent but doesn't do any actual espionage work until, finally, sometimes decades after being "planted," the intelligence organization has a special need. For example, it was recently revealed that an East German spy was sent to live in West Germany and carry out one specific mission. His job was to train his own five-year-old daughter and promote her into a job, after she had grown up, as a secretary in a West German government office. It sounds incredible, but this kind of long-range planning and manipulation is common in the shadowy James Bond world of international espionage.

Sleepers are planted throughout our society. Some live and work in a community for 20 years or more, accepted by everyone as teachers, journalists, or businessmen, drawing a monthly check from some agency in addition to their regular income, and waiting for the day when they might suddenly be called upon to break open a safe, take furtive photographs, or even in extreme cases shoot somebody between the eyes.

Since the intelligence community is also notoriously ruthless, sleepers are often sacrificed, involuntarily of course, to further some larger scheme. There is evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald may have been a sleeper who was being set up as the patsy in a complicated plot to kill Cuba's Fidel Castro. Instead, someone knowledgeable in intelligence maneuvers manipulated Oswald into the role of patsy in President Kennedy's assassination. The agency, or agencies, that were retaining Oswald had to scramble to cover up their own plots and the thing snowballed until there were so many coverups within coverups that assassination investigators remain confused and thwarted to this day.

Candy Jones, the famous model and wife of Long John Nebel, the New York radio talk-show star, was a slightly different kind of sleeper. Through hypnosis and drugs, the CIA turned her into a deep cover spy. She was sent on missions in a trance state, using a false name and even, believe it or not, a false personality given to her through brain-

washing techniques. When she returned from these missions she resumed her own life and personality and had no memory whatsoever of her escapades as a spy. She was a victim of an intelligence practice that has been in use for 40 years.

In the 1960's I discovered to my astonishment that sleepers are common in the UFO phenomena. Like Candy Jones, ordinary people are pressed into service for the UFOs and used to carry out all kinds of missions, but have no conscious memory of those missions when they return to their normal lives.

In contactee terminology they are said to have been "used."

Like all contactees, such sleepers have two important characteristics: they have latent or active psychic abilities; and they are very suggestible (that is, they are easily hypnotized). Quite often, as I have pointed out in my various articles and books, a contrived memory or fraudulent experience is planted in their minds to account for the period during which they were being used. A person who has no memory of, say, one week, returns with the vivid impression that he or she has been taken to another planet. The human psyche is such that layers can be laid upon layers in the unconscious mind. The phony experience fills the uppermost layer while sensory memories of the actual experience are hidden in a deeper layer. An unskilled investigator using hypnosis reaches only the surface impressions and does not even attempt to reach the layers below. Once the amateur has brought the initial impression to the surface, the hidden layer is buried deeper than ever and becomes almost impossible to reach.

As in conventional intelligence procedure *a la* Candy Jones, the sleeper must first be hypnotized or drugged into a deep trance. Subsequent trances are easily induced by a "trigger." Triggers can take many forms. A sound at a specific pitch can cause the victim to lapse instantly into a trance. Such sounds can even be transmitted by telephone. Lights flashing in a specific pattern can do the job, or even a simple word or command can be used. After Dr. Benjamin Simon first hypnotized



Betty and Barney Hill he was later able to put them into a hypnotic state by simply saying, "Trance, Barney." Mrs. Nebel often went into a spontaneous trance when she looked at herself in a mirror.

I have examined contactees who were programmed to fall into a trance when they saw a certain written symbol . . . usually a Greek letter, or combination of Greek letters. They believed they had seen these letters painted on the side of a spacecraft. It is more probable that the letters were merely shown to them and a post-hypnotic suggestion was linked to these symbols, along with a surface impression of a spacecraft and their minds blended the two.

Ordinarily a post-hypnotic suggestion will wear off in a few months or, at most, a few years. Therefore once a person has undergone a contact experience, the hypnotic episodes must be repeated periodically. This is why eyewitnesses who claim a close encounter with a UFO often have repeated experiences spaced no more than three years apart. Unfortunately, the subsequent experiences are usually well buried in the unconscious mind and the witness may have no conscious memory of them. Only the initial experience, with its vivid surface impression, can be recalled at all by ordinary techniques.

Silent contactees who experienced some form of UFO contact years ago, even as children, can become sleepers

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near Grovers Mill, N. J., the fictional scene of the first Martian landing, was the greatest, it reached every part of the country, particularly after the program reported that cylinders containing other Martian invaders had landed in many other U.S. locations.

I admitted to Dr. Crawford that the "Martian Invasion" panic could not be cited as an argument that modern UFO sightings would cause a similar problem. After all, the program was broadcast almost 40 years ago when people were less perceptive in evaluating mass media, and had not been hardened by the pounding of today's electronic journalism. In the 1930s, unmanned probes of the Moon, Mars, and Venus had not yet indicated the absence of intelligent life on those bodies; the public had not been conditioned to years of UFO sightings; popular magazines such as

UFO Report had not yet been dreamed of.

"I'd give a week's salary to know what Ron Westrum and a few others who attended that meeting really know!" Crawford said finally as we parted and I went to my room, "but who knows—maybe they're as confused and concerned as we are about all of this."

I undressed and got into the comfortable bed, but sleep was long in coming. I kept remembering a quote from the *War of the Worlds* script, read by Welles in the guise of Richard Pierson, Ph.D., professor of astronomy at Princeton University, at the beginning of the program:

"We know now that in the early years of the 20th Century this world was being

watched closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own. . . . With infinite complacency people went to and fro over the earth about their little affairs. . . . Yet across an immense ethereal gulf . . . intellects vast, cool, and unsympathetic regarded this earth with envious eyes and slowly and surely drew their plans against us . . ."

Editor's Note: In 1939 the script of *War of the Worlds* was translated into Spanish, and the setting changed to South America. Broadcast in Ecuador, the program again generated widespread panic. When listeners realized the program had not been factual, the panic turned into rage. A huge mob converged on the station, burned it to the ground, and murdered six of the show's cast. ★

INTELLIGENCE

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and experience periods of temporary amnesia, etc., throughout their lives without ever relating these lapses to their first UFO contact.

The minds of some eyewitnesses cannot adjust to this kind of overt tampering. In some cases a classic conflict develops between the conscious and unconscious minds. The impressions hidden below the surface layers work their way through and there is an overlap that leads to confusion, even partial insanity. Betty and Barney Hill sought out psychiatric help because they were bothered by horrible nightmares, a standard result of such overlapping. Others suffer to a great degree because the impressions in the lower layers infiltrate the surface layers and the conscious mind and the subsequent blend causes them to become fanatics, UFO evangelists. In innumerable cases in UFO annals we find that the hidden impressions actually took over the conscious mind causing the contactee to assume an entirely new personality and, in extreme instances, declare himself or herself to be a space person! Still others, like Candy Jones, find them-

selves battling dual personalities.

People who make the adjustment without these problems can serve as sleepers in all kinds of ways. A mysterious phone call of beeping sounds can send them into a trance, during which they may write and mail a "crank" letter or carry out some other activity which they normally would not do under any circumstances. After they have performed this action they return to normal and have no memory whatsoever of what they did. In one case in New England a few years ago, a young man who was—without his conscious knowledge—a sleeper, got into all kinds of trouble for taking a potshot at a Man in Black in a black Cadillac. Actually, the MIB was an ordinary citizen in a hunting outfit and the Cadillac was really an old Ford. But the young UFO investigator was hallucinating while in a semi-trance triggered by a sound on his car radio! His unconscious mind was projecting material overtly to his conscious mind.

The frightening thing about all this is that each new UFO wave may bring more people under the hidden control of this phenomenon. We have no way of estimating how many sleepers there may be after 30 years of UFO sightings. And we have no way of finding all the triggers in use. We can theorize with

some certainty that almost every person who develops an obsession with UFOs has been subjected to some form of mental programming at some time in his life.

Who or what is doing this? Is there some sinister organization plucking us off highways to hypnotize or drug us? Are invaders from space embarking on a worldwide campaign to brainwash us before landing and taking over our world? This doesn't seem too likely. This phenomenon has always existed and lies at the root of all our religious beliefs, our myths and superstitions, the ancient arts of witchcraft and black magic, and the fundamental philosophies that have given us most of our social and political ideas. From the medical symptoms of the contactees we can deduce that the phenomenon consists of an energy form rather than a solid physical state. This energy, like a type of radio wave, is sometimes visible to us as glowing shapes or beams of bright light.

Years ago the intelligence community discovered ways to produce the same effects through hypnosis, drugs, and brainwashing techniques. But it is unlikely, if not altogether impossible, that any nation could or would attempt to use these methods on entire populations. Perhaps it was the CIA's studies of UFO contactees that gave them the idea of creating sleepers like Candy Jones. ★