CONTINUING EVIDENCE OF RETRIEVALS OF THE THIRD KIND

Gordon Creighton

IN FSR, Volume 25, Nos. 4, 5, and 6, and Volume 26, No. 1, we gave readers the whole of such evidence as we had been able to gather until that date regarding stories, or rumours, of crashed alien craft, and dead alien beings alleged to be retained in the greatest secrecy by the U.S. Government at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, and at several other named bases throughout the USA. This material, as will be recalled, consisted of the full text of the Paper delivered by Mr. Leonard Stringfield at the MUFON Symposium held in Dayton on July 29, 1978, plus two articles by myself regarding a number of items of supportive evidence that had reached FSR in the early years after its establishment in 1955.

More Testimony

On March 13, 1979, Mr. Stringfield wrote to me that his total number of informants had risen to over fifty, all of whom had supplied statements, but none of whom could be named. Readers will recall Mr. Stringfield's claim that, within a few hours of his delivery of his MUFON lecture, he had received two anonymous death threats. Anyone who reads through this material can surely perceive for himself that there is widespread fear and apprehension among the informants, all of whom seem to have been under constant pressure, which has meant that in fact many of them have since suddenly vanished or become "unavailable." Exceptionally, as will also be recalled, two of the statements (see *Abstracts* Nos. X and XII of Mr. Stringfield's paper) purport to have come from individuals who were nearing the moment of death. Clearly anyone who is dying is unlikely to feel too frightened by the idea of disregarding undertakings or pledges made to officials, often years before. But for those who are still "in good health" the prospect might well look very different. As Mr. Stringfield has indicated to me, many of these individuals have probably been obliged at some time in the past to sign *"some kind of official U.S. form relating to the Espionage Act."*

Now, I think we should pay very careful attention to this word "espionage" which, I confess, I have never seen used before in connection with our subject of UFOs and Ufology. It may seem to us today pretty absurd for such a matter as the investigation of all "unidentified flying objects" to be bracketed under the term "espionage," which we have traditionally viewed as relating to purely "human" activities. However, it must be borne in mind that while we seem to know nothing yet regarding the possible origins or motivations of the UFO occupants, we do know considerably more than we did in 1947 about the patterns of their behaviour, and it is today obvious — at any rate to those who are objective and unprejudiced enough merely to examine the evidence — that it is utterly ludicrous to suggest that, if "human" means "terrestrial", the word has any application to the UFOs. But *"espionage"* is an excellent bogey word with which to frighten the unsuspecting public.

The year 1947 was only a few months after the close of a tremendous global war in which the Americans had changed from being intensely naive on matters of National Security to being almost as conscious as we Europeans are of these questions. So it is not difficult for us to perceive why, in the summer of 1947, American officialdom, beset by a flood of UFO reports, may have clutched gratefully at this chilling word *"espionage,"* and have found it a highly useful deterrent with which to head off all but the boldest of souls from venturing to probe too deeply into this area. We shall find that, ever since, officialdom has aimed to discourage UFO research by linking it with the dangerous world of espionage!

While many of the public may now see through this subterfuge, it is understandable that the possibility of finding oneself charged with the offence of "espionage on behalf of a foreign power" might still be a highly useful weapon for curbing the curiosity of great many Americans — maybe especially the more unsophisticated inhabitants of those rural areas in which so many UFO encounters take place. And this might hold good for other nations as well as America.[1]

The book by Charles Berlitz

An important point which should not be overlooked is the fact that, despite what the majority of people probably think, our thesis about the Retrievals of the Third Kind does not depend solely on what Leonard Stringfield has to say about it, or on the various items subsumed in my two articles. For we now have a book, *The Roswell Incident,* written by Charles Berlitz with the collaboration of William Moore and published in 1980.[2] It is true that the authors concentrate most of their attention upon one principal incident, but nothing in their book runs counter to Stringfield, and it is on the whole a powerful piece of support for him.

As was to be expected, the critics have not been slow to attack Berlitz for "cheap sensation-mongering," just as they attacked Stringfield on the same count. The simple answer is of course, that if only 1% of what Stringfield and Berlitz say about "crashes and retrievals" is true, then there is nothing more "sensational" that could be conjured up by the mind of man.

The Second Stringfield Report

My purpose now is to introduce, with Mr. Stringfield's permission, two further Reports which he has produced to illustrate the continuing development of his investigations since 1978. The first of these is a brief paper, *Retrievals of the Third Kind: New Sources, New Data.* This is dated July 4, 1979.

The second, — and principal — document received from Mr. Stringfield bears the title *The UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome. Status Report II: New Sources, New Data.* This was published originally by Mutual UFO Network Inc., 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155, Price $5.00 and dated January 1980.[3]

Mr. Stringfield (who writes: *". . . Flying Saucer Review are doing an excellent job! Don't ever give up, despite the recession!"*) has given us permission to print the whole of Status Report II without any charge for it. As noted above, MUFON, who bore the cost of printing it, put it on sale two years ago at $5.00 a copy, but Leonard Stringfield retains the copyright on it. I recently wrote to him that most British readers likely to wish to incur this outlay would doubtless have already bought it, but that if we could now have permission to reprint it we could help to make it much better known. In a letter dated April 6, 1982, he has agreed to this, and he has also transmitted the consent of Mr. Walt Andrus, Director of MUFON. Our warmest thanks go to these two gentlemen for their kind collaboration.

For those who may wish to buy a copy of *Status Report II* in its original form, I am asked by Mr. Stringfield to say that it is still available from MUFON for US$5.00 (surface mail) I am furthermore asked by Mr. Stringfield to include here his home address, which is: 4412 Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45227, USA. (This, he explains, is "for the benefit of any FSR reader who has 'a big secret' to disclose to me!")

Third Status Report now under Preparation

My wish to see all this Stringfield material set out in chronological order in FSR stems from the fact that his investigations are by no means concluded: the work still goes on. He tells me that early in July 1979 he secured further biological details from his "medical source" (name not divulged). He writes: *"I am now in a position to draw the complete external anatomy of the beings."* And he says that he is now preparing a new monograph which will be entitled *Status Report III* and which he hopes to have in print by the summer of 1982. He writes:

> "This Paper will contain many new case-histories concerning UFO Crash/Retrievals, plus some other interesting data. I'm now working full time on getting the copy typed and edited ready to go to the typesetter in May or June 1982. I believe that I've hit some sensitive nerves. I'll send you a copy when it is published.
>
> "Incidentally, your information about Admiral Lord Hill-Norton and his confirmation on BBC-2 Television on March 10th that there is a 'UFO cover-up' came just in good time, and I am using it in my Status Report III."

Latest Reports about the "Cover-Up" in the USA

It will be recalled that in my Note, *"Further Evidence of Retrievals"* (in FSR Vol. 26, No. 1), I gave the full text of the very important *New York Times* article of January 14, 1979, headed: CIA PAPERS DETAIL UFO SURVEILLANCE, as well as a brief outline of the position as regards the first lawsuit against the CIA, and I mentioned that Mr. William Spaulding and *Ground Saucer Watch* of Texas were talking of bringing a second suit in the courts.

To conclude, I give below the full texts of two further press reports, photostats of which have recently reached me, and both of which are highly significant.

The first report is a UP item[4] which appeared in the ill-fated English language newspaper *Buenos Aires Herald* (February 16, 1982) under the headline: UFO FANS TO FIGHT U.S. GOVERNMENT SECRECY:—

> "An organization of UFO enthusiasts is seeking a close encounter with the Supreme Court in a battle over 135 UFO-related documents held by the super-secret National Security Agency.[5]
>
> "A group called *Citizens Against UFO Secrecy,*[6] based in New York, wants the Justices to order the Agency to release the mysterious material in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.
>
> "The case began in late 1978, when the UFO Group filed a formal request for 18 Agency documents under the Information law. The National Security Agency flatly refused to release the information, claiming it is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information law.
>
> "A few months later, the Group expanded its request to include 'all documents in the possession of, or under the control of, the National Security Agency, relating to or pertaining to unidentified flying objects and the UFO phenomenon.'
>
> "In response, the National Security Agency

admitted that it has 135 such 'UFO-related' documents, but again declined to release them. It claimed that such disclosure would reveal some of its top secret monitoring and intercepting techniques.

"The National Security Agency is a Defence Department unit headquartered at Fort Meade, Maryland. One of its main responsibilities is to gather foreign Intelligence information by intercepting radio communications sent to or from foreign governments."

The second interesting little item is an AP report[7] which appeared in the *Irish Times* (Dublin) on March 9, 1982, under the headline UFOs STILL SECRET.

> "The U.S. Supreme Court yesterday refused to order the super-secret National Security Agency to disclose whatever it knows about unidentified flying objects. After a closed session examination of some of the information, the Court, without comment, let stand a ruling that the Agency's files on the subject do not have to be made public under the Freedom of Information Act."

Notes and References

1. In the course of my own protracted investigation of a spectacular landing case which occurred in the south-western part of England in the early 1950s, the principal witness admitted to me that the Security officials who had visited him, grilled him, and had accompanied him to the site, had "thrown the book at him," and left him in a permanent state of fear.
   When I have visited him at varying times in subsequent years, his apprehension has not appeared to be less and he would speak only in private. He would commit nothing to writing, and of the several letters I have sent to him, only the first one was answered. (I had not revealed in it my connection with FSR). It is clear that this man had been warned that his very life would be at risk if he talked of what he had once witnessed at extremely close quarters.
2. British edition by Granada Publishing, 1980. For a review of the book see Janet and Colin Bord: *FSR Bookshelf — 7* (FSR Vol. 26, No. 5, p. 23).
3. FSR readers will also already have seen a review of this Status Report in Janet and Colin Bord's *FSR Bookshelf — 6* (FSR Vol. 26, No. 4, p. 23).
4. It is interesting to note that this UP press item comes to us from an English language newspaper published overseas (in Argentina), and one may find oneself wondering, in view of the very evident current clamp-down in the U.K. *whether the item ever got into any newspaper in Britain?* Incidentally, the editor of this English-language paper in Buenos Aires (which has published numerous UFO reports in past years) has recently been forced to flee from Argentina — not, of course, for printing anything about UFOs or the UFO Cover-Up, but because he is British himself and his life had been threatened by those elements that were responsible for the war fought in the South Atlantic.
5. Years ago, both Dr. Allen Hynek and Coral Lorenzen hinted that they had come upon irrefutable proof that the U.S. Air Force's "interest in UFOs" and its studies, like *Operation Grudge* and *Blue Book*, were simply camouflage. Hynek found that highly important cases, in the investigation of which he had played a part, never ended up in Blue Book's files at all, so his presumption was that they had ended up "somewhere else". Coral Lorenzen said that the investigation of UFOs was not being conducted by the U.S. Air Force, but by the *UFO Board*. I admit that, apart from this one reference in one of Coral Lorenzen's books I have never seen any mention of such a body as a "UFO Board". Let us accept that (whatever its correct title) it is a part of what this UP report of February 16, 1982, calls the ". . . super-secret National Security Agency." Such an important and super-secret body can only be concerned with the vital work of counter-espionage, and the ever growing threat from the USSR against the whole of the West, including the United States. The disputed 135 UFO-related documents are described as being in the possession of this Agency, not in the possession of the U.S. Air Force. Here again we have what seems irrefutable proof that the official study of UFOs in the USA is concealed within the (totally unrelated) field of the defence of the United States against her *terrestrial* enemies.

6. The address of *Citizens Against UFO Secrecy* (CAUS) is (or at least *was*, in 1979): P.O. Box 4743, Arlington, Va. 22204. Their telephone was listed as 212-992-9600 (Days — Gersten) and 703-920-0593 (Nights — Bryant). Their Director was listed as Mr. W. Todd Zechel, while Brad C. Sparks was named as their Director of Research, Peter A. Gersten as their Legal Adviser, and Larry W. Bryant as their Administrator.
7. For both the UP report and the AP report we are indebted to a faithful and long-standing reader and correspondent — a lady in a certain city in South America. They were the last communications received from her.

RETRIEVALS OF THE THIRD KIND: NEW SOURCES, NEW DATA

Leonard H. Stringfield

SINCE the initial release of my paper *Retrievals of the Third Kind* (Subtitled: "A case Study of Alleged UFOs and occupants in Military Custody") on July 29, 1978, at the ninth annual MUFON symposium in Dayton, Ohio, my patient pursuit in this special endeavour of research has been rewarded with a reassuring influx of new information from a variety of sources. This includes additional anatomical data from a medical source who, with others, had examined a deceased alien specimen.

Key sources, such as medical, of course, must remain unidentified. And, admittedly, that's my hang-up. Information, from knowledgeable sources, has an uncompromising stipulation — *no use of names!* Simply put, it's all in a name, and, as we all know, the name of an authoritative source willing to be quoted, has never happened. Yes, there are leaks, and many since 1948 when the legend of "little men" first broke the news, but the real facts have never transcended beyond the rumour stage.

I know that my clinical respect for the anonymity of my sources will forever haunt my attempt to establish credibility for the subject. Conversely, it has been the very reason for some new and reliable sources to surface. Thus, beyond any ethical premise, I see no reason to betray my sources just to sate the demands of the media or a diehard disbeliever in research.

To put it hypothetically, let's say I did resort to the betrayal of names. How far would it get off the ground? Would it get worldwide attention? Would it trigger the ultimate collapse of secrecy and open the floodgates to a public pronouncement? I daresay, no. It is my belief that the forces of security would act like its doomsday. To be brief, my betrayed source, even if he were reachable — and I'm sure he would not be — would deny my allegations. Without confirmation, my sensational revelation would quickly melt into just another rumour. And that would end all my bonds of trust with the right people, and it would kill my reputation and my research.

I must also stress that most of my leads to new sources, or getting more information from the old, are far from successful. Many, as a matter of fact, are dead-enders, or because of other security reasons, reveal precious little. Some suddenly put on the spot are awkwardly evasive before denial; others, once they know I'm at their doorstep, disappear as though into thin air. It is even more bewildering that many of my old informants have vanished without a trace. This leaves a lot of room for conjecture, but I knew from the outset in this venture, and from my own experiences, especially in Dayton before delivering my paper, (threats on my life, etc.) that this was a sensitive field.

Indeed, extreme security is involved. More than one informant has told me that my chosen subject is

Our contributor writes that he is working in association with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, and is assigned as investigator covering Southwestern Ohio and Northern Kentucky. He is also a Director of Public Relations for Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and is an investigator for both MUFON and *Ground Saucer Watch* (of Phoenix, Arizona) in Ohio. He has been involved in UFO report investigation and research since 1953, when he was Director of CRIFO (Civilian Research Interplanetary Flying Objects). In 1967-68 Mr. Stringfield was "Early Warning Coordinator" in Southwestern Ohio for Dr. Condon's US Air Force-sponsored Colorado University UFO Investigation. Elsewhere he has been involved with Donald Keyhoe's NICAP, conducted a High School course in ufology, served as president of the Cincinatti UFO Society; he says he encountered his first UFOs (3 of them) in 1945, near Iwo Jima, when on a flight to Tokyo, at the end of the War, for the Intelligence Service of the 5th Air Force. In more down-to-earth moments he is Director of Public Relations and Marketing Services of the DuBois Chemicals Division of the Chemed Corporation of Cincinnati. EDITOR

classified "Eyes only." And, as one of my early informants related, when asked if he would sign a statement for posthumous release, "If I allowed you to use my name in *any* manner, I would end up on the turkey farm." He added, "To be sure, I checked with Security and was told: 'You have seen nothing, heard nothing and you sure as shit can sign nothing!' " Curiously my informant, and family, have disappeared since I talked with him last Fall.

Of course, there is no reason for alarm in this one instance despite our friendship and long chats on UFOs, but other worthy informants have also become mysteriously unreachable. Coincidence? Banishment? Or, did they all do their jobs well as plants? And, if the latter, for what reason?

Despite disappointment, and occasional cloak-and-daggerishness, I feel privileged to have accumulated so much information relative to the retrievals of the craft and occupants. It all began with my book, *Situation Red, The UFO Siege* published by Doubleday 1977 (and since in paperbacks, worldwide). It was in this book that I resurrected the legend of the "little men" and their being in deep freeze at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. While preparing the manuscript it was my belief that some of my early informants were telling the truth and that there was a validity for it in the ups-and-downs of the UFO mystery. Now, since the "Retrievals of the Third Kind" paper has been amply xeroxed,* and has made its way around the world, and as new data continue to reach me from new sources — even as I write this — I have narrowed my research to this one phase only. It is in this, I believe, that I ultimately will find the truth or be able to shoot it all down as a grand hoax..

Needless to say, I feel confident that I'm on the right road — and, at its end are some mind-boggling facts that are impossible for the authorities to "officially" reveal.

I am aware of a few of the mind-bogglers let out by Intelligence sources, but they are too fragmentary and nebulous, or just too bizarre for rationale. Until I can piece them together or learn more about each, I'll have to be content with the bits of new data that come to strengthen my first "Retrievals" paper. Following hereunder are a few examples of the new data received relative to abstracts in the paper, describing recovery events:—

Abstract No. 1 New information indicates that the first alleged retrieval incident known to research occurred in Mexico, near Laredo, Texas in 1950 instead of 1948. Allegedly affidavits exist.

Abstract No. 5 Another witness to the film, an Air Force Colonel surfaced through the efforts of a researcher. His data, by letter, corroborate and add to my other first hand witness's account of the film.

Abstract No. 16 In the Fall of 1978, a former second hand informant, an Air Police guard at Wright-Patterson, became *first hand* when I traced him to his employment to discuss the issue. I got his confirmation that he saw three humanoid bodies after recovery in 1973.

Abstract No. 20 Some researchers have tried to discredit this case which occurred in Ft. Riley, Kansas, 1964. I have since received a letter from another witness of the recovery event on the following morning. Also, I have confirmation of the incident from a former official of the C.I.A.

Abstract No. 21 This witness to nine bodies at Wright-Patterson in 1966, gave me the additional information that one of the UFO crashes occurred near Evansville, Indiana. This source, who had arranged to see me while I was lecturing in Florida in April of 1979, became unreachable.

It is beyond the scope of this commentary to relate all the recent developments in my research. I have several new promising leads; however, my cooperative medical source has supplied me with ample data to render a new drawing of the overall external body, and more defined details for the head, hands and feet.I hereby quote from one of the paragraphs in his statement to me concerning the height of the alien body, which he and others measured during autopsy . . . "The specimen observed was four feet three and three eighths inches in length. I can't remember the weight. It has been so long ago, and my files do not contain the weight. I recall the length because we had a disagreement and everybody took their turn at measuring."

Other data from the doctor concern the internal structure which must wait for further clarification. A more comprehensive report of all collected data is in preparation. This will be released through the MUFON UFO Journal at a future date. Other information relative to my talk in Dayton, Ohio and C.I.A. involvement, was prepared for release in the newly published [journal of the (?)—ED] Planetary Association for Clean Energy.†

Needless to say, I am in a unique position at this time and hopefully my next paper will be more convincing than the first. One then may rightly ask: Is it all a grand hoax? Have I been deceived or mislead? While anything seems possible in UFOlogy, I seriously doubt any deception. If so, then I've been cleverly hoodwinked by five independent sources, some of whom I had to pursue with great effort and difficulty. In summary, they all say the same thing about the bodies and the craft.

All my first hand sources are normal people holding responsible positions in civilian life. Those who have served in a military Intelligence capacity or C.I.A., or in medical practice, may have come forth in

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* And published in *Flying Saucer Review* Vol. 25: 4/5/6 and Vol. 26: 1.

the spirit of covert cooperation. I hope so.

I believe that my basic "retrieval" information is true. Someday, if there is an official time table, certain information may be made known to confirm the greatest story every told.

* * * * *

†FSR Editor writes: The following is the text of a letter, dated May 30, 1979, received by Dr. Andrew Michrowski, president of the Planetary Association for Clean Energy (100 Bronson Avenue, Suite 1001, Ottawa, Ontario) in reply to his letter of August 15, 1978 to Mr. Pierre Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. Dr. Michrowski had made a plea for Canadian Government sponsorship for setting up a multi-national centre where scientifically-minded people (he quoted as examples the names of Drs. Vallée and Hynek, astronaut Gordon Cooper and Leonard Stringfield) could discuss the problem freely and with Canada's official backing. The last two paragraphs are of interest:—

Dear Mr. Michrowski:

On behalf of the Prime Minister, I wish to thank you for sharing your views on the very interesting and intriguing issue of Unidentified Flying Objects and Occupants and their reported contacts with North Americans.

Regretfully your letter was indexed upon receipt but was not acknowledged. Please accept my apologies for this oversight.

You are quite right in noting the dilemma which UFO s present to the scientific community. There are deep and honest divisions between scientists on this issue. Although a multi-national research effort might considerably advance the resolution of this controversy, the fiscal constraints on the Canadian government at this time might make it difficult for the government to assign a high priority to such an endeavour.

Nevertheless, your comments have been noted with interest and you might wish to consider writing again to the Minister responsible for Science and Technology in the new government at a future date.

Yours sincerely,
Katharine E. Gourlie,
Government Operations.

Publication in *Flying Saucer Review* of Mr. Stringfield's study: *The UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome. Status Report II: new sources, new data,* will commence in the next issue.

FSR BOOKSHELF — 15

New UFO books reviewed by . . . *Janet & Colin Bord*

IN the 1980s the trend in ufology seems to be to turn the inexplicable into the mundane, and sometimes the explanations by which this is done are weirder than the original phenomenon. In **Night Siege** we are faced with truly unbelievable happenings for which one of only three possibilities must be applicable: 1. The witnesses are lying (but the investigators claim to have also witnessed some events — are they lying too?); 2. The witnesses are hallucinating (but shared hallucinations are a rare phenomenon); 3. The witnesses are honestly describing happenings for which there is no logical explanation.

These strange events took place in mid-1981 at Rome, Ohio, not far from the home of Fortean Dennis Pilichis, who launched an immediate investigation. Briefly, the affected family, who live on a rural property, were regularly plagued at night by tall, dark figures with glowing red eyes. The figures wandered about at the treeline, or came closer to the house, but were apparently aimless. When shot at by the family, they screamed, but do not appear to have been hurt.

During the night of 1 July glowing objects or lights were seen as well as the dark figures, and one family member was hit by a ray of light. The father shot at a cigar-box-shaped object which flew over the farmhouse. It had red and blue lights, and he aimed at the red light, which went out. He also heard a noise like a bullet hitting something like glass. But the object continued along its course apparently unaffected.

Many authors have tried to establish a link between UFO and Bigfoot phenomena, but our own studies have showed us that such a link is rare, only about 1% of Bigfoot cases showing any direct UFO involvement. If the Rome events are classed as a Bigfoot case (and the dark forms seen do certainly bear some resemblance to a category of Bigfoot phenomena), then we have here one of the few cases where Bigfoot and UFO are seen together, apparently as part of the same phenomenon.

The Rome Bigfeet have more affinity to the paranormal rather than the physical Bigfeet (readers wishing for further explanation of the different categories should consult our books *Alien Animals* and *Bigfoot Casebook*), and the whole series of events carries an aura of the unreal. It is particularly unusual that the investigators were themselves able to witness some of