

What Stan Friedman Does NOT Tell His Lecture Audiences

Popular UFO-lecturer Stanton T. Friedman likes to brag that he won \$1,000 from me because I was wrong about an MJ-12 memo allegedly written by President Eisenhower's aid Robert Cutler which William S. Moore and Jaime Shandera CLAIM they found in the National Archives. Friedman typically shows a slide of my check to him for \$1,000 during his lectures to try to discredit my criticism of the MJ-12 documents. What Friedman withholds from his audience is that he earlier HAD PAID ME \$1,000 in another "UFO wager-offer." More important, that he had flatly rejected another MJ-12 wager-offer under which he could have WON MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IF HE REALLY BELIEVED THAT THE MJ-12 DOCUMENTS WERE AUTHENTIC.

As a boy in Iowa we had a very effective way of determining whether another boy really believed his claim, for example, that he could run around the block in only two minutes. A skeptic would say, *"Talk is cheap. Put your money where your mouth is. I'll bet you a dime you can't."* If the person making the claim did not really believe it, he would reject the wager-offer. During my years in the UFO field, I have found this technique very revealing—especially in assessing some of the claims that Friedman makes.

I first used this technique with Friedman in 1967 when he published a Letter-to-the-Editor in Aeronautics & Astronautics magazine which claimed that there was overwhelming evidence that some UFOs were extraterrestrial craft. This prompted me to send Friedman my \$10,000 wager-offer contract for him to sign. Under its terms I agreed to pay him \$10,000 when any incontrovertible evidence was found which proved that the Earth had been visited by even ONE ET CRAFT. The other party [Friedman] agreed to pay me \$100 per year until such evidence is found—but with a limit of 10 years on his payments. Thus, the maximum Friedman risked was \$1,000, while I could lose \$10,000. FRIEDMAN REJECTED MY \$10K WAGER-OFFER AS "RIDICULOUS."

In the last chapter of my second book on UFOs, published in late 1974, I discussed this \$10K wager-offer, and reported that several persons had accepted it. BUT NOT FRIEDMAN, although his total risk was only the amount he was paid for giving one of his UFO lectures. Shortly after publication of "UFOs Explained," Friedman and I appeared on a TV talk show in Detroit. During the show, he whipped out a new \$100 bill and announced he was accepting my \$10K wager-offer. When I returned home, I signed a copy of the one-page contract which I mailed to him and he signed. During the subsequent 10 years, Friedman made his annual \$100 payments—sometimes a bit late. BUT HE NEVER ONCE TRIED TO COLLECT THE \$10,000, EVEN WITH THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THE "MAJESTIC-12" [MJ-12] DOCUMENTS IN LATE MAY OF 1987.

One of the three MJ-12 documents, made public by William L. Moore, Jaime Shandera and Friedman—all [purportedly] classified Top Secret—was a document seemingly prepared by Rear Admiral (Radm.) R.H. Hillenkoetter to brief President-elect Eisenhower on UFOs and crashed saucers in November 1952. (Hillenkoetter had been director of the CIA from 1947 to 1950. Seemingly, he had been named to head MJ-12 in 1947 and still held that position two years after returning to the U.S. Navy.)

British UFOlogist Christopher Allan was the first to call my attention to the very unusual date-format used in Hillenkoetter's Eisenhower Briefing Document (EBD)—a hybrid of civil and military formats. [For example, civil format: June 22, 1947; military format: 22 June 1947; EBD format: 22 June, 1947.] I recalled that William L. Moore consistently had used the SAME unusual date format in his letters to me until shortly before the MJ-12 documents were made public. My review of Moore's letters confirmed this. Another curious feature of the EBD was that Hillenkoetter (seemingly) MISidentified his rank. EBD refers to "Adm. Hillenkoetter," indicating he was a four-star admiral when he was really a two-star Radm.

So I asked the Truman Library to search its files for letters that Hillenkoetter had written when he was CIA Director to President Truman and send me copies. They sent me about two dozen such letters which I carefully examined to see if Hillenkoetter ever used the EBD hybrid date-format and if he ever used the incorrect rank of "Adm." NEVER! I also found that he, seemingly, did not like his first name ("Roscoe"), so instead all of his letters bore his two initials ("R.H.")—unlike the MJ-12's EBD which used "Roscoe."

On Nov. 10, 1987, I wrote Friedman offering him the opportunity TO WIN MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IF HE COULD PROVIDE COPIES OF LETTERS WRITTEN BY HILLENKOETTER, WHEN DIRECTOR OF THE CIA, WHICH USED THE SAME FORMAT AS THE MJ-12 EBD. For example, my wager-offer agreed to pay Friedman \$500 for each Hillenkoetter letter which used the same civil-military hybrid date format, OR \$1,000 if written on a date with a single digit if the digit was preceded with a zero, i.e. "02." And I would pay Friedman \$2,000 if the letter also was signed "Roscoe." BUT FRIEDMAN HAD TO AGREE TO PAY ME ONE-FIFTH THESE AMOUNTS FOR EACH HILLENKOETTER LETTER WHICH USED A DIFFERENT FORMAT THAT I PROVIDED HIM.

FRIEDMAN REJECTED MY GENEROUS OFFER ON NOV. 18, WITH A LENGTHY EXPLANATION, portions of which are quoted here: "NOT signed by STF because this is a stupid offer totally inappropriate to the issue at hand....If this kind of garbage is the best that Klass can do in the almost six months since MJ-12 items have been out in the open then it almost seems reasonable to conclude that there are NO reasons for concluding that [the MJ-12 documents] are frauds..."

Friedman Wins \$1,000 On Cutler Memo Typeface

Little more than a year later, in early 1989, I was focusing my effort on what seemed to be a brief Top Secret White House memo addressed to Gen. Twining, allegedly written by Robert Cutler (an aid to President Eisenhower), which Moore and Shandera claimed they had found in the National Archives among USAF papers. The memo notified Twining that *"the MJ-12 Special Studies Project briefing should take place during the already scheduled White House meeting of July 16, rather than following it, as originally intended."* (This memo was the only one of the then three MJ-12 documents claimed to have been found in a government archive.) When investigation revealed that Cutler was out-of-country on official business on the day this memo was allegedly written, Friedman claimed the unsigned memo was actually written by Cutler's assistant James Lay who used Cutler's name. Another reason to suspect that the Cutler memo was a counterfeit was that it was written on a typewriter equipped with "Pica" type whereas all of the Cutler office letters which I had obtained from the Eisenhower Library had been written on typewriters with (smaller) "Elite" type-fonts.

So, on Jan. 16, 1989, I challenged Friedman on this issue and offered to pay him \$100 for every authentic Cutler letter written during this same time period which "uses a typeface identical in size and style to that used in the alleged Cutler/Twining memo of July 14, 1954." (Fortunately, I set an upper limit of \$1,000 payment.) FRIEDMAN PROMPTLY ACCEPTED THIS OFFER AND SENT ME PHOTOCOPIES OF MORE THAN A DOZEN CUTLER OFFICE DOCUMENTS WRITTEN ON TYPEWRITERS WITH LARGER PICA FONT. I promptly sent Friedman my check for \$1,000. (This was less than the interest I had earned on the \$1,000 Friedman had earlier paid me on our \$10K wager-offer and I still had the principal.)

But Friedman Rejects Chance To Win Another \$1,000

In the Roswell Incident book "Crash At Corona" which Friedman co-authored with Don Berliner (who heads the Fund for UFO Research/FUFOR), their "star witness" was Gerald F. Anderson. He claimed that in 1947, along with four other members of his family (all now deceased), they stumbled onto a crashed ET craft on the Plains of San Agustin in New Mexico—roughly 120 miles west of Mack Brazel's ranch. Anderson claimed that they were soon joined by a group of archaeologists—headed by a Dr. Buskirk. Although Anderson was only five years old at the time and more than 40 years had elapsed, he claimed to be able to remember Buskirk's unusual name and to reconstruct his 1947 appearance using techniques employed by police to reconstruct the appearance of an accused criminal.

UFOlogist Tom J. Carey managed to find a Dr. Buskirk who closely resembled Anderson's sketch, but he flatly denied Anderson's tale and had photos taken during the summer of 1947 which showed Buskirk was hundreds of miles away from the Plains of San Agustin in July of 1947. Carey learned that Dr. Buskirk had been a teacher at the Albuquerque NM high school in the late 1950s when Anderson had been a student there. Although Anderson claimed that he had never seen Buskirk since the crashed-ET-craft-incident, Buskirk recalled that Anderson had been a student in his class. When Anderson learned that skeptical investigators were trying to obtain a copy of his school records to determine if he had been a student under Buskirk, Anderson instructed school officials not to release his records.

Because Friedman had so strongly endorsed Anderson's veracity, I wrote Friedman on Aug. 8, 1992, and offered to pay him \$1,000 if he could get Anderson to authorize the principal of the Albuquerque High School to examine Anderson's school records and make a public report as to whether he had taken a course under Dr. Buskirk. If Friedman was not able to convince Anderson to do so, Friedman would pay me (only) \$100. FRIEDMAN NEVER REPLIED TO MY GENEROUS OFFER, DESPITE SEVERAL FOLLOW-UP LETTERS. EARLY THE NEXT YEAR (1993) FRIEDMAN AND BERLINER PUBLICLY ADMITTED THAT ANDERSON "CAN NO LONGER BE SEEN AS SUFFICIENTLY RELIABLE." YET ANDERSON WAS STILL FEATURED IN THE NEXT PRINTING OF THEIR BOOK WHICH WENT ON THE PRESSES THE FOLLOWING YEAR-1994.

Friedman Believes That Twining Resorted To Intentional Falsehood

Friedman offers his explanation for what he claims is a false statement by Lt. Gen. Nathan Twining in his letter of Sept. 24, 1947, to Brig. Gen. George Schulgen in response to his request for the opinion of the Air Materiel Command as to what UFOs might be. The Roswell incident book, co-authored by Friedman and Don Berliner, only quotes one sentence from this Twining letter: "*The phenomenon is something real and not visionary or fictitious.*" Their book does NOT mention the following sentence from the same Twining letter: "Due consideration must be given the following: The lack of physical evidence in the shape of crash recovered exhibits which would undeniably prove the existence of these objects." (Twining's letter was written nearly three months after the Roswell incident.)

But in Friedman's recent column in the January issue of the MUFON UFO Journal he quotes the latter Twining statement and asks: "*Doesn't this prove there was no [Roswell] crashed saucer? Of course not.*" (Emphasis added.) According to Friedman, "*Everything about a crashed saucer would have been TOP SECRET Code Word and could not have been mentioned in a memo that was [only classified] lowly SECRET.*" [SUN Comment: But if Twining doubted that Schulgen—a top Pentagon intelligence official—had a Top Secret clearance, Twining's letter could have OMITTED ANY REFERENCE TO "THE LACK OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE IN THE SHAPE OF CRASH RECOVERED EXHIBITS..." Perhaps Twining resorted to "intentional falsehood" because his secretary could not find a Top Secret rubber stamp.]

Prof. Swords Does Not Find Strange Behavior "Odd"

An even more strained explanation for the absence of any mention of the Roswell crashed saucer incident was offered in early 1998 by UFOlogist Michael D. Swords—a professor of science studies at Western Michigan University. Swords suggested that the Twining letter was actually written by Col. Howard McCoy, who then headed the Air Materiel Command's Intelligence Div. which had been studying UFO reports—trying to determine their cause. In a lengthy article in the Journal of Scientific Exploration (1998, #1), published quarterly by Peter Sturrock's Society for Scientific Exploration, Swords also quotes McCoy's then recently declassified presentation at the March 17-18, 1948, meeting of the then newly formed U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)—which consisted of 39 of the nation's top scientists.

McCoy told the SAB that the USAF had then recently created "Project Sign" in McCoy's intelligence agency to investigate UFO reports—especially those from military and airline pilots. "*We are running down [investigating] every report. I can't even tell you how much we would give to have one of those [UFOs] crash in an area so we could recover whatever they are.*"

Swords' explanation is that any mention of crashed UFO recovery would be classified "Top Secret" and some members of SAB held only Secret clearances. According to Swords either McCoy resorted to intentional falsehood (as in the Twining letter) or McCoy had never been informed about the Roswell Incident.

In late September or early October of 1948, as Swords reports, Project Sign submitted the results of its lengthy UFO investigation ("Estimate of the Situation"). This Project Sign report concluded that some of the mysterious "Flying Disks" were extraterrestrial vehicles—an assessment admittedly based on the seemingly remarkable UFO performance reported by some observers. But there was NO mention of the Roswell Incident. This Project Sign assessment was rejected by USAF Chief of Staff Gen. Hoyt Vandenberg for lack of evidence. In Swords' article he asks, "Is it odd that Project Sign was not told about or involved with Roswell? I do not think it odd at all. Project Sign was set up to conduct, as traditionally as possible, intelligence gathering and analysis of reported incidents of U.S. (and other) airspace violations."

SUN COMMENT: SEEMINGLY, SWORDS DOES NOT CONSIDER IT "ODD" THAT USAF CHIEF OF STAFF VANDENBERG ALSO HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THE ROSWELL INCIDENT. NEITHER SWORDS NOR FRIEDMAN IS WILLING TO CONSIDER THE LOGICAL ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATION FOR THESE "ODD" EVENTS: THAT VANDENBERG, TWINING, AND McCOY HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THE ROSWELL INCIDENT DEBRIS DISCOVERED BY RANCHER BRAZEL WAS NOT FROM AN ET CRAFT.

The Woods Offer Their Explanation For Twining's Letter

Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan, who not only endorse the authenticity of the original MJ-12 documents and also promote the many "new Majestic documents" provided by Tim Cooper, claim the Twining letter's "no recovered crashed-UFOs" statement was really a covert warning to top Air Force officers that such recoveries should not be mentioned in documents unless classified Top Secret. The Woods' web-site, after citing Twining's statement that "the phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious," notes that he expressed an "opinion [that] does clearly refer to 'the lack of physical evidence in the shape of crash-recovered exhibits.' IS THIS IN CONFLICT WITH OTHER [Cooper-supplied] MEMOS THAT SUPPORT CRASH RETRIEVALS? NO, IT IS NOT. THIS IS [ONLY] A SECRET MEMO AND COULD BE AN EFFECTIVE COVER STORY IF LEAKED TO SOVIET INTELLIGENCE....This is garden-variety compartmentalization." (Emphasis added.)

[SUN Comment: The Woods believe that top military officials may resort to intentional falsehood in answering queries from top Pentagon officials so that their letters later can be leaked to Soviet intelligence.]

The Woods ask: "Why would Twining publish such a memo?" [Twining never intended his letter to be published. But 22 years after the letter was written it was declassified and published in the University of Colorado (Condon) UFO study report.] "Since Twining would have known the reality of these objects...he and other authorities 'in the know' would have wanted to say something to Air Force commanders around the world and give them some serious guidance." [SUN comment: So instead of sending Top Secret letters to Air Force commanders informing them that any info about retrieval of crashed UFOs should be treated as Top Secret information, the Woods claim that Twining wrote: "Due consideration must be given the following....The lack of physical evidence in the shape of crash-recovered exhibits which would undeniably prove the existence of these objects."

Astronomer Haisch Claims UFOs May Be More Exotic Than ETs

Useful insights into the pro-UFO views of astronomer/Zero-Point-Energy (ZPE) specialist Dr. Bernhard Haisch are provided by his new web-site which is misleadingly titled "ufoskeptical.org." Haisch's views, which seek to explain "miraculous events" reported in the Bible as advanced ET technology, are similar to those of Silicon Valley's Joe Firmage. Haisch, who formerly was employed by Lockheed Martin, is now an

official in Firmage's Motion Sciences Organization which recently replaced Firmage's International Space Sciences Organization. Haisch also served for 12 years as editor of the very "pro-UFO" quarterly journal published by Dr. Peter Sturrock's Society for Scientific Exploration [SUN #71/Spring 2002].

Under the title "The Metaphysical Interpretation," Haisch writes: *"Having spent time in my youth in a religious seminary environment, I do not share the automatic rejection of transcendent realms that has become unofficial dogma in modern mainstream science. Rejection of vengeful, patriarchal deities is one thing (with which I am in full accord....) Rejection of anything that may transcend the physical is quite another. I am willing to entertain the possibility that the UFO phenomenon is real and that it may be a manifestation of something even more profound than visits by beings from other planets....In the book 'Alien Identities: Ancient Insights Into Modern UFO Phenomena,' mathematician and Vedic scholar Richard L. Thompson discusses such concepts as recorded in the world's most ancient writings....All religious traditions have taught that there are other realities and dimensions beyond the material universe. To a very limited extent, modern superstring theories are beginning to discover something similar, but only in the most rudimentary and abstract way....The appearance of other beings in our physical world is well recognized....There are many descriptions of flying machines whose characteristics match modern UFO reports...."*

"The first tentative but formal initiation of 'contact' between higher intelligences and a human government appears to have taken place during World War One," according to Haisch. "The Second World War and its aftermath strengthened the role of the U.S. as the focus of contact...though not exclusively....There are three reasons why it will have taken roughly a century for the contact to come fully into the open. The first reason is that economic and political systems based on greed, exploitation and materialism—which characterize most modern human societies—are incompatible with the abilities mankind will develop when the true nature of consciousness becomes apparent. The world power structure will have to change significantly after contact....The second reason is that most of mankind's religious institutions...with their contradictory dogmas will be extremely challenged by the actual facts of spiritual reality. Finally, the need to maintain secrecy by the small clandestine elements of the U.S. and some other governments...."

"There has been ongoing pressure to postpone the day of open contact until some of the [UFO coverup] key players and decision-makers have passed on....Overall, though, secrets are leaking out everywhere now (except, alas, within mainstream science)....When contact finally does take place, the nature of the UFO phenomenon is going to contradict the materialist-reduction paradigm of modern western science, and that may well trigger a significant backlash. From this perspective, mainstream science appears to be heading for a major loss of prestige, authority, and credibility," Haisch predicts. (Emphasis added.)

In another essay on Haisch's web-site he writes, "During my 12-year tenure as editor of the Journal of Scientific Exploration, I was often dismayed at the unwillingness, sometimes amazingly hostile unwillingness, of mainstream scientists to consider what seemed to me [to be] credible observations of psychic functioning, or the ability of [the] mind to control matter....[Mainstream science] having set itself in such opposition to what it disparagingly labels 'the supernatural,' it would have a very hard time...with [true] reality..."

[SUN Comment: We have seen a famous magician—seemingly—cut two young women in half and swap their lower halves, after which both women walked off stage wearing the pants originally worn by the other. DID WE WITNESS "TRUE REALITY" OR CLEVER TRICKERY?

Bigelow Cuts Staff of National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS)

Wealthy Las Vegas businessman Robert T. Bigelow recently has slashed the permanent staff of his National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), created several years ago to investigate (and promote) UFOs and "cattle mutilations." Victims of the staff cutback include: Dr. John B. Alexander, whose title was Discrete Project Scout; Dr. Eric W. Davis, whose specialty is aerospace physics and astrophysics; and Dr. George V. Onet, whose specialty is veterinary pathology. Dr. Colm A. Kelleher, whose specialty is molecular biology, remains on as deputy administrator under Bigelow. Dr. Harold E. Puthoff currently is chairman of the NIDS's 12-person scientific advisory board—a position previously held by Dr. Warren

Buggren, Dean of Arts & Sciences at the University of North Texas. Puthoff, who first achieved "fame" for his tests of "spoon-bending-Israeli-psyhic" Uri Geller at Stanford Research Institute (SRI), then spent the next decade investigating another "psychic phenomenon"—Remote Viewing. He is now Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies, Austin, TX, and (like Haisch) is researching Zero Point Energy (ZPE), which Puthoff suspects is used by ET craft (UFOs). The future of the NIDS advisory board is uncertain.

SUN Comment: We regret the NIDS cutback. Despite its understandable pro-UFO bias, its use of retired FBI agents to interview persons involved in major UFO sightings, and their providing a VERBATIM transcript of these interviews on the NIDS web-site, is an invaluable contribution [SUN #71/Spring 2002]. For example, a study of the NIDS transcripts for the Carteret, NJ, sightings of July 15, 2001, leaves little doubt that the incident involved multiple small objects rather than a single giant object. [SUN suspects the numerous UFOs were parachute-suspended flares released either by military aircraft or as a prank by private aircraft pilots.] Although NIDS investigators were unwilling to venture even a guess, their transcripts provided at least a partial answer.

UFO Lobbyist Seeks Election To U.S. Congress

Stephen Bassett, who created the Extraterrestrial Phenomena Political Action Committee (X-PPAC) in mid-1999, which he describes as "the first PAC in history to target the politics of UFO/ET phenomena and the government embargo of facts confirming the presence of extraterrestrial life forms in our world now," has launched a campaign to run as an Independent candidate to represent the 8th Congressional District of Maryland. To be listed on the November ballot, Bassett needs approximately 4,000 signatures of registered voters; as of May 11, he reportedly had 474. The current 8-term incumbent is Ms. Connie Morella, a Republican; the potential Democratic Party candidate is Mark Shriver, nephew of President John F. Kennedy.

Many observers believe Bassett has scant chance of being elected but hopes to use his candidacy as a platform to publicize his UFO views and those of Dr. Stephen Greer and his Project Disclosure [SUN #71/Spring 2002]. Bassett, who says he has a degree in physics and a background in business development, spent five months in early 1996 in Cambridge, MA, working for Dr. John Mack's organization which researches "UFO abductions," before moving to Bethesda, MD, just outside Washington DC and creating his own Paradigm Research Group. Since then, Bassett has assisted Richard Hoagland in generating media interest in "The Face On Mars," created his X-PPAC in mid-1999, and in early 2001 joined Dr. Greer's Project Disclosure. On April 17, Bassett held a press conference to announce his intent to run for Congress. According to Bassett, during the campaign he will "put forth the premise that the conditions under which the U.S. government can end the UFO/ET truth embargo will be ideal in the coming year—thus the [campaign] name 'Disclosure2003.'"

According to Bassett, "While X-PPAC is permitted to contribute up to \$5,000 to a political campaign, it will not contribute to Disclosure2003. The lobbying work of PRG and the activist work of X-PPAC will continue unabated. No monies contributed to X-PPAC will be used in the campaign. But, as with X-PPAC, deposits and expenditures of the Disclosure2003 campaign will be recorded on the web-site as close as to real time as possible." (Emphasis added.) [SUN Comment: Although we disagree with Bassett's views, we plan to contribute one dollar to his political campaign.]

Variety Of Tales Told By "UFO Abductees"

Because those who promote belief in the reality of "UFO abductions" typically cite the similarity in the tales told by "abductees" ("experiencers"), an article in a recent issue (Winter 2001-02) of International UFO Reporter (IUR), published by the Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), is quite revealing. Its author is Craig R. Lang, a certified hypnotherapist who has been interviewing for about six years persons who claim they have experienced UFO abductions. Portions of Lang's article follow: "Many of the events that people describe are quite similar to the 'standard model' of UFO abduction....In my own work with 'experiencers' I have found a considerable variety of accounts—possibly more varied than I've heard from many researchers. For each classic abduction event, I often hear one or more other accounts portraying a completely different scenario." (Emphasis added.)

Lang then offered several examples: "While in a deep trance, another experiencer I will call 'Susan,' described a scenario in which she underwent a medical procedure at the hands of 'spiritual scientists.' She was abducted again (in the usual manner) and taken to a UFO. She was then seated in a room in which the scientists lectured her on some type of advanced mathematics. The entities appeared to be humanoid, wore long robes, and had facial features that were partially but not completely humanoid. During this same regression....Susan also found herself reliving an experience in a metaphysical domain in which she was a nonhuman entity." Another example cited by Lang involved a man he refers to as Mike: "Late at night, he felt the sense of paralysis and presence common in the beginning of encounters. Mike then observed entities that appeared to emerge from the nearby mirror. The entities indicated that they were from 'Andromeda' and accompanied him back through the mirror with them. Mike then found himself in a vast alien realm that looked both paradise-like and technological. The entities (looking completely unlike standard types of aliens) escorted him to meet a leader figure, who interrogated him. The leader informed him of a mission they had planned for him. They then returned him to the normal realm and back to bed." (Emphasis added.)

Lang concludes his IUR article as follows: "The ambiguity and the wide variety of experiences described suggest that at its core, the phenomenon does not have a simple explanation." SUN Comment: Numerous books, TV shows and articles provide fantasy-prone persons with a "standard-model" scenario. But if a person tells an abduction researcher "my experience was identical to the standard model" the researcher would lose interest or might become suspicious. So, many persons initially begin with a standard model scenario and then embellish their tales to attract researcher interest.

"Shockingly Close to the Truth"

Having read Jim Moseley's monthly "gossipy" newsletter "Saucer Smear" for several decades, we were surprised to find his new book ("Shockingly Close to the Truth") quite interesting. Karl T. Pflock is listed as co-author, but the book is primarily about Moseley, his activities, and his relations with other early UFO promoters such as Gray Barker, George Adamski and Don Kevhoe. Moseley candidly admits that he no longer believes in ET visitors or government coverup although he admits to being mystified by a few UFO reports. Pflock believes that we had ET visitors from the mid-1940s until the late 1960s or early 1970s. So he endorses the Betty/Barney Hill UFO-abduction tale and the two Paul Trent UFO photos taken in 1950 near McMinnville, Ore. Moseley disagrees. (Pflock began his investigation of the Roswell Incident suspecting a government coverup. But his multi-year investigation convinced him that the Brazel ranch debris was from a balloon-borne radar target launched by New York University scientists, as reported in his book "Roswell: Inconvenient Facts and the Will To Believe.")

SUN's editor first met Moseley during a late-night talk show in Philadelphia in early 1967, shortly after we entered the UFO field. Moseley writes, "When pressed most leading ufologists admit that, unlike so many other debunkers, Phil really knows the subject....Because Phil and I are friends, and because we agree on many things ufological, there are some in saucerdom who consider me a 'Klass Klone.' Nothing could be further from the truth. We have had and continue to have intense doctrinal and factual disagreements..." One example, my investigation of the 1964 "UFO landing" incident in Socorro, NM, indicated it was a hoax (for reasons detailed in my book "UFOs Explained"). Moseley disagrees. But he offers no alternative explanation.

We also disagree as to the UFO-investigating skill of (the late) Dr. J. Allen Hynek. According to Moseley, Hynek "was a solid scientist [astronomer] who, in my opinion, genuinely and honestly sought the truth about UFOs and related phenomena. When, after about 20 years as a skeptical scientific front man for the Air Force, he could clearly see that some UFO events were unexplainable, he resigned as an Air Force consultant and, a few years later, formed his own pro-UFO organization, the Center for UFO Studies... [Hynek did not resign. His contract was not renewed in late 1969 after the USAF closed its Project Blue Book UFO-investigation office.] Later, concluding that saucers don't fit properly into science's present conception of the universe, Hynek reluctantly but fearlessly plunged into 4D [multi-dimensional universe] thinking as many others, including myself, have done..." [SUN's opinion: Hynek was such an honest person himself that he was not inclined to suspect that any UFO report might be a hoax. This was his greatest shortcoming as a UFO investigator.]

In one of the book's closing chapters, Moseley quotes a UFO prediction made nearly two decades ago by SUN's editor which was published in the Oct. 10, 1983, issue of "Saucer Smear." It is reproduced below:

"THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF PHILIP J. KLASS

To UFologists who publicly criticize me...or who even think unkind thoughts about me in private, I do hereby leave and bequeath THE UFO CURSE: No matter how long you live, you will never know any more about UFOs than you know today. You will never know any more about what UFOs really are, or where they come from. You will never know any more about what the U.S. Government really knows about UFOs than you know today. As you lie on your own death-bed you will be as mystified about UFOs as you are today. And you will remember this curse."

SUN Comment: One of the distinguishing characteristics of "pseudo-science" is that the passage of time NEVER provides increased knowledge or understanding of the basic phenomenon.

Short Shift:

* Greer Delays Project Disclosure Conference: The first 3-day annual Project Disclosure conference, announced by Dr. Stephen Greer early this year, originally slated to be held June 21-23 in San Mateo, Calif. [SUN #71, Spring 2002] has been delayed until October or November--for undisclosed reasons.

* New International Center for UFO-Abduction Research: David M. Jacobs has recently created the International Center for Abduction Research (ICAR), which claims it is "*devoted to the dissemination of trustworthy information about UFO abductions.*" Further that "*ICAR will provide accurate information to therapists and individuals who are interested in abductions, and help with the myriad of problems that arise from the use of hypnosis and other memory collection procedures.* The Center's director, David M. Jacobs, PhD., is one of the most respected UFO-abduction researchers in the world.." (Emphasis added.) [SUN Comment: The claim about Jacobs is true only for some who believe in the reality of UFO abductions.]

* Will Jacobs's ICAR Compete With Hopkins's Intruders Foundation?: Jacobs has long been viewed as a "junior partner" to Budd Hopkins in the promotion of the reality of UFO abductions, but his creation of ICAR suggests Jacobs may no longer be content with that role. Seemingly, ICAR will compete with the "Intruders Foundation" (IF) which Hopkins created a decade ago with objectives similar to those of ICAR. The IF holds small UFO "seminars" nearly every month in New York City and Jacobs is slated to speak at the June 22 seminar on the activities of "Hybrids"--who (allegedly) are half-extraterrestrial and half-Earthling. A preview of Jacobs's views on Hybrids is available on ICAR's web-site: "*In recent years abductees have described complete abduction events conducted by Hybrids without supervision of Aliens [ETs]. They have also have engaged in sexual relations with Hybrids, bypassing the Alien ova extraction and [fetus] implantation of female abductees. Abductees report that some Hybrids have had on-going, complex, contact with them since they were children.*" [SUN Comment: But, hopefully, no sexual relations when they were children.]

* Firmage Uncertain About Authenticity Of MJ-12 Documents But Not About UFOs: Silicon Valley's Joe Firmage, whose web-site earlier carried a lengthy report on UFOs and the "new Majestic-12" documents which was titled "The Truth," admits he is now "uncertain" about the authenticity of all of the documents promoted by Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan. However, Firmage remains "quite certain" that an MJ-12-type operation "*has existed for many decades to investigate UFOs and exceedingly exotic hardware in human possession*" (recovered from crashed ET craft). Firmage says his beliefs are based on private discussions "*with many senior, unambiguously credible people.*" [SUN Comment: Presumably, Firmage would also believe a public statement by a U.S. President--prior to the Monica Lewinsky incident.]

NOTE: Opinions expressed in SUN are those of its editor (unless otherwise noted) and do not necessarily represent the views of any organization with which he is affiliated. We deeply thank DR. GARY POSNER for his help in proofreading.

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