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## Spielberg's "Taken" TV Mini-series Boosts Sci-Fi Audience But Its Slow Pace Disappoints Many Pro-UFOlogists

UFO-abduction guru Budd Hopkins summed it up in the following words: "Steven Spielberg's 'Taken,' a 20-hour epic concerning the effects of the UFO phenomenon on the lives of three generations of Americans, received somewhat mixed reviews from believers and skeptics alike, as well as from actual abductees and UFO researchers. Despite the varied appraisals, the show was, however, extremely successful in building a larger audience for the subject." The Sci-Fi Channel averaged 838,000 viewing households, which put it into a 10<sup>th</sup> place tie among all basic cable networks—nearly double the viewers it had a year earlier. (ESPN was top with an average of 2.1 million households, thanks to two National Football League playoff games.)

A much more critical review in "Slate Magazine Online," authored by Chris Mooney, began as follows: "Suppose that the truth is really 'out there' as *The X-Files* postulated, but not exactly where you might expect. In other words, rather than a vast government conspiracy to conceal proof that aliens have visited Earth. Perhaps the real plot lies elsewhere. The entertainment industry, for instance, is constantly putting out films, TV shows and pseudo-documentaries suggesting that Americans are being visited or even abducted in droves by gray-skinned, strangely kinky spacemen—and that the government wants to keep it all quiet. 'Dark Skies,' 'Roswell,' Fox's 'Alien Autopsy Special'—Could the conspiracy be on the part of the mass media and designed to make people believe in UFOs because it helps ratings? If such a plot exists, Steven Spielberg would have to be the ringleader. After all, Spielberg planted the seeds of modern UFO obsessions with 1977's 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind,' which he quickly followed up in 1982 with 'E.T.'"

In an interview with United Press International, Spielberg said he was thrilled over the response to "Taken," but added that "I don't personally believe anyone has ever been abducted by Aliens. This is a nice mythology. I think the reason 'Taken' clicked with the public was it was not 20 hours of special effects. It was 20 hours of family dynamics and trauma...that is all to the credit of one man, Leslie Bohem, who wrote every single hour of that show."

### SUN's Assessment

Although SUN's Editor is not a typical viewer, we felt that "Taken" was much too long and should have been shortened by 75% to five one-hour segments. (But that would have slashed its potential advertising revenue and profit for Sci-Fi and Hollywood's DreamWorks, created in 1994 by Spielberg and two other principal partners.) For viewers who missed any previous segment, Sci-Fi broadcast that segment just prior to the new segment but four hours viewing was tiring. UFOs were portrayed as small glowing-white circles in the sky which sometimes merged to form gigantic multi-colored chandliers, similar to the UFO in Spielberg's 1977 movie "Close Encounters." In one sequence in which Army soldiers entered the UFO, it was shown with "Hollywood-style" construction and illumination.

In response to a SUN request, Paul Davids (who co-authored the 1994 TV-movie "Roswell" for which he was the executive producer) offered the following assessment: "By the standards of the media business, it was a raging success: popular and palatable as mass merchandising of cosmic

*paranoia, a huge boost for the Sci-Fi Channel...If anyone just swallows what they've seen as a coded version of the UFO gospel, then they've been 'Taken.' But if any inquiring minds are stimulated by this now to begin delving into the vast UFO literature of the last 50 years, from Ruppelt, Keyhoe, Vallee, Randle, Friedman, Good and Klass to Jacobs, Strieber, Hopkins and Mack, then they've been done a good turn....Regarding the story as a whole, I admired what it attempted to accomplish—but the style was a bit more cut-and-dried...than the storytelling techniques I prefer. I like ambiguity..."*

## Dr. Greer Claims "Free-Energy Machine" Has Been Demonstrated

On Jan. 30-31, on the Coast-to-Coast AM radio show hosted by George Noory (the new host of the former Art Bell show), Dr. Steven Greer (whose Project Disclosure presses the government to make public information about [alleged] extraterrestrial visitors) CLAIMED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY WITNESSED A DEMONSTRATION OF A "FREE-ENERGY MACHINE," similar to what he assumes are used by UFOs for propulsion. But he emphasized that it was created by an ingenious inventor (whom he did not identify) rather than government-funded UFO research.

*"We have an agreement with the inventor to have a more robust version of this device built in the coming month or two," Greer said. "It will then go through research, development and reproducibility studies, meaning that we must be able to independently reproduce the effects. It will then be tested in at least three independent government and university laboratories, which we have already preselected for their honesty and cooperation....When we are certain of what we have...it will then be massively disclosed to the world in what has to be regarded as one of the most important scientific announcements in our time." [SUN Comment: We presume that Greer—who is a medical doctor—will next seek a single pill that will cure ALL human ailments.]*

Greer described the demonstration that so impressed him, his science advisor (Dr. Ted Loder—a science professor at New Hampshire University) and several members of the Board of Directors of his recently created Space Energy Access Systems (SEAS). *"It's not very big—you can pick it up with one hand. Took it out actually on a sidewalk. This device gathered, very passively, less than one watt of power from the environment—I won't say how this was done. I'm not allowed to at this point—and the machine started up. It generated hundreds of watts of power in usable form.... We hooked this up ourselves.... We even selected the things to hook up to this machine. It ran a 300 watt light bulb, a 100-watt light bulb, a stereo and an oscillating fan with an electric motor—all at the same time with literally no artificial, manmade input of power. So this is of course an extraordinary scientific breakthrough."* (Emphasis added.)

## Greer Thanks SEAS Investors

As of mid-February, Greer had not yet updated the Web-site for Space Energy Access Systems to report the "sidewalk demonstration." However, the SEAS Web-site did inform readers that *"the Phase-1 investment is now closed. We thank everyone who participated in this very successful stock offering....SEAS defines success as the widespread adoption of these new, non-polluting energy and propulsion systems so the use of oil, gas, coal, nuclear power and other earth-damaging sources of energy are effectively replaced....Once a bona fide energy generation system is identified and triple tested, and is under license to the company, Phase-2 begins. It is during Phase-2 that the technology must be secured, intellectually protected, further developed and disclosed...the culmination of which is the massive public disclosure of the technology."* [SUN's Advice: Don't hold your breath.]

*"This phase is estimated to cost between \$2 million and \$20 million, depending on the technology. Public figures in business and politics have assured SEAS that the necessary funds for Phase-2*

will be available upon presentation of a tested device. At the completion of the public disclosure of the technology, SEAS will quickly move to Phase-3, during which an Initial Public [stock] Offering and horizontal and vertical licensing activities will occur....It is during this phase that the device will enter mass production..."

### Key Roswell "Crashed-Saucer Witness" Kaufmann Exposed As Hoaxer

Frank Kaufmann, a pivotal "witness" in the second Roswell incident book by Kevin Randle and Don Schmitt ("The Truth About The UFO Crash At Roswell"), was a teller of tall tales and created hoax government documents to substantiate these tales. In the book Kaufmann was frequently referred to as Steve MacKenzie—at his request for anonymity. (MacKenzie's identity was revealed in the May 1994 issue of "Skeptics UFO Newsletter," along with my skepticism about his claims after my March 25 interview with Kaufmann in Roswell.) Kaufmann died of cancer in February of 2001 and his wife agreed to allow his personal papers to be examined by representatives of the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) whose former chief editor, Jerry Clark, had once characterized the Roswell Incident as "the most important UFO case of all." An analysis of these papers revealed that Kaufmann had created hoax documents to substantiate his wild claims. Highlights were revealed on the CUFOS Web-site on Dec. 9, 2002, under the headline "FRANK KAUFMANN EXPOSED." The sub-head included: "Kevin Randle publicly announced that he no longer has any confidence in the stories told by Frank Kaufmann."

During Randle/Schmitt's early research for their first Roswell book, Kaufmann seemed to be a minor player in the incident, but that changed drastically during their research for their second Roswell book. According to Kaufmann he had received a telephone call on July 2, 1947, from Brig. Gen. Martin F. Scanlon, Deputy Commander of the Air Defense Command, ordering Kaufmann to hurry to the White Sands Missile Range (about 100 miles southwest of Roswell) whose radar had detected a large UFO. Kaufmann said he was to report the UFO's movements directly to Gen. Scanlon. According to the Randle/Schmitt book, Kaufmann claimed that he "set up a system of mirrors so that he could see the radar screen even when he needed to use the latrine." When I interviewed Kaufmann on Mar. 25, 1994, he admitted that he had no expertise in radar systems—making me suspicious of this part of his story. When I mentioned a "person referred to as MacKenzie" in the then-new Randle/Schmitt book, Kaufmann responded, "I don't know MacKenzie."

### Kaufmann Claims He Was Selected For ET Vehicle Recovery Team

Although Kaufmann admitted that he had only been a Master Sergeant while stationed at the Roswell base until late 1945, and had then obtained a position as a clerk in the personnel department until he departed in late 1947, he claimed he had been selected as a member of a nine-man team created to recover the crashed ET craft and its occupants from a NEW site only 35 miles northwest of Roswell—more than 20 miles south of the ranch where Brazel had found the debris. The new site was "unveiled" on Mar. 25, 1994, following a large press conference associated with publication of the second Randle/Schmitt Roswell book. But curiously, the nine-man team did not include Maj. Jesse Marcel, the chief of intelligence at the Roswell base, or Capt. Sheridan Cavitt, chief of counter-intelligence. The new crashed-saucer recovery site seemingly was confirmed by another (alleged) witness—Jim Ragsdale. (Ragsdale subsequently changed his story to locate the crash site at a completely different location, some 55 miles west of Roswell. He also added details that made his story more suspect.)

By late 1995, Randle had split with his former partner—Schmitt—after Schmitt had been exposed for falsifying his educational and employment background. Eventually, Schmitt resigned as CUFOS's Director of Special Investigations.

After detailing Schmitt's transgressions in my book, "The REAL Roswell Crashed-Saucer Coverup" (published in late 1997), I wrote (p, 159): *"The fact that Randle could be 'taken in' by the tall tales of a person with whom he had worked so closely for seven years should have alerted him to the possibility that he might also have been 'taken in' by alleged witnesses he knew only casually."* Kaufmann was a key "witness" because of his claim of having seen a bat-shaped craft and four dead ETs at the new crash site—seemingly substantiated by documents that Kaufmann would show to Roswell researchers, but he NEVER let them make nor keep a photocopy.

Randle/Schmitt ignored logical discrepancies in Kaufmann's accounts. For example, he claimed that two photographers had been flown in from Washington to take pictures of the craft and ETs, but earlier he said the pictures had been taken by a local base photographer. If an ET craft and its occupants had been photographed, there would be no need for Kaufmann to have made sketches.

Randle somehow learned that the USAF report to be made public in mid-1994 would identify the debris found by rancher Brazel as the remains from several aluminum radar targets used on a Project Mogul flight that had been launched from near Alamogordo on June 4 and had been tracked by radar to within approximately 20 miles of Brazel's ranch. The first public mention of Project Mogul balloons came in a 189-page interim report by UFO researcher Karl Pflock, titled "Roswell In Perspective," published in mid-1994. (Several years earlier, the Project Mogul connection to the Roswell Incident had been discovered by UFO researcher Robert G. Todd. He learned that in mid-1946, the USAF decided to investigate the idea that a "sound duct" at around 45,000 ft. altitude might be used to detect when the Soviet Union detonated its first nuclear weapon—if balloon-borne microphones could maintain such altitude for extended periods of time—and if the technique were kept secret from the USSR. New York University was awarded an unclassified contract to investigate whether existing technology was feasible and in mid-1947 it shifted its flight tests to New Mexico. The end objective of Project Mogul was classified Top Secret but never was deployed operationally.)

Pflock, who began his multi-year Roswell investigation with suspicions of a government coverup, suggested in his initial report that the debris found by Brazel had come from Project Mogul balloon-borne radar targets, which might have collided with an ET craft. (Pflock then still accepted as true the story told by former mortician Glenn Dennis that a nurse-friend based at RAAF had been involved in a covert autopsy of three ET crew members and she had provided sketches of them which he showed to Roswell researchers.) But Pflock was not impressed with the Kaufmann or Ragsdale claims and by early 1997 he had lost all confidence in Dennis's tales when several record searches showed that the nurse-friend was a figment of Dennis's imagination.

## Easley Memo Proves Bogus

Randle believed there was a fourth key witness--Major Edwin Easley--who had been Provost Marshal at the Roswell Army Air Field during the summer of 1947. During several telephone interviews with the aging, terminally-ill Easley, he responded to a number of Randle's questions with "I can't talk about it." When Randle said *"We've talked to one of the counterintelligence agents who told us that the Provost Marshal was on the crash site,"* Easley responded, *"He doesn't know what he's talking about."* Despite the foregoing, Randle decided that Easley had been at the crash/recovery site and had seen both the craft and dead extraterrestrials. Possibly Randle's beliefs stemmed from a counterfeit Easley memo, dated July 30, 1947, found among Kaufmann's personal papers after his death. (Kaufmann had allowed Randle a brief glimpse at the bogus memo.) The Easley memo, detailing recovery of an ET craft, allegedly was sent to the Armed Forces Security Agency (AFSA). But as UFO researcher Brad Sparks later pointed out, AFSA was not established until nearly two years after the Easley memo allegedly was written—showing that the document was bogus.

The authenticity of the new Kaufmann crash-recovery site was challenged in early 1997 by Jim McKnight whose Aunt Florence owned the ranch near the site. In a sworn statement dated Feb. 3, 1997, McKnight said, *"No one in my family had heard of such a UFO crash or military retrieval."* Yet if Kaufmann's tale were true a large military convoy—including a large crane—would have passed within a hundred yards of his Aunt Florence's ranch house. Although the Ragsdale crash-recovery site was endorsed by Friedman without any investigation, when Ragsdale revised and embellished his tale (by claiming the extraterrestrials wore silver helmets), his story lost all credibility.

## New Randle Book Challenges Original MJ-12 Documents' Authenticity

Although Kevin Randle and Stan Friedman agree that an extraterrestrial craft crashed in New Mexico in mid-1947, and that the U.S. government has conspired to withhold the truth about UFOs from the public for more than half a century, they sharply disagree over the authenticity of the three original "MJ-12 documents" made public in mid-1987 by William Moore, Jaime Shandera and Friedman. Randle's views on MJ-12 are contained in his newest book, titled "CASE MJ-12: The True Story Behind The Government's UFO Conspiracies," published in late 2002 by Harper Torch (311 pages, paperback: \$7.50). Randle told SUN that the book's manuscript was submitted to the publisher more than a year before Kaufmann was exposed as a hoaxer. But its numerous references to Kaufmann's testimony typically are preceded by "If what Kaufmann said was true..." Randle admits that an "oversight committee" would have been created but he adds that *"no oversight committee existed under that name, and the documents released claiming as much are faked."*

In Friedman's book "TOP SECRET/MAJIC," published in 1996, which strongly defends the authenticity of the three original MJ-12 documents, he charges that *"much of Randle's new [Roswell] scenario depends on the word of a strange character named Frank J. Kaufmann.... When I finally met with Kaufmann on July 3, 1995, thanks to the efforts of Don Schmitt, Kaufmann wouldn't allow me to record the conversation although both Schmitt and Randle were present."*

## Gerald Anderson Exposed As Document Counterfeiter

Friedman's attack on the credibility of Randle's star witness was hardly surprising because Randle had played a key role in exposing Friedman's star witness—GERALD F. ANDERSON—AS A HOAXER SHORTLY AFTER FRIEDMAN'S "CRASH AT CORONA" BOOK [co-authored with Don Berliner] WAS PUBLISHED IN MID-1992. Anderson had viewed an Unsolved Mysteries TV show and had called in to claim that he had firsthand experience with the recovery of a crashed ET craft on the Plains of San Agustin—roughly 150 miles west of the Brazel ranch. This resulted in telephone interviews with Randle and Friedman. While Anderson's tale seemed to confirm another Plains of San Agustin story that Friedman wanted to believe, Randle found Anderson's tale suspicious.

Anderson claimed that members of his family on a July 4<sup>th</sup> vacation had stumbled across a crashed ET craft shortly before same was discovered by a team of archeological students under a professor named Dr. Buskirk. Because no members of Anderson's family were still alive to confirm his story, he provided a copy of his Uncle Ted's diary, which appeared to confirm Anderson's story. But when the diary was submitted for analysis of the ink used, it was found that the ink had a chemical composition introduced around 1970—so the diary could not have been written in 1947 as claimed. Anderson offered the explanation that his Uncle Ted had made a longhand copy of his diary after 1970 rather than use a Xerox-type copier. Friedman accepted this explanation.

But Anderson's aptitude in making hoax documents was proven when he and Randle disagreed over the duration of their early long-distance telephone conversation which Anderson had initiated. Anderson claimed he had terminated the conversation in less than one hour, but Randle, who had tape recorded the interview, said he had more than one hour of taped conversation. Anderson sent Randle a long-distance telephone bill which showed the conversation lasted less than one hour. When Friedman decided to obtain a copy of the bill from the telephone company, it showed that Anderson's version was a clever counterfeit. Dr. Buskirk was located and turned out to have been Anderson's high-school teacher. Buskirk flatly denied Anderson's crashed-ET-craft tale and had photographic proof he had been far from the Plains of San Agustin in early July of 1947.

### Lt. Gen. Twining's Revealing Letter Of Sept. 23, 1947

Randle and Friedman agree that many—if not all—of the “new MJ-12 documents” recently made public by Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan, obtained from Timothy Cooper, are bogus [SUN #74/Winter 2002-03]. But no one has ever questioned the authenticity of the letter of Sept. 23, 1947, written by Lt. Gen. Nathan Twining in response to a query by Brig. Gen. George Schulgen (a top Air Force intelligence official in the Pentagon) who had sought an assessment of what the Commander of the Air Materiel Command thought UFOs might be. (The Twining letter, originally classified Secret, was declassified and published in 1969 in the Condon/University of Colorado report.) A very limited portion of Twining's letter was quoted in the Roswell Incident books by Berlitz/Moore, by Friedman/Berliner and in the first book by Randle/Schmitt. They all quoted Twining's letter as saying “the [UFO] phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious.” But all three books omitted a subsequent remark which the Twining letter emphasized “the lack of physical evidence in the shape of crash recovered exhibits which would undeniably prove the existence of such objects.”

On Dec. 10, 1948 (more than a year after the Roswell Incident), a Top Secret Air Intelligence Report #203 was prepared on UFOs which stated: “The origin of the devices is not ascertainable. There are two reasonable possibilities: (1) The objects are domestic (U.S) devices....(2) Objects are foreign, and if so, it would seem most logical to assume that they are from a Soviet source. The Soviets possess information on a number of German flying-wing type aircraft...” This Top Secret report was declassified on March 5, 1985, and the report's highlights were published in the July 1985 issue of the “MUFON UFO Journal.” This was several years before publication of the two Roswell books by Randle/Schmitt and before publication of the book by Friedman/Berliner. But their books do NOT even mention this important Air Intelligence Report. (Emphasis added.) [Other authentic, once highly classified USAF and CIA documents which challenge MJ-12's authenticity are discussed in Chapter #28 of my book.]

SUN's editor authored a 2-part series which was published less than a year after the MJ-12 papers were made public (Winter 1987-88/Spring 1988 issues of “Skeptical Inquirer” magazine.) The first installment was headlined: “The MJ-12 Crashed Saucer Documents: Numerous flaws and inconsistencies reveal that Top Secret papers, including one allegedly found in the National Archives, are fraudulent.” Among the flaws, the article noted that every date cited in the Eisenhower Briefing Document (EBD) was typed using a military format but with an unnecessary comma, i.e., “18 November, 1952.” As reported in my article, a check of my file of many letters from William Moore revealed that he regularly employed the same unusual date format with the unnecessary comma as used in the EBD. Another unusual feature of the EBD, allegedly written in late 1952, was that for every single-digit date, the single digit was preceded by a zero, i.e., 01 August 1950. My file of letters from Moore revealed that he had begun to type single-digit dates with an added zero in late 1983—roughly a year before Shandera received the EBD with the same format for single-digit date.

## UFO-Conspiracy Theory, "Exopolitics" Paper Reveals Extreme Credulity

Academic Dr. Michael E. Salla has recently released the results of his two-year study of four popular conspiracy theories of (alleged) extraterrestrial presence and clandestine government efforts to repress news of such presence. His paper is titled "The Need for Exopolitics: Implications of Extraterrestrial Conspiracy Theories for Policy Makers & Global Peace." Salla, an Australian, has a Ph.D. in Government from the University of Queensland and for five years was an academic member of American University's School of International Service. He is currently a researcher at the Center for Global Peace. Salla's views appear to closely resemble those of Dr. Stephen Greer (SUN #73, #74) and Stephen Bassett, who promotes Greer's Project Disclosure.

## UFologists Criticize CFI's Choice Of Kecksburg Incident

Some pro-UFologists have criticized the choice by the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI) of the Kecksburg (PA.) UFO incident of Dec. 9, 1965, as a key case in what CFI claims is a U.S. government coverup of evidence that some UFOs are ET craft [SUN #74/Winter 2002-03]. CFI was created last fall by the Sci-Fi TV channel to promote its 20-hour mini-series "Taken," which aired in early December. Leslie Kean, a very pro-UFO free-lance writer who was named CFI's Research Director, offered the following explanation on the Internet for the choice of the Kecksburg UFO incident: "*Last September, Larry (Landsman, Director of Sci-Fi Channel's Special Projects) asked me to suggest a FOIA (Freedom Of Information Act) UFO case that would be suitable for CFI to address and for Sci-Fi to support. We were looking for a case that satisfied a list of criteria, which would ensure that the selected case contained quantifiable, forensic aspects. The FOIA action could raise the visibility of the UFO issue in the national media. We felt that if the case allowed for the possibility of an on-air component by the Sci-Fi Channel, this could help make a FOIA even stronger and further a national discussion of the phenomenon. These criteria needed to be satisfied:*

- (1) *"Physical evidence—preferably a crash, or something with debris or trace evidence suitable for analysis by a lab. This ties in with CFI's efforts to make the case for scientists being provided the physical evidence that is now classified.*
- (2) *"Access to the site for forensic expeditions by archeologists, radiologists or other scientists.*
- (3) *"A range of living eyewitnesses. (A huge community desiring answers also exists here.)*
- (4) *"A compelling narrative.*
- (5) *"Government involvement in the incident and then withholding of information about it."*

Ms. Kean continued: "*For all these reasons Kecksburg seemed ideal...Also, there was one other very important factor: the more than three decades of work that Stan Gordon has put into the case. He had already done some FOIA work, had done all the work collecting and investigating witnesses, collecting documents, etc. And, he had many powerful leads that had not been pursued and compelling information that had not yet been made public...I have made two visits to the Kecksburg area. In addition to reviewing Stan Gordon's documentation and learning a great deal about the case, I met with a number of firsthand witnesses.*" (Emphasis added.) Ms. Kean fails to mention that Stan Gordon currently spends much of his time investigating reports of Sasquatch (Bigfoot) sightings. (Seemingly, Ms. Kean did NOT meet with amateur astronomer BOB YOUNG, who has spent many hours investigating the Kecksburg case and is convinced that the UFO was a meteor-fireball and that the government recovered NOTHING. One of Gordon's "impressive witnesses" is a convicted bank robber, according to Young. He doubts that Gordon showed Ms. Kean all the evidence in his possession--some of which Young provided.)

## Short Shrift

\* **Broadcast Rights To Woods' Movie "The Secret" Sold To Canadian Cable TV Channel:** A press release issued in early January by Dr. Robert Wood and son Ryan reported that the Canadian Discovery Channel would broadcast their TV movie on Jan. 16., titled "The Secret Evidence: We Are Not Alone." According to the press release the movie "*provides evidence for Government coverup of extraterrestrials--further exposing the Top Secret operation Majestic 12.*" The press release further claimed, "*The public is hungry for genuine UFO information, and they are not getting it from the governments of the world.*" The Woods' TV movie claims that the first ET craft recovered was in 1941, near Cape Girardeau, MO—a claim that has been debunked [SUN #69/Fall 2001]. The Woods are trying to find a U.S. cable channel that is interested in showing "The Secret."

\* **Woods' Press Release Confirms Their Split With Joe Firmage:** Originally, the authenticity of the "new" MJ-12 documents obtained by the Woods from Timothy Cooper was strongly endorsed by Silicon Valley's once-wealthy Joe Firmage, who initially funded the movie effort and planned to fund a giant book titled "The Secret." (The split was first reported by SUN #58/Mar. 1999.) The recent Woods' press release does not mention Firmage. The press release claims that the TV show includes "*some distinguished advocates taking compelling supportive positions*" and cites UFO researchers Stanton Friedman and Timothy Good as examples. Friedman issued an Internet posting on Jan. 13, telling of his upcoming appearance on the show. He added: "*This is not an endorsement of the film, as I suspect it will say that some of the Tim Cooper documents are genuine, although I am convinced they are not.*" Britain's Timothy Good, who first made public the original MJ-12 documents in the belief they were authentic, has since changed his opinion. Also, he was one of the first to spot that some of Tim Cooper's "new" MJ-12 documents were written on Cooper's own personal typewriter [SUN #60/Nov. 1999].

\* **CUFOS Researcher Predicts Global UFO Flap:** On Jan. 8, an important prediction was issued on the Internet by Dr. Donald A. Johnson, archivist for the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS): "*Based upon a careful analysis of trends in historical UFO reports in the UFOCAT data base, I am making the following prediction. There will be a worldwide UFO wave in the month of March 2003 that will reach its maximum between March 15 and March 25. I am reasonably confident that this wave will involve Northern Europe. Another likely region is the Pacific Ocean, including Japan and the Hawaiian Islands, and possibly including the Alaskan Aleutian Islands.*" (Emphasis added.) [SUN Comment: Don't be surprised if the news media focuses its attention on non-UFO events in Iraq and North Korea.]

\* **Classified Documents Increase By 44% In Fiscal 2001:** Total security classification actions during the first year of the Bush Administration totaled 33,020,887, but a total of slightly more than 100 million pages were declassified—a 34% increase over the previous year—according to the Information Security Oversight Office (ISOO).

\* **Friedman Criticizes Randle For His Gullibility:** Stan Friedman's "Perceptions" column in the February issue of the "MUFON UFO Journal" ridicules Kevin Randle for his credulity in accepting the "tall tales" of Frank Kaufmann. Naturally, Friedman glosses over his own credulity in believing the tall tales told by his own favorite witness—Gerald Anderson. Both men were too eager to believe.

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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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