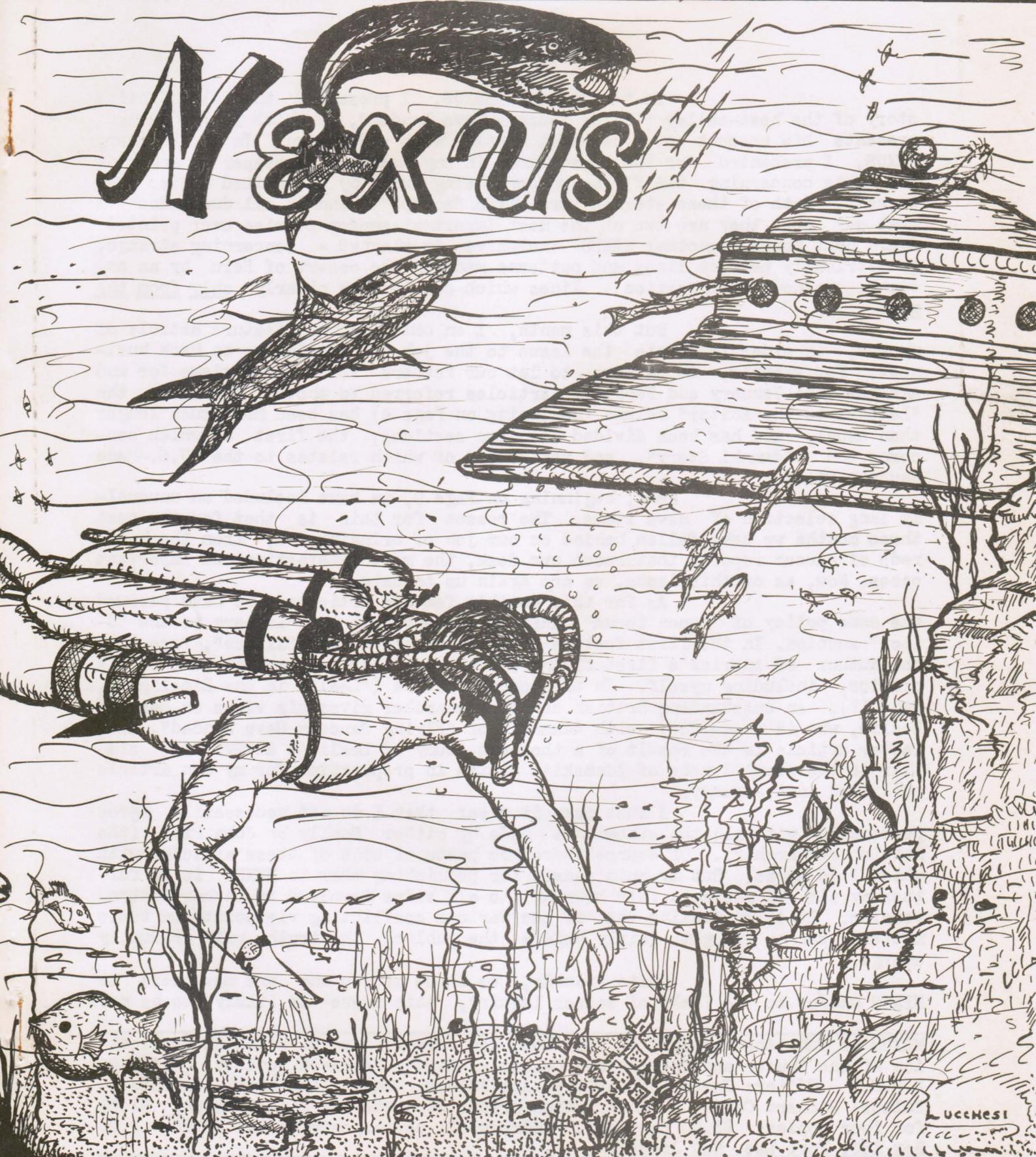


MARCH, 1955 - TOME 2, BOOK 3

Nexus



EDITORIAL
by James W. Moseley

In the January NEXUS, I presented the full, inside story of the best-seller "Flying Saucers Have Landed", in which George Adamski presents his account of a personal meeting with a Venusian. In the February NEXUS, I presented for the first time in any American newspaper or magazine the facts concerning the flying saucers being built by the United States government. Both of these stories were NEXUS "scoops", and in all due modesty I must say that they are two of the most important saucer stories ever printed. Again next month, another NEXUS exclusive is planned - concerning strange, geometrically perfect lines and patterns made on the desert of Peru by an ancient, unknown civilization - lines which can be seen clearly only from the air!

But this month, I am omitting any feature article of my own, in order to devote the issue to the job of catching up on back business. For example, it is time to let our readers voice their views for and against the January and February articles referred to above. Therefore the "Letters to the Editor" column (beginning on Page 4) has been made much longer than usual, and has been divided into two sections, the first of which concerns the "Adamski Story", and the second of which relates to the "U.S.-Made Saucers Story".

Next, beginning on Page 9, we have included an unusually long selection of news items. The reason for this is that for the past three months we have fallen behind on our job of bringing you, from the hundreds of saucer reports that reach our desk, the most interesting and important cases. Now, as of this issue, we are again up to date.

As for this month's feature articles, we have pursued the same policy of "open forum" that is evidenced in the "Letters to the Editor" section. In the first feature ("Scully Breaks a Long Silence", Page 13), the author of America's first flying saucer book strikes back at some of his critics, including myself. In the second feature ("Leslie in the Limelight", Page 17), an outstanding British saucer researcher gives his views on Desmond Leslie, who is co-author, with Adamski, of "Flying Saucers Have Landed". This latter article is the result of a thorough study of Leslie's activities, similar to the study I made of Adamski's claims in preparation for my own article published last January.

I must make it clear that I do not necessarily agree personally with all the statements made by either Scully or John Pitt (the British researcher). Of course there are parts of each of these articles with which I do agree. But my main reason for publishing them in NEXUS is to further my aim of giving a fair hearing to all sides involved in saucer controversies. It is my feeling that if the various conflicting viewpoints on these matters can be brought fairly before the public, the truth will gradually emerge.

Quite frankly, to those of you who are newcomers to NEXUS and/or to the field of saucer inquiry, this issue is likely to be more

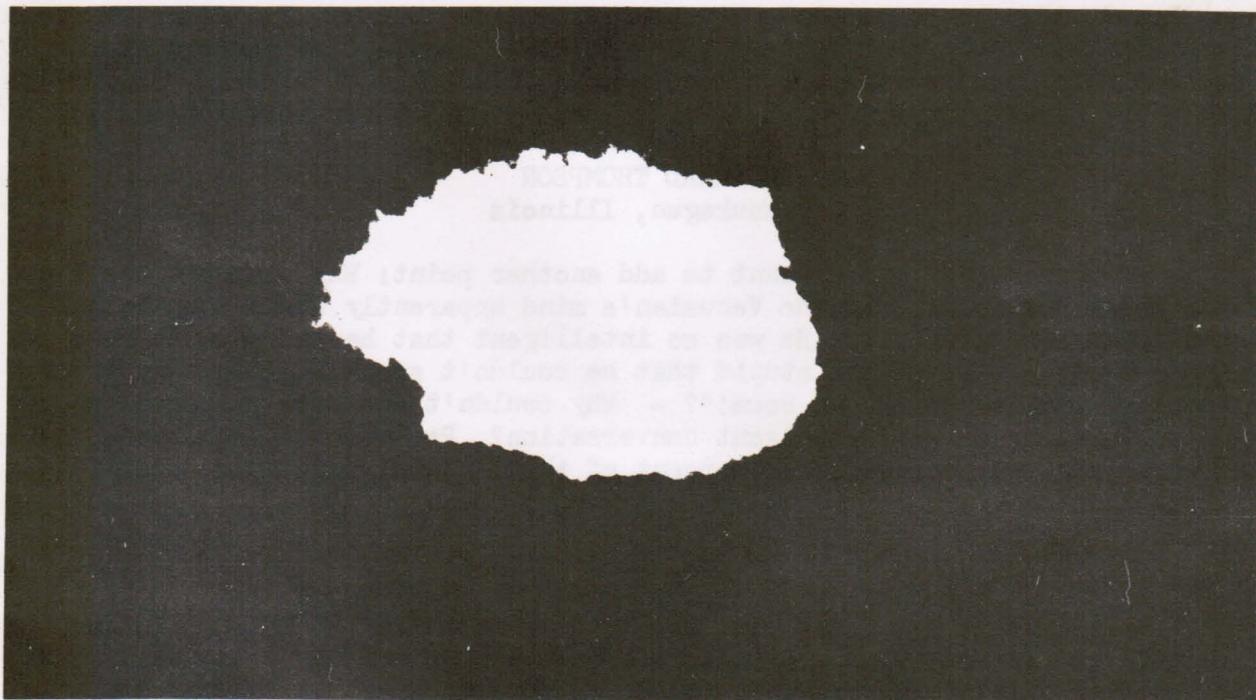
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than a little confusing. Scully's article cannot be properly understood unless you have read his book "Behind The Flying Saucers", as well as the expose of same that was printed in True Magazine. Pitt's article loses much of its meaning if you have not read "Flying Saucers Have Landed", and if you are not generally familiar with the controversy regarding the book.

All I can suggest is that these two books, as well as all other saucer books mentioned in NEXUS, are available at Rigberg's book store (advertisement elsewhere in this issue). A good supply of extra copies of the January and February NEXUS is available here at Headquarters, and either of these two issues can be obtained from us for the price of thirty-five cents each. - I hope that all this won't be interpreted by the cynical as a trick to get people to buy books and back numbers of this magazine - it really isn't! And I can assure all of you that future issues of NEXUS (like past ones) will be much less dependent on "outside reading" than the present number is.

MEETING HELD BY CIVILIAN SAUCER INTELLIGENCE

On Feb. 25th another public meeting was held at Steinway Hall, New York, by Civilian Saucer Intelligence. This time the guest speaker was Richard Victor, a field service representative in the electronics division of Curtis-Wright Aviation; Mr. Victor, who has a vast technical background in electronics and aviation, related two extremely interesting personal sightings of U.F.O.'s. He also gave his personal opinions as to the origin and purpose of these mysterious objects.



The above photo is a blow-up of one frame of a saucer movie taken by Ralph Mayher, a young Marine. The movie was taken on the night of July 30, 1952, at Miami Beach, Florida, and in the presence of several other witnesses. There is every reason to believe the film is genuine. (Photo by courtesy of Ralph Mayher)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

READERS' COMMENTS ON THE ADAMSKI STORY (in the January NEXUS):

A thousand pardons for neglecting some acknowledgment of the excellent article you did on the Adamski Controversy. And, at the same time my heartiest congratulations for exemplary reporting. It makes all the silence on my part worthwhile.....

JERROLD BAKER
Phoenix, Arizona

Congratulations on your admirable handling of the Adamski story.....

MEADE LAYNE
Director of Borderland Sciences Research
Associates
San Diego, California

I enjoyed your magazine immensely, and was glad to read of your exposé on Adamski. I believe you are honest and sincere. Good luck and keep up the good work.

JOHN D. SMITH
Ridgecrest, California

I myself and other readers, I think, would be very interested in some additional information (on Adamski). I have read the book and have heard Adamski in person. He sounded sincere but now I wonder. I guess there's little doubt that most of his story is a hoax. Like you say, he might have met this space visitor, but for reasons known only to himself, decided to make a big impressive story out of it....Here's hoping for more information in future issues.

RICHARD THOMPSON
Waukegan, Illinois

...I want to add another point: Why couldn't the Venusian speak English?.....The Venusian's mind apparently was a combination of intelligence and stupidity. He was so intelligent that he was able to read Adamski's mind, yet he was so stupid that he couldn't speak English. Why was his vocabulary limited to "Boom! Boom!"? - Why couldn't he have mastered enough English to carry on an intelligent conversation? Perhaps the Venusians, like the earth men, use only a small percent of their mental capacity. Something is fishy!

HARRY MACHLIED
Colfax, Washington

Thank you for sending me a copy of NEXUS. I think it is a pity you loosed off at Adamski before examining all the evidence. The Baker nonsense started last summer. Almost as soon as I got to Palomar I was inundated with letters from the Baker faction, whereupon I did my own investigating.

Baker seems to have forgotten the detailed letter he wrote of his own accord just after the photographs were taken. In this letter he tells exactly how he took the photograph. I have a photostat of this letter and I have also inspected the original...Also I inspected the original roll of negatives on which the picture appears, and it is the only flying saucer pic-

ture on that roll. The other exposures show perfectly ordinary landscapes and local views. I was also fortunate enough to talk to some of the people who were up at Adamski's on the day in December 1952 when Detwiler brought up the developed pictures for the first time. Among the people there was Mayne Maim, and she told me how delighted Baker was when Detwiler produced his print and how he went around showing it to everybody saying: "I took this one". I also interviewed Rick Williamson in Detroit...and I brought up this Baker business. Williamson laughed and said: "Oh yes. I know what he is saying now; but I can assure you that when the picture first appeared he went around claiming it as his own to everybody."

If you wish.....a statement from me, I shall be very happy to provide it and I would also, if you wish, write an answer to this attack, unless George Adamski wishes to do so personally.

I am only interested in facts, and I think you should challenge Baker's motives very, very closely before you get too excited by them.

Incidentally, all Arthur Clarke's accusations are easily disprovable with a little time and patience. Clarke's main theory against our book was (a)that I had made fun of him and (b) that - had a saucer landed, it had not immediately addressed itself to the Chairman of the British Interplanetary Society as proper celestial etiquette demanded.....

If there is anything else you want to know to clarify the various confusions, don't hesitate to ask.

DESMOND LESLIE
London, England

.....My opinion of Mr. Baker's statements is based strictly on two manner of testimonies: the first kind, which appears in Mr. Moseley's article;.....the other kind, a freely-written declaration typed by Baker himself in the dining room of Palomar Gardens Cafe, California, a photostatic copy of which I have in my possession.

There are two arguments which appear to render much of Mr. Baker's testimony against Prof. Adamski impotent and ineffective: First, the date argument; Second, the saucer-description argument.

In the NEXUS testimony attributed to Mr. Baker, the latter lays special emphasis on December 12th (and not December 13th) as being the memorable saucer-photographing date. Yet the reverse is true according to Mr. Baker's own Palomar Gardens affidavit:

"Thursday (December 11th) and Friday (December 12th)", attests Mr. Baker, "the skies were filled with low-flying military aircraft that continually circled the area as if searching or chasing airborne objects". Nothing whatsoever is said in this juncture, or anywhere else in the affidavit, that saucers were photographed by either Adamski or Baker on one or the other of these two days.

But - and note this well - Mr. Baker swears, in the very next paragraph of his affidavit, that "On Saturday morning (DECEMBER 13; I repeat, DECEMBER 13, 1952), while I was sawing wood for the fireplace, Prof. Adamski called me and said that he saw what he thought to be a saucer coming in over the coast."

Baker continues: "Suddenly in the corner of my eyes, I saw a circular object skim over the tree-tops from the general direction of the area where the professor was located. It was a flying saucer - of that I was sure. (Underscoring by writer). I seriously thought it was going to land in the small clearing because of its extremely low altitude. I waited momentarily, mostly because of shock I guess, as it continued coming closer. It then

hung in the air not over 12 feet high at the most, and about 25 feet from where I was standing. It seemed as if it did this knowing I was there waiting to photograph it. I quickly snapped a picture and as I did, it tilted slightly and zoomed upwards over the trees faster than anyone can imagine."

"Then in turning," Mr. Baker continues his testimony, "I saw the professor coming through the brush on the other side of the clearing and practically did flip-flops I was so excited over my good fortune. I had not for a moment dreamed he was able to photograph it through his telescope because it was so extremely low. But after he told me he had been successful in obtaining four shots, I persisted that we go to Carlsbad immediately (to have the photos developed).".

Now, I ask any intelligent and fair-minded reader: Does Mr. Baker testify that he and Prof. Adamski photographed a flying saucer on December 12th, or December 13th? The correct answer is, December 13th. Another question: Does Mr. Baker's testimony, as reproduced above, point to Mr. Baker or Prof. Adamski, as the photographer of the "Flying Saucer Passing Low Over Trees" (the illustration appearing in "Flying Saucers Have Landed")? The true answer is, Mr. Baker.

Unless Mr. Baker be accused of giving false testimony, we must credit him with both sighting and taking a picture of a flying disc on December 13, 1952. For he finally declares, of his own free will, namely, that first, the saucer he saw and photographed "made no sound. Second, it was guided by superior intelligence. Third, there was a slight odor present as the saucer sped upwards. Fourth, it had portholes and three huge ball bearings, presumably landing gears."

DR. BENJAMIN D. BENINCASA
Buffalo, New York

EDITOR'S NOTE: Both Mr. Leslie and Dr. Benincasa seem to be forgetting that the whole point here is that Mr. Baker is now purposefully retracting and denying his original statement regarding the Brownie photograph. Furthermore, these two gentlemen are ignoring the written and verbal testimony of Al Bailey, which confirms Baker's present contentions. It would be possible that one man (i.e., Baker) could have personal motives for now denying true statements he originally made, but it is hardly likely that so many independent pieces of evidence, presented in the January NEXUS, should all point in the same direction, unless Baker's present testimony is true, which I believe it to be.

READERS' COMMENTS ON THE U.S.-MADE SAUCERS STORY (in the February NEXUS):

I have seen many odd things, but....never met or saw a flying saucer. But I believe that they exist; and all I can say is that they are built in the U.S.A. by your scientists as secret weapons.....

BILLY SAIMAN
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

Being near Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (our restaurant is just a few hundred feet from the end of the runways), we are naturally very much interested in the subject of flying saucers. We have seen them twice over our home, and it has become a very interesting subject around here.....

MRS. WILLIAM YEAKLEY
Xenia, Ohio

.....Your article "The Truth About the Flying Saucers" was very good, and it may be true, but I do not agree with you when you say

the saucers are made on this planet by our own people. In the first place, Mr. Moseley, the people of this world do not have the intelligence to make such a complicated craft; at least at the present time they do not possess that knowledge.....I think the U.S. Air Force is trying to feed the public untrue and false facts about the saucers, so that the people will not know the true and honest facts behind the U.F.O. mystery; Of course, Mr. Moseley, if you want to go along with the Air Force and keep on fooling and deceiving the people, that will be all right with me, but I think there are lots of people who are not fooled by the Air Force.....Now, Mr. Moseley, question time comes up. See if you can answer these questions truly and honestly:

(1) Why have Canada, Great Britain, France, Sweeden, Norway and Denmark all instituted flying saucer investigations for the purpose of analysing sightings over their various countries?

(2) Why has the Air Force continually ridiculed its best-trained observers who report sightings, and why aren't these observers consequently fired?

(3) Why are some of America's highest skilled and most respected scientists now under secret contract to evaluate all flying saucer reports?

(4) Why was "Project Saucer" (the press name for "Project Sign") kept a top secret investigating agency between January 1948 and April 1949 (the date of its first released report)?

(5) Why were 200 grid cameras ordered and sent to various strategic locations?

(6) Where is the original of Warrent Officer Newhouse's Utah pictures? (saucer movies taken in Utah in 1952).

I hope there are not any hard feelings between you and me, Mr. Moseley, as I do honestly enjoy reading your small pamphlet NEXUS.....

GEORGE FREDERICK
Mechanicsburg, Penn.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I can assure you there are no hard feelings, Mr. Frederick, and here are my answers to your questions:

(1) First of all you must remember that though the U.S. Government is building saucer-shaped craft (and perhaps other friendly countries as well), the whole thing is such a highly classified matter that the very existence of these saucers is probably known to but a few. The various government saucer investigations you mention, have been set up either because the personnel involved are "in the dark" about saucers, or else (in the U.S. at least), as a cover-up.

(2) These same thoughts also give a fair answer to your question #2.

(3) I am not aware that "America's highest skilled.... scientists are now under secret contract to evaluate all flying saucer reports" A few have been consulted briefly for this purpose, but if any detailed, systematic, sensible attempt to evaluate U.F.O. reports has ever been made by the U.S. Government, it has certainly failed to come to the attention of myself or any other saucer investigator (though I have spent many hours at the Pentagon gathering information). There are of course many scientists doing secret work for the government, but more likely they are building saucers rather than studying reports on them.

(4) I may be wrong on this particular point, but I do not believe that "Project Sign" (i.e., "Project Saucer") ever had a classification status higher than "Secret" (rather than "Top Secret"); and even this is probably due to the Military's tendency to over-classify. What I mean is,

there always exists information and projects which remain classified for no good reason. However, the names of saucer sighters, personal backgrounds on saucer sighters, and technical data regarding planes, radar, etc. mentioned in Air Force saucer files - are still confidential and remain so for obvious reasons. But I have never found anything to lead me to believe that Projects Sign, Grudge, etc. ever had any information of genuine value to saucer researchers. The real secrets lie elsewhere.

(5) These grid cameras cost \$200 or less each, and thus this whole widely-publicized project is a matter of only a few thousand dollars. In fact, the total expenses of "Project Saucer" are only a few thousand per year, including salaries, grid cameras, and everything else. In an age when our Government works in millions and even billions, these thousands are only a drop in the bucket. Obviously, the Air Force either thinks saucers are very unimportant or else they know the answer and have no need of a serious investigation of the phenomenon. If there is any real chance that the saucers over the U.S. are either foreign or from Space, it is not likely that the Air Force could consider U.F.O.'s unimportant.

(6) The much-publicized Utah film is probably still in the hands of the Air Force; but a very reliable friend of mine has seen the film at the Pentagon and assures me that it shows nothing more than pin-points of light, thus proving that saucers do exist (if this still needs to be proven) -But there is nothing about the film that would tend to indicate the origin of the saucers shown.

.....Ike did not say saucers aren't from outer space. He stated that "an Air Force official told me some time ago that saucers do not come from outer space". How much credence this bit of news has, depends on two factors: (1) Was the Air Force official in a position to comment on saucers, i.e., was he in possession of the facts? (2) How long ago did the official tell Ike the above? Until these two items can be explained in full, the news release as stated above means nothing.....

You state that "both the 'cigars' and 'saucers' of today are merely improvements on the rocket work that was done in Germany during World War II...." Further, you say that such American saucers are powered by a complicated modification of the jet propulsion principle. In reading your two above statements, it is apparent you are excluding one of the main characteristics of U.F.O.'s: mainly, that they are silent! Any propulsion involving the jet principle would be rather noisy, though it would provide fast acceleration.

THOMAS M. COMELLA

Director of Flying Saucer News-Service
Cleveland, Ohio

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above letter has many good points, and limitation of space allows me to answer only one of them here: Mr. Comella makes the observation that these silent U.F.O.'s could hardly be powered by jets. I am forced to agree, and can only remark that, though the only saucers of which I have specific knowledge are jet-propelled, it is obvious that a new, almost silent type of propulsion has also been evolved. Intelligent guesses as to this new type of power would include atomic energy, cosmic rays, and "magnetism", though I myself have no accurate, scientific ideas as to how any of these three would or could be applied to the propulsion of a saucer. It is quite likely that the extreme secrecy surrounding our saucer project is due in part to the very fact that a new means of propulsion has been discovered and is being used in these machines. But I know of no way in which the public could hope to pierce this veil of secrecy at the present time.

RECENT NEWS

We've fallen somewhat behind in the past two months in our reporting of current saucer stories. So let us now go back to December 1954 and see what December, January, and early February have brought in the way of outstanding and unusual saucer reports.

WORLD FAILS TO END

As 1954 drew to a close, the biggest story, other than Ike's denial of the Space theory, was the predictions made by Dr. Charles Laughead of Michigan State College. According to Dr. Laughead, the world was due for earthquakes, tidal waves and volcanic eruptions on December 22nd. Dr. Laughead was at first misquoted by the press as having said the world would end on that date. He then corrected himself and stated that the impending cataclysm would be a gradual thing, extending on into 1955.

As a result of these unusual beliefs, Dr. Laughead was dismissed from his post at Michigan State about a week before the Fatal Day. But December 22nd came and went with nothing more violent recorded than a minor earthquake in California. Throughout this period, Dr. Laughead remained in touch with Mrs. Dorothy Martin of Oak Park, Illinois, from whom he had received these dire predictions; Mrs. Martin, who claims to receive her information from Space People, told Laughead that the space men had intervened just a few hours before the impending tragedy, and that the world was saved "this time".

Undaunted, Laughead and Martin predicted that on Christmas eve, while singing carols on Mrs. Martin's front lawn, they and their followers would be "lifted up" by the Space People. A crowd of about one hundred gathered for the event, but again nothing happened, and Mrs. Martin then explained that she had been referring to a spiritual rather than a physical uplifting.

The latest word we have on Dr. Laughead is that he was brought in for a sanity hearing on the request of his sister, and was declared to be sane. Though we consider Laughead's sources of information extremely unreliable, to say the least, we are nevertheless glad that he has been allowed to remain free to express his beliefs.

METEORITE STRIKES WOMAN IN ALABAMA

In the closing weeks of 1954, the wave of saucer landings in France and Italy subsided. Here in the United States sightings remained frequent, but not unusually so. One of the few incidents to gain national attention occurred in late November, when a meteorite crashed through the roof of an Alabama home, and injured Mrs. Hewlett Hodges, who was resting on a couch at the time; Mrs. Hodges has the distinction of being the first person in the world known to have been struck by a meteorite.

A curious aspect of this story was the unusual interest that the Air Force took in the object. The meteor fragment was taken to Wright-Patterson Field in Dayton, Ohio, which is headquarters for the Air Force's investigation of flying saucers. Mrs. Hodges was assured that the object would be returned to her, but nevertheless she and her husband called in a lawyer to make sure that their rights of ownership would not be violated. Sums of \$5000 and more have been offered for the meteorite by interested organizations and individuals, but at last report the Hodges had not accepted any of these offers yet.

CANADIAN SAUCER PROJECT SCRAPPED

A year-old story was revived recently by British and Canadian newspapers, telling of the fact that the Avro Corporation dropped its attempt to build a jet-propelled saucer, after spending nearly \$100,000,000 on the scheme. The project was taken beyond the drawing board stage, but no model ever actually flew. Canadian officials decided that it was beyond the country's financial resources to continue further with the project.

Significantly, the Canadians tried to interest their friendly neighbor to the South in this project, but the United States was not interested for some reason. (Could it be that we already have something much better than the crude Canadian model?)

LOCH NESS MONSTER HAS EIGHT LEGS, ECHO FINDS

Even though it has nothing to do with saucers, this story from December, 1954, was of great interest to your Editor: The crew of the trawler Rival claimed that they had proven the existence of the legendary Loch Ness (Scotland) monster, by the use of their echo sounding equipment. They reported that the monster is 50 feet long, has approximately eight legs, and the silhouette of a gigantic scorpion.

The echo sounder charts underwater depths and schools of fish by recording the time a sound takes to echo back to the device. The crew of the Rival reported that the mystery object they discovered was located at a depth of 540 feet, which is 180 feet above the bed of the Scottish lake where the monster is reported seen every so often.

This monster, which usually is seen sometime near the start of each summer season, was last heard from on October 9th. At that time, a busload of people on the shore near the point where the Rival reported her discovery, said they saw something with three big humps moving through the water with an undulating motion.

THE BELGIANS STAND READY TO WINE & DINE VISITORS FROM SPACE

From Belgium comes the cheery news that at least one nation has made proper arrangements in case space men ever land within their borders.

Not only are the Belgians unperturbed at such an eventuality, but they have even organized a Welcome Committee and have laid aside some good French champagne as part of the reception. A committee spokesman said: "Many earth dwellers are talking about a trip to Mars. If the Martians beat us to it, they deserve to be feted with the best symbol of success there is: French champagne."

Formally called "The Welcome Committee for the first Martian landing in Belgium", the Belgians not only have the committee, but also a whole program devised for whenever and if ever their celestial guests arrive.

STRANGE NOISES FROM SPACE STUDIED BY SCIENTISTS

Weird musical notes that seem to whistle down from outer space are being studied at the National Bureau of Standards in Boulder, Colorado. Also listening in is a group of scientists on a Navy ice-breaker in the Antarctic. According to this distinguished group, there is nothing about these noises to connect them with inhabitants (if any) of other planets....

Rather, they are caused by lightning discharges here on earth. Like the ham radio sparks of a generation ago, the lightning discharges create radio waves, which are so long as to fall within the range of audible sound when tuned in with a suitable receiver.

Looping thousands of miles out into supposedly "empty" space, the radio whistles start from the northern hemisphere but return to earth in the southern hemisphere - perhaps 10,000 miles away. The waves appear to follow the north-south lines of force of the earth's magnetic field, but travel enormous distances into space before being bent back to earth again. They sound like the swish of a whiplash, starting on a high, fast note, then descending more slowly, and lasting for a second or two.

MORE MYSTERIOUS OBJECTS FALLING FROM THE SKY

Charles Fort, were he still alive, would be having the time of his life these days, because falls of mysterious objects were one of his specialties. Now, in addition to the Alabama incident already reported, we have had at least two other similar occurrences within the past couple of months.

On December 28th three people were driving near Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, when suddenly a red "thing" about the size of a baseball swooped down on the car from the driver's left, struck the radio antenna, smashed into the chrome trim above the driver's window with a clang made only by metal hitting metal; and then zoomed off into the night!

On January 23rd, a "fireball" crashed through the second-floore bedroom window of William Cunningham of Darby, Pennsylvania. The object exploded, burning him seriously on the hand and starting a fire, which wrecked the upper flore of his house. Authorities were unable to determine whether the "fireball", about the size of a grapefruit, was a meteorite or an incendiary bomb. Pieces of the "fireball" were tested by firemen and found to have none of the characteristics of ordinary metals!

SAUCERS IN SOUTH AMERICA

South America, ordinarily a tough place to see a good saucer, has been having more than its share of sightings lately.

On the night of January 1st, at least fifty residents of Lima, Peru, watched a squadron of five saucers over the city. The saucers were brilliant, silver-colored objects throwing off intense light. They stood still over the city for about five minutes before departing.

In Venezuela, several sightings have been reported recently, the most interesting of which is an alleged landing on November 28th. On that date, two men in a pickup truck were astonished to see a ten-foot sphere about six feet off the ground, blocking the road at 2 A.M. - They got out to investigate, and saw a "dwarfish creature" coming toward them. One of the men grabbed the creature, expecting to put him in the truck, but with a shove the little man knocked the Venezuelan fifteen feet! The other human saw two other creatures coming from the shrubs with what looked like mud in their hands. These creatures jumped into the saucer, while he, in panic, ran to the police station for help.

Meanwhile, the creature which had knocked the other man down jumped about six feet into the air and came toward him with eyes glowing. The human took out a knife and tried to stab the creature, but its hide was too tough. At that moment another creature appeared out of the sphere carrying a tube, and turned it on the human. It shot a bright flash of light

which blinded him momentarily. The creature jumped into the sphere, and it soon disappeared into the clouds overhead, thus ending the rather bizarre incident.

And finally, in sunny Rio de Janeiro, a Brazilian Navy Commander has come up with a novel explanation for the saucer phenomenon. Said he, at a meeting of the Brazilian Theosophical Society: "I believe these mysterious engines come from the center of the earth, where it has long been believed that life exists far advanced over our own civilization". Though admitting he has no evidence to back up his theory, the Commander added that he thinks his idea accounts for the famous disappearance of Colonel Percy Fawcett several years ago. Fawcett had been hunting for a rumored Lost City, which according to the Commander's theory was connected with the operations of the people who dwell in the core of the earth. (Old-timers in the study of saucers will recognize here a revival of the Shaver Mystery - EDITOR).

PILOT CHASED BY SAUCERS

From Melbourne (Dec. 16th) comes the report that a Royal Australian Navy pilot was chased by two saucers while flying back to his base after dark. He reported to the air controller at Nowra, whose radar showed three aircraft flying together. The pilot identified himself on the radar scope by moving according to a pattern.

Here, then, is still another example of a simultaneous radar and visual sighting, proving, if nothing else, that saucers have at least as much reality and substance as do conventional aircraft.

HOAX FROM FINLAND

It was just another flying saucer report, this time from the town of Alavieska. A mysterious light had appeared one night (January 24th) and had moved in a peculiar fashion. Reported a reliable eyewitness: "The light phenomenon descended at Alavieska and traveled about 400 meters over an open field. When it reached the edge of the field it rose upward with the aid of the light and soared just above the tree tops until it disappeared behind the woods."

There were several eyewitnesses, and all were reliable people. There was really no reason to doubt their story. It seemed as if their experience was to join the long list of unexplained tales of flying saucers. But then someone remembered the mischievous Leppikorpi boys - and their pet crow. These boys, whose father is a cobbler in the village church, had tied a flashlight to the bird's back and turned it loose for a night's flight that fooled the good citizens of Alavieska.

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LESLIE IN THE LIMELIGHT
- by John Pitt -

"It is to this sort of fool; to the lonely heretic who likes to walk alone down strange untrodden paths; to him who believes all things are possible..." - To those who are puzzled by this quotation, to those who already know it almost by heart, and to those who have a sense of humor, I give my appreciation of the man responsible - Desmond "Flying Saucers Have Landed" Leslie.

It must have been at about the same time when George Adamski was preparing the groundwork for his fabulous Venusian story, that Leslie was advised by his publisher to write a "pot-boiler" on flying saucers. Leslie, a self-professed writer, had produced three novels in the seven years since he had left the Royal Air Force, and he had no immediate plans for a fourth; So taking this advice, Leslie began work on the suggested plot.

During this period he sought out amateur astronomers and others who had been studying the saucer problem. He "discovered" Charles Fort, who must be laughing helplessly in his grave, and Meade Layne, and the Psi-Saucer "School". It is difficult to say whether Leslie was impressionable or downright naive at this time.

Desmond was introduced to a friend of his Occult book-seller. This man had spent many years collecting a vast mass of newspaper cuttings on peculiar events and phenomena which allied themselves to flying saucers. This collection occupied Leslie for some eighteen months while he evolved his "historical" hypothesis. Apart from his collection of unusual happenings, this new acquaintance was interested in the study of Hypnosis. In Leslie's flat an experiment was made to entrance a lady "medium" and send her out of the body; she was sent to find a saucer and enter it. Certainly she met something, for she gave a description of the saucer's interior, and even had a slight mishap for which she received an unpleasant burn on her arm. I have read an account of this event and have questioned Leslie's Occult friend. I do not know what caused the burn, but I feel that Leslie and his friends were lucky that nothing more serious befell the unfortunate woman.

Spiritualism was the next subject to gain Leslie's attention. He began to make visits to numerous prominent "Oracles". I don't know whether he received a helping hand from Astral entities, but he seems to be singularly occupied in Spiritualism to this day.

So much, then, for Leslie's introduction to the Unknown. Just how much this initiation prepared him for the Adamski story is an interesting conjecture. In any case, the notorious "Flying Saucers Have Landed" was finally born, the mixed parentage of unsubstantiated legend and questionable "on the spot" evidence.

After Arthur Clarke and others had vivisected the book in scathing words, Leslie suddenly found himself a celebrity. He was invited to speak on Spiritualist platforms and gave some amusing interviews to Psychic newspapers. In one, he related how he had sent Adamski a list of questions to which he received all the answers before his own letter had reached the States. Checking, he discovered that Adamski must have been answering the letter while he himself was actually writing it in England.

Not long after the first storm had died down, young Stephen Darbshire (an English schoolboy) had his experience with what is known as the Coniston Saucer. Leslie almost immediately visited the Darbshires and, on return, wrote an account for "Flying Saucer News".

This event was soon followed by the announcement that a group of "Metaphysicians" had concocted a novel five-guinea toy, provocat-

It was subtitled "Startling NEW revelations of one of the most incredible stories of our age". It contained nothing startling and certainly nothing new, except a new accumulation of misinformation and a curious method of reprinting old stuff with blind credits like: "A friend of one of my American correspondents"; "sensational reports of eye witnesses"; "A friend in Australia, whose son is an officer in the Australian Air Force"; "A man in Oregon wrote a letter to a friend of mine in Oklahoma about what his son, a U.S. Marine, heard"; "A gentleman, from Virginia, tells me these stories of encounters with saucers are running all through California like a prairie fire"; etc., etc.

Once he even went to these lengths to conceal his authorities: "I am informed by a well-educated American who lives in Los Angeles, California, that in the summer of 1952 he knew an American scientist and physicist who had been given by a high authority in Washington, D.C., the job of preparing a report to a high authority...."

As Sgt. Friday would say, "Give us the facts, ma'am, just the facts."

Wilkins has an appendix that runs 16 pages, a bibliography that runs three pages, but nowhere has he found space to name Scully, Heard, Keyhoe, Adamski, Van Tassel, Fry, and others to whom he is clearly indebted. This is research? This is scholarship?

On Page 269 Wilkins quotes a garbled source as follows:

"October 8, 1953: Yesterday, in New York City, a high, thin voice interrupted a radio show which was boasting a book on saucers. It said: 'You earth-men will soon be annihilated, and your planet, unless you stop talking about flying saucers. I am speaking from a space ship over Los Angeles, California'. Later the same voice came on the air saying: 'I am over Salt Lake City. You cannot see me, but I could reach you easily. If you saw my hideous face, it would scare you to death'. The radio concern and author and publisher deny any knowledge of this affair. - N.B. It is an admirable coincidence that the unseen speaker should have spoken over the air by using a private telephone number of a National Broadcasting Company producer, which number is not listed in the New York telephone directory. Also, the publisher, some years before, had issued a book by a well known Hollywood character, who subsequently admitted publishing a book about little men from Venus, which he was badgered by the U.S. magazine True into admitting was a hoax."

Let's start with the last thing first. The only publisher who up to this time had published two books by different authors on this saucerian subject was Henry Holt & Co. The books Holt published were "Behind The Flying Saucers" by Frank Scully in 1950, and "Flying Saucers From Outer Space" by Donald Keyhoe in 1953. This unmasks the first part of Wilkins' attempt to cover himself in retreat, in case he's threatened with a libel action.

There are many well known characters in Hollywood but I am the only one who is well known because he wrote a book about flying saucers. I am charged here by Wilkins or his authority with subsequently admitting publishing a book "about little men from Venus which he was badgered by the U.S. magazine True into admitting was a hoax."

As I have not admitted anywhere to anybody, anytime, that it was a hoax, it is up to characters such as Wilkins, Leslie, Moseley, et al to put up or shut up. They've had a field day up to now because I have been so busy writing other books I haven't had time to bother with these schmucks. But I am serving notice, as of this moment, that they retract their libels or hire themselves a good lawyer.

The story of True and Cahn is pediculous with libel.

SCULLY BREAKS A LONG SILENCE
 The Pioneer in Saucerian Research Strikes Back at Some Labels
 - by Frank Scully -

A. Hitler, quite a power in his day but now dead, believed that a lie repeated three times became the truth, and the bigger the lie, the bigger it could be passed off as the truth.

I have seen repeated in several places that I had repudiated "Behind The Flying Saucers" and admitted it was a hoax. The latest to repeat this lie is Harold T. Wilkins in "Flying Saucers on the Attack". - On whom? Scully?

For the benefit of those who never read beyond the first page of anything, I am stating categorically that I not only never admitted that "Behind The Flying Saucers" was a hoax, but moreover have never read anything by anybody that proved it was a hoax. "Calling" and "proving" are not the same thing, as even Sgt. Joe Friday on "Dragnet" would tell you.

I never thought I had done more than get my foot in the door of a vast and mysterious subject and the fact that it wasn't cut off in a year fortified my belief that maybe I had something. I was a reporter and presented the facts as presented to me. It was the first time the mystery of flying saucers had been presented to the public in book form and nothing published since has done anything but fortify our original position.

Like a pathologist, I dealt with grounded saucers and dead crews. Since then several personal histories, dealing with active saucers and live crews, have been published, and nobody either in or out of the saucerian inquiry has seen fit to hang on the historians the word "hoax". Certainly nobody has gone around saying these historians admitted their story was a hoax. Just why was I singled out for this dubious honor? Is it because "Behind The Flying Saucers" is the keystone of this arch and the enemies of honest research believe if they can knock it down the rest will fall like a house of cards?

Now for some facts:

In the spring of 1954 the Pickwick Bookstore, Hollywood, drew my attention to a British book by H.T. Wilkins called "Flying Saucers on the Moon". It was priced at \$4.00

Some days later I read a notice in the Los Angeles Times that a noted British astronomer named Wilkins (and an authority on the moon), was going to lecture at the University of Southern California. Gene Dorsey and I went to the lecture, thinking these were one and the same person.

It turned out that the lecturer dealt exclusively with the moon and had nothing to say about flying saucers until near the end. At that point the lecturer said he was being confused with some character who had put a lot of old folklore together and called it a book with new revelations on flying saucers.

In the question period I arose and said I had made the same mistake. I had confused the two Wilkins and thought they were one and the same person. The students of astronomy let out roars of laughter. I told Dr. Wilkins I was glad I remained because I learned a lot of things I never knew till then about the moon. Among his revelations was that he, an amateur, had seen atmosphere on the moon - a discovery which had eluded all the professionals up to that time.

By the fall of 1954 the book of the other Wilkins had appeared in America. The moon had been dropped out of its title. Indeed it was retitled "Flying Saucers On The Attack". The price had dropped, too, from \$4 to \$3.50 - but the book otherwise was the same as the British edition.

Actually, it started out by Cahn coming to see me when out of a job, quite sure he could make a million dollars in exploiting the flying saucer mystery. He subsequently accepted whatever True would give him to spit on those who had befriended him. True told the world it was going to publish the real facts of the little men. It allowed Cahn to spend 25,000 words throwing irrelevant mud around - even to admitting he was a self-confessed thief - and never did get to the little men. That's how much you can believe True.

In assailing the personal lives and characters of two witnesses involved in the saucer story they never nicked anything off the Scully story itself, but so much of the mud got in the eyes of people like Wilkins, Leslie, Moseley, et al, that they even thought they saw Scully quaking while his brain was being washed. They even imagined they read he had admitted he had perpetrated "the biggest hoax since the Cardiff giant." He had not admitted anything of the sort.

Any scholar who would put "Behind The Flying Saucers" and the True story in juxtaposition and check them page by page, would have to come out with the conclusion that nothing in the Scully story, as such, was exposed as a hoax and even the attempts to do it were done by garbling and misquoting the actual text so as to make it easier to knock down what was never said in the first place.

As for James W. Moseley, who lists himself as a writer, he did not make that claim when I first met him.

He came to me claiming he was collecting data for a writer who would then write the book in Moseley's name. He showed me a letter from the writer as proof. This is no disgrace. But it does not make Moseley a writer. Betherum's book was ghosted for him, too.

Moseley says he considers himself a "thorough investigator" but who gave him his credentials is not established. He starts out with "a predisposition to disbelieve stories of captured saucers and little men." He makes the flat statement that "Scully's book was 'thoroughly' (he loves that word!) discredited in a long article in True magazine as elsewhere" (see footnote). He doesn't apparently like my use of Dr. Gee but he covers his own tracks with a "Mr. X" and a "Miss Y" and even a "Mr. Z". The True article did not disprove anything Scully wrote on little men or flying saucers. It merely tried to hang a dubious business transaction in a totally unrelated field on two of the hundreds of persons I had quoted in "Behind The Flying Saucers". In the main I gave credit wherever it was possible to give it without kicking back on the source. This didn't work out as a complete success, but nobody and I mean nobody has come up with proofs that the story as related didn't happen. Of the 20 questions I asked of the authorities (i.e., the U.S. Government), only one was answered, which looks as if I still have a passing grade of 95 per cent. This seems to "thoroughly" discredit Moseley as a thorough investigator.

This self-styled thorough investigator then goes on to say:

"If Scully's book was composed mainly of facts rather than fiction, he was dealt with in no dire cloak-and-dagger manner but by the manner of ridicule. At first his book caused a sensation; Now practically no one believes him, for every possible effort has been made to discredit him and make him look ridiculous. Scully has only two principal characters in his book which he mentions by name: Silas Newton and Leo GeBauer."

If this "thorough investigator" can find anywhere that

FOOTNOTE: Mr. Scully is referring to an article entitled "The Wright Field Story", which I published in the September 1954 issue of NEXUS - EDITOR

I name a Leo GeBauer in "Behind The Flying Saucers" he can have the royalties to my next five books. If he can prove moreover by going through my files that practically no one believes me now he can have the royalties on the last three which are still paying off.

In fact he has made only one almost true statement in the paragraph. That is: "that every possible effort has been made to discredit him," and even that is an opinion of fact. Not "every possible" effort has been made. The attack will go on for years and much of it will be as sloppy and inaccurate as this contribution of young Moseley's.

As everybody agrees (and if there is an exception I have not seen it to date) that the Pentagonians have not given us the whole truth about the saucerian mystery, it must be consoling to them to get a new crop each year to attempt to tear down the Scully bastion, and thus, continue to divide and rule.

Our group has done a vast amount of research since "Behind The Flying Saucers" was published. Some of it had substance. Some of it petered out. Some of it was founded on hoaxes.

My publishers for years have been pushing for another book on this subject, but I have told them that until I get one as good as or better than "Behind The Flying Saucers" I am not rushing in to cash in on its popularity with another killing. I have a five year writing plan and my next commitment is due in the fall. It has nothing to do with saucers.

Scarcely a week passes but I get letters from people who say that they have read all the books on flying saucers and that mine, the first, is still the only one that stands up and seems to make sense. That it is full of errors, I would be the first to point out. But these are correctable errors and many are due to the fact that under pressure from my publishers I had to write the book in 72 days.

Any lawyer worth his salt can read "Behind The Flying Saucers" and when he lays the book down will tell you: "The strangest part of this story is that nobody can ever prove it didn't happen."

But I am not satisfied with this. I want to prove, or I want some other serious scholars to prove, that it did happen.

And in any event they are no longer free to quote the enemy's propaganda against me, because I repeat that I have never repudiated the story and have not yet found any cause to do so.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I have never claimed that Scully admitted his book to be a hoax. Scully is correct in stating that Leo GeBauer is not mentioned in the book, but this reduces from two to one the number of "principal characters" mentioned by name, other than Scully himself. The one man remaining is Silas Newton, who was indicted for oil fraud in Denver, Colorado in 1953. Newton's shady oil transactions do not necessarily disqualify him as a reliable witness in regard to flying saucers, but they do cast a reasonable doubt, to say the least. It is perhaps significant to note that Scully goes to no great lengths to defend Newton in the above article, and himself refers to the oil incident as "a dubious business transaction". - But in the final analysis, Scully is right in saying that no one can prove that the events recounted in "Behind The Flying Saucers" did not happen. I have never tried to prove that they did not; and in my article "The Wright Field Story", to which Scully is referring, my object was to point out that Scully might be right after all. But my opinions have changed since I wrote "The Wright Field Story", and it is now my feeling that many of the basic facts in Scully's book are incorrect.

ively called an "Aura Biometer". This gadget was claimed to be able to prove that the Adamski, Coniston, and Brazilian saucers were "identical". At that time I did not blame Leslie for using any ammunition made available to return the fire which had been opened against him by the unshakable scientists. I did, however, decide to see what the experts thought about this "Aura Biometer". I first called on the Science Museum where I invited Mr. Phillip Sumner, of the Royal Aeronautical Collection, to give his judgment of the little booklet "Biometric Analysis of Flying Saucer Photographs". Sumner's letter of Sept. 8, 1954 says: "There is no scientific proof or evidence that flying saucers exist, and if they did the evidence would not be proven by the methods shown in this publication....It is only possible for me to regard these matters in the light of cold scientific fact and there is not, of course, the slightest bit of scientific background to any of these articles, that to the ignorant sound genuine, but, in fact, have no scientific sense or even logic".

Lest I be accused of favoritism I decided to call on the President of the British Society of Dowsers; here I anticipated that I might well hear a totally different story. Asking Colonel Bell his opinion of the value of this device, and whether he agreed with the claims made for it by its inventors, I watched a slow smile spreading over his face. I was really surprised when he said that he would not like to make a statement. I respect sportsmanship, but I have not forgotten that smile.

I do not wish to give any more space to this preposterous machine, but will say that a truly scientific machine does not depend on the "sensitivity" of its operator. An "Aura Biometer" as a scientific instrument is analagous to the claim that a hunk of seaweed hanging on a nail outside a country cottage is both a wind-gauge and an Aneroid Barometer.

While this machine was proving that Adamski's bell-shaped saucers were "identical" to the flattened Brazilian discs, Leslie had been embroiled in a saucer war of his own. His entertaining Occultist pal had introduced him to a machine which had been made to orders transmitted through the agency of a wine glass and alphabet. In a characteristic letter to "Two Worlds" (a British newspaper), he called this machine an "Astral juke-box"; In the next issue he was rapped over the knuckles by a peppery elderly psychic authoress. Order was finally restored by Mrs. Leslie who said that her husband had not meant that particular apparatus but another. However, Leslie's Occult friend affirmed that it was just as Leslie stated - a "juke box".

The Astral plane seems to be populated with a vast army of "lonely heretics". Some are downright funny, others are a positive menace. This is also common to those unfortunates who are unhealthily preoccupied with the next plane whilst they still have much to learn about this mundane existence.

Around this time Leslie was beginning to feel his feet as a Saucerologist. Many people were beginning to take his book more or less seriously; Among these was Benjamin Herrington O.B.E., who had for many months written in various Psychic periodicals entreating people to be open-minded about U.F.O.'s. Herrington had also envisioned a Spiritualist World Government, and was an active Spiritualist propagandist. It was he who was to have helped plan the Adamski lecture which should have taken place last September in the Royal Albert Hall. Unfortunately it is now common knowledge that Adamski succumbed to nervous exhaustion. Some wits wondered if he had been over-indulging in space-travel. The British public were very sorry to learn of this illness; The meeting would have been a tremendous attraction. I was informed by an eminent Saucerer that it was even hoped that it would be blessed by Royal Patrony.

Leslie finally made up his mind to visit his partner;

he had privately announced this intention for some time. Although he repeatedly defended Adamski, it was felt by many of us that he was not unduly eager to go to California and see things for himself.

At about this time, Al Bailey and Jerryold Baker were showing signs of restlessness. There were indications as early as March 1954 that they were not satisfied with the way in which Adamski's account had been written. Through a mutual acquaintance I began to write to Jim Moseley and to Jerryold Baker. Moseley will remember that I was frankly suspicious of Adamski, and I had the pleasure of receiving from Baker confirmation of his dissatisfaction. He sent me a signed statement denying having taken the photograph which bore his name; He also sent me copies of letters he had sent to Adamski and Leslie on July 25th. He warned Adamski that he must publicly retract the statement that he (Baker) had taken Plate 7 in "Flying Saucers Have Landed", or be sued.

Baker posed eleven questions concerning the Venusian story, and generally warned Leslie to be on his guard against Adamski's peculiar "metaphysical" viewpoint. He also referred to a further copy of his statement of denial concerning Plate 7, which he had recently sent to Captain Plunkett of the British Flying Saucer Bureau. Plunkett has never, to my knowledge anyway, used this statement. Seeing that Leslie was welcomed to the bosom of this Organization, and has also written for its journal "Flying Saucer News", it is reasonably obvious that there is good cause to suppose Plunkett was disinclined to use anything against Adamski or his friend Leslie.

It is difficult to judge Leslie's reaction to this unexpected letter from Baker. Just how much he believed of Adamski's full account we shall probably never know. I do not think he accepted Baker's invitation to get together and talk things over. On his return to England he gave out, at a lecture, that he had met the Desert Contact witnesses and that he was quite satisfied with their testimony. He also stated that the Contact had been photographed by aircraft of the U.S. Air Force, but that they were denying this.

More recently I have been told that Leslie is less happy about Adamski than he was before. It seems that about 200 pages of Adamski's portion of "Flying Saucers Have Landed" was deleted from the manuscript at the publisher's request. Leslie has shown the manuscript of Adamski's new book to some of his friends, and, here again, there is a similar objection to portions of the text. In view of this I feel that it will not be long before we learn that Leslie would like to disentangle himself from his co-author.

Let us go back, though, to the point where Leslie received Baker's letter. The first news of Leslie's activities in California was that he and Adamski were going out on saucer-safaris in the Desert, Adamski having apparently made a very rapid recovery from his then recent illness.

During the next few weeks Adamski and Leslie entertained both Fry and Betherum at Palomar. Leslie is now citing these two in support of Adamski. Betherum wrote of a jail-less, tobacco-less, liquor-less planet called "Clarion" (surely the Utopian "Rock Candy Mountain" of rather a narrow-minded kill-joy); and Fry is the gentleman who failed to show, during a T.V. lie-detector test, that his experience with a saucer was not an out-of-the-body one, similar to those which sometimes occur to those under anaesthetic. These men's narratives are, if anything, rather less credible than Adamski's. Leslie told an audience that he thought Betherum was so uneducated that he was almost inclined to swear that he (Betherum) was telling the whole truth. Leslie referred to him as "rather a clot". He supported Fry because his testimony made feasible the theories of Leonard Cramp, the engineer who

has now produced the book "Space, Gravity, and the Flying Saucer", which is another treatise on electro-magnetism and the Saucer, inspired largely by Adamski's description of his "Venusian" scout ship.

During a recent lecture in London I heard Leslie say that Adamski still is in communication with his space friends. Leslie does not know how he communicates, and has not been invited to listen in on the proceedings. At this time, Moseley's expose had not yet reached the ears of the English public, but having seen a draft of the article, I was immediately reminded of what Baker had said about the "metaphysical discourse" that he had overheard on the tape-recorder. Thinking that this might be the most obvious reason for Adamski not inviting Leslie to participate in the "communication", I asked Leslie if Adamski ever did indulge in Astral communication. Leslie replied that he "could but did not where saucers were concerned". I find this rather puzzling, but I think it is unlikely that Leslie knows that George Adamski was once head of an organization calling itself "The Royal Order of Tibet", and that he obtained, and lectured on information from the Unseen. This, I think, has a very significant bearing on the Adamski case history.

As a matter of academic interest, I questioned officials of the Theosophical Society, and a lecturer in Hindi at the School of Oriental and African Studies, to hear their respective opinions of Leslie's use of Theosophical literature. They did not seem overly impressed with his free rendering of their "Classics"; Indeed, I learned that only one very elderly Theosophist, whose hobby-horses are Fairies and Non-Human Chains of Evolution, had any use for Leslie's theories at all.

In summing up, I can do no better than follow Jim Moseley's lead, explaining that I have no personal grudge against Leslie, or even Adamski. I do deplore, however, any attempt by enthusiastic amateur Occultists, semi-literate Historians, and bug-eyed Saucer-cultists, to ram their own pet philosophies down the gullets of the gullible. - N.B. These remarks do not apply to Messers Adamski and Leslie, unless, of course, the shoe fits.

In view of George Adamski's hoped-for appearance in London in May of this year, I have made advances to the Science Museum, who are most anxious to ask a few leading questions about the Desert Contact. A member of the Society for Psychical Research told me that although their society is not a corporate body, that Adamski could be given ample opportunity to demonstrate his telepathic gifts under their normal Extra-Sensory-Perception tests.

Again with no personal motives, I would like to conclude this article with a quotation from Voltaire, a great philosopher, sceptic, and all-around thinker. His following words seem to be tailor-made for Saucery:

"The fact that I wish to destroy the rats in my house does not indicate that I do not believe that it had an architect".

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