

Who's Who

Kenneth Arnold heads the Great Western Engineering Company in Meridian, Idaho. He is coauthor (with the late Raymond A. Palmer) of *The Coming of the Saucers* (privately published, 1952).

James A. Harder, Ph.D., holds degrees in civil and mechanical engineering and fluid mechanics. A professor of engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, he serves as research director for the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization.

Ted Phillips is an engineer with the Missouri State Highway Department and the author of *Physical Traces Associated with UFO Sightings* (Center for UFO Studies, 1975).

Frank B. Salisbury, Ph.D., director of the plant-science department at the State University of Utah, is the author of *The Utah UFO Display* (Devin Adair, 1974).

Stanton T. Friedman, a former nuclear physicist, lectures full time on UFOs and space travel.

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and the editors of

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David M. Jacobs, Ph.D., is assistant professor of history at Temple University and author of *The UFO Controversy in America* (Indiana University, 1975).

Jacques Vallée, Ph.D., is trained in astrophysics and computer science. His books include *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (Regnery, 1965); (with Janine Vallée) *Challenge to Science—The UFO Enigma* (Regnery, 1966); *Passport to Magonia* (Regnery, 1969); *The Invisible College* (E. P. Dutton, 1975); (with J. Allen Hynek) *The Edge of Reality* (Regnery, 1975); and *Messengers of Deception* (And/Or Press, 1979). He has also published several science-fiction novels in France.

J. Allen Hynek, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of astronomy at Northwestern University. For twenty years the Air Force's chief scientific consultant on UFOs, he is founder and director of the Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Illinois. He has written three books on UFOs: *The UFO Experience* (Regnery, 1972); (with Jacques Vallée) *The Edge of Reality*; and *The Hynek UFO Report* (Dell, 1977).

Ted Bloecher, who has been investigating UFOs for over twenty-five years, wrote *Report on the UFO Wave of 1947* (privately published, 1967) and (with Isabel Davis) *Close Encounter at Kelly and Others of 1955* (Center for UFO Studies, 1978).

Betty Hill, a retired social worker who lives in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, received international attention when she and her late husband Barney were allegedly abducted by a UFO. The case became the subject of John G. Fuller's *The Interrupted Journey* (Dial, 1966) and of the NBC television movie *The UFO Incident* (shown originally on October 20, 1975).

Alvin H. Lawson, Ph.D., is professor of English at California State University at Long Beach.

Curtis Fuller is cofounder and publisher of *Fate*, 500 Hyacinth Place, Highland Park, Illinois 60035.

Jim Lorenzen is international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Tucson, Arizona. With

his wife Coral he is the coauthor of *Flying Saucer Occupants* (Signet, 1967), *UFOs over the Americas* (Signet, 1968), *Encounters with UFO Occupants* (Berkley, 1976) and *Abducted!* (Berkley, 1977).

David Stuppel, Ph.D., is assistant professor of sociology at Eastern Michigan University.

Jerome Clark, associate editor of *Fate* and a longtime UFO researcher and writer, is coauthor (with Loren Coleman) of *The Unidentified* (Warner, 1975); *Creatures of the Outer Edge* (Warner, 1978); and (with D. Scott Rogo) *Earth's Secret Inhabitants* (Tempo, 1979).

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, is director of counseling and testing at the University of Wyoming and is a specialist in the use of hypnosis in UFO investigation.

~~Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D.~~, is a psychiatrist, parapsychologist, and consultant for the EEG Laboratory of Essex County (New Jersey) Hospital Center. A frequent contributor to England's *Flying Saucer Review*, he is the author of *Psychic-Dynamics* (Pageant, 1965), *The Jacques Romano Story* (University, 1968) and *Parent-Child Telepathy* (Garret, 1971).

J. Gordon Melton, Ph.D., directs the Institute for the Study of American Religion in Evanston, Illinois. A Methodist minister, he serves as *Fate's* book-review editor. He is the author of *A Directory of Religious Bodies in the United States* (Garland, 1977) and the two-volume *Encyclopedia of American Religions* (Consortium, 1979).

Glossary of Names and Terms Not Explained in Text

Aetherius Society. A religious organization founded by contactee George King. The society "numbers its supporters in the thousands, has branches in most English-speaking countries and offers a complete religious package deal including prayers, chants, complex rituals, arduous pilgrimages and a fantastic and farflung philosophy geared to the terminology and iconography of the space age" (Christopher Evans, *Cults of Unreason*).

Aho, Wayne. Contactee who first communicated with space people, he says, at George Van Tassel's Giant Rock convention in the 1950s. He founded and still heads the New Age Foundation in Eatonville, Washington, at the foot of Mount Rainier, where Kenneth Arnold's June 24, 1947, sighting ushered in the UFO Age.

Bethurum, Truman. A celebrated contactee, now deceased, who one night in 1952 supposedly met with the beautiful Aura Rhanes, commander of a "scow" (flying saucer) from the planet Clarion, a world "entirely invisible from earth,

since it was on the other side of the moon." Bethurum's wife later sued him for divorce, citing his involvement with the spacewoman.

Carr, Robert Spencer, Florida UFO enthusiast who claims to have evidence that the United States government has recovered crashed UFOs and has stored the bodies of dead humanoid beings at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

Coyne helicopter case. Classic close encounter of the second kind which occurred over Mansfield, Ohio, on the night of October 18, 1973. From their Army Reserve UH-1H helicopter Captain Lawrence Coyne and three crew members saw a dark gray oval-shaped object; as they watched the UFO, their helicopter inexplicably climbed 1800 feet. Five members of a Mansfield family witnessed the episode from the ground.

Fry, Daniel W. Contactee who says he met with flying saucer on July 4, 1950, near White Sands, New Mexico, and later would allege other contacts with benevolent extraterrestrials. Responding to challenges to prove his sincerity, Fry took a polygraph test and flunked it. Still active, he directs Understanding, Inc., which publishes and publicizes his brand of contactee metaphysics.

Green, Gabriel. Contactee, director of the Amalgamated Flying Saucer Clubs of America and occasional political candidate.

Higdon, Carl, A Rawlins, Wyoming, man who allegedly experienced a weird UFO encounter while elk-hunting in the Medicine Bow National Forest on October 25, 1974. Higdon said a UFO being who identified himself as "Ausso" gave him a pill; the next thing the hunter knew, he and "Ausso" were flying through space in a "cubicle." After "163,000 light miles" (sic) they landed next to a huge tower. "Ausso" took Higdon inside, then told him he was not what they needed and flew him back to earth. Higdon was found in a dazed, confused state by searchers who saw mysterious lights in the area while looking for him. Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, who conducted interviews with

Higdon and his family, hypnotized the percipient and got additional details. Sprinkle stated, "Although the sighting of a single UFO witness often is difficult to evaluate . . . Carl Higdon [seems to be] reporting sincerely the events which he experienced."

Jessup, Morris K. An early proponent of UFOs and one of the first to possess some scientific background. Jessup wrote four books on the subject: *The Case for the UFO* (1955), *The UFO Annual* (1956), *UFO and the Bible* (1956) and *The Expanding Case for the UFO* (1957). Remembered now as little more than curiosities, they borrowed heavily from the works of Charles Fort (d. 1932), an early collector of reports of aerial objects, falls of matter from the sky, creatures, mysterious disappearances, and other such phenomena since labeled "Fortean" in his honor. Jessup's main claim to fame is as an early advocate of what in the 1970s would be called the "ancient astronaut" theory. Jessup died on April 20, 1959, an apparent suicide.

Jung, Carl G. Noted Swiss psychological theorist who wrote, among many other books, *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies* (1959), which explored the possible symbolic significance of UFO reports, rumors and dreams. He believed that some UFO stories are visionary in nature, "archetypal images . . . involuntary, automatic projections based on instinct," and representing mankind's need for spiritual fulfillment in a materialistic age. He conceded, however, that such a theory could not explain all UFO reports and remarked that such skeptics as Harvard University astronomer Donald Menzel had yet to offer "a satisfying scientific explanation of even one authentic UFO report."

Keel, John A. New York City-based writer and investigator whose theories that UFOs, creatures, and other unexplained phenomena are hologramlike projections from a "superspectrum" composed of unknown energies have sparked considerable debate; author of five books on the subject, the most important of them *UFOs: Operation Trojan Horse* (1970) and *The Mothman Prophecies* (1975).

Kraspedon, Dino. The pseudonym of Brazilian contactee Aladino Felix, who claimed repeated meetings with Venusians, beginning in 1952. In 1959, as "Dino Kraspedon," he wrote *My Contact with Flying Saucers*. In 1968 Brazilian police arrested him and accused him of leading a terrorist gang. Felix told the authorities that the Venusians, who had appointed him their ambassador to earth, would invade the planet if he was jailed. He was and they didn't.

Lansing, Stella. A Massachusetts housewife who says she has undergone a wide range of UFO and paranormal experiences: "strange little men, voices appearing out of nowhere, creatures, loss of consciousness, 'electric shock' from a shimmering figure, a gaping round hole in the ice, a craft possibly surfacing from under water, minuscule footprints, religious symbols, bizarre harassments, etc." (Berthold Eric Schwarz, *Flying Saucer Review*, January/February 1972).

McDonald, James E. Senior atmospheric physicist at the University of Arizona's Department of Atmospheric Sciences and an outspoken advocate of UFO reality. A harsh critic of the scientific establishment's refusal to consider the UFO phenomenon, he tried and failed to persuade the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to investigate reports. Dr. McDonald was subjected to scathing attacks by everyone from Philip Klass, who attempted without success to prove McDonald was misusing government funds to study UFOs, to Vice President Spiro Agnew, who used the scientist's UFO interest to discredit his testimony against the proposed Supersonic Transport aircraft. In June 1971, at fifty-one, McDonald committed suicide.

Monsieur X case. A famous case of a French doctor whose identity investigators have kept secret at his request. Awakened at four in the morning on November 2, 1968, by the cries of his fourteen-month-old baby, the witness saw two bright discs flashing lights; suddenly the two objects merged into one, which continued to fly toward the doctor's house, then shone a beam in his face before dematerializing with a "bang." The doctor discovered soon afterward that his leg,

which he had injured while chopping wood three days earlier, had suddenly healed; so, in the days to come, would other, more long-term physical afflictions from which the doctor had suffered. A triangle-shaped red mark soon appeared on the abdomens of both X and his infant son and thereafter came and went at intervals without warning or apparent reason. X and his wife felt that after the UFO event they both became psychic; friends and acquaintances said they had changed as people, acquiring "an almost mystical acceptance of the events of life and death."

Mundo, Laura. Longtime supporter of the late George Adamski's claims and teachings. She regularly issues self-written books on flying-saucer theology as well as the monthly *Mundo Monitor* from her suburban Detroit home.

Pascagoula case. Much publicized UFO abduction case in which two Mississippi fishermen, Charles Hickson and Calvin Parker, claimed that on the evening of October 11, 1973, robotlike entities floated them aboard a UFO and subjected them to a physical examination. Some time later Hickson is supposed to have had a second encounter which he refuses to discuss; he also believes he has had occasional "mental" communications with the beings.

Port Monmouth case. New Jersey landing-and-physical-trace episode with apparent paranormal aftereffects. During the early hours of July 4, 1970, a Port Monmouth housewife woke up to see mysterious lights "bouncing back and forth across the meadows" nearby. The next day members of the family discovered strange marks and tracks in the meadow grass. Exactly one week later the same woman awoke sure that "something was going to happen." Five minutes later the street light went out; then a disc-shaped UFO sailed out of the sky and landed in the meadow for a short while before flying away. For some time afterward the house was afflicted with peculiar telephone and electric problems and poltergeistlike manifestations. The housewife suffered from strange, frightening dreams.

Ruppelt, Edward J. An Air Force captain who headed Project Blue Book, the service's UFO investigative body, from 1952 to 1953. He wrote the classic *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* (1956) and died in 1960.

Samford, Gen. John A. Director of Intelligence for the Air Force in the early 1950s.

Schirmer, Herb. Ashland, Nebraska, policeman who in the early morning hours of December 3, 1967, spotted a hovering UFO and unaccountably "lost" twenty minutes. Later, under hypnosis, Schirmer claimed to have been taken aboard the UFO and to have communicated with its humanoid occupants.

Schmidt, Reinhold. Kearney, Nebraska, businessman who on November 5, 1957, reported he had seen a UFO land. He said he had spoken with its occupants, four men and two women, who conversed in fluent German and German-accented English. The next day the local authorities locked Schmidt up for "observation" after accusing him of engineering a hoax, but then released him when they could not prove the charge. Schmidt became a professional contactee but his career ended when he was arrested in California for selling shares in a nonexistent quartz mine. He explained that the space people had told him the quartz would cure cancer.

Stranges, Frank. A minor contactee and sometime small-budget-movie producer who claims to have met a Venusian named "Val-Thor" in the Pentagon.

Swamp gas. Two words J. Allen Hynek wishes he had never uttered. On March 20, 1966, numerous persons at a college in Hillsdale, Michigan, saw a large glowing object hovering over a swamp. The next day, at Dexter, sixty-three miles away, five persons, two of them police officers, saw a glowing disc ascend from a swampy area. These were two of many UFO sightings made in Michigan and across the country in the course of a major UFO wave. Soon afterward Dr. Hynek, then Project Blue Book's chief scientific consultant, suggested the phenomena might be caused by decaying vegetation that spontaneously ignited:

swamp gas. The explanation was greeted with massive ridicule from a public fed up with unsatisfactory Air Force explanations of UFO reports. In later years Hynek would admit publicly that he had been wrong.

Van Tassel, George. One of the best-known and most active contactees. After his first alleged contact with friendly space beings on August 24, 1953, Van Tassel would claim numerous other adventures, during which space people provided him with philosophical concepts which he went on to teach at his College of Universal Wisdom in California. He also organized yearly contactee conventions at Giant Rock, California, and for years has collected funds to build a massive "rejuvenation machine."

Venezuelan humanoid encounters. Classic cases from November and December 1954, when Venezuelans reportedly experienced violent run-ins—sometimes involving hand-to-hand combat—with "remarkably strong," hairy little men from UFOs. On one occasion, as humanoids attempted to drag one witness into a UFO, his friend hit a being over the head with his shotgun. "The gun seemed to have struck rock or something harder, as it broke in two," Lorenzo Flores reported.