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UFOs, Aliens, and "Ex"-intelligence Agents: Who's Fooling Whom? The Inside Story of John Lear, Bill Cooper, and "The Greatest Cover-Up in Human History"

an affidavit by Lars C. Hansson

July 18, 1991

Part One: Lear and Loathing in Las Vegas

(with apologies to Dr. Hunter S. Thompson)

Although I knew it would somehow be inevitable, I have been very reluctant to commit what follows to hard copy for a number of reasons. Throughout years of uncovering all manner of lies, treachery, deceit and betrayal by criminal elements within the government of our Country and its client regimes around the World, I have subscribed to an unspoken code of "honor among thieves". That is, to respect and protect the identity of sources who have finally chosen to "come clean", often at great peril to themselves or their families. What has been held reluctantly in confidence emerges now only after the repeated blatant and sniggering violation of that code by **John Lear** himself.

Despite Lear's cultivated image as a swashbuckling pilot and serious UFO researcher, he is -- in my opinion and others', -- an irresponsible, self-centered, loutish thrill-seeker who truly has no business in the latter field and questionable competence in the former, given his record of hard-drinking and womanizing (at least during the time I associated with him from 1988-1990). Lest I be accused of self-righteousness in this regard, I have never pretended to sanctity, but have certainly interacted with Lear and the others mentioned herein with utmost integrity while he has not hesitated to portray me publicly in a much different light. Because of the magnitude of the issues he has succeeded in forcing before the World's attention, I believe that it is long past the time when the public should know more of the truth about Lear which he has so desperately been attempting to conceal. I sincerely regret that I waited this long to bring it to their attention myself.

For someone who has made such an effort to "wake up the masses" to the looming peril of takeover by "*grey aliens* from Zeta Reticuli," which he has claimed are ensconced in underground havens in the Nevada desert, the man has accomplished an even more masterful cover-up of the looming peril of **martial law** under the fascist masters that he has willingly served for over 2 decades.

The only reason I have reluctantly chosen not to publicize Lear's involvement in the activities I am about to disclose until now was that I had little doubt that his family would almost certainly suffer severe negative repercussions -- particularly considering some of the principals involved.

As much as I detest melodrama, the revelations contained herein constitute a very real threat to the reputations and the very lives of a number of innocent people as well as the participants. I realize also that exposure of some of the more sordid aspects will likely bring embarrassment and discomfort to others ensnared in the situation. I regret this probable turn of events tremendously. But after considerable soul-searching, I have concluded that the larger issues compel me to make these disclosures. I am truly sorry, but their boy has had numerous opportunities to rectify the errors and has deliberately chosen instead to magnify them. *C'est la guerre.*

I am not making these disclosures out of fear, or in a limp-wristed attempt to embarrass or "get back" at John Lear. I could have chosen any number of other less-public ways to do that long before now if that had been my desire. Rather, I believe that it is crucial that the American people be informed of these details in order to fully appreciate the magnitude of the sell-out of this once-great nation which has taken place at the hands of the **weapons merchants** and their willing operatives and transportation agents such as Lear. While a few concerned citizens are still asking "Where was George?" on October 19 and 20, 1980 when a shameful deal was being made in Paris with the Iranians to keep the American hostages until the precise moment Ronald Reagan was inaugurated, I am compelled by conscience to inform them more fully on those who handled the actual payoff. This payoff has been estimated by those in the know to ultimately total upwards of \$82 billion in illegal weapons transfers over a period of nearly a decade.

On a more personal level, I am also intent on making it clear to all concerned that I am aware of the threats Lear has been making (including his obsession with having me killed, according to one mutual acquaintance.

Since I made his threats public, he has claimed that I am a "Walter Mitty" who would like to flatter myself that someone cared enough to feel threatened by my disclosures.

I believe, however, that Lear's fear has been genuine for some time that I will expose his complete fraudulence on the UFO issue and his participation in such treasonous and criminal flight operations over a number of years.

In this regard, it is almost a given that Lear might already have quietly made calls to his cronies in the "trade" to whine and snivel about the numerous secrets he bragged about to me. Have no doubt whatsoever that any of these people would kill unhesitatingly to continue covering up many of the things Lear bantered about openly to me, though he was fully aware of my professional and political orientation from the very outset of our contact with each other.

After failing to receive so much as an acknowledgment from various media and law enforcement contacts to whom I made some of this information available over the last 3 years, I have been heartened recently to see the harsh light of scrutiny finally beginning to fall on such depredations by the few honest people in power, and the rats beginning to squirm. I have no illusions about the possible repercussions. As my fellow investigator John Judge has said many times, *"You can either face this shit standing up or on your knees."* And as Barbara Honegger and others have documented, George Bush's "kinder, gentler nation" has already entailed a large and growing number of mysterious fatalities.

Despite the sincerity of my investigative efforts throughout this period, my role and motivation have been repeatedly distorted by those with an "axe to grind" or mayhem to conceal. I have found inspiration to continue from the old pilot's adage *"When you're receiving flak, it means you're probably over the target!"* which my friend and mentor Lt. Col. James Bo Gritz is fond of using to exhort his audiences to valor in the face of increasing corruption and persecution by those in power at present.

Even John Hancock had more fearless compatriots beside him than some of the wimps, wannabees, liars, and backstabbers who I have mistakenly chosen to associate with in the past, all of whom (like Lear and Cooper) claim allegiance to the truth and preserving our cherished constitutional freedoms -- before they "duck and cover."

Nor do I have any illusions as to my "reward" for bearing such a message. But given the inherent risks in working on all my investigations -- especially as I have with Gritz in publicizing high-level U.S. Government involvement in drug trafficking, political destabilizations, and assassinations -- such a consideration has obviously been secondary.

Although I have been following the UFO phenomenon for 25 years (and fairly intensely for the last 3 years), I do not pretend to be any kind of expert on the subject. My focus in this article will be primarily on more mundane issues related to personal credibility and provable criminal and/or treasonous actions on the part of the individuals named above. Those who are hoping to learn here whether-or-not Bill Cooper and John Lear and others are telling the truth about whether there really are UFOs and/or *aliens* at Area S4 of the Nevada Test Site (as they and others have alleged) or whether MJ-12 really exists or is another elaborate fabrication of the intelligence agencies will have to look elsewhere.

I do not know for a fact that either or both of them are working in any capacity for any intelligence agency. But whether they are or not, they certainly deserve distinguished disinformation service medals. Whatever insights I may have acquired on the subject of UFOs over the last 3 years, it is not my purpose to discuss them in any great detail here. I have little doubt, however, that exposure of Lear's involvement in the operations that I am about to describe will ultimately surface direct connections all the way into the highest levels of the U.S. Intelligence Community and beyond.

And I have little doubt, as well, that whatever the truth is about the reality of advanced-propulsion aircraft, the intelligence agencies are massively involved in spewing disinformation to confuse the issue as much as possible. John Judge has referred to UFOs as "**Unrecognized Fascist Observatories**". And if I had to place a bet, I'd say he's far closer to the mark than Lear or Cooper. In retrospect as you will clearly see in what follows, I believe it is no coincidence at all that Lear emerged from the shadows to start beating the UFO drum in early 1987 just in time to distract public attention from the Iran/Contra scandal which was beginning to unravel and from Lt. Col. Bo Gritz's revelations about the complicity of high-level U.S. officials in the heroin trade -- the same officials who were responsible for the return of our POWs and MIAs from Southeast Asia.

It is also well worth noting that Robert Gates (the former Deputy Director of the CIA whom Bush is again pushing for directorship after he was forced to withdraw in 1987 because of his unsavory connections with Casey and the diversion of Iranian funds to the contras) is the scion of Gates/Firestone, the company which bought out John's father's company Lear-Siegler at that time one of the largest defense contractors in the World. Washington insiders, however, have claimed Gates' nomination is serving merely as a stalking dog for the eventual appointment of **Brent Scowcroft**.

When former CIA director Bill Colby (who openly admitted the extermination of over 40,000 non-combatant Vietnamese by the CIA's Phoenix Program) thanks Lear in a copy of his book Lost Victory "for all your contributions," one must ask just exactly what those "contributions" were, when they began, and if they have ended. Lear admitted to me on audiotape in the summer of 1990 that his own fellow pilots at Continental Air Services in Laos admitted flying opium

And that it was common knowledge that Air America pilots carried it routinely, but insisted he was not aware of the activity at the time he was there. Leslie Cockburn's outstanding PBS FRONTLINE TV

special "*Guns, Drugs, and the CIA*" provided extensive testimony from a variety of participants in CIA covert operations concerning the opium flights which essentially paid for the "secret war" in Laos, and the parallel program of cocaine flights which were set up in the western hemisphere to fund the contra war in Nicaragua and other covert operations in Central America.

The excerpt from the **Cutolo Affidavit** included in the *Appendix* gives an excellent insight into the extent of the backing for such operations. Furthermore, I have myself heard direct testimony from veterans of the "secret war" in Laos who described their disgust and revulsion at being assigned to provide security for Air America planes while the "sticky bricks" [opium] were being loaded onboard. And how U.S. Marine squads on patrol in the jungle on a number of occasions -- without a word passing between them -- would open up with all their firepower on the arrogant Porter jockeys flying the loads over the treetops. Lear himself acknowledges in an article written about him that "Everyone got shot down over there eventually." He experienced such a shutdown when "Somebody hosed down the aircraft with gunfire" and he was forced to land. I wasn't aware of the frequency of aircraft casualties due to "friendly fire" in Laos during the time I was communicating with Lear. I can only wonder if he would admit it if he was aware of the actual source of hostile fire in Laos himself.

When I began this report, I had the singular intention of discussing only the primary issues between John Lear and me, and had no intention to "write a book". I want to emphasize that any such literary endeavor on my part would be far more readable, fast-paced, and genuinely intriguing. In the course of setting forth these issues, however, many additional developments have taken place which have compelled me to present the chronology in far more detail than originally planned. Since I fully anticipate that legal action may arise as a result of my statements herein, it is presented as an **affidavit** -- a declaration of facts, all of which pertaining directly to Lear and me I solemnly swear to be accurate to the very best of my knowledge. I offer no apology for what it lacks in entertainment value.

My overriding intention here is to leave no room for doubt or distortion as to any aspect of my dealings with Lear personally -- from the beginning to the end of our association -- or the larger ramifications of those issues in dispute between us. This recounting is, therefore, admittedly more personal than my usual work. I have not attempted to make it any more "literary" or less "subjective" precisely for the above reasons. I hope also that it may provide a graphic illustration for each of you as to how you may be "sucked into" such difficulties despite your entry into such an inquiry with the very best of personal and/or professional intentions. If this statement accomplishes at least that much, it will have been worth the effort. If it helps to bring some of these men to account for a number of extremely questionable -- if not criminally treasonous -- actions performed under the guise of "covert policy", so much the better.

I want to emphasize also at the outset that in the case of both John Lear and Bill Cooper, I alone have attempted to initiate dialogue and have provided numerous and sincere opportunities to resolve the issues between us -- in a setting of their choice -- only to be met with more lies, threats, and insinuations in each case. Cooper in particular has had no qualms about calling friends of mine to threaten their lives over the phone in the middle of the night. They will verify that this took place. You can actually obtain an audiotape of 10 such calls he made to 2 individuals who were attempting to help promote him. I've included the ad in this report. According to mutual acquaintances, Lear has forged threatening notes and my signature on my letter to him; placed several messages on his answering machine offering my phone messages to him for sale; and most recently has discussed his obsession with luring me back to Las Vegas to kill me.

The Truth Betrayed

Cooper, meanwhile, has devoted nearly 4 pages of his recently released book to one lie after another about me concerning a rough, preliminary videotape that I made 3 years ago concerning an aspect of the Kennedy assassination which he obtained from John Lear without my permission. He also claims that Lear fingered me as a CIA agent, and himself links me with best-selling authors Robert Groden and David Lifton as "**agents of the Secret Government.**" Nothing -- and I mean **nothing** -- could be further from the truth. Anyone who makes even the most feeble effort to check my personal record will quickly learn that exactly the opposite is true. I do not know Groden or Lifton well enough to vouch similarly for them. But I'd bet the odds in their favor are 1,000-to-1 against Cooper's.

As I have stated publicly many times -- in person, in print, in TV and radio broadcasts -- contrary to Cooper's lies, I did not make the tape for either Col. Gritz or John Lear. I did not know and had never met either one of them until a few months after it was made. Shortly after meeting him in late May 1988, I directed Lear to the studio where he could obtain a copy of the videotape I had assembled entitled "The Truth Betrayed: Dallas Revisited", after making it clear to him that it was not for distribution but was rushed into production from a poor-quality 4th or 5th-generation film copy. The resulting 7th-generation video was intended to serve only as a preliminary research tool to spur potential investors to underwrite a thorough professional investigation into the theory that the driver of the presidential limousine (William Greer) actually turned around and fired the fatal shot at JFK with a handgun.

As startling as this allegation might seem on first hearing, the 2 separate JFK researchers who first brought it to my attention (Perry Adams and David Evans) had each spent over 15 years in attempts to prove the charge. Adams and his research associate Fred Newcomb had actually written a 500-page manuscript entitled "Murder From Within", documenting the theory in exhaustive detail. Evans had combed the entire 26-volumes of the Warren Commission and countless other sources to locate any potential references or supporting evidence -- particularly photographic -- to prove Greer's culpability. Although I no longer agree with them, I have nothing but respect for their selfless, dedicated, and painstakingly thorough efforts to verify this crucial detail. Bill Cooper, on the other hand, is a Johnny-come-lately to the debate with the investigation skills of a P.T. Barnum and the scruples of a Vidkun Quisling.

I had hoped initially that Lear might be able to help finance the investigation that I was quietly pursuing into the theory, aimed at acquiring the best copy of the film available and thoroughly analyzing the footage with state-of-the-art digital spectrographic equipment to verify if the reflection in question could possibly have been a weapon or was (as all other researchers were convinced) merely the reflection off the top of Secret Service Agent Roy Kellerman's head. There were several other aspects to the investigation as well, including (but not limited to) locating and interviewing key witnesses who had made statements indicating Greer had a weapon in his hand and that they had heard gunfire and smelled gunpowder in the Presidential limousine; determining the exact source of the bullet hole in the limousine windshield witnessed by many at Parkland Hospital; and determining the exact source of the bullet slug photographed in the grass on the opposite side of Elm St. from the grassy knoll.

Securing the necessary financial backing to pursue the investigation had been the primary purpose of assembling the video along with preserving the 2 copies of the Zapruder film Evans had acquired. It was never intended at any time to be considered a final statement on the issue, much less to be shown publicly and/or distributed as such.

Whatever thought I might have had about Lear's largesse quickly evaporated when I learned he had been cut out of his father's will (his father being Bill Lear, inventor of the Lear Jet and the 8-track stereo, the "Stormy Genius" who would perhaps have rivaled Howard Hughes himself but for his own peculiar distractions). The reasons why Bill made and lost several fortunes, wives and girlfriends, and was later moved to cut John out of his will are the stuff of legend already, though I have my own suspicions. The bottom line was that contrary to public opinion, John Lear was living from paycheck-to-paycheck at the time I met him in mid-1988. He was merely tooting the UFO horn for intellectual stimulation and to supplement his income slightly -- or so he claimed. After being shown the audiotapes of hundreds of hours of long-distance calls he had made and the phenomenal amount of UFO-related literature he mailed out at his own expense across the country and the World, I began quickly to have serious doubts about where the money came from to pay for it all. But then so did everyone else who knew John Lear -- particularly given his own admission that he had flown for the CIA in Laos and Cambodia.

Without my knowledge, however, and completely contrary to our agreement that it would be kept private, Lear showed the tape numerous times publicly and gave a copy to Cooper, Nippon TV, and God-knows-who else. I later learned from him and Don Ecker (a writer for *UFO Magazine* who attended the meeting) that when he had showed it (without permission, of course) to a meeting of former intelligence officers in Las Vegas in November 1988, four of them raised their hands when he asked if any of them would have killed John Kennedy if they had been so ordered!

As I can readily prove, I made it clear to both Lear and Gritz in November 1988 that I was pretty well convinced at that point that the theory was not valid, and even made arrangements for Lear to obtain a much clearer copy of the video in order for him to see why. Agent Greer obviously failed to immediately accelerate the limousine out of the line of fire (in fact, **he stepped on the brakes!**) and turned completely around twice to look at the President including at the moment of the fatal head shot. He and Agent Kellerman never left the President's body for 36 hours afterwards. For all of these reasons and others, I have absolutely no doubt that he was an active participant in the assassination plot. But **I simply do not believe that William Greer fired anything at John Kennedy.** Nor do any of the other serious and genuine Kennedy researchers I have consulted with at length on this issue (not one of whom is an agent of any government -- shadow or otherwise).

Along with Evans, Adams, Newcomb, and others, I would have been extremely gratified to be able to prove otherwise, for it would have served as a powerful lever in forcing a re-examination of the **proven facts** of a wider conspiracy involving very high-level USG officials and elements drawn from a number of other groups including the Mafia, Texas oilmen, anti-Castro Cubans, and "ex"-Nazis within the U.S. defense industries and intelligence community. Nevertheless, after a careful examination of a much better quality copy of the film and other evidence, I am in agreement with virtually all researchers into the Kennedy assassination that the reflection which appears to be a gun in his hands is, in fact, merely the reflection off the top of Secret Service Agent Roy Kellerman's head. I have not been frightened or threatened or bribed by anyone into reaching such a conclusion -- merely compelled by the facts.

I informed Lear of this conclusion at the time (and spent the next two years proving it to him), unaware that Cooper had already obtained the tape from Lear in October 1988 and had been showing it publicly for several months before I discovered the fact. As a matter-of-fact, it was not until **10 months later** in August 1989 that I called him for the first time and shortly thereafter met with him and his wife at their home in Fullerton, California. At that time, we discussed his alleged experiences in relation to the UFO phenomenon. I watched a videotape of his presentation at the Las Vegas MUFON convention the previous month and questioned him about his statements. **At no time prior to or during this meeting did we discuss the Kennedy assassination, nor did he inform me that he had the JFK**

video. I did not provide him a copy or tell him where he could acquire one. Nor did he ask for nor did I give him permission to show it or sell it.

Had I known that he was already doing all of this at that time, I would have ordered him to cease-and-desist since I had made it clear to all my contacts -- especially Lear -- that I had given up on the theory nearly a year before. Several people will testify to this fact without hesitation as will a number of Cooper's supporters who told me a couple of months after my visit to his home that Cooper had a copy of the tape and was showing it publicly.

At that time in late October 1989, I confronted him over the phone about his dishonesty regarding his use and sale of the videotape, and have since done so publicly in print, on television, and on the radio. When he chickened out of appearing on the TV program "INSIDE REPORT" which was taped in April and aired in May 1990, after learning that I would also be appearing to counter him, the producers deliberately left out half of my statement. I had made it clear on their videotape that at the time I threw the rough video together, I believed that there was sufficient supporting evidence to warrant a complete investigation. However, after seeing a much clearer version of the Zapruder film, discussing the issue with a number of other respected researchers, and combing through the evidence at hand more closely, I had decided by November 1988 that the theory was no longer tenable, though I had not formally proved or disproved it either way. The net effect of the deception practiced by the show's producer Rich Docherty and his wife Janet Rose was to make me appear to be actively supporting the driver theory, when in fact **they had no doubt whatsoever that the only reason I had agreed to go on the program was to repudiate it.**

Cooper -- coward, plagiarist and liar that he is -- was the only one out of 6 investigators (using the term very loosely in his case) on both sides of the "driver theory" to back out of the program at the very last minute. Unbeknownst to him to this day (even though I no longer agreed with the original proponents of the theory Adams, Newcomb, and Evans), I nevertheless made arrangements for them to be included in the program -- specifically to demonstrate that it was not a frivolous pursuit on all of our parts. But that they, in fact, had spent 15 years each attempting to prove the theory with exhaustive research -- in direct contrast to Cooper.

After failing to produce the JFK videotape that he fraudulently claims I gave him when I challenged him to produce it at a radio program we did together in LA, Cooper has now resorted to having John Lear finger me as a CIA agent in his book while he includes me with Lifton and "Grodin" [sic] as *"agents of the secret government."*

Whether-or-not Lear actually characterized me as such, I don't know. But given Lear's macabre sense-of-humor, it's entirely possible. He routinely sent me letters on CIA stationery to SA (Special Agent) Lars Hansson as a sick joke, obviously produced on his typewriter. Such an asinine allegation by anyone (especially Lear), however, would be laughable if it weren't so utterly false and ridiculous, given my decade-long public effort to expose the Agency's depredations worldwide while he publicly admits to having flown "missions" (i.e., weapons) for them for over 20 years.

Even former director of the CIA Bill Colby who thanked John in his autographed copy of *Lost Victory* "for your contributions," may well have been referring to Lear's probable role in the transport of tons of opium out of Laos into Da Nang, South Vietnam. This was one of the major means by which the Thieu regime kept itself afloat through distribution deals with Mafia kingpin Santo Trafficante and CIA station chief Theodore Shackley to flood the U.S. with China **white heroin** in order to pay for the "secret war" in Laos and Cambodia. Or perhaps Colby was merely referring to Lear's role in the transport of unknown tonnages of weapons throughout the World for the Agency ever since. I've spent enough time in Las Vegas and around "spookery" to know that either guess is a very safe bet.

It must be remembered that Colby was the director and implementor of the *Phoenix Program* which served primarily to liquidate popular opposition to the corrupt Thieu regime in South Vietnam, as our military efforts were failing and Henry Kissinger was jockeying for advantage at the negotiating table in Paris. As Douglas Valentine describes in his outstanding expose "The Phoenix Program", despite Colby's protestations to the contrary to Congress and media critics, his own field managers -- such as Charlie Yothers, chief of operations in I-Corps in 1970 -- characterized the Phung Hoang program in this way: "Sure we got involved in assassinations. That's what the PRU [Provincial Reconnaissance Units] were set up for -- **assassination**. I'm sure the word never appeared in any outlines or policy directives. But what else do you call a targeted kill?"

Valentine cites the article "The CIA's Hired Killers" in which Georgie Anne Geyer called the PRU "the best killers in Vietnam." Comparing them to terrorists, she qualified that "our terror" was different from "their terror" in that there was no real political organization -- no political ideology -- behind our terror. Their boys did it for faith; our boys did it for money."

There is also little question about the lethal ramifications of the work I have chosen to pursue. But it is disgusting to think that some demented demagogue like Bill Cooper may actually succeed in inciting some fanatic with his inflammatory lies into eliminating me as an "*agent of the secret government*" when I have risked my life and liberty continuously for over a decade trying to expose it. Aand entirely at my own expense, I might add.

In Lear's case, he knows far better and lacks the cojones -- much less integrity -- to say such a thing publicly, much less to address the other issues I have brought forth. Lear prefers to slink around on the phone -- more at home in the shadow land of gossip and innuendo. There need be no mistaking my position now or my background which led to it other than my brief service in U.S. Customs at the Canadian Border in 1976 and 1978 and with a Sheriff's Office in Idaho before that. I have received no monies since from any government agency whatsoever, nor from any proprietary front. Rather, I have helped to expose a number of them ...and will continue to do so.

Recently I was told by a mutual friend -- [Bob Lazar](#) of Las Vegas -- that John Lear is now apparently obsessed with seeing me killed, and is openly discussing means by which he could lure me to his home to provoke an incident. According to Lazar with whom I spoke in mid-June 1991, "***Lear is actually carving your name on his bullets.*** What did you do to make him so obsessed?" As much as he might wish he hadn't told me that at this point, I seriously doubt Lazar could deny it. We'll see.

As ridiculous as this may sound, after finding out about his infidelity at their home during his absence in 1988, Lear's wife demanded that I tell her where "the other woman" lived and worked so that she could "shoot her feet off" with the .45 automatic that she normally carries with her. I refused to tell her anything -- particularly something which might have resulted in her going to prison -- and stated that fact very plainly to her at the time.

I would frankly find any threat from Lear laughable were it not for the fact that he has made his living for many years flying armament all over the Globe. He has owned an automatic weapons business in Las Vegas. And he currently possesses a number of them -- Mac 10s, Uzis, and a classic Thompson .45 -- several of which are equipped with silencers. His style, though, is to furnish them to others. After observing first-hand some other spectacular lapses in judgment by him in the past, I certainly would put it past him to carry out such a threat himself. But he is not at all above arranging to have it done. Given the far-reaching scope of these disclosures, the phenomenal amount of money involved, the number of covert players in the game, and the extent of the cover-up, he has little need to lure me to Las Vegas to get the job done. All it would take is a phone call.

Nevertheless, the issues involved here are far too serious at this point to allow such potential threats to deter me any further from making these disclosures. After losing half my immediate family in the last decade and literally dozens of my friends to "disappearances" or other peculiar deaths (many at the hands of the kind of people Cooper and Lear either have trained or equipped), I am well aware of exactly what "damage control" consists of. But to remain silent is to give one's approval to the madness.

Following my disclosure of a number of details regarding his involvement in these activities on Radio Free America on June 13, quite predictably Lear has now resorted to leaving a message on his answering service offering an audiotape of my (supposedly) "coke-laced extortion" messages to him along with a "certified copy of Lars Hansson's conviction for prostitution in Seattle." Lear has claimed to radio host Tom Valentine that I was merely a "handyman" who worked for him. And that after finding out about my "conviction", he "had to throw me out" when I supposedly began "coming on" to his 14-year-old daughter.

First, I do not use cocaine and rarely drink alcohol. I have never at any time attempted to extort money out of anyone. The allegation regarding his daughter is an **absolute, bald-faced lie**. I seriously doubt he could force her even to repeat it, despite her parentage. It is precisely the type of sleazy, sophomoric response I have come to expect from the man, and anticipated it as a given when I notified him of my intentions to go public with this information. Predictably, like most good Republicans when he cannot -- or rather **dare not** -- respond to the facts supporting the real issue(s) at hand, he automatically resorts to personal smear tactics. Until this action on his part, I had chosen to leave his sordid personal activities out of this discussion. But I feel no such constraint at this point.

For the record, it is true that I was arrested for "soliciting a prostitute" in 1982 in Seattle in a police "sting" operation. I have told the story many times to friends with gusto. If I had been guilty, I would not shrink from the fact since I have had a number of fairly wild girlfriends throughout the World in my travels until AIDS reared its ugly head. Some of our escapades would make "purchased sex" tame by comparison. For a huge percentage of international travelers and businessmen, journalists, and covert operators, it is not at all uncommon to purchase the services of a female escort to "maintain appearances" when necessary.

Lear is certainly intimately familiar with the practice, let me assure you! I do not claim to have been a "choirboy" myself. Nor do I claim to have been a gunrunner -- much as I might have liked to help out the other side in many of the one-sided shooting matches I have witnessed in the Third World. But I have been blessed with an appealing countenance and have never yet had to pay directly for the "services" of a female. I have certainly paid indirectly with materialistic wives and girlfriends, no question of that.

The simple truth that Lear is leaving out -- in the same way that he leaves out his actual years-long involvement in gunrunning from the UFO discussion -- is that I had simply stopped to ask for directions from the spectacularly good-looking female (decoy) policewoman. I was pulling away from the curb to leave when her undercover partners grabbed the wheel and forced me out of the car. Since I was driving my employer's Lincoln Continental, I at first thought I was being rolled. As I pointed out to them and the property records at the police department showed, I had exactly **\$8 to my name** in my wallet at the time (I had just returned from El Salvador) and could not have bought even a kiss for that price. Nor was I interested in doing so.

I actually went to court to protest my innocence (I was the only arrestee who did) but made the serious mistake of expecting the legal aid attorney, who was "not available" to meet me until 5 minutes before the "trial" to tell my side of the story. She refused to present any defense at all, especially when

the female officer -- who admitted to me later that she was pressured into it by her superiors -- repeatedly perjured herself. Had I had the financial resources to carry the case further, I would not have hesitated to prove the entrapment **and** malpractice. But under the circumstances, I reluctantly decided to pay the reduced fine of \$25 and simply add the experience to the "lessons learned" file.

The irony here is that Lear would try to trump up such an asinine issue when he, his entire family, and numerous witnesses know very well that the reason I left his home (where I had been invited as a guest and was helping him out as a friend with repairs for which I had to wait 3 weeks to be paid -- and then only half what I was owed!) was that he had the audacity to indulge in a drunken "afternoon delight" with a local news reporter in his guesthouse and was discovered "en flagrante delicto" by his daughter and me, while 2 other guests waited for him in his study. After the "interruption", he drove off to spend the night with his regular mistress, then left me alone with his daughter until his wife returned from New York with the younger daughter 2 days later.

Before leaving for Germany the next morning, he begged me not to tell his wife and to persuade his daughter not to tell either. He called me repeatedly from Europe to find out what progress I had made in the latter regard. The only thing untoward which occurred during the interim was that the daughter repeatedly drove their car all over town without a license and without my permission until her mother returned. Try as hard as he might, I seriously doubt Lear can get anyone in his family to state otherwise convincingly. Unless, that is, they have been thoroughly bribed to do so. They would never pass a polygraph on the issue. And there are several others who know only too well what really happened.

I believe the main reason Lear has developed such an intense antagonism against me is because he is well aware that I am aware of (if not a witness to) at least 3 such episodes of adulterous behavior on his part, which continued for nearly a year in one case and probably cost him his job with American Trans Air. He claimed at the time that his firing was directly due to his activities related to UFOs, for which he has become quite well known internationally in the last 4 years. I suspect -- as with much of his purported UFO revelations -- that it has merely been the cover story for murkier realities.

The October Surprise Weapons Flights

Far more damaging than adultery, however, was his foolish boasting about his role in questionable weapons flights for the Reagan Administration from Tel Aviv, Israel to Teheran, Iran in early 1981. This occurred during our first meeting at his home a few days after my attendance at his lecture on UFOs on May 26, 1988 in Las Vegas, which he introduced by describing his experience as a pilot for the CIA during the "secret war" in Laos and elsewhere. As a freelance writer and independent investigator with a limited background in law enforcement, I was quite interested in questioning him further about both areas. And when I called him to ask about meeting in person to discuss these matters, he was very receptive and invited me to come by the next day.

One cannot help but be immediately impressed by Lear's beautiful 2-story *hacienda* situated at the northeast edge of Las Vegas and almost adjacent to Nellis Air Force Base. The view from his front yard of the entire valley just before sunset is truly spectacular. Likewise, the visitor to the Lear household is almost equally overwhelmed -- upon entering through the medieval-style arched door into a lighted hallway -- to emerge in Lear's expansive inner sanctum which he has appropriately dubbed "the Shrine." Dark emerald-green carpeting sets the tone for a room whose walls are filled from floor-to-ceiling with photographic records of what must have been a singularly phenomenal career as an aeronautical soldier-of-fortune throughout the World.

Among the hundreds of such mementos are pictures of Lear flying under the Golden Gate Bridge; Lear standing with G. Gordon Liddy (who inscribed the photo "To John, I told 'em fuckin' nothin'!"); Lear with his father, his brother, Lear Co. test pilots, his flight crew in Egypt and Teheran, Iran; the CIA's secret base at Long Tien, Laos (a wide-angle panorama); and, of course, Learjets, Constellations, and the SR-71 Blackbird. To complete the overall effect, the Shrine includes a large fireplace, his electric piano (which he plays masterfully), an impressive audio system, an extensive library of aeronautical, espionage/intelligence, UFO-related books, and ammo boxes and belts which are seemingly carelessly strewn in the corner while his match-grade stainless-steel .45 automatic hangs in a holster from the audio rack behind his desk. All-in-all, it is truly an impressive -- albeit carefully contrived -- atmosphere that confronts even the most jaded visitor.

Once we had moved through the obligatory anecdotes behind the wall graphics, I was discussing the "October Surprise" weapons deals and the sleazebags who took part in that despicable scenario in late 1980 when "out of the blue", Lear began to brag to me about his participation as a pilot in the illegal weapons flights to Iran in early 1981 sanctioned by the Reagan/Bush Administration. These were conducted as part of the payoff for the Iranians' role in the Reagan/Bush Campaign team's secret deals with the Ayatollah Khomeini regime to delay the release of the 52 American hostages until after the 1980 elections in order to prevent Jimmy Carter from being re-elected. Very much to my surprise since I knew that several of the "team players" in the operations had either died "mysteriously" or were currently under indictment for their role in those operations, he openly boasted about his participation in the flights.

Despite my obvious disgust with this revelation, Lear crowed that "**Everybody knocks the Agency for not being able to keep any secrets. We kept that one secret for 7 years!**" He made a point of showing me numerous news clippings about them that he had collected from the Middle Eastern press. Then he made a rather grand display of showing me his beautiful oak map cabinet and taking out his navigation map of that area. The route flown by his flight crews from Tel Aviv over Turkey to Iran was clearly and distinctly marked on it. He explained that Turkey had insisted that in return for allowing the planes to overfly Turkish airspace, every other load of weapons had to be left there [other informed sources have since provided me the names of the other members of his crew and the name of the secret base -- Tintin -- in Turkey where the weapons were dropped]. He then pointed proudly to a picture of him and his cronies taken in Teheran in 1981 which was hanging on the wall.

I was frankly quite amazed that he would be so open to a virtual stranger about such operations for which numerous participants were still under Federal indictment and/or the subject of continuing criminal investigations. Also, by 1988 a number of key participants in the affair had already succumbed to *mysterious fatal ailments* or other life-ending circumstances. When I admonished him that this was actually part of one of the biggest cover-ups of international criminality in American history and that he was obligated to come forth publicly on this issue, he sloughed it off as having been sanctioned by the Reagan Administration and insisted it was of minor importance in comparison to the growing threat of "occupation of the planet by *extraterrestrials*."

I couldn't believe my ears, despite the numerous reports I had already seen concerning thousands of UFO sightings and "encounters" with *aliens*. I suspected strongly that given his acknowledged ties to the intelligence community, he had been "persuaded" to **promote the UFO issue to distract public attention from being focused on the many crimes of Iran/Contra scandal's perpetrators**. Despite my apprehension, I decided to maintain the contact with him in order to persuade him to disclose the participants in the flights publicly. I did manage to have him discuss it with Barbara Honegger nearly a year later, as you shall see.

As I compose this, the October Surprise issue is currently in the forefront of the news after nearly a decade of deliberate suppression by the Reagan and Bush Administrations and the national media thanks to the continuing investigation mounted by Gary Sick, former National Security Adviser to President Jimmy Carter during that time period. Though I have not seen the "NIGHTLINE" program, I have heard that it has now been admitted by spokesmen for the current Administration that perhaps the "conveniently" dead Bill Casey "might have actually had a hand" in the October Surprise deals with the Khomeini regime in October 1981. Despite Bush's continuing limp denials, the evidence is mounting not only of such a deal but of his direct participation in it -- including a personal appearance in Paris on October 20, 1980 to handle the initial payoff of \$40 million -- and of the continued shipment of up to \$82 billion worth of military hardware to both Iran and Iraq by the United States throughout their war, all of which were not only criminal activities but treasonous as well.

Reports of Bush's presence in Paris and participation in those meetings by French intelligence have been almost completely suppressed in this country. And rumors are currently abounding that the Israeli Mossad -- furious about the beating Israel was forced to endure during the Iraq War fiasco -- are threatening to release photographs they have of Bush in Paris at that time. According to an article in the Napa, California Sentinel, Michael Ricconosuito -- a contract CIA operative who provided testimony to the House Judiciary Committee investigating the Pentagon's role in stealing a \$6 million software program (the INSLAW case) -- has recently claimed publicly that he arranged the transfer of the \$40 million from secret Republican Committee accounts in Mexico. He was arrested within a week after filing an affidavit in which he warned of such a fate if he testified, and was whisked away to a Midwestern federal prison for "psychiatric evaluation."

Although I have read and heard literally hundreds of reports concerning contact with *aliens* (including those from military sources), I am by no means convinced of their veracity. I decided long ago to leave it to the self-anointed experts to rule on that subject. However, my direct research concerning the weapons flights to Iran and subsequent flight operations in support of the contra war and the Marcos family have yielded virtually indisputable evidence (which continues to accumulate on a daily basis). As the attached brief article from a recent issue of TIME Magazine indicates, it is becoming almost a matter of certainty that Israel not only acted as middleman in those early weapons flights but also as our surrogate in the Middle East for over 2 decades.

October Surprise, Barbara Honegger's watershed expose; Witness by Mansur Rhafizadeh, former head of the Iranian SAVAK in the U.S.; the new book by former Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr; and the October 1988 Playboy Magazine article "An Election Held Hostage" by Abbie Hoffman and Jonathan Silvers (which probably cost Hoffman his life) all recount in tremendous detail the sequence of treasonous events which led to the delay of the hostages' release and the flow of ultimately billions of dollars worth of U.S. weapons to Iran. According to Hoffman and Silvers:

"As early as February 1981, Secretary-of-State Alexander Haig was briefed on Israeli arms sales to Iran. In November, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon asked Haig to approve the sale of F-14 parts to Teheran. While the proposal was in direct opposition to publicized Administration objectives, Sharon pitched it as a way of gaining favor with Iranian "moderates." According to *The Washington Post*, Haig was ambivalent but gave his tacit consent with the approval of top Administration officials -- notably Robert McFarlane.

"Israeli ambassador Moshe Arens later told *The Boston Globe* that Iranian arms sales had been discussed and approved at "almost the highest levels" of U.S. Government in Spring 1981."

In fact, Reagan's Senior Interdepartmental Group agreed in July 1981 that the U.S. should tacitly encourage third-party arms sales to Iran as a way of "advancing U.S. interests in the Middle East." The initiative was such a significant reversal of U.S. policy that it's unlikely that Haig would have given his consent without the President's knowledge and approval. Haig refuses to comment.

"In November 1986, the Administration finally allowed that the Israelis had delivered U.S. military supplies to Iran in the early 1980s. The State Department downplayed the sales, claiming that the amount of arms Iran received was trivial -- that only \$10 million or \$15 million worth of non-lethal aid had reached Iran. That figure was hotly disputed. The *New York Times* estimated that before 1983, Iran received \$2.8 billion in supplies from nine countries including the U.S. A West German newspaper placed the figure closer to \$500 million. Bani-Sadr said that his administration alone received \$50 million worth of parts. Houshang Lavi [an Iranian arms dealer, recently deceased] believes Khomeini got at least \$500 million in military supplies.

"Lavi is [was] in a position to know. In 1981, he and Israeli arms dealer Yacobi Nimrodi reportedly sold HAWK missiles and guidance systems to Iran. In April and October 1981, Western Dynamics International (a Long Island company run by Lavi's brother) contracted to sell the Iranian Air Force \$16 million worth of bomb fuses and F-14 parts. Admiral Bobby Ray Inman (William Casey's Deputy Director of Central Intelligence) said that the CIA knew in 1981 that Israel and private arms dealers were making sizable deliveries to Iran. The Reagan White House raised no objections.

"18 months after Reagan took office, Iran had received virtually all the spare parts and weapons that Carter had refused to include in his hostage accord."

As could be expected, when I attempted to encourage John Lear who was so adamant about exposing the UFO cover-up and to concentrate his efforts upon these more provable depredations of which he had personal knowledge (the early 1981 weapons flights to Iran), he found one limp excuse after another for not doing so. His continuing line was that it hardly mattered in comparison to the *alien* threat.

When I asked him why the CIA would waste their time destabilizing countless Third-World countries if we faced such a threat, he claimed, "*It's a smokescreen.*" When I asked him why he would risk being silenced by the various agencies which were purportedly so intent in maintaining the UFO cover-up, he replied that "*My day isn't complete unless I've stirred the shit up somewhere.*" When I then questioned why he was so immune from persecution after all that had supposedly befallen other pioneers in the UFO field, he chalked it up to his mother being the "*third-largest contributor to the Republican Party.*"

In retrospect after 3 years, John Lear has certainly succeeded mightily in the first regard. He almost single-handedly turned UFOlogy inside out and provoked intense debate and confrontation which continues to rage among believers and non-believers alike to this day. Regarding his immunity, I have little doubt the high level of well-deserved respect accorded both his parents in government and military circles has indeed played a part. But I have suspected with increasing justification that his activities may well be directly in line with what certain intelligence agencies have directed or "encouraged" him to do -- through whatever inducement -- despite the much-ballyhooed claims by Lear and his clones to be exposing cover-up.

During the summer of 1988 following several meetings during which we discussed the UFO issue as well as the investigation I was attempting to pursue concerning the "driver theory" about the Kennedy

assassination, Lear asked me to stay at his home and help him compile his various UFO and media video footage into a marketable format and to prepare a series of articles concerning his UFO-related discoveries. Since he had, in fact, acquired a huge amount of fascinating videotaped and written material on the subject, I readily agreed. After helping them pour cement during my second visit at his wife's request, I agreed to complete several carpentry projects for his her as well, since John's flying and research schedule had prevented him from doing so. Until he went "off the tracks" a couple weeks later, his wife was very pleased about this.

After spending at least half of the previous 18 years involved in large-scale commercial and residential construction, the work they requested was a breeze (aside from the 120-degree heat). Prior to beginning, I made it very clear that I would have to charge them \$15 per hour in addition to lodging, since I needed to buy a car to replace my ailing van. They readily agreed, very pleased with the reasonable rate. Over the next 3 weeks, I worked over 100 hours building shutters; trimming out Lear's study; drywalling their upper bathroom; repairing their horse stable gates and window grilles and corral gate; pouring cement; clearing out their garage; building wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling shelving and a workbench; and retiling half their roof. The lowest bid that Mrs. Lear was able to obtain from other contractors for the roof repair was \$35 per hour. I had to carry the tiles from the back of the estate in a wheelbarrow and up a flight of stairs and a ladder to the roof by myself in the 120-degree heat for less than half that price, while they sat by the pool drinking coffee.

I point all of this out only because I had agreed to do the work mainly to help out the Lears as friends, since I could have obtained a fulltime position as a carpenter anywhere in Las Vegas with little difficulty. I was forced to wait the entire 3 weeks to be paid. And then only \$800 -- about half what I was owed. Lear actually had to borrow even that amount of money from his mother. By that point, however, I was happy to take whatever they could scrounge up and get away from them. To add insult to injury, Lear's wife attempted to plead poverty and induce me to accept even less than the \$800 which his mother had sent specifically for me. I refused to do so. She then turned around a few days later and spent several hundred dollars on an air conditioner for the doghouse I had begun building for her before I gave up in disgust.

I Dream Of Jeannie

During the 3-week period I spent as their houseguest, John liked to boast about his "**girlfriend**" -- often making a point of calling her while I was nearby. He took obvious relish in describing to me a number of their various escapades -- particularly in San Francisco and LA -- and her thrill upon being taken into the cockpit during several of his flights. He seemed to be pretty impressed with himself for having engineered her hiring as a flight attendant at his airline which handled many charters for the Company and other defense agencies, including military troop transport. To top it off, she was even based in Las Vegas! I'm no prude, but I saw serious trouble ahead. It was not long in coming.

I almost automatically got in his face about it (once I realized he wasn't kidding) since I had been through my own particular hell along those lines with 2 former wives and a few girlfriends over the years. Though I barely knew the man, I had no hesitation about upbraiding him for being so foolish as to carelessly risk not only losing his family -- which was virtually a certainty -- but also destroying whatever credibility he had managed to attain in the UFO field as a result of his obviously careless philandering. I also emphasized to him how much harm it would bring to the entire field of responsible UFO research to inject a personal scandal into the mix -- particularly considering the built-in notoriety of his family name as well as the potential for the woman in question to blackmail him at some point along the way.

He was drinking quite a bit at the time and merely sloughed it off and mumbled something about having "white-line fever". Whether that was a reference to cocaine or simply to the thrill of high-speed adventure, I don't know. But I must concede that I have never seen or heard of John Lear using any illicit drugs -- at least during the time I have known him.

Since he had broken both legs in an aerobatic accident while in his teens, he was reduced to virtually hobbling around and confessed that he had faked his way through his flight physicals for some time and doubted he could do so much longer. Never appearing to have been very athletic in all the dozens of pictures that festoon the walls of his study from floor-to-ceiling, he was also beginning to sport a noticeable paunch. It was frankly with pity that I pictured him pursuing this woman and risking his marriage, family, spectacular home, and national reputation for the rather pathetic egotistical gratification of maintaining a mistress. I had a strong precognition that my predictions would be coming to pass in short order. I was not wrong.

During this same period, Lear had also expressed interest in helping me to track down and interview the 2 witnesses who had supposedly seen William Greer shoot Kennedy. I hung in at his place hoping that we could at least accomplish that before all hell broke loose. We actually came within a day of doing so, as you will see. As a matter-of-fact, while I was briefly back in Santa Barbara attempting to wrest the leads from Perry Adams (the UCSB librarian/researcher who had first brought the theory to my attention in November 1986), I learned that his partner Fred Newcomb had actually contacted Lear's wife in a similar attempt on their part. As anxious as I was to follow up on those leads as quickly as possible, between Lear's overseas flights and extracurricular escapades and my efforts on Lt. Col. James "Bo" Gritz's congressional campaign, nothing was accomplished along these lines. Fred Newcomb became impossible to reach all of a sudden.

By this time, I had pretty well concluded that the window of opportunity had passed as far as securing the required funding and undertaking the on-site investigation of the driver theory in time to complete a documentary for release by late November, the 25th anniversary of JFK's death. After several discussions with a close friend who has been involved in similar research for many years, I reluctantly decided that after 25 years, a few more months would not necessarily be that long to wait. After becoming more familiar with Gritz's discoveries regarding drugs and POWs, I decided that it was of far greater urgency to insure that the American public was aware of those realities before the November elections. And I had begun to dedicate myself fully to assisting in Gritz's congressional campaign and editing his video "A Nation Betrayed".

Also during this time, in late June 1988, I had made a point of returning to Los Angeles to attend the premiere of the film "Cover-Up" (produced by the Santa Monica-based Empowerment Project) at the Director's Guild Theater. Several months before, I had made a number of small public presentations in an attempt to help them raise additional funding to complete the editing. I felt a strong sense of concern and relief that they had finally completed the tremendously powerful expose of the Iran/Contra whitewash. Given the recent "bombing" of the airplane carrying John Tower -- who had just before openly admitted conducting the Iran/Contra "whitewash" for George Bush -- its importance cannot be overstated.

The premiere coincided with the summary dismissal of the Christie Institute lawsuit in Miami by former Meyer Lansky money-laundry director Judge Lawrence King only 4 days before it was scheduled to be heard. The lawsuit, filed in May 1986, was based on injuries suffered by ABC reporter Tony Avirgan at the bombing of a press conference in La Penca, Nicaragua on May 30, 1984. The perpetrators were intent on "taking out" not only recalcitrant contra leader Eden Pastora but also journalists as well in order to provoke widespread outrage as a justification for a planned invasion by combined Panamanian and U.S. Forces. Avirgan and his wife Martha Honey joined their lawsuit with

the Christic Institute's allegations under the RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act which charged 29 members of the Contra-support network with over 25 years involvement in gun-running, drug trafficking, assassinations, and political destabilizations.

Frustrated and disgusted with this blatant travesty of justice, I decided to take the chance of advising Barbara Honegger -- following the screening -- that I had occasion to talk with an unnamed pilot who claimed to have made some of the early-1981 weapons flights to Iran. As expected, she was profoundly interested in this information and immediately clamored to know more.

I became a bit uneasy about her genuineness, however, when I mentioned that Mae Brussell had received several death threats after her World Watchers International programs began to air on KPFK Radio in LA which she apparently took seriously enough to cancel the programs. Barbara glibly replied that Mae had merely decided she was overextended and made up the story to get out of doing the programs since she needed a break. I had never met or spoken with Mae, but could not believe that she would have risked her already-strained credibility by making up such an outlandish story just to get out of a radio program after the years she had spent painstakingly tying so many crucial political loose ends together in a genuinely conspiratorial web. Despite the fact that she was reviled and disparaged by any number of "mainstream" writers and government officials, her work was profoundly advanced and has served as the basis for a countless number of other researchers' published and now widely accepted conclusions.

Nevertheless, Honegger and I maintained contact intermittently throughout that summer and fall of 1988 as she was working feverishly to prepare her manuscript of October Surprise for printing. She was particularly interested in verifying the exact routes of the flights and the timing and, understandably, leaned very heavily on me to try and obtain such additional information from my source. Since by this time I had come to know Lear as a personal acquaintance, and shortly thereafter would become a guest in his home, and was well aware of the growing number of Iran/Contra figures who had died "mysteriously" (if not fortuitously for their cohorts), I was genuinely concerned as to the degree of risk to Lear's well-being if I identified him to Honegger.

Even though I felt throughout this time -- and brought it up to John repeatedly -- that he himself could be holding the "smoking gun" in the Iran/Contra affair, he was unwilling to go public, continually dismissing it as unimportant in relation to "the threat from outer space." Had he been a mere interviewee to whom I had no particular obligations, I might have gone ahead and disclosed his identity. But I felt that this was someone I had come to know along with his family, and I was loathe to subject them to any serious threats. Nevertheless, when I received Honegger's most recent October Surprise Timeline in late July 1988, I was stunned to see that she had actually quoted me on page 49 regarding my interview with an unnamed pilot concerning the early 1981 weapons flights to Iran.

I was particularly disturbed about her decision to include this reference to me without either asking or advising me beforehand, because my statements to her -- however well-motivated -- were completely unsubstantiated at that point. Lear had already demonstrated on more than one occasion his lack of precision and accuracy on a variety of issues. Although I believed he was telling the truth regarding his role in the 1981 weapons flights, I had obtained no further corroboration at that point. Of more concern to me then, frankly, was that the publication of my name almost certainly placed me on the "watchlist" of those who were in charge of the October Surprise damage-control team(s). I felt very strongly that Honegger should have at least warned me that she intended to include me in her timeline.

The Marcos Gold Mystery

My concern about this issue was further increased as a result of phone calls I received on John's behalf during his absence on flights in Europe. One man named Vern Peoples called repeatedly in increasingly more urgent attempts to reach Lear concerning arrangements he was supposed to make for some "charter flights" out of Amsterdam. Since I was Lear's houseguest at the time, I certainly had no intention of functioning as a spy and did not press the man for additional details. However, after several calls and increasing frustration with Lear's delay in making the arrangements and notifying him, Peoples became more open and informed me that they had a major operation underway to move many tons of "cargo" from the Far East to Europe.

He indicated that he was counting heavily on Lear to secure the aircraft for the mission and told me to tell Lear that "Hank" was becoming irritated at the delay. I did not question Peoples any further since my concern was simply to make sure to relay any such information as quickly as possible to Lear when he would call intermittently from his stopping points around the World. At one such point after relaying the message(s) to John, he asked me quite anxiously to secure several documents and articles from different locations in his study and Federal Express them to UFO researcher Bob Oechsler ASAP and at my own expense.

Although Lear had given me free access to virtually all of the files in his study and his garage, I had been very scrupulous about examining only those he indicated concerned UFOs. At no time did I resort to "snooping" in order to see what he might have "squirreled away" since I considered it a point of honor to respect his privacy while I was entrusted with virtually free run of the "estate". Despite allegations that he may be making to the contrary, I have honored that trust to this day. Not so much out of respect for him as for my own code of ethics. Even so, I could not help but be amused as I was viewing, at his insistence, a number of the videos Lear had acquired concerning UFOs, to come across two in particular -- "code-named" 'Star Virgin' and 'Project Ginger' -- which dealt with subjects of a much more "earthy" nature.

I was not amused, however, in the course of locating the documents he had requested I mail to Oechsler to find a 1-page typed memo he had left lying on his desk beside his typewriter concerning the shipment of **106 tons of gold from Guam to Zurich**. I could not help but read the entire document at a single glance. I was immediately struck by some of the names which included Peoples (the man I had spoken to several times earlier) and a rather notorious arms transporter Henry E. "Hank" Warton (whom I had heard of a number of times in my previous research about covert operations and illegal weapons deals). The *Air Progress* magazine article that Lear wanted me to locate and mail entitled "Soldier of Fortune" itself included a description of Lear's employment over a period of years as a contract pilot for Warton in the Middle East and Africa.

The first reference I'd encountered about Hank Warton was in a *Newsweek* article I had been referred to concerning the role of "former" Nazis in the continuing weapons trade to the Third World. Warton was introduced as a competitor in the transport of weapons ("relief") to Biafra in 1968 with none other than Otto Skorzeny, Hitler's "favorite commando" who had plucked Mussolino from his mountaintop confinement in a daring raid and had also inflicted staggering losses on the Allies during the Battle of the Bulge. Since WWII, Skorzeny had been instrumental -- along with Klaus Barbie, Martin Bormann, Josef Mengele, and other Nazis that the U.S. had helped to smuggle out of Europe into South America -- in setting up the early cocaine importation routes into the U.S. and the early heroin connection through Paraguay. Otto Skorzeny -- who was revered by U.S. Special Forces as their "role model in the rogues' gallery of those who got away" according to Lt. Col. Bo Gritz -- also ran a worldwide assassination

bureau called Paladin, Inc. out of Madrid, Spain for many years, which was soft-pedaled by the Newsweek reporters as a "real-estate firm."

I knew that if Skorzeny and Warton were at loggerheads concerning weapons supply over 20 years later, Warton had to be one tough customer himself.

According to the 1968 articles, he was frequently described as a "*pirate*". One competitor described him as "*an unscrupulous type who wouldn't hesitate to knife you in the back.*"

On the other hand, after serving with distinction with the U.S. Marines at Guadalcanal following his parents' murder by the Nazis, his post-war exploits were viewed with "mingled fascination and amazement" in the corridors of the State Department even after they revoked his U.S. passport.

Warton's Miami-based North American Trading Corp. was exclusively devoted in 1968 to running arms and supplies into Biafra from Lisbon, Portugal. But he was pushed out of the operation after one of his aircraft (containing wings for 2 French fighter planes the Biafran resistance was counting heavily on) mysteriously blew up in Portuguese Guinea. The Biafrans later charged that he was in the secret pay of their enemies and trying to sabotage their war effort when he repeatedly failed to deliver contracted arms shipments. Warton's exploits in this same time period are recounted in tremendous detail, I recently learned, in the Soldiers of Fortune volume of a special Time-Life series of books.

According to one source who has known Warton well for many years, "That's how you can tell that the 1981 weapons flights to Iran were a Warton operation. Although he and his partner, Marshall Landy, are Mossad, he is known for screwing things up like that Argentinian plane that went down." The Argentinian cargo plane returning to Tel Aviv from a weapons delivery in Teheran on July 18, 1981 reportedly strayed into Soviet airspace and was shot down by a MiG-25 along the Soviet-Turkish border. According to the London Sunday Times, the plane was chartered by a Swiss arms broker who intended to sell 360 tons of military hardware -- worth \$30 million -- to the Iranian military. 3 shipments of American-made parts for M-48 tanks (which formed the bulk of Iranian land forces) had made it through before the cargo plane was shot down. The Israeli Foreign Ministry denied any involvement. But several officials quietly conceded that their agents had sold Iran parts and arms shortly after Reagan took office.

The May 1984 Air Progress article described Lear's employment with Warton in the late 70s or early 80s carrying "cargo" to "African locations", which both Lear and Warton have described in person to me as CIA-sanctioned weapons-supply flights to **Somalia**. The article also mentioned Lear flying for Warton's Air Sinai a short time later. Warton had secured the contract for 4 flights-a-week between Egypt and Israel following the Camp David Accords. Call it a hunch, but I would not be surprised at all if Warton (and possibly Lear) were also involved in some -- if not a major percentage -- of the weapons-transport flights which were underway during that same time period in that region. Many of the major figures in the Iran/Contra scandal -- Maj. Gen. Richard Secord; Deputy Director of CIA Worldwide Operations Theodore Shackley and his flunkie Tom Clines; CIA entrepreneur Edwin Wilson; and Pentagon Weapons Czar Erich von Marbod -- first came under the harsh light of public and Congressional scrutiny in the aftermath of the EATSCO (Egyptian-American Transport Service Co.) scandal in that same time period.

Secord was "encouraged" to resign as State Department "Adviser" (i.e., arms broker) to the Middle East. He shortly thereafter resigned his commission in the Air Force while Shackley and Clines were "encouraged" to "resign" from the CIA by Deputy Director Frank Carlucci, for whose company Von Marbod went to work at the same time in Geneva, Switzerland. Wilson -- the only one who actually put up the \$500,000 "seed money" for the operation -- was convicted of transporting large amounts of

military explosives to Libya where he had recruited Green Beret instructors to train Libyan "freedom fighters." Wilson would then finger the "terrorists" for elimination by Agency "mechanics" when they arrived at their postings in Europe, relaying the intelligence to William F. Buckley, then-station chief in Beirut who was in charge of the Agency's worldwide Anti-terrorist (i.e. assassination) Bureau, until he was kidnapped and tortured to death in Teheran. Wilson has said in prison that *"If I got 52 years for what I did, Oliver North and Richard Secord should get 300!"*

There is no doubt that Lear and Warton, at least, knew each other very well and had worked closely. Warton recently admitted that Lear was most anxious to work with him during that period because he had pissed away a huge sum of money on an impotent race for the Nevada Senate seat and flew every hour of overtime he could wrangle from Warton to recover the loss. The question was just how closely were Lear and Warton involved in either the 1981 weapons flights to Iran and the planned gold shipments to Zurich?

I was frankly stunned to read -- **in Lear's own typed wording** -- that he was supposed to secure the planes for the gold shipment for a company in Amsterdam called **Kindrich International**. And that **106 tons of gold** were to be flown from Guam to Taiwan (where it was to be smelted down) and then to Zurich, Switzerland via Dubai or Abu Dhabi. According to his memo, there were several other people involved in the operation:

Juanita Hanson was the managing director of Kindrich International. **Bob Kerkez** was instrumental in some way from West Germany. **Hank Warton** of Miami, Florida was in charge of the operation. **Vern Peoples** in Las Vegas was in charge of coordinating with Lear, and **Jack Taggart** was to receive a "10% cut" for setting it up. I couldn't help but wonder what Lear's slice was to be for his participation in the deal.

My natural inclination was to bring my discovery of the memo to his attention and ask him directly about his involvement. However, I've been around enough "sensitive situations" to know that the people involved -- possibly including Lear, since I didn't know him that well at that point -- would be absolutely livid that I was aware of any aspect of the operation. Considering the amount of money involved, I had little doubt I would be "readily expendable" to keep the operation quiet. I had suspected Lear's motives behind his UFO "revelations" from the beginning -- stumbling across this information was a very strong indication that he was still heavily involved in covert operations and was very likely **using the UFO bullshit to cover up past and present activities**.

As another case in point: I had noticed also in the *Air Progress* article that Lear had flown a 707 for Global International Airways in 1983 out of Kansas City. I learned in 1990 from an article entitled "**Ripoff Savings and Loan of Colorado**" by Bryan Abas in *Westword Magazine* that its owner Farhad Azima had borrowed more than \$1 million from the Indian Springs State Bank in Kansas City, much of which went to Global which was widely known to be a CIA proprietary run by Azima. The bank had received more than \$6 million in deposits arranged by convicted scammer Mario Rends, a mob-connected loan broker who helped cause the failure of several banks and S&Ls by demanding loans and special treatment in return for deposits, according to charges by regulators which were reported in the aftermath of the bank's collapse.

According to statements from a former Justice Department prosecutor to the Houston Post at that time, he was ordered to "back off" on his investigation into Indian Springs Bank shareholder Azima because "Azima had CIA connections and a 'get-out-of-jail-free card'." Global went bankrupt not long after Lear came to work there, listing debts of \$15 million including \$280,000 to Indian Springs. When I questioned Lear about this, he dismissed it as lightly as he had the numerous reports about opium

trafficking by Air America and Continental in Laos and Cambodia and the early weapons flights in 1981 to Iran.

As concerned as I was about respecting Lear's privacy, I knew only too well from witnessing the repression in Central America over a period of years just how much torment had been inflicted upon the Filipinos by the Marcos regime, and how determined many were -- in cooperation with the few honest American authorities -- to bring them to justice and restore the Philippine treasure to its government. I was compelled by conscience to send parts of the information to selected media and law enforcement contacts around the country, carefully leaving out any reference to Lear.

Using an alias, I personally handed the information to a well-known ABC reporter at the studio in LA in late 1988 when I was informed that he would be part of the press team accompanying U.S. Attorney Rudolf Giuliani to Hawaii to bring Imelda Marcos back for trial in New York. He promised that he would hand the information over to Giuliani himself. But I never received a reply from Giuliani, or anyone else.

Again in April 1990 during Imelda Marcos's trial, I sent key elements of the information to selected media outlets and the prosecution team but never received any response. Knowing what I do now about the full extent of Warton's operations over the years from his headquarters in Miami and London, and his high-level sanctions for patently illegal weapons transfers as well as his methods of concealing those transfers, I can clearly understand why the prosecutors and the media have deliberately suppressed this information.

Mum's The Word

During this period in late July or early August of 1988, I resolved to finish up the work I had begun at the Lear residence, collect my earnings, buy the car, and put as much distance between them and myself as possible. I was working in Lear's garage building shelves and a workbench one Sunday afternoon when he asked me to come into his study to meet with a couple of his guests whom I had already met at his first lecture. While we were all talking together, another woman who had come by earlier in the day to interview John for a local paper reappeared and visited with us for a little while as we all discussed various reports concerning UFO activity in Nevada and New Mexico. Not long after arriving, she excused herself to leave. Lear hastily jumped up to escort her out and then did not return for over an hour. His guests and I exchanged questioning glances, but continued our conversation until Lear's wife called from New York and demanded to speak to him immediately!

I looked in the garage, hoping that he might have been pattering in his new workshop but somehow knew that I would find him in the guesthouse. When I entered and noticed the door to the master bedroom closed at the end of the long hallway, I had little doubt Lear had decided to "extend the farewell" with the lady reporter. I loudly declared that I hated to interrupt him, that his wife was on the phone and she demanded to speak to him "immediately".

He emerged from the bedroom a few seconds later, pulling his trousers on, barefoot, shirtless, drenched in sweat, and completely dazed by the large amount of alcohol he had consumed and whatever he was engaged in. I was thoroughly disgusted and simply informed him that his wife was waiting on the line to talk to him. I walked out and returned to his guests in the study, hoping he "finished up" quickly, and tried not to let on that anything was amiss. They smiled knowingly, but nothing was said.

I hope it never becomes necessary to reveal their names or those of 2 of the 3 women involved with Lear. I have resolutely avoided this. But they would certainly have to corroborate all that I have said

relative to them up to this point under oath if it were forced to come out. I don't think Lear can put his hands on enough money to bribe them all -- their integrity is too great to lie about this.

After about another half-hour to 45 minutes, the phone rang again and Lear's 14-year-old daughter rushed in to say that her mother was again demanding to speak to John. She directed me to look for him in the garage and she headed for the guest house before I could attempt to stop her. As I expected, she found her dad and his guest still somewhat "engaged" in the living room and rushed back into the house extremely agitated.

When I heard the door slam, I headed out the back door toward the guesthouse to find Lear and the woman emerging in a state of confusion and heading out toward the front of the house. The woman tried to explain to me what had happened. But I told her it was none of my business and I preferred that she keep it to herself. She did seem to express some genuine concern about Lear's mental health, indicating that he seemed to be very upset and confused about all that he was dealing with concerning his UFO research. I thanked her for her concern and escorted her to her car. Despite my protestations since he was obviously highly intoxicated, Lear jumped into his truck and drove off after her. His other guests left at this point. His daughter and I attempted to locate him in order to avoid his being arrested for drunken driving. We never located him. But a humble and contrite John Lear appeared the next morning to beg me to "handle the situation" for him until he got back from Europe.

Apparently he had spent the night at his other girlfriend's house rather than face his daughter. I thought very seriously about leaving right then myself since I knew the situation would only get worse. But I felt an obligation to Lear to look after his place at least until his wife arrived a couple of days later. Although I'm sure they had family friends who could have done so given the delicate circumstances, I felt that the less attention drawn to their situation at that time, the better. I did feel quite awkward about being left alone there with their teenage daughter since I had not realized that was how their schedules were going to work out until it happened. But I figured that she certainly should have a responsible adult standing by until the other parent returned. From my previous experience in police work, I knew full well that I was allowing myself to be placed in a very delicate situation in the event Lear might have decided to have the daughter accuse me of some improper behavior to cover his own at some point in the future.

I know only too well from professional experience how quickly families will close ranks behind a lie to cover for one of the clan. Nevertheless, I stayed on and hoped for the best until Mrs. Lear returned 2 days later. At no time during the entire period of my acquaintance with the Lears did I ever come within less than 3 feet of their daughter(s), however, just for that reason. It frankly has not surprised me following my disclosures here that he has attempted to so charge me. But I state for the record again that nothing in any way improper ever took place. In terms of guilt, however, one must also ask what kind of parents would leave their teenage daughter home alone with someone they had only known for a couple of months, even though I conducted myself completely honorably from the start to the finish of my dealings with John Lear. Since he is now alleging otherwise, one must ask why he would even consider authorizing me to act as his agent little more than a year later (see letter of November 1989) or would introduce me in very friendly terms to his mother after that -- I seriously doubt that she would lie about this.

During this time July-August 1988, Lear seemed to have become entirely preoccupied with his drinking and his libido. I had already begun to write him off in terms of reliability. For someone who was fully engrossed in attempting to get the truth out about a number of major government cover-ups regarding UFOs, Lear's asking me to "handle it" for him was an odious request. I knew that no matter what I did, I would be damned as the scapegoat for his affair. I did try to reason with his daughter Alison not to tell her mother whatever she saw, since the results would cause her mother to go

predictably "nuclear" and that such a disclosure would almost certainly prove devastating for their family.

I encouraged Alison to at least wait and talk with her father before she brought it up to her mother. Which apparently nearly happened. She certainly had no hesitation about taking advantage of the situation and their absence to repeatedly drive their Audi around town without a license or my permission. At that stage, I figured that it really wasn't my problem and began packing to depart as soon as Mrs. Lear returned. Once she did, however, she was so insistent that we finish up his workbench in the garage that I stayed on for a few more days with a friend of mine who had come to deliver my new used car in order to try to help ease Lear through the difficulty. It was during this period that I re-tiled the roof myself since my friend refused to work for free and chastised me relentlessly about my stupidity for doing so.

Unfortunately, the night before his return, Mrs. Lear allowed Alison to get drunk. In a conversation with her mother and their boarder (a stewardess on Lear's airline American Trans Air), she let the cat out of the bag. I awoke the next morning to hear Mrs. Lear pounding on my studio door, demanding that I tell her where the "other woman" lived or worked so that she could go over and "blow her feet off" with her .45. Since I was by now thoroughly disgusted with the entire situation and had already begun packing for departure, I got up and met with her in the kitchen where I simply told her that I wasn't about to help her get herself imprisoned and that the problem was between her and her husband -- not me.

Without belaboring the point, I certainly did become their "whipping boy" in short order with all manner of false accusations tossed after me following my departure a couple of days later -- **the very day John and I had planned to fly down to Dallas together to check out the leads concerning the witnesses to the Kennedy assassination.** This all occurred in August 1988. From that point on, I decided to pretty much cut all contact with the Lear family for obvious reasons.

In my haste to pack and relocate, I inadvertently tossed a cheap \$9 phone into a box with my various other office paraphernalia. Also, a few days earlier I had set a pair of cheap pink sunglasses I had borrowed from Lear in my open toolbox, which fell down to the bottom. I brought the telephone back within a couple days when I discovered it. But I did not discover the glasses until months later when I cleaned out the toolbox, at which time I made a point of returning them personally also.

I had also borrowed -- with Lear's permission -- his copy of America in Search of Enemies by John Stockwell for Gritz to review while we were working on his book, leaving as "collateral" Bo's copy of The Crimes of Patriots by Jonathan Kwitny for Lear to look over. I mailed John's book back a few weeks later, and do not know to this day whether he ever returned Gritz's book. Lear later accused me of stealing his sunglasses. And both he and his wife later insisted that the Gritzs claimed I had "given" Lear's book to Gritz. I am still amazed at the degree of distortion and pettiness when they all knew the true situation.

Lear also accused me of stealing his navigation map for the flights to Iran in early 1981 and the picture of himself and his cronies in Teheran. I first heard of these accusations through mutual acquaintances. After calling Lear directly to have him repeat them, I was actually flabbergasted at their utter falsity and his incredible pettiness and unbelievable audacity, considering the profound embarrassment I could easily have caused for him without having to resort to lies had I chosen to capitalize on his asinine behavior.

Instead, out of concern for his family and the immense respect I hold for his mother, I said nothing at all. I did not take anything of theirs from the house deliberately. And most certainly did not take the

map or photo. I have no doubt whatsoever that John conveniently "lost" them, knowing only too well how damaging such things could be as evidence now that I was "outside the tent peeing in". **I have little doubt as well that this probably explains his newfound enthusiasm for promoting the JFK tape right at the same time** after 6 months of inattention to the issue while he was chasing his libidinal outlets around the World.

Back To Abnormal

After washing my hands of the entire disgusting mess, I returned to California briefly to meet personally with **Dan Sheehan** in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara in order to discreetly advise him of Lear's complete unreliability, and to warn him in specific terms about the inevitable distortion and deleterious effects of allowing Christic to become in any way associated with the UFO issue. Sheehan is an extremely bright and perceptive individual who has seen the underbelly of the national-security dragon from very close-up. Consequently, our conversation was brief and to the point.

Stephen Seagal (the martial-arts actor was actually accompanying Sheehan out of the auditorium in LA when I first made personal contact. As he glared at me out of the corner of his eye, for a brief moment I thought I might end up like one of the victims of his martial artistry in the movies. Fortunately, Sheehan immediately recognized my voice when I called out to him and I was spared that experience.

I then returned to Las Vegas and began to focus all efforts on transcribing Gritz's written and recorded notes for his book *A Nation Betrayed*, and in late October entered the video studio there to work 2 straight weeks (I never set foot outside the entire time) in producing the final rushed, crudely edited but nevertheless powerful 2-hour documentary by the same title. It was during this time while I was so engaged that the 2 owners of the studio -- who specialized in filming stunts -- came into the studio very excitedly one evening to thrust a copy of the NOVA Kennedy special narrated by Walter Cronkite onto the big monitor and watch my reaction while the most startlingly clear footage I had yet seen of the Zapruder film rolled by, in close-up on Bill Greer.

The NOVA footage showed extreme close-ups in astonishingly clear detail in which it could be clearly seen that **Greer did not take his hands off the steering wheel at any time during the period that the fatal head shot was delivered to Kennedy**. As I admitted to them afterward, unless the film had been altered, it was beyond question that nothing crossed Greer's chest during this sequence. And that the reflection that Evans and Adams argued was a handgun which extended past the back of the other agent's (Roy Kellerman) head was, in fact, merely the reflection off the top of "Killerman's" head. Even at that point, I was preoccupied with finishing Gritz's video and lamented the fact that I lacked the time or money even then to verify the authenticity of the JFK footage on the NOVA program.

Assuming the NOVA film was unaltered -- Robert Groden, who supplied it to the producers, swore to me later that it had not been -- it underscored what I had sensed all along: as much as we might have hoped that Greer had in fact been one of the gunman, thereby simplifying the proof of official complicity in the assassination. A far better copy of the film would reveal the factual source of the reflection in question was Kellerman's head. To this day despite all that has transpired, Evans and Adams and thousands of "Cooperoids" adhere to their cherished theory. I do not pretend to be infallible, much less the final authority on the Zapruder film or the Kennedy assassination. But I can only state what I truly believe -- or know for a fact -- if I have the luxury of possessing sufficient evidence. If I truly believed that Greer had a weapon in his hand and fired it, I would not hesitate to state then or now such a belief.

My statement to that effect on the videotape notwithstanding, everyone who knew me during this time knows very well that my primary concern in making the tape and all related efforts were directed toward trying to prove its truth or falsity. I was not convinced of anything at the outset. And as a former law enforcement officer, I knew only too well the burden of proof that accompanies any such theory or allegation.

Lear's and Cooper's attempt to paint me into a corner in this regard are patently ill-informed -- if not malicious -- considering their complete lack of research and cheapness in avoiding purchase of their own film. I believe now as I did then that their efforts to promote the "theory" were primarily oriented at undermining my credibility -- particularly because of my proximity to both Col. Gritz and the Christic Institute -- and continuing to confuse and mislead the public. In addition, I seriously doubt Lear trusted Cooper well enough to tell him that I also knew of his infidelity and of the weapons and gold flights. But I had no qualms in using him to further the discreditation ploy until Cooper began attacking him also.

Nevertheless, the question remained then -- **and still does to this day** -- where did the .45 cal. bullet slug found on the other side of Elm St. come from? And why has that slug never been officially addressed in any of the subsequent investigations? Both Jim Garrison in his recent book On the Trail of the Assassins and John Judge have addressed that issue at length. Judge claims that the fatal headshot attributed to William Greer by Adams, Evans, Cooper, and Lear actually came from the handgun of a gunman hidden in the manhole directly under the sidewalk in front of Abraham Zapruder. Judge argues that this was the actual source of the .45 cal. slug found on the other side of the street which was repeatedly photographed.

The new movie JFK being filmed by Oliver Stone is reportedly based very heavily on Garrison's book. It employs some of the most knowledgeable and sincere people in the assassination investigation field as consultants, I'm very pleased to report. While I was in Dallas in Feb. 1991 en route to Florida, I was actually able to remove the manhole cover and crawl down inside the opening, which provides a "pillbox" type of fortification for firing very effectively at close range at a motorcade through the opening in the sidewalk curb. There was also a round tunnel leading down from the manhole. But I did not enter it to see if it was actually possible to move very far through it.

By that point in late November 1988, however, I was so mentally and physically exhausted -- as well as impoverished after spending nearly a year with virtually no income tracking down all these loose ends (and after remaining awake for 72 hours straight trying to accommodate Gritz's urgency to complete his video and get it immediately into distribution) -- that I decided to just drop the entire effort for a few months and concentrate on recovering my own personal lost ground. To this day, I have never received a single penny from any of Gritz's books or videos. And as much as my creditors would have loved to see some royalties, I am only glad I had the opportunity to help make them happen -- so great is the importance of their contents to Americans -- despite the admittedly ragged quality that emerged from their rushed production. Considering that I was paid the whopping total of \$45 for producing a 2-hour documentary in 2 weeks (for which anyone else would have taken at least a couple of months and charged at least \$45,000), I have an absolutely clear conscience about the professionalism and the sincerity I brought to bear in both efforts.

Although I did in fact contribute significantly to the text of both his books and spent many weeks editing the balance, I have taken great pains in all instances to downplay my role. When one talk-show host attempted to characterize me as Gritz's "right-hand man" at the Center for Action, I hastened to point out that I barely qualified as his "left-hand man" since I had only helped with the books and tapes and several public events publicizing his trial. I made it clear that my contributions to his effort paled in comparison with those of any of his Operation Lazarus team-members who had sacrificed years and

risked their necks repeatedly in the POW recovery efforts they had mounted, suffering over a year in prison in one case. And various arrests, detention, and threats in several others. I have made it very clear at all times that I am not a veteran and only did what I could to help him get his story out in the most professional manner possible.

The simple truth is that I felt it was my absolute obligation and responsibility as an American citizen to render every assistance I possibly could to his courageous efforts. The truth is that this commitment on my part has actually cost me tremendously in credibility and placed me many thousands of dollars behind in unpaid obligations. Yet I am still glad to have done it. I learned long ago to trust in the truth winning out in the end, regardless of how unfair or grim things may look at the time. I have been equally resolute about squaring up overdue accounts despite the exploitation of this issue by my detractors.

Shortly after I had completed Gritz's video in mid-November 1988, Lear called to invite me to his home to meet "some real special people". I was completely exhausted myself as well as disgusted with him. But since I was planning on heading back to California the next day and definitely believed it would be the very last time I would ever set foot there, I agreed. This was to be my first encounter with the name **Bill Cooper**.

Lear showed me several computer bulletin board printouts which I believe were from Jim Speiser's net because John was chuckling about how Speiser had thrown him and Cooper off as a result of their "agitation". I read one "dispatch" from Cooper outlining his credentials and assuring John that he could vouch for at least 50% of Lear's claims. I questioned John as to whether he thought Cooper was for real or only trying to cozy up to him in order to make a name for himself in the field or to perhaps use an implied association with Lear to disinform others. Lear would later state on George Knapp's second UFO TV special that Bill Cooper was vouching for 150% of his claims.

John indicated that he thought Cooper was on the level and appeared to be the genuine article in terms of his background and credibility. I recall thinking at the time that I could really care less, since I'd had a bellyful of all the UFO bullshit and would leave it to all the self-anointed experts to hash it out among themselves from there on out. I was reminded of a brief encounter with **Linda Howe** a few months earlier when she had come to meet with Lear and another former UFOlogist friend/associate of his who also had long-standing connections to the weapons industry and the intelligence community. While discussing the conviction (railroading) of respected UFO researcher, retired USAF Colonel **Wendelle Stevens**, Lear's friend disturbed Ms. Howe mightily with his own inspired discussion of pedophilia, convincing her not to share the information she had brought with her and resulting in a serious blowout between them. I ended up taking her up to Lear's home where I was left to sit and wait for 4 hours while they met privately in his study.

Lear's wife refused to accompany us to dinner afterward, during which time Ms. Howe described her meetings with military intelligence agents a few years before during which the JFK assassination was discussed in some detail. After relating what they had imparted to her she was most emphatic about the wisdom of leaving that issue alone. We parted on respectful terms, but I resolved to do exactly that -- concentrate fully on important issues like Kennedy's murder, and let her and the others carry the UFO banner.

It was during our conversation that night in November that Lear became suddenly harsh with me about my remarks to a mutual acquaintance of ours about the "Marcos gold" shipments that he had been involved in arranging. Up to that point, I didn't know for certain that it was, in fact, Marcos's hoard that was being moved. I tried unsuccessfully to pretend ignorance. But Lear emphasized that I was "**playing**

around with something very serious" and I should not "breathe another word about it to anyone or we could all expect some heavy shit to come down. These guys don't fuck around, Lars!"

Knowing only too well the extreme lengths the people involved would go to in order to keep the gold movement hushed up, I nodded solemnly. But since "the cat was out of the bag" and he knew I was at least partially aware of the operation, I questioned him as to why he would even consider being a part of that operation, considering that the gold had been stolen from the Philippine people. Not knowing that I had seen his entire memo on the matter, he insisted that the flights never came together and that he was out of it and did not want to talk about it any further.

I changed the subject to the clear Zapruder footage I had recently seen, and pointed out to John that more-and-more information was coming to light which I believed discredited the driver theory. I pointed out specifically that nothing obstructed Greer's chest in the footage I saw, thereby eliminating the possibility that his left arm crossed over his chest and his right shoulder. This meant he was unable to have fired a weapon at Kennedy as I had narrated on the video. Lear appeared to be genuinely concerned and interested. I directed him to the individuals who had the copied footage so he could also obtain a copy to review, which he did shortly afterward. I made it very clear that even though I had not been able to undertake the thorough investigation I had originally planned, all the information and contacts I had developed at that point -- which were substantial -- strongly inclined me to believe that Greer did indeed turn around twice to look back at Kennedy, but did not fire anything at Kennedy.

I indicated to Lear that he was more than welcome to continue pursuing the issue if he chose to. But that I had seen enough evidence concerning Kennedy's assassination to convince me to apply my extremely limited resources to getting Gritz's story out to the public and simply keeping him out of prison. As important as it was to get the complete truth out about the hit team in Dallas in 1963 and who paid them to pull the triggers, I knew that people like Jack Anderson, Mark Lane, and Walter Cronkite commanded the media on the issue.

Achieving similar coverage for Gritz's story in that time frame could have proven extremely potent. I did encourage Lear strongly to contact Robert Groden regarding the issue and to arrange to see his much clearer copy of the original film, and provided Groden's number to him. [Finally in late 1990, 2 years later, during a call to Groden to discuss some aspect of the assassination, he admitted his surprise that Lear had just called him moments before at his home in Pennsylvania and was at that moment en route to visit with him. Friends report that Lear now states in his lectures that he has seen clear footage that indicates Greer was not firing a weapon. And that he was "mised" by another researcher into believing otherwise. If their reporting is accurate, it indicates again the extent of Lear's lying duplicity as well as hypocrisy.]

Lear, of course, made no mention to me in November 1988 of meeting with Cooper other than a phone call or two. And made no mention of having shared or given a copy of my JFK video to him, either. In fact, it would not be until almost exactly a year later that I would find out this had actually occurred shortly before this meeting I am now describing.

Later that same evening, I met **Bob Lazar**, Gene Huff, Ron Regehr and a friend of his when they arrived at Lear's home. We all drove out to the edge of Nellis Air Force Base, looked around, then went back to the house and talked for awhile before leaving. I remember being mightily impressed by the bright young man who had given me his unique jet-car business card, which also advertised his expertise in other advanced scientific areas. I would not learn until almost exactly a year later that the person I met that night at Lear's was the same Bob Lazar who had appeared on Las Vegas TV in April 1989 under the cover-name of "Dennis" and claimed that he had worked on one of nine USG UFOs at Area S4 at the Nevada Test Site.

Gritz 2, Maddox 0, Armitage 0, Hoffman 1

From that point in late November 1988 until mid-April 1989, after returning to Santa Barbara, I devoted myself pretty exclusively to straightening out my own domestic requirements and publicizing Gritz's discoveries in preparation for his trial on April 18, 1989. Along these lines, I prepared a mailer describing his indictment and the issues behind it. I mailed it out to over 5,000 groups nationwide at my own expense. I also was in touch several times with Sheehan and a few other attorneys, by phone and in person, attempting to make certain that Gritz was completely prepared for the legal battle about to ensue.

While working fulltime, I also made several public presentations on his behalf and set up several others for him in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, and Las Vegas -- most of which netted surprisingly decent media coverage. The event in LA on April 11, 1989 -- which yielded a front-page B- section story in the Herald-Examiner and for which I went several hundred more dollars in the hole, not taking a single dime from any of these events -- was very successful. I returned to Santa Barbara the next day with an acquaintance from L.A. to prepare and FedEx Gritz's detailed video testimony along with a very strongly worded letter to 35 key senators and media heads.

In the letter, I exhorted them to perform their sworn duty and thoroughly investigate Richard Armitage, who was up for confirmation as Secretary of the Army at that time. Anyone not familiar with his long-term role in heroin smuggling and weapons sales to Iraq should consult Gritz's 2 books and videos. A copy of one of the letters is included with this packet. It should be obvious to anyone that "agents of the secret government" -- as Cooper falsely claims I am -- rarely if ever take such an open stand against known agents of the secret government.

It is worthy of special note that Richard Armitage decided to withdraw from confirmation proceedings a few weeks after the Senators' receipt of the videos. It was reported in a special to the *New York Times* on May 26, 1989 that "**Bush's Selection as Secretary of Army Withdraws to Avoid Grilling.**" Midway through the article by Andrew Rosenthal, it was stated that "It is not known whether new information had surfaced that would have changed Mr. Armitage's mind." I cannot help but feel over 2 years later that that statement is also a bald-faced lie, given Gritz's thoroughly suppressed but nevertheless highly vocal charges regarding Armitage and my own direct contact with the senators and heads of all major national news media.

I'm surprised Cooper hasn't fingered H. Ross Perot himself along with Gritz and me, since he also lobbied intensively to keep Armitage out of that position after confronting him 2 years before in person at the Pentagon and demanding that he resign on the spot for his involvement in large-scale heroin trafficking. You can read about it in the May 4, 1987 issue of *TIME*. It must be noted also (whether Cooper is aware of it or not) that Perot put up the \$2 million to try to buy William Buckley's way out of Beirut back in 1984. Buckley was the well-known CIA station chief stationed there who was also in charge of the Agency's worldwide assassination bureau.

It has been known and reported for some time that it was the Iranians' threat to release to the American people the 14 hours of videotape of his confessions under torture which prompted Oliver North and Bud McFarlane to jet over to Teheran with the Bible, the cake, and the missiles. In fact, I have just received information from a very reliable source who was the Shah's pilot at one time (after flying Mohammed Mossadegh, the elected leader of Iran deposed by the CIA with the help of the original Norman Schwarzkopf, out of the country) that William Buckley also revealed under torture those responsible for the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

As unlikely as this might seem on first hearing, it must be borne in mind that Buckley had, in fact, been the station chief in Mexico City during the period that a special assassination bureau was being run under the cover of PEMEX Oil Co. Rafael "Chi Chi" Quintero was one of the original members of the "shooter team" set up at the request of Richard Nixon by Robert Maheu and Mafia capos Sam Giancana and Johnny Roselli in 1960 to eliminate Castro and continued as part of the ongoing hit squad in Mexico working under Buckley. According to the *Torbitt Document (Nomenclature of an Assassination Cabal)* the FBI's 'Division Five' (Domestic Counterintelligence) maintained a triangular-fire training base at Oaxaca, Mexico under the cover of a missionary school. It has now been established that it was his references to this fact which had to be erased from Nixon's Watergate tapes. Dan Sheehan of the Christic Institute (among others) has been very emphatic on numerous occasions about Buckley's actual role in Beirut at the time of his capture, and the true reasons for the weapons deals which ensued.

Following the Reagan Administration's concerted attempt to shut Gritz up with the asinine passport charge, the half-dozen or so people involved in preparing the video testimony for the Senate Armed Services Committee ruling on Richard Armitage's confirmation as Secretary of the Army decided they would be taking too much of a risk themselves to sign the accompanying letter. That's why my signature is the only one at the bottom. I had literally driven the brakes off my car on Gritz's behalf and lacked the gas money to get over to his trial -- much less out of harm's way -- anyway, but I figured it was worth the effort regardless. Whether we hang together or hang separately, I'm hanging in until the end -- and so should you.

It is a matter of history now that the "weenie charge" of "Misuse of a Passport" against Gritz was thrown out on the third day of the trial, April 21, 1989. Both the judge Philip Pro and the U.S. Attorney Bill Maddox knew all along that it was invalid to begin with. Particularly after the U.S. Atty. in California had already rejected the case when it was brought to him to prosecute initially. It seems that the passport in question was actually issued to a fictitious "Patrick Richard Clark" for the use of an undercover LAPD intelligence officer. Richard Patrick Clark -- a staunch supporter of Gritz's POW-recovery efforts -- had given him the passport to assist him in that undertaking. Following the exposure of this fact in a front-page B-section article in the *LA Herald-Examiner* (now defunct) following the successful public event for Gritz which I co-produced just days before his trial began, Maddox's case basically self-destructed in court when Clark, an extremely astute LAPD intelligence officer with a PhD and a rapier wit answered Maddox's questions too honestly and adroitly. When Maddox snarled to Gritz's attorney as they entered the court "*Tell your Colonel he's in my jungle now!*", he was in for a very rude surprise.

Clark admitted that he himself had obtained the passport and provided it to Gritz to assist him in his POW-recovery efforts. And that the passport in fact belonged to no one since "Patrick Richard Clark" does not exist, other than in State Department computer files. Maddox then had no case left to prosecute since the charge read "Misuse of the passport of another" when, in fact, there was no "other". Judge Philip Pro had no choice but to end the trial. As Gritz had candidly admitted on numerous occasions publicly around the Country, "I have misused passports all of my adult life as a special-forces operative, just like Jane Fonda did when she went to North Vietnam and Ollie North and Robert McValium did when they went to Teheran in 1985 with the Bible, the cake, and the TOW missiles. The only reason I'm being prosecuted on this 'weenie charge' is because I refused to 'play ball' with this crowd."

He admitted that his own best friend, Joe Felter of Wedtech, had been used by the National Security aide handling Gritz's mission to Burma, Tome Harver (code-named "Tango") to attempt to persuade Gritz to "erase and forget" all that he had learned in Burma and to attempt to bribe him to do so with the promise of a cushy job as a defense contractor in Washington. All to no avail. Gritz's testimony about the provision of those passports (he carried a total of four at one time) from the special Administrative Survey Branch of the National Security Agency was not permitted to be entered into open court

testimony because of the restrictive provisions of **CIPA** (Classified Information and Procedures Act). In practice, CIPA has become a thinly-disguised tactical weapon wielded by the Government to force the defense to disclose all of its evidence before excluding it from court proceedings.

After 2 years of prosecutorial delay (including forcing Gritz to assemble his witnesses in Las Vegas from around the World more than once), only to have the trial postponed, and hamstringing Gritz's overseas operations by prohibiting his travel following the exposure of Maddox's blunder, Gritz was understandably furious when -- following the judge's declaration of his acquittal -- he could not present even a word of his defense, much less high-level intelligence authorization for his mission. Gritz had made these points very clear to news reporters covering his indictment and trial from the outset. Almost as if he was working in concert with Gritz to verify his claims, Maddox emerged from the courtroom to snarl at Clark that "*your superiors at LAPD will hear about this!*" (and indeed, they did and put pressure on Clark in the aftermath to punish him for his candor).

In response to a news reporter's question in front of television cameras, Maddox shot back "*George Bush called me and told me to 'Get Bo Gritz.'*" When the reporter queried whether Maddox was being serious or sarcastic, "You're denying that. Is that what you're saying?" he responded in a flat-toned, deapan, but adamant manner, "No. What I'm saying is that George Bush called me and told me to '**Get Bo Gritz!**'"

I had literally driven the brakes off my car on Gritz's behalf traveling back-and-forth between Nevada and California and lacked the gas money even to get to Las Vegas for the trial. But when Gritz called the day after the acquittal to request my help in editing the trial coverage and Maddox's statements into a new videotape, I quickly rounded up a helper and drove all night to Nevada to obtain the raw footage, drove back all night to L.A., and stayed up the entire next evening assembling a hard-hitting 10 min. video for immediate distribution. I was not paid a cent for the effort, but found profound satisfaction in exposing the perfidy of the officials involved in that travesty of justice nationwide when the national news media deliberately ignored the story. I have derived considerable satisfaction since upon learning that not only was Maddox not reappointed as U.S. Attorney, but the State of Nevada was also unable to find a suitable replacement over 2 years later.

When a Mr. Lutfy was finally formally nominated by Rep. Barbara Vucanovich with considerable fanfare, the next morning's news headlines trumpeted that Lutfy was strongly implicated in several insurance fraud cases. This was only the latest in a series of fiascos befalling the vindictive U.S. Attorney's office after the first of Gritz's prosecutors -- a Mr. Wulfson -- resigned, to be replaced by a Mr. O'Neill who assumed the case with a vengeance. He left town not long after with "his tail between his legs" when someone leaked to the local press that Mr. O'Neill had actually served as a road manager for the acid-rock anti-war band from San Francisco (Country Joe and the Fish) who immortalized the "*Gimme and F!*" cheer in their classic anti-Vietnam anthem "*Feel Like I'm Fixin' to Die Rag.*"

It is also worthy of note -- on a more tragic vein -- that one of Gritz's most respected friends and counterparts -- USSF Colonel James "Nick" Rowe, who escaped from N. Vietnam after 5 years in captivity -- was assassinated exactly 1 year to the day after the charge was dropped against Gritz in Las Vegas Federal Court. What few people know is that Rowe and 3 other SF Colonels were all killed or died under questionable circumstances; that Mossad agent Michael Harari was known to be at the place at the time in 3 of the four deaths; and that all four were strongly engaged in attempting to bring to public awareness the U.S. Government's massive involvement in large-scale drug trafficking. Rowe himself was directly in touch with "60 Minutes" about the issue in 1987. But they passed on the story as they had passed on Gritz's story when he came back from Burma.

The day after Gritz's event in Los Angeles, I was profoundly disheartened to see the headlines about Abbie Hoffman's supposed suicide. I found it particularly hard to accept since I knew from my earlier discussions with Barbara Honegger that he had been very involved with her in the writing of his article about the October Surprise, entitled "An Election Held Hostage" which appeared in *Playboy* magazine and had played a cameo role in Oliver Stone's upcoming movie "Born On The Fourth Of July". He had also been very active with Amy Carter in protesting CIA agents on college campuses. I just couldn't believe that he would give up so suddenly in the midst of all that activity.

I called Honegger within seconds of reading the headline to ask her what she knew about his death, and was again quite startled to hear her say something to the effect that "Abbie really had been pretty depressed about his injuries" following a recent car accident and had been in a great deal of physical pain. She more-or-less indicated that the news reports were correct as far as she was concerned, which I found very hard to accept in light of the growing number of people who were dying mysteriously who had anything to do with the October Surprise. Honegger had indicated that she was making last-minute additions and corrections to the galley proofs of her book October Surprise before it went to the printers and again emphasized that if my "friend" was willing to talk about the flights, now was the time.

In a mood of outrage and disgust with all the senseless deaths which had been brought upon the world by the Bush crime family and their minions, I finally decided to break down and put Honegger directly in touch with Lear -- to put the sonofabitch on the spot on the issue once and for all. Out of continued concern for him, in light of Abbie's death for his protection I had not given her his last name, and specified that she should identify herself, her connection to me, and the subject matter prior to entering a discussion with him. If he chose not to pursue it, she was to hang up and forget the number.

She called me back at home the next day to advise me that they had a very cordial and friendly extended conversation. But Lear had denied any involvement in the actual weapons flights, admitting only that he had been "standing by" in Tel Aviv for several months to make them but actually never did because the operation had been blown after the Argentine plane had been shot down after supposedly straying over Soviet airspace. As I expected, Lear was apparently so flattered by her interest that he readily disclosed his entire name. And after denying his role in any such flights, they ended up exchanging research material. I was not surprised, although I figured John was denying it for obvious safety's sake since it had not actually occurred to me until I called him a few minutes later that he actually would have lied to me about making the flights in the first place.

Believe it or not, that's exactly what he told me when he picked up the phone. I immediately apologized for putting him on the spot with her. But I emphasized that if he was really serious about exposing the "secret government," Honegger's book would be a great way to do it. Since I knew for a fact that he had 2 taps on his phone lines the previous summer and that he always records all his phone calls as well, I at first adopted a cryptic style of speaking, not wanting necessarily to incriminate him any further if anyone else was listening in, still concerned about his safety.

Lear insisted that we talk openly, so I asked him point-blank: "Well John, what are you telling me? Were you lying last summer when you said you made those flights and showed me the maps, and the photographs and the articles in the Middle East press? Or are you lying now? Or both? If you're saying this now over the phone for the benefit of our listeners, we can continue this later in person."

Lear sounded genuinely sheepish when he replied that he had actually made up the story about his making the flights since he knew I was "into that stuff" and thought I "would be impressed." He did admit that he had gone to Egypt -- and later Tel Aviv, Israel -- to "stand by for orders to make the flights for 3-or- months," but insisted that the orders never came.

As much as I had come to mistrust and disrespect Lear, he can be a genuinely friendly and likable guy and does have an excellent sense-of-humor. It was very difficult to sort out how to deal with his statement. My first thought was that he had actually made the flights since it was a matter of documented record that he had made any number of other similar ones, that he had actually owned an automatic-weapons business in Las Vegas a few years before, and that he had worked with Warton for years. I figured that he had to deny it not only in case anyone was listening in, but also because if true, he could not possibly let it get out in Barbara Honegger's eagerly awaited book.

On the other hand, he was so candid and open about the entire matter over the phone that I actually began to consider that he could have been so anxious to impress me at the time that he actually would have bragged about something he never did which could have easily gotten us both killed. He was not aware at that point that I had actually seen his typed notes regarding the Marcos gold shipments. But we both knew only too well all the other dirty laundry in his closet.

At this point, he again brought up my supposed theft of his navigation map and the photograph in Teheran. I could not help but feel he was covering up, and he had actually "lost" them himself to remove the evidence. Having already been through the previous accusations regarding his phone and sunglasses, I told him disgustedly that I had not taken anything from his house. And that if the map and photograph were actually missing, I was only sorry I hadn't taken them since at least then we would both know where they were. To this day, I have little doubt that he himself "relocated" them to remove the evidence of his flights to Iran.

Lear then asked my permission to show the Zapruder videotape on an upcoming interview with **George Knapp** on Las Vegas Channel-8 TV. He referred to "we" several times, but never mentioned the name Bill Cooper then. I declined at first. But then owing to my disorientation over the previous revelations, I very stupidly relented, stipulating strongly that he must make it very clear to Knapp and the audience that the person who produced the video -- I even gave him permission to use my name -- **did not believe that the driver fired anything and that it was only a theory at best.** I demanded that he emphasize to the audience that the copy of the tape being shown was an 8th-generation copy at best. And that no one should form an opinion on the theory either way without looking at a much better-quality version of the film. I made it very clear to Lear once again that all the evidence I had compiled thus far pointed away from the driver, and that he should make this very clear in his discussion. I had no idea whatsoever that he planned to appear with Bill Cooper, nor have I seen the entire interview to this day.

The Truth -- And A Trust -- Betrayed

I have wished many times since that day in April 1989 that I had simply told John Lear to go "screw himself" and resumed my policy of zero contact with him. Because it was already very clear to me that he was a gutless, lying, egotistical thrill seeker with little or no regard for his family or his friends, much less the gullible public. Least of all did he appear to me to have any concern for the hapless peasants in the Third World who became the eventual mutilated recipients of his countless lethal cargos. It was a monumental error on my part that I did not follow my better judgment and write him off completely at that point. This extended recounting of our interactions is but the first step in a continuing effort on my part to try to undo the extensive damage which has resulted from that error.

To this day, I do not know whether John Lear actually made the flights with the weapons loads to Iran in early 1981 and/or the shipment of gold from Guam to Zurich in late 1988. I have no doubt whatsoever that he was in Tel Aviv at least standing by to make them under the direction of Hank Warton as he has admitted to both Barbara Honegger and me on more than one occasion. My gut feeling is that he actually did in both cases. He was certainly very pinched financially at both times as

he was -- according to Warton's own account -- when he flew overtime on the weapons deliveries to Somalia. Given the other weapons flights that he has bragged about and his "service" with Continental in Laos, he would certainly have had no qualms about doing so -- especially for someone he had worked with previously.

Whatever the case, given also the amount of information he had noted and my additional discoveries, **it is virtually certain that Warton and some of the other people mentioned absolutely do know who was in charge of the shipments and where they ended up.** They should all be contacted by the authorities and the media and questioned relentlessly on the subject.

The 2 reasons that I elected to continue communication with Lear from mid-April 1989 to September 1990 were that I knew well his almost obsessive need to have an outlet for his "secret info" -- which I decided to simply make use of when possible -- and the compelling information he was absolutely intent on relaying about his "friend who worked out at the Nevada Test Site" -- **Bob Lazar**. According to Lear's statements beginning with that call in April 1989, Lazar had apparently claimed to have been hired to work on one of 9 U.S. Government UFOs. As intriguing as that story was, it was not until 7 months later on Nov. 6, 1989 -- following his call to alert me that "Bob" was finally going to go public on Las Vegas Channel-8 TV with newsman George Knapp -- that I even bothered to put "2 and 2 together" to realize that "Bob" was the same Bob Lazar I had met at Lear's home a year earlier.

Throughout those intervening 7 months, I was busy re-establishing myself in California, renovating my leased home and completely rebuilding the one next door, paying off long-overdue debts, and continuing my own investigations. Lear either called me or mailed material to me about once-a-week on a regular basis, giving me the latest episode in the continuing saga of the young physicist from Area S4 as well as his latest theory about **who really created AIDS and why.**

He called me up at one point to state with certainty that the U.S. Army did actually create AIDS at the Chemical-Biological Weapons Research & Development Laboratory at Ft. Dietrich, Maryland by 1972 as alleged by Dr. Strecker and others. He insisted that Bob Lazar saw the final report on the operational biological weapon we have come to know as 'AIDS' signed by a Naval Officer named R.M. Donner during his extended security briefing prior to employment at Area-51. Lear then insisted they had done so "in a final all-out ultimatum to deprive the *aliens* of their food source by killing off all humanity."

I told John he was completely "full of shit" and had to be working for the Agency if they were putting him up to saying things like that publicly. Cooper has since alleged in print that Lear actually did make that statement on Las Vegas TV or radio (I don't remember which). After that time, I would routinely refer to his wilder suppositions as a "Lear Leap of Logic" (my own euphemism for bullshit).

He also began to question me repeatedly about the driver theory during this period, seemingly obsessed with its validity by this time during which I patiently and methodically emphasized to him over-and-over all the various elements that simply did not stack up in its support. As I said earlier, I smelled a rat from the beginning. And had I known he was now in direct league with Cooper or what they both apparently said on the Knapp program, I probably would have moved far more swiftly and firmly to shut them down.

Again, despite Cooper's false statements in his book, I was simply too preoccupied with straightening out my own personal affairs in California and too doubtful of Lear's honesty or intentions to bother too much with following up on his activities until the fall of 1989.

A case in point is that by July of 1989, Lear was quite anxious in his request that I help him out with preparations and logistics for the MUFON convention in Las Vegas. He claimed that he was fed up with the entire UFO field and wanted to make his wife happy and drop it all, but had obligated himself as state director into sponsoring the event and needed my help. As customary as it has always been for me to pitch in and help a friend, rarely asking or receiving any compensation, I simply declined that time. After careful consideration, I made it clear to Lear and another friend in Las Vegas whom he did recruit to help him that I had absolutely no desire to be associated with the UFO field. What I didn't say -- but should have -- was that I had no desire to do any more favors for him, either.

I think he got the message by my absence. But what I missed -- only to discover it months later -- was that he took advantage of my absence to once again show my JFK videotape to the crowd during his "bootleg" (unsanctioned by MUFON) program. I learned this many months later when I chanced to see a copy of the poor-quality video made of the event. Had he asked, I would certainly not have given him permission to show the video there. I honestly believe his decision to do so -- after I had made it very clear to him 9 months earlier my lack of belief in the theory and my desire that he not show the video to anyone else -- was a deliberate effort to continue the discreditation ploy against me already well-underway.

Whatever the case, had I known he had done so at that time, I would have made a special trip to Las Vegas to confront him about the blatant violation of trust. Given the growing number of such episodes concerning my material and that of many others, both Lear and Cooper are long-overdue in that respect. I suspect in Lear's case several parental thrashings in his formative years might have prevented a great deal of the harm he has caused numerous others in the course of his coddled, self-centered life.

It was not until about a month later in August 1989 that an acquaintance of mine in L.A. called in a highly excited state to advise me that conspiracy researcher John Judge had referred to me on KPFK Radio as "an FBI agent who had infiltrated the Christic Institute in L.A." to disinform them with the bogus Kennedy videotape. He was absolutely adamant that I contact Judge immediately to counteract the statement. I had learned by that stage of our acquaintance to take all his inflamed reactions with "a grain of salt", but figured I should at least check it out. When I asked him what Judge's comments were in reference to, he replied that the topic of the interview concerned UFOs and specifically concerned John Lear and Bill Cooper. Although it caught me out of the blue, he relayed also that somehow my Kennedy tape had become a major part of the issue as a result of Lear's activities. He emphasized that I should check it out. I attempted to contact Judge a number of times, but he never bothered to accept my calls much less return them.

My acquaintance indicated also that some other mutual friends had actually attended a presentation by Cooper in Long Beach, California shortly before, including Barbara Honegger, and had come away considerably disturbed by his "everything-but-the-kitchen-sink" approach to worldwide-conspiracy theory. Since I was planning to be visiting those friends in the near future, I agreed to make a point of meeting with Cooper at that time. I also agreed to, and did make several attempts to reach Judge in Carmel by phone. But as with my earlier correspondence, he never chose to reply.

Since I had not been involved directly with Judge or Cooper and had only been in sporadic contact with Lear at that point, I was quite unaware of what had been transpiring with the Kennedy tape in my absence. I contacted Lear first by phone and asked him what he had to do with Cooper. He soft-pedaled their association for the most part as I recall, essentially stating that Cooper seemed to be pretty much on the level, but became highly agitated and obnoxious when he was drunk. According to Lear, Cooper had made such a scene when he was at the Lear home the month before that he had to ask Cooper not to return. Whatever had actually transpired, it was very evident that Lear did not want to go into detail about it. Since I really didn't give much of a damn about his activities at that point, I didn't press further.

I found out a year later from several sources (two of whom were present at the meeting) that Lear -- in a drunken state -- had actually picked up his loaded .45 and apparently was threatening to blow his brains out when Cooper actually summoned up enough sobriety to knock the gun out of his hand and across the room. According to these same sources as **Cooper has alleged in his CAJI newsletter**, Lear did, in fact, call a hooker up to his house at that time also. I shall address this issue at greater length later in this narrative.

At the instigation of my acquaintance in L.A., I called Cooper for the first time at his home in Fullerton, Calif. in August 1989 and received a friendly greeting. When I indicated that he might not know who I was (contrary to his claim in his book), Cooper made it quite clear that: "**I know all about you. I've had you completely checked out. I've been expecting your call for some time, Lars.**" I learned long ago to beware of anyone who comes on too friendly too soon, and was a bit wary as I described my first encounter with his name at Lear's the previous November, the recent meeting of his attended by my friends, and their resulting concern that I check out his material.

Cooper was actually very cordial and indicated that he would be more than willing to meet with me to go over his discoveries. **Again --contrary to his claims in his book and in public -- at no time during this phone call did we discuss the Kennedy assassination at all. He did not ask -- and I did not agree -- to bring the Kennedy tape or any other tape with me.** I drove down to Fullerton in the afternoon and introduced myself to Cooper and his wife Annie. At the outset of our meeting, Bill was quite adamant about his distaste for **Gordon Novel**, who apparently had been hovering around Las Vegas during the MUFON conference. He emphasized that he had no desire to have anything to do with the man despite Novel's offer of \$25,000 for Cooper's documentation. He claimed that he had gone out and bought several new guns. And that he had made it clear to Novel when he contacted him at home in California that he, Cooper, would not hesitate to use them on Novel if he came anywhere near him again.

I had learned a great deal about Gordon Novel over the years beginning long ago. His name has popped up repeatedly throughout the Kennedy assassination investigation, Watergate, the John DeLorean Case, the Vicki Morgan sex tapes, the Larry Flynt shooting and the takeover of REBEL Magazine, the Cotton Club/Roy Radin murder scandal, and the deaths of Mae Brussell and Col. Mitchell WerBell. By no means do I mean to imply that Novel was involved in any or all of those scandals and/or deaths either directly or indirectly -- other than the ones he has openly admitted to -- but that his notoriety is extensive. Anyone who has done any serious work in researching the Kennedy murder quickly learns much about Mr. Novel -- particularly regarding his resemblance to both Lee Harvey Oswald and the "Umbrella Man" as well as his openly admitted efforts to sabotage the Garrison investigation from the inside. It is also a matter of record which he has discussed openly that he was hired by Charles Colson to attempt to degauss the Watergate tapes. According to Novel, he would have erased them all if he had been paid sufficiently. That Cooper at least appeared to have no great love for Novel was a small point in his favor.

He then played his videotaped segment of the "unsanctioned" Las Vegas MUFON program which lasted about an hour-or-so, after which I began to question him further about a number of details he mentioned or that I was aware of. **Cooper and I did not discuss the Kennedy assassination at all that afternoon** but focused on his claims about the various UFO projects such as 'Redlight' and 'Excaliber', his beliefs about who really runs the World, and the attempts he claimed had been made on his life to shut him up.

In turn, I described my own recent experiences with Gritz and naively offered -- in appreciation for his hospitality -- to give Cooper one of the two 10-min. videos that I happened to have with me which

we had recently completed about his trial a few months before in Las Vegas. I actually did pen some brief note of encouragement -- not authorization -- to him on the cover of that tape. **But at no time did we discuss the JFK assassination during this meeting. And I certainly did not give Cooper a copy of the JFK videotape.**

There was no particular attempt to avoid discussion of Kennedy with Cooper -- **it simply never happened**, which is what is so damn ironic about Cooper's absolutely false claims that I agreed to bring a copy of the Kennedy tape to him etc. during our previous phone call. Cooper lies blatantly when he writes that "Mr. Hansson informed me that he had made the video for Bo Gritz and John Lear and that both were using it in their lectures." Anyone who knows me knows that I did not even meet either one of them until at least 3 months after I made the tape. And I never authorized either one of them to show it publicly. At the time I met with Cooper, I didn't even have any copies on hand since I had completely passed on the theory nearly a year before. If I actually had given it to him, I would certainly have no problem admitting it. **But I didn't** -- and would certainly not have at that time -- after dispensing with the theory and advising both Lear and Gritz of my decision nearly a year before.

Even if I had still harbored some question about it, I would certainly not have entrusted something so sensitive to someone I had just met with obvious claimed past ties to **Naval Intelligence -- the very people who were instrumental in having Kennedy killed and faking his autopsy.** Anyone who knows me well at all knows that that is simply not my style, pure and simple. For Cooper to claim otherwise only betrays his own fraudulence. Frankly, even after our first meeting, I already had an instinctive distaste for the man. But I tried to give him the benefit of the doubt for his apparent commitment to getting the truth out about unconstitutional activities by the power elite. Had it come up at all, I would have certainly hastened to let him know -- as I had with Lear -- all the reasons why William Greer did not fire anything at Kennedy. Had I had any indication at that time that he was "pushing that line," I would have taken far more decisive steps to straighten him out on the spot long before our first confrontation on the matter which came about a couple of months later.

Following his video presentation, I was just beginning to press Cooper for some hard documentation for his many claims when the new female editor of the *Whole Life Times* arrived to begin an interview. I decided to cut the interview short since I doubted he would go into such detail with her at the outset, if at all. I decided it would be great to be on time for a change at a previously planned dinner meeting with four friends in Santa Monica, and prepared to depart after a brief introduction to the woman and thanking Cooper for his time. As he was closing the door behind me he asked, "Have you spoken to Barbara Honegger recently?"

I answered, "No. I haven't talked to her since Abbie Hoffman was killed in April."

Cooper replied mysteriously, "Ask her what she found out about the UFO at Desert One."

Up to that point, I felt that Cooper was at least fairly rational and coherent. But I had a sinking feeling as I walked away that he was another obsessed flake. I did put in several calls to her over the next few months whenever the thought arose, but never received a reply. What I found amusing, though, was that when I mentioned it to Lear shortly afterward, he indicated that he and Honegger had become quite chummy (as was also the case with Linda Howe). And that she had actually already sent him a copy of the chapter she left out of her book October Surprise.

I was quite startled at that, to say the least. When I spoke with Barbara a couple of nights before beginning this report, she indicated to me that she had mentioned to Cooper that some of the Iranian CIA/SAVAK agents at the site of Desert One did report seeing some type of unusual hovering craft.

But by no means indicated with any certainty that it was a UFO/flying saucer. As with my videotape, Cooper seized on the statement to enlarge and embellish it for his own commercial purposes.

Contrary to Cooper's statement in his book that I contacted him shortly after he had seen the video at Lear's in December 1988, Lear has stated on tape to me and Cooper has written in his own computer bulletin board message that he received a package (which included the Kennedy tape) from John Lear in late October 1988. There are several witnesses who will vouch that I first met him at least **10 months** after that in August 1989, and only at the insistence of my friends in LA after I had been referred to as an FBI agent by John Judge on KPFK Radio in L.A. while he was discussing Cooper and Lear and the involvement of the intelligence agencies in the alien/UFO conspiracy.

Although Bill Cooper became the object of a number of heated discussions with those friends in the weeks following, it was not until early October 1989 -- following several phone calls from his promotional group in LA requesting my help in promoting his Nov. 5 event -- that I reluctantly decided to meet with them and lend what assistance I could in one evening to their efforts. Despite my misgivings about having anything to do with Cooper at that point, I found the group to be informed, intelligent people of remarkable character. I was pleased to have made the contact with them. Those that I have spoken to in the year -and-a-half since have all come to realize what a fraud Cooper is -- without exception -- and to repudiate their efforts on his behalf.

In one case, the person who actually loaned Cooper \$1,000 to keep his family fed during that time -- believing him to be sincere -- admitted surprise and disgust when he pocketed the entire \$10,000 he netted from the event and never even offered to repay anything, much less proffer thanks for the effort expended on his behalf. I have since come to know that person's sincerity and veracity quite well and seriously doubt there is any attempt to be dishonest regarding Cooper.

It was during the discussion following that meeting in late October 1989 that I learned Cooper was showing a JFK videotape which sounded very much like mine at his talks. Despite what Lear, Cooper, or anyone else may be claiming, **it was not until then** that I realized why Judge and my friends had become so disturbed about Cooper and why Gritz had arbitrarily begun making the tape available earlier in the summer without consulting me. My girlfriend at the time -- who had known me for over a year before from other investigative efforts -- will readily verify my shock upon finally learning what Cooper was up to with the tape.

I learned from Gritz and others later that Cooper had called in to a radio program Gritz was doing earlier that summer and began to promote his "secret tape" of the Kennedy assassination. When one of the listeners (whom I have since come to know very well) called in to request a copy, Cooper apparently became even more secretive about it. More out of disgust than enthusiasm, since it had been gathering dust at his house for over a year, Gritz impulsively offered to make it available himself along with another Kennedy documentary, never anticipating the overwhelming number of requests he would receive for it. I had informed Gritz of my conclusions regarding the driver theory also during the time that I was completing his video documentary "A Nation Betrayed" in Nov. 1988. But apparently he felt it would do little harm to make the tape available anyway, if people wanted to see it that much.

It was a colossal blunder on his part, albeit well intentioned, which has caused me considerable grief in the aftermath and could have been easily averted if he had simply called me first. As soon as I discovered this was happening, however, I contacted him immediately and he agreed to discontinue distribution of the "Dallas Revisited" videotape. I am reasonably certain he has honored that request to this day. Apparently, however, this was the sequence of events which led Cooper to erroneously conclude that I "had made the tape for Gritz," when the fact is -- as I've already pointed out -- I did not meet or speak with Gritz until about 3 months after I hastily assembled it.

After settling the issue with Gritz, I confronted Cooper about his fraudulence a few days prior to his public event and insisted that he cease-and-desist in showing and/or selling the tape. He refused flat out, insisting that he knew the truth about the driver theory even if I didn't or "didn't have the guts" to stand behind my own discovery. There are so many witnesses to my end of this entire scenario who -- regardless of their feelings toward me at this time (a number of which have been severely damaged as a result of Cooper's lies, distortions and misrepresentations) -- would not hesitate to verify my statements as completely accurate.

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Part Two: Behold A Pail Of Horse Manure

Bill Cooper vs. Reality

In Bill Cooper's book Behold a Pale Horse, at the top of page 216 he states that:

"In December 1988, I had a phone conversation during which I told John Lear what I had seen in the Navy concerning the Kennedy assassination. I told him that the Top-Secret documents stated that the act was plainly visible in a film withheld from the public. I told John that I had been looking for a film that showed Greer shoot JFK for 16 years but had not found one.

"I was shocked and very pleasantly surprised when John asked me, 'Would you like to see it?' I, of course, replied in the affirmative and John invited Annie and me to his home in Las Vegas. We spent 4 days with John. He not only showed me the film but also gave me a video copy. I showed the video whenever I spoke to a group of people. The film is titled 'Dallas Revisited'. John told me that he obtained it from a CIA acquaintance whom he was not at liberty to name. I later found out the originator of that version of the Zapruder film was Lars Hansson. John Lear was showing the film at every meeting that he conducted."

To answer Cooper's most outlandish insinuation (via Lear) first: I swear before God and man -- before all that is sacred -- that I am not now nor have I ever been -- nor would I ever at any time consider becoming -- an intelligence agent of any sort for the government of this Country or any other, or any shadow or parallel version.

Very much to the contrary, I have worked tirelessly and openly for over a decade to publicly expose their illegal and treasonous operations. I have ample documented proof of those efforts, as does the Agency, I have little doubt, particularly after the appearance of the article in the San Luis Obispo, Calif. Telegram Tribune in late 1986. Anyone who claims otherwise is either a liar or a government agent himself. Unless Cooper has very good pull with the Agency in order to fabricate such records, there will be found no such employment file anywhere on me in any capacity -- though I have little doubt they have a growing file on me concerning my efforts to expose their depredations.

I am also very proud to say that -- by conscious choice -- **I have purposefully not served** in any capacity in the U.S. Armed (Corporate Mercenary) Forces or those of any other nation at any time in my life. As the son of a U.S. Marine who later became an NCO in the USAF (I was born in a Naval hospital in Memphis, TN on the Marine Corps anniversary in 1952) I have indeed lived on a number of military

bases in different parts of this country and the World and have traveled extensively since leaving home at 17.

However, I was very early on in life put off by the military's swaggering macho bullshit, and early on deduced that warfare and "military defense" are for the most part an absolute waste of the Nation's (and the World's) resources. I realized early on that it was also an unnecessary and brutal exploitation of the underprivileged classes by the weapons- manufacturing tyrants and their mindless uniformed henchmen, along with their "advance men" in the shadows -- people like John Lear and the men he works for.

It would be many years later -- after majoring in college in American (Diplomatic) History and Journalism, and an extensive study of the history of other nations and of (overt and covert) warfare -- that I would come to understand the true reasons for war's propagation -- despite the nauseating propaganda that invariably paves the way -- and the continuing role of international bankers and industrialists in its promotion -- despite the overwhelming popular opposition that is so uniformly misrepresented and de-emphasized in the corporate media. I have never hesitated to inform any audience of mine -- both in print, on the radio, and in public -- that I did serve as a deputy sheriff in North Idaho for several months in 1975 and as a seasonal customs/immigration agent in Montana in 1976 and 1978, while I was still young enough and optimistic enough to believe that I could "make a difference" by working through mainstream channels -- but that's it. Neither of those positions had any connection at all to the intelligence community.

In fact, I nearly became involved in an unfair labor practice lawsuit in 1978 against the U.S. Treasury Department in the process. My supervisor had persuaded me to file a complaint with the Treasury Employees' Union attorneys as a result of highly questionable policies to which I was being arbitrarily subjected. Although the complaint never came to court, the union attorneys raised such a stink over the issue that numerous inspectors and agents nationwide were provided redress for related grievances. I was reinstated to my former grade of GS-7 and received back pay, but was thereafter subjected to every form of harassment and intimidation by my supervisor and his bosses.

All of this occurred in the immediate aftermath of the death of my beloved sister (my best friend in the world), the loss of my 40-acre ranch on the Flathead River, and shortly before my divorce from my wife of nearly 7 years. I made it very clear to my supervisor in front of all the other officers assembled to hear me get chewed out and threatened into resigning that he himself had better get down on his knees in his USG-subsidized apartment and pray that he had a job the next week after I filed an unfair labor practice lawsuit with the union attorneys who were itching for it. I told him that if he wanted to threaten or intimidate anyone, he had better direct his venom against the other chumps. It was entirely wasted on me.

Years later, I would find reaffirmation of this spirit of perseverance in the face of adversity from the most unlikely quarter -- John Lear's pal G. Gordon Liddy, who stated so eloquently upon his release from prison a quote by the philosopher Nietzsche in German: *"That which does not destroy me makes me stronger."* On his photograph with Lear which is hanging on the wall of Lear's study, Liddy wrote *"John, I told 'em fuckin' nothin'!..."* Liddy should have been kept in prison much, much longer. But I admire his spirit of defiance.

My experience with U.S. Customs -- coupled with my academic background in American History and subsequent discoveries about USG covert (i.e. drug and weapons) operations around the Globe -- convinced me once and for all that I had no desire to continue pursuit of a long-planned career in the U.S. Foreign Service and International Law. Nor to continue any involvement -- much less employment -- with any other agency of the U.S. Government.

I find it particularly notable that William Cooper -- who claims to have been so unnerved by his discoveries in 1971 while in the Navy that he had to go AWOL for 10 days to sort it out, after having his term of service extended by the Navy for a year in punishment -- nevertheless chose to continue working for the "intelligence community" from 1975-1980 (according to his own resume!).

When I confronted Cooper on KFI Radio on August 4, 1990 about this fact, he claimed that he decided after his exposure to the UFO-related briefing papers in 1971. Or was it 1972? or 1973? -- I think he changes the dates every time he's asked. He wanted no further involvement with the U.S. Government or intelligence services following his discharge in 1975. Yet in his own resume, he lists his "service with the intelligence community from 1975-1980" -- a pure and simple baldfaced lie, however you slice it! In my one meeting with him at his home in Fullerton, California in August 1989, during our two subsequent phone conversations in November 1989 and January 1990, and during our joint appearance on KFI Radio, he refused to answer any of my questions as to what his activities were on their behalf.

Cooper has attempted to make a second career for himself exposing "the greatest cover-up in human history," denouncing anyone as a CIA agent or an agent of the secret government who has questioned him in any way. I find this very disturbing and believe that anyone who is inclined to take any of Cooper's charges seriously should also demand and receive a detailed answer from him regarding his post-service intelligence-related functions.

Given the Agency's unwillingness to disclose association with anyone, a disavowal from them of Cooper is a virtual certainty. Other than the period I have mentioned earlier (from 1975-1978), I however have never at any time since served as an agent -- witting or unwitting -- of any other organization in this country or elsewhere, official or otherwise. I wholeheartedly support the work of a number of organizations such as the Christic Institute, Greenpeace, the Center for Action, the Association of National Security Alumni (ANSECA), and a number of others. However, I do not belong to a single organization on Earth. Nor do I plan to. I neither pay dues nor receive checks from any of them. Period!

I will not hesitate to lay down my life to preserve the America created by our founding fathers. I have risked it many times (with the scars and bullet holes to prove it). But not for the **corrupt, multinational corporate thugs, murderers, and drug-runners who run the American Fourth Reich.**

I am also -- and have never tried to deny it -- the creator of the short video of the Abraham Zapruder film entitled "The Truth Betrayed: Dallas Revisited" concerning the theory that Secret Service Agent/Presidential limousine chauffeur William Greer turned and fired the fatal head shot at President John F. Kennedy. As I have stated numerous times already, the only reason I made the videotape was that I felt there was enough circumstantial evidence -- after consulting with 2 other long-time researchers of the "theory" who are still convinced that is what actually took place -- to warrant looking into it further. Had I been able to prove that Greer did fire at Kennedy, I would be the first person to lead the charge to re-open the investigation on that basis since Greer's culpability would have ripped the lid off the Lee Harvey Oswald as assassin lie once and for all.

If I were as devious and unscrupulous as Bill Cooper, I certainly could have sold thousands of copies of the video myself. **But it simply isn't true.** Bill Greer did turn around **twice** to look back at the President. And he did step on the brakes instead of accelerating like a "bat out of Hell" from Dealey Plaza. And for those 2 undisputed reasons alone, I do certainly believe he was in on the plot to kill Kennedy.

But I don't believe -- nor do virtually all other sincere researchers besides Cooper and the 2 others that I mentioned earlier -- that Greer fired anything at Kennedy. The Zapruder film is but one of many proofs of that. God knows that I wish it were actually true that it was Greer who fired the fatal shot. It would certainly make all of our efforts to get to the truth behind the conspiracy much easier. As convenient as it might be to force that falsehood into our scenarios, I am convinced, however, that it simply didn't happen. I am equally convinced that Bill Cooper could care less what actually happened as long as he can keep milking my videotape and this manufactured conflict between us to keep selling tickets to his events.

I made the video in February 1988 in Santa Barbara, Calif. **3 months** before I first met or spoke with retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Bo Gritz. And **3 months before I had ever even heard of John Lear**. I gave Col. Gritz a copy of the video in mid-May 1988 hoping that he could help me secure funds or other technical support through Mr. H. Ross Perot to conduct a thorough, professional forensic/ballistic investigation of the theory. Gritz was very candid at the outset in informing me that he and Perot were not in close communication at that point, and that I would have to seek another avenue of contact with Perot if I was intent on meeting with him.

Gritz was visibly moved by what the Kennedy videotape purported. But as a veteran of many years of handling all manner of small arms, he quickly noticed as I had that there was no apparent recoil from the alleged weapon nor any apparent muzzle-blast. I told him that I hoped that obtaining a far better copy of the film than what we began with would clear up that mystery in short order.

Although Cooper claims he read in his supposed Navy briefing papers that the weapon was an electronic device firing a self-propelled exploding projectile loaded with shellfish toxin, I believe that is absolute hogwash. Now that I have pulled part of the underpinning out of his "story", I have heard from some of his supporters that they now believe the weapon employed was now a remotely-triggered weapon on the floor of the vehicle. While it is true that the back seat of the limousine was actually raised hydraulically as high as 10 inches above the others to provide better viewing of the President and that Greer actually had control of the switch, I believe this new story about some remote-control weapon is also complete BS whether Cooper originated the story or not.

I did not give a copy of the JFK videotape to John Lear, but rather gave him the location of the studio where it was produced so that he could acquire one. To my knowledge, he is the only person who has ever done so. I never gave a copy of the Kennedy videotape to Cooper either, nor did I direct him to anyone else to obtain one. **I myself have never sold a single copy of the "Dallas Revisited JFK" videotape to anyone.** I made it very clear to both Gritz and Lear from our first meeting onward that I was by no means convinced that the driver had actually fired a weapon, but was intent on obtaining the best copy of the film available and having it analyzed at the best facility available to determine once and for all whether the reflection in question was, in fact, a weapon or the sunlight bouncing off Agent Roy Kellerman's head. I made it very clear to both of them in November 1988 that I no longer believed there was any validity whatsoever to the driver theory. I showed Gritz much clearer footage proving this in the video studio where I was at work editing his documentary "A Nation Betrayed" at that time, and put Lear in touch with people who could provide the same footage to him.

According to his statements in an audio-taped interview I conducted with John Lear in August 1990. According to Cooper's own computer bulletin board statement, they actually spoke over the phone in **late October 1988**. At that time Lear packaged up a number of UFO-related documents and videos, including my JFK video, and Federal-Expressed them to Cooper. Since they are both demonstrated liars, I certainly would not take either of those statements as gospel.

But I believe this time frame is far more accurate. Whether-or-not Cooper saw it in October or December of 1988 is quite important, since I had made it very clear during what I had planned to be my last meeting in late November 1988 with Lear that I no longer subscribed to the driver theory, and had become pretty well convinced that it was simply not valid, and pointedly steered him to obtain a clearer copy of the Zapruder film from a local video studio and to consult with Robert Groden, the respected and preeminent authority on the film. Although I gave him Groden's phone number and address at that time, Lear did not meet with Groden until Nov. or Dec. 1990 -- **2 years later!** If, in fact, both Lear and Cooper are lying in their earlier statements and Cooper first saw the video at Lear's home in December 1988, Lear was already then well aware that I had completely discarded the theory.

Cooper says that I called him shortly afterward. But the truth is **that I did not call him until August 1989, at least 8-10 months** after her received a copy of my tape from Lear. I would not have called him even then if it had not been for the urging of several friends who were very disturbed about this actions. There are several witnesses who can and will verify this time frame, particularly since I put Lear in touch with two of them in order for him to obtain the clearer footage of the Zapruder film.

The graphics on the JFK videotape -- which was hurriedly produced in 45 minutes at a studio in Santa Barbara, Calif. for immediate presentation to a small group of possible funders of the investigation --clearly identify it as "The Truth Betrayed: Dallas Revisited". If anyone notes a similarity with the title of Gritz's memoirs and the title of my videotape, it is because I initially suggested the title of "Mission Betrayed". But Gritz settled on "A Nation Betrayed". Likewise with two of the chapters which include "Revisited" in their title. I also contributed heavily to two of the chapters in his new book Called to Serve and created their titles -- "Profiles in Conspiracy" and "The Third-World War". Whatever my contributions to the text and the editing, however, Gritz is the author of that book. He is the man who has lived its contents. And I have never attempted to claim otherwise.

While Cooper claims that he had been trying for 16 years to obtain a copy of the Zapruder film, anyone who has been a serious researcher in the JFK assassination case has been able to obtain the same 8mm film copies that I used directly from the U.S. National Archives and super-8mm film copies from a number of private researchers around the country and in Canada quite easily, quickly, and at a very reasonable cost. Had Cooper made any kind of serious effort during those 16 years or since, he could have easily acquired his own copy. It took me exactly **1 day** to obtain one of each once I decided to have my own copies, and they came from each of those 2 sources. There is nothing about either of the two versions of the Zapruder film I worked with that is any different from the ones anyone else could easily obtain from the same sources, despite all the hype and other bullshit circulated by Lear and Cooper.

I seriously doubt Cooper had spent much time at all pondering the whodunit of JFK's murder until he saw my videotape -- given his lack of familiarity with so many of the thousands of other crucial details involved in the assassination -- and I do believe his main consideration at that point was primarily related to the financial possibilities my videotape carried for him. God knows he's certainly sold an ungodly number of tickets on the sensational attraction of that videotape, and has unloaded at least hundreds of copies of the tape itself which I produced bearing his label. I must again emphasize that I made it clear to Lear during our first meeting at his home in June 1988 -- and ever since -- and to Cooper in late October 1989 after I had discovered he was showing and selling the tape, that my JFK videotape was merely a crude and rushed research aid probably 7 generations down from the original.

I took pains to make it very clear to Cooper that my videotape was by no means a clear or high-quality finished production. And that it was never intended to be shown or distributed publicly for that reason. Both Lear and Cooper as well as Gritz knew this very clearly from their first conversations with me. Lear's letter to me which is included here demonstrates that clearly. I also made it very clear to

Cooper at that time all the reasons why I no longer supported the driver theory and that it simply did not hold up. I ordered him to cease-and-desist in showing the videotape and insisted that if he was so intent upon misinforming the American public, he should cough up \$40 and buy his own film and edit it to his liking.

It wouldn't surprise me at all if Lear hinted or even claimed directly to Cooper that he obtained "The Truth Betrayed: Dallas Revisited" from a CIA agent, since he does have a uniquely twisted sense-of-humor and likes to play at being the mysterious and secretive spy type. He actually is regarded as a kind of Walter Mitty of the intelligence set as it were, by anyone's estimate who knows him very well at all. Anyone who has ever been to visit Lear's home and entered his "Shrine" -- whose 4 walls are completely covered with photographs from his flight exploits around the world, and whose bookshelves are stocked with the likes of Will by G. Gordon Liddy, The Secret Team by Col. Fletcher Prouty, Lost Victory by William Colby, and America in Search of Enemies by John Stockwell -- knows only too well Lear's penchant for the esoteric, covert and clandestine, as well as the practical joke. I still have several copies of letters sent with a Washington, D.C. postmark on Central Intelligence Agency stationery to "SA Lars Hansson". It is very obvious by comparing them to other letters from him that the type is identical to that of the old typewriter in Lear's study in Las Vegas.

Lear knows as well as Gritz that I am no agent. There is no way in the world given my politics and record of patriotic action that any intelligence agency of the U.S. Government (or even a shadow government) would ever consider hiring me in any capacity, much less attempting to co-opt me. It is far more likely -- given the success of my efforts -- that they would enlist someone like John Lear or Bill Cooper in an attempt to discredit me. Lear knows that he has had tremendously much to fear by my disclosures. And it is not at all surprising that he has been taking steps for some time to try to embarrass me or diminish my credibility, all the while pretending to be my "pal".

I have no doubt Cooper would attempt to make an "iron-clad case" against me if he was able to purloin Lear's notes to me, as he has other material from other researchers. He would have an absolute heyday if he were ever able to paw through the moving-box-full of recorded telephone conversations Lear has compiled over the last few years, as well. Since I have nothing to hide, I am including Lear's letters to me with this packet along with the CIA ID that I finally picked up to make idiots like Cooper happy. You should have little trouble judging for yourself what's authentic and what's contrived, I would certainly hope. To the uninitiated, such humor -- given the depraved and murderous record of CIA actions worldwide -- might justifiably seem a bit macabre if not sordid. In fact, I several times became completely disgusted with Lear's callousness in his humor regarding the suffering inflicted on the Third-World victims of his lethal cargos.

However, given the implicit threat involved in any serious effort to expose such ongoing operations, such sarcastic humor (within limits) often served as an escape valve for the repressed rage and disgust experienced by many of us who research these activities. Even so, given Lear's admitted involvement for many years in the transport of weapons and God-knows-what else for the CIA and other related agencies throughout the World, I often felt that he was much too glib about the number and brutality of the deaths that resulted from his lethal cargos and from CIA operations in general.

Despite his outward hospitality and what appeared to be genuine camaraderie that developed between us in mid-1988, and again in mid-1990, I was never able or willing to completely trust him or relax my guard, as much as I might have wanted to. As much as I came to truly appreciate his dry and sophisticated wit during the time I spent with him, and during our phone conversations and mutual correspondence over a period of 2 years from June 1988 to August 1990, I never felt entirely comfortable with his motivations or basic allegiances. I often felt a serious uneasiness about his actual values or the possible reasons for his apparent preoccupation with exposing the UFO cover-up. His

activities since his meeting with Bill Cooper -- whenever that actually occurred -- have certainly not been beneficial to me.

Cooper continues:

"Shortly after Lear gave me a copy of the film, Lars Hansson called and asked if he could drop by to meet with me at my home in Fullerton, California. I told him he could and asked him to bring a better copy of the film if he had one. Lars said that he would. He stated that he would also bring a film on a man named Bo Gritz, of whom I had never heard. Mr. Hansson informed me that he had made the video for Bo Gritz and John Lear and that both were using it in their lectures. I found out much later that Bo Gritz was selling the tape for \$10 per copy.

"Lars came to the house, brought the films on videotape, and we spoke for about an hour. His main purpose was to tell me that he wanted me to expose the people to the film. Bbut he did not want me to connect him to the film in any manner. I agreed not to divulge my source. And I kept my word. I began to use the tape in my lectures. When I found out that Bo Gritz was making it available, I bowed to public pressure and also made it available."

That entire paragraph is a complete, bald-faced lie. Cooper says that I called him shortly after Lear gave him a copy of my film. But the fact is that whether he received it in October or December of 1988, I did not call him until August 1989 -- at least 9 months later, and only after several friends of mine urged me to check him out personally following his talk in Long Beach. This was shortly after I had been advised that I had been referred to erroneously on KPFK Radio as an FBI agent by John Judge during a discussion about Cooper and Lear and UFOs, which Judge refers to as Unrecognized Fascist Observatories.

Cooper did not mention the Kennedy tape at all during our phone conversation, much less during our meeting at his home. Nor did I agree to bring him anything since I did not know nor had I ever spoken to the man and had only seen a couple computer messages of his at that point. Since I had dropped the "driver theory" entirely almost a year before and had made that clear to both Lear and Gritz, I not only **did not have a better copy of the videotape around, but I also most certainly would not have given a copy to Cooper whom I didn't even know -- much less trust -- at that point.** Since I had dropped my support for the theory almost a year before -- and everyone close to me was well aware of this fact -- I had no reason whatsoever to ask Bill Cooper to promote it or anything else for me.

At no time -- I repeat, **at no time** -- did I ever give a copy of the JFK videotape to Bill Cooper nor authorize him to show it with or without my voice. Nor did I ever discuss the matter with him at all until late October 1989 by phone when I discovered from the group of people promoting his Nov. 5 event that he had acquired a copy from John Lear and was showing it to whoever would watch. I had been so preoccupied with my own work in Santa Barbara that I was largely unaware of what had been happening with both Gritz and Lear -- much less Cooper -- during that time period.

That first discussion/confrontation with Cooper regarding the JFK videotape occurred some 2 months after my first and only meeting with Cooper at his home in **August 1989.** Not shortly after his meeting with Lear as he claims. Contrary to his statement here, he immediately recognized my name when I identified myself, and claimed that he had had me "*checked out thoroughly*" and that he knew I was "*on the level*" and had been expecting my call. I made it very clear during our brief conversation that I had originally heard about him from his computer messages to Lear back in November 1988. And that the main reason I was calling was because several acquaintances of mine had attended his lecture in

Long Beach (including Barbara Honegger) and were actually pretty shook up about some of his statements, and wanted me to go and check him out.

At no time in this conversation or during my subsequent meeting with him and his wife at his home did we discuss the Kennedy assassination at all. Nor did I agree to bring him any videotapes of anything. I was simply going to meet with him to discuss his experiences and claims and to examine whatever evidence he had. Since I had dropped all involvement or belief in the possibility the "Greer shot Kennedy" theory 9 months before -- as many people can and will attest including Bo Gritz and John Lear -- it would have been absolutely ludicrous for me to have even considered doing so, especially with someone I did not even know much less trust. In fact, I did not even have a copy of the tape on hand at that time and would have had to pay \$12 for another copy. **Cooper's statements in this regard are absolute, bald-faced lies.**

I spent about 1½- 2 hrs. at Cooper's home in the late afternoon in mid-August 1989,. We actually did not even discuss the Kennedy assassination since I spent most of the time there watching a videotaped copy of his presentation at the July 1989 MUFON convention in Las Vegas. I made a point of taking notes and then asking him to clarify certain statements he made in the presentation afterward. During our conversation, completely on the spur of the moment, I did go out to my car and get him a copy of the 10-min. video of Col. Gritz's trial which I had recently co- produced. And I did pen a short note of encouragement on the cover. I certainly did not give him authorization to show that videotape, either, at his public presentations. Nor has Gritz.

Just as I was about to press Cooper for some hard documentation of his claims, the new editor for the Whole Life Times -- a woman -- showed up to do an interview with him. I left to meet with four friends in Santa Monica for dinner. They will not hesitate to verify my statements regarding the timing of this meeting as completely accurate.

The first time I ever discussed the Kennedy assassination or my videotape with Bill Cooper was in late **October 1989** over the phone after I discovered in a meeting with some of the organizers of his event in Hollywood on Nov. 5, 1989 that he had shown what sounded like my videotape to them and to other people. Although he claims publicly that I gave the JFK tape to him -- **an absolute bald-faced lie** -- when I actually demanded to know where he obtained a copy of the tape during the aforementioned phone conversation, he repeatedly refused to tell me. His deceit in this instance would be quickly revealed by a certified lie-detector test, though I have little doubt he will find any number of excuses to avoid submitting to one.

I not only did not know the man well enough after one meeting at his home to entrust him with anything of any importance, but I also did not like him well enough after that one meeting to even consider showing it to him since it was irrelevant and inaccurate, anyway. In fact, it was never discussed at all until I confronted him about it over the phone in late October 1989. Any statements he has made or is making to the effect that I gave him the JFK videotape, authorized him to use it, or even discussed the assassination with him prior to this time are outright, bald-faced lies and will readily be proven as such if he does submit to a certified lie-detector test.

If Cooper actually believes that is what happened, then there is little doubt he is definitely slipping gears -- and given his record of heavy drinking and calling people late at night to threaten them or leave threatening messages on their answering machines -- that is a very good possibility as well. Whatever the case, as he has stated in his book, he has no qualms about charging people to see my videotape without my permission. According to his crony Stan Barrington, he has also sold at least several hundred copies as well under his own label for at least \$20 each.

I am not alone, as a private citizen researcher and investigator, in declaring Bill Cooper a fraud and a liar -- and those are two of the nicest things I can say about the man.

When I demanded during our face-to-face encounter on Las Vegas Radio KVEG in late July 1990 that he produce this JFK tape which he claimed I had inscribed and given to him at our joint appearance on Aug. 4 at KFI Radio in LA, he not only did not produce it -- how could he? -- but then insisted he didn't have to produce anything. I repeat -- the man is a charlatan and a liar.

Let me make it clear also that my dealings with Gritz and Lear were virtually entirely separate from the other. That is, I don't think to this day that they have even physically met each other. Nor am I aware that they have even spoken over the phone together more than once or twice, if that. Gritz was never particularly interested in Lear and his off-the-wall ideas, and pretty well wrote him off as a "flake" early on while Lear generally derided Gritz for being "slow-on-the-draw" for taking so long to realize the actual nature and extent of USG involvement in the worldwide drug trade as well as the actual nature of the UFO situation.

After Lear deliberately failed to show up at the one meeting that I had tried to facilitate between them in August 1988, I thereafter made little discussion of one when I was in the company of the other. I know only too well that however Gritz may choose to project himself publicly -- and despite his occasional lapses in terms of misplaced trust -- he is incredibly sincere, dedicated, and astute in his planning and execution of goals. He is perhaps the most utterly fearless individual I have ever had the privilege of meeting in my entire life.

I believe I have already made my view of John Lear crystal clear. Although taking his girlfriend into the cockpit during at least one of his commercial flights to San Francisco and Los Angeles, or securing employment for her with the same airlines (based in his hometown!) may not have led directly to his alleged firing by American Trans Air (he claims they were upset about a UFO lecture he gave in Texas), lapses of this type in judgment and restraint are probable factors in his release. They were certainly major factors in my decision to terminate contact with him for a year in November 1988.

The one lecture of mine on September 1, 1988 which Lear attended -- during which I showed the JFK video along with a great deal of other material, which he has since publicly referred to in a feeble attempt to prove that I have "flip-flopped" on the issue -- was in fact simply used as an excuse by him to spend the evening with his girlfriend by claiming to be with me. They proudly sat together in the front row no less, and were clearly captured on video as well as observed by numerous witnesses in attendance. I thought it was incredibly tacky on both of their parts but particularly his, considering his asinine and irresponsible behavior prior to that evening. It was but one of several instances in which Lear has used me as a convenient cover and/or scapegoat for his own half-assed activities as I described in 'Part One' of this affidavit.

As I have also indicated earlier, I did not know Bo Gritz at the time I made the JFK video. I had never even heard of John Lear either, and never authorized either one of them to show it at their lectures much less sell it. Included in the *Appendix* is a letter I received from Lear in early 1990 advising me that he had seen my tape being sold with Bill Cooper's label on it at a lecture by Bill Hamilton in Palmdale, Calif. and asking if I had changed my position on not having it distributed by making an agreement with Cooper. He asked if he could also since he had had numerous requests for it. I have little doubt Lear has dubbed dozens of copies for his friends, and that what he wanted then was the ability to actually charge money for them.

The only time I authorized Lear even to show it was in April 1989 after he at least had called to request permission. I didn't know that he had actually been showing it all along. I made it very clear to

him he could do so on the condition that he made it a point to emphasize very clearly at the outset that the man who made it -- and I told him he could use my name -- **absolutely did not subscribe** to the theory any longer and that he, Lear, apparently still did. I have yet to see the footage of that interview. But given the number of Lear's other lies and prevarications, I seriously doubt he added that proviso. And he would probably deny now -- after I make these disclosures -- that I made such a stipulation. A lie detector would show his deception, however.

I remember distinctly feeling at the time that it was the beginning of a set-up to discredit me, since he had had little interest in actively pursuing the theory for nearly a year before. As you have read in 'Part One', he had extreme ulterior motives to try to embarrass or discredit me, given what I had come to know of his scandalous and/or criminal activities in 1988. I was not surprised, however, when I refused to "help him out" at the July 1989 MUFON convention, to learn several months later that he again used my video as part of his "bootleg" presentation. I seriously doubt he would have had the "balls" to have shown it if I had been there. Although he made a great display to me of keeping the videotape "under wraps" until at least August of 1990, I have since discovered that he went ahead and showed it at least several times publicly at some paid events in Las Vegas and Dallas -- again without my permission and contrary to our trust.

I have had it confirmed as well from the producers of the show that it was, in fact, John Lear who also made my videotape available to Nippon TV for broadcast without my permission, even though he was well aware of how to contact me at the same address I had had in California for over 2 years at that point. Although Cooper has touted Nippon's version as "computer-enhanced", the display at his Beverly Hills High program in August 1990 showed only a poorly colorized ("neonized" is perhaps more accurate), doctored version of my own videotape -- with my own voice clearly evident in the background -- and dubbed-in sound effects to indicate the gun blasts. It was even cheaper and shoddier than I had been led to believe by his grandiose claims when I challenged him on KFI Radio a few days before.

Regarding this time period Cooper states in his book:

"Some time later I read an L.A.-based newsletter (forgot the name) in which Lars Hansson stated that he did not know that I had the film and did not know that I was showing it at lectures. Hansson stated in the newsletter that he was at my Hollywood High lecture on November 5, 1989. And that he tried to protest my use of it during the question-and-answer period but that he never had a chance to be recognized. We videotaped that event. At the end I asked anyone with questions or comments to walk to a microphone that we had placed in the aisle. I have examined every inch of that videotape and Lars Hansson never got up from his seat. Nor did he ever raise his hand, nor did he attempt in any way to be recognized."

"Lars later called me again and asked me not to use his voice on the tape -- his voice where he says with no hesitation or qualification whatsoever -- as he narrates the videotape, *'The driver of the car turns with his left arm over his right shoulder with a pistol and fires. You see the .45 automatic, .45 caliber nickel-plated automatic weapon in his left hand. He's firing over his right shoulder; you see it in relief. You see his head pointing backwards toward the President. In this enhanced close-up, you see the impact of the bullet upon the President. The force of the shot drives him violently backward against the back of the seat. You see Mrs. Kennedy react in horror.'*

"Then later in the film Hansson makes this statement: *'You can clearly see his [the driver's] head turning and his arm, and the weapon extending into view over his right*

shoulder.' I agreed not to use his voice. In subsequent lectures, I showed the tape with no audio. As it turned out, people were able to see it better with no narration."

I have never disputed that the words on the videotape attributed to me are indeed mine. But as I have stated earlier -- and will discuss in more detail further on -- the tape he has been using was thrown together in 45 minutes in a studio in a rushed attempt to prepare a riveting "trailer", if you will, for a presentation to some potential investors in the investigation. Even as I made it, I chided myself for hurriedly stating it as an actual fact instead of emphasizing that "it appears as if" or "it looks like the driver is doing this", because that was all I knew for certain at that point. I consoled myself at the time with the certainty that I would only give a few copies to trusted individuals who could be relied upon not to let it out until it was either confirmed or disproved. Putting those particular words on tape was a monumental mistake I have admitted publicly a number of times -- in print, on television, and on the radio. But the biggest mistake was entrusting it to John Lear, which will become mightily evident by the end of this statement.

Cooper, however, continues lying in the first line of this quote by saying he did not remember the name of the magazine, when he has referred to it repeatedly in his CAJI newsletter, on the radio, and in public -- UFO Magazine -- as a "trashzine" and has spared no effort in thoroughly castigating its editor Vicki Cooper and several of its present and former writers including Martin Cannon, Barry Taff, and Don Ecker. He continues the lie by saying that I stated in the magazine that I tried to protest his use of my videotape at his Nov. 5, 1989 lecture. You can read my letter to UFO in the *Appendix* yourself and see that I claimed that I had called him prior to the event and again in January 1990 to do so.

My comments regarding the sequence of events at his presentation were actually edited from my letter before printing due to space limitations. Given Cooper's technique of "accessing secret information," perhaps he actually pawed through their trash cans to come up with that claim. What he obviously can't keep straight is that I did call him prior to the Nov. 5, 1989 event to insist that he cease-and-desist using my tape, and to advise him for the first time directly that I did not support the driver theory since at least Nov. 1988. I also informed Cooper that I felt it was highly irresponsible as well as unethical for him to be deliberately promoting a falsehood publicly which he knew next to nothing about.

He insisted that I had no copyright on the material. And that he would show it or sell it to whoever he liked with-or-without my permission. I acknowledged that I had no copyright on the Zapruder footage -- that much was true -- but that I certainly did on my narration. I emphasized that since it was never intended for public distribution, was not accurate, and I had shelved the theory 9 months before, if he was so intent on showing the film, he should at the very least remove my narration. He did so at that event, knowing that I would probably be in attendance. I told him then that if he was so intent upon getting out the "truth", why didn't he at least cough up \$40 and buy his own copy of the film and make his own edited version, instead of having to use mine without my permission when I myself didn't support its contents?

I asked him who gave him the copy of my tape. He refused, point-blank, to tell me. I again demanded to know, and he mumbled something about some ex-CIA person. I suspected for a minute that he had perhaps slipped and that the Agency probably had gotten hold of a copy and may well have given it to him to go out and discredit me. I still think that may be the case, given Lear's long-term direct ties to the Agency and his (and their) many reasons to try to shut me up, one way or the other. On the other hand, in both their cases, they have not hesitated to flippantly accuse any number of other researchers or activists of being "closet" CIA agents or "plants".

I explained to Cooper that all the research I had done up to November 1988 and since had pretty well convinced me that Greer could not have fired a weapon because both his hands never left the steering wheel, nothing crossed his chest, and -- despite the apparent protrusion behind the reflection from Kellerman's head, which Adams and Evans believe indicates the presence of a gun barrel -- there is no apparent recoil or muzzle blast from a weapon. And no apparent cuts in the film at that point either. Cooper then proceeded to tell me that he had read in the Top-Secret Navy documents he had had access to that the weapon was an electronic device firing a self-propelled explosive projectile filled with shellfish toxin.

When I countered that as an ex-deputy sheriff and customs agent, I believed that was simply bullshit. And that even if such a weapon existed -- which was highly possible -- and even if it was left up to Greer to finish what others had failed to accomplish -- which was also within the realm of possibility -- **nobody in Naval Intelligence would write that down, much less leave it anywhere that a lowly petty officer like him would have access to it.** I told him that regardless of what his cow-eyed followers were willing to swallow, he and I both knew that was complete bullshit.

It is truly a shame that I didn't record that conversation because Cooper's next words were something to the effect that "I don't give a shit what actually happened. We are under so great a threat of takeover that if that's what it takes to shake people up, I'll go ahead and use it. And I don't give a damn whether it's true or not or what you or anyone else says about it."

I accused him then of doing it for sensational purposes just to sell tickets to his own events, and accused him of being a demagogue and a cheap huckster who was just trying to cash in on the UFO hysteria that had been generated by Lear. I made the statement to him at that time that the only *aliens* Kennedy was about to expose -- as was the first Pope John Paul before he was poisoned -- were the Nazis and fascists who had infested our aerospace and defense industries and intelligence agencies as well as the worldwide drug trade, along with their willing American accomplices.

I reminded him of several glaring examples such as the fact that Ruth and Michael Paine -- who just happened to speak Russian fluently and were so kind in "looking after" Marina Oswald at their home in Irving, Texas while Lee worked in Dallas -- were almost certainly CIA agents themselves. Michael Paine worked directly under (former) Nazi General Walter Dornberger -- judged one of the most vicious of the war criminals in the dock at Nuremberg -- who was the director of research and Development at Bell Helicopter in Dallas. Anyone familiar with Kennedy's actions in office knows that he had pledged to end U.S. participation in the Vietnam conflict by the end of 1965 following his certain re-election, and had also vowed to close advisers to "splinter the CIA into a thousand pieces and scatter it to the winds." I reminded Cooper that Bell Helicopter stood to lose billions of dollars in contracts if Kennedy had followed through with either promise. And that it was Warren Commission member John J. McCloy -- the former High Commissioner in Germany -- who had pardoned Dornberger and literally thousands of other Nazis and facilitated their insertion into U.S. defense industries, intelligence agencies, and the military.

I pointed out that it just happened to be Ruth Paine who had so conveniently found the nice job at the School Book Depository for Lee, and later found his alleged rifle in her garage. I reminded him that the man whom Oswald supposedly took a potshot at shortly before the entire hit team took Kennedy out -- General Edwin Walker -- placed a call immediately after the shooting of JFK to Munich. Finally, I reminded Cooper that the Warren Report itself was written by Otto Winnaker of the U.S. Army Historical Division, who also happened to be **one of 26 official historians to Hitler's Third Reich** before being provided with a nice job in the U.S. Army through McCloy's "compassionate" efforts.

I emphasized that it was these "*aliens*" who deserved our scrutiny -- whom Bo Gritz and the Christic Institute have brought out of the shadows into the spotlight. I emphasized that **this is the biggest cover-up in modern history**. But with the revelations about Bush's forced firing of several Nazis on his campaign staff, and the revelations brought out in such books as Trading With the Enemy and American Swastika by Charles Higham, Blowback by Christopher Simpson, Inside the League by Scott and Jon Lee Anderson, and The Great Heroin Coup by Henrik Kruger, a Danish journalist, it cannot be held back any longer.

As a matter of record, it should also be pointed out here that even though Cooper was unable to provide any supporting documentation for his allegations regarding George Bush's involvement in drug smuggling through his Zapata Oil Co. based in Midland, Texas when put on the spot by a representative of the Christic Institute, numerous revelations on this subject have emerged from other credible sources. Many of my associates, as a matter of course, point to the glaring fact that drug smuggling into the U.S. rose by at least 1000% during George Bush's watch as "drug czar" (and is bound to rise by at least that much under the "control" of the current occupant of that slot, given his abysmal record in the state of Florida). It is well known that Bush's son Jeb was intimately involved with the anti-Castro Cubans who were the recipients of at least \$250,000 in State Department funds for an obvious cocaine-smuggling front called "Ocean Hunter" in Miami along with its sister operation in Costa Rica, "Refrigorificos Puntarenas". That particular story was examined in detail in a 1987 CBS "West 57th Street" program by Leslie Cockburn and Jane Wallace.

CIA agent Felix Rodriguez AKA Max Gomez -- who ran the contra re-supply operation through Ilopango air base in El Salvador directly under Bush's right-hand man Donald Gregg -- is alleged by several sources (including the cartel's chief accountant and money-launderer Ramon Milian-Rodriguez) to have solicited and received a \$10 million cash contribution directly from the Medellin, Colombia cocaine cartel for the contras. One of my own sources claims -- with considerable veracity -- to have actually worked directly under Ted Shackley from 1979 to 1984 and to have visited Shackley's home in Medellin where he has lived with his common-law wife -- a sister to cartel kingpin Jorge Ochoa -- for years and actually ran the Medellin Cartel! Despite his claims to the contrary in the Iran/Contra hearings, it is a matter of record that **Oliver North's personal notebooks contained 550 entries directly concerning drugs!**

Former CIA Director under President Jimmy Carter, Admiral Stansfield Turner stated publicly just prior to the 1988 elections that he had taken Gen. Manuel Noriega off the CIA payroll in 1977 (where he had been placed by former Agency Director George Bush), only to watch Noriega be reinstated in 1981 to the tune of \$200,000+ per year -- the same amount we pay our President! -- by Vice-President George Bush. The Cutolo Affidavit and accompanying documents (reproduced in the *Appendix*) which was sent to Lt. Col. Gritz in Aug. 1986 provides tremendous additional support for the allegations that Noriega was directly involved with the Israeli Mossad through agent Michael Harari, the U.S. Army and the CIA in the establishment of direct routes of air transport of cocaine from Colombia into the United States.

Gritz has stated publicly many times and in his books and videos that as Commander of Special Forces in Panama in 1976, he had prepared an assassination team to "*terminate with extreme prejudice Manuel Noriega*" before he was ordered -- in person at Task Force Hawk Communications Center at Ft. Gulick -- by Maj. Gen. Harold R. Aaron, Deputy Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to stand down his team "*because of Noriega's immense value to the Director of Central Intelligence -- George Bush!*"

Finally, the U.S. Supreme Court itself ordered Vice-President George Bush personally -- who had been placed at the head of the Eli Lilly drug company by Dan Quayle's father! -- to cease-and-desist in his lobbying efforts to enable the drug companies to continue dumping drugs into Third-World countries

which were not allowed here. In fact, the public relations specialist hired to perform damage control on Dan Quayle's "backfiring" vice-presidential candidacy in 1981 was none other than Stuart Spencer -- a political harballer who had just before that been serving in virtually the same capacity for none other than Manuel Noriega on a \$350,000 contract! Perhaps now you can understand why so many of my associates claim George Bush paraphrased his instructions to his agents in the War on Drugs from Nancy Reagan's "*Just say no!*" are "**Just fly low!**"

In a recent conversation with retired USAF Col. Fletcher Prouty, he told me that in his capacity as chief liaison between the USAF and the CIA at the Pentagon from 1954-1963, he had personally "sanitized" 2 freighters for use in the Bay of Pigs invasion which were re-named "Barbara" and "Houston". A picture of the latter is included in Peter Wyden's excellent book Bay of Pigs. Prouty noted in the same conversation that he himself had been one of the U.S. military officers directly responsible for arranging air transportation for the relocation of the Nazis described in Blowback.

Joseph McBride -- in a series of articles in Nation Magazine in 1988 -- detailed his verification that George Bush actually worked for the CIA as early as 1961 himself and had filed reports concerning activities by the YAF (Young Americans for Freedom) -- a right-wing youth group in Houston. Although the Agency attempted to claim that the George Bush in question was another man with the same name -- a lowly clerk -- McBride dug further and proved that the Bush in question was, in fact, a George H.W. Bush and that his address listed at that time was the same address in the which the current President resided during that time period.

Regarding Bush's involvement with Nazis, the *Village Voice* reported on Nov 1, 1988 in "The Real Nazis Behind Every Bush" that "the 7 profascists given the boot by his campaign team 2 months earlier had been part of the GOP's systematic recruitment of the most extreme rightwing elements in the Eastern European ethnic communities of the United States... The Bush ally with perhaps the closest ties to Hitler's Germany was Yaroslav Stetsko, whose group the Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations [ABN] was a prominent participant in a 1983 White House meeting featuring talks by both President Reagan and the vice president. Bush signed a photograph taken at that meeting '*To the Honorable Yaroslav Stesko, With Best Wishes, George Bush.*' ... Stetsko (who died in 1986) was an extreme Ukrainian nationalist who collaborated with the Nazis in World War II as the very short term "prime minister" of the "independent" Ukrainian puppet government set up in the Western Lands of the Ukraine (or Galicia). Within 2 years of the establishment of Stetsko's regime, more than 100,000 Jews were exterminated in the Galician capital of Lvov according to captured Nazi documents."

Cooper snickered about the entire suggestion about the cover-up of post-war Nazi involvement with UFOs, the aerospace and defense industries, drug smuggling, assassinations, and political repression. He retorted that fools like me and John Judge and Dan Sheehan were complete idiots to think that "goose-stepping Nazis in Wehrmacht uniforms" were piloting the UFOs. He snarled that he was going to tear them apart on the Tom Leykis KFI Radio show in LA that very afternoon. When I questioned him as to why he had such a "hard-on" for them, he complained about some disparaging remarks John Judge had made about him recently on KPFK Radio. Cooper was also enraged about a letter written by L.A.-based researcher Martin Cannon to Daniel Sheehan expressing concern about the Christic Institute's contact(s) with Cooper, Lear, and even myself. I learned later that Cannon did not even know who I was at that point and mistakenly assumed I was part of the confederacy, thanks to some rather insidious and two-faced gossip-mongering from a disaffected former legal activist in L.A..

For the record, this man was one of the first people I showed the raw, unedited JFK videotape to and was the person who insisted that I contact John Judge regarding the issue, which I did in short order by mail. Judge was apparently too busy or too unconcerned to reply, but later referred to me on the same radio program which I mentioned earlier as "a former FBI agent who was hanging around the Christic

office in LA promoting the erroneous driver theory" -- or words pretty much to that effect -- much to the concern and consternation of a number of my associates in that area. That particular gaffe was particularly unfortunate on Judge's part, since everyone whom I dealt with there -- and Judge himself -- had been informed that I had been a Customs agent, and that I had never promoted the driver theory as certain but rather was attempting to quietly secure the funding necessary in order to confirm its truth or falsity. I had actually sent him a copy of the news article about me which clearly states that I was a Customs agent.

Unfortunately, Judge's distaste and mistrust for any kind of bureaucrat or agent runs so deep that he foolishly jumped to that conclusion. Be that as it may, Judge and I have since clarified the issue, and I was instrumental in producing an appearance by him a few months later in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. The legal activist, on the other hand, scrupulously avoided facing me after that and contented himself with accusing Father Bill Davis and the Christic Institute in general of being agents of military intelligence. Oh well.

Cooper began to rant against Judge, calling him a "communist" and an "agent of Western Goals", and accused Christic of being "funded by the KGB." Remembering his slavering adulation of Gritz at that point, I calmly reminded him that even Bo Gritz had repeatedly publicly denounced that charge against Christic as absolute hogwash. Since I had seen neither Cannon's letter nor Sheehan's reply, I encouraged him to call or meet with these people in person to try to resolve whatever disagreements they had privately since open sniping over the airwaves only did further damage to the overall effort.

Cooper insisted that he was going to rip them both to shreds on the program. And at that point I realized that the man was either profoundly ill-informed, a deliberate agent provocateur, or a complete lunatic. I cut the conversation off and hastened to contact the Institute in L.A. and Washington to warn them of his plan as well as to ascertain exactly what Sheehan had written back to Cannon regarding Cooper and me.

After several hours of phone tag, I reached Wayne Nelson, Sheehan's brother-in-law who works at the Institute. He quickly informed me that he had indeed met with Cooper following an off-the-air phone conversation between Sheehan and Cooper initiated by Carol Hemingway while Cooper was a guest on her radio program. Cooper had apparently claimed that he had all kinds of evidence of George Bush's involvement in long-term drug smuggling and other nefarious activities. However, when Nelson met with Cooper in order for him to deliver the information, all he could produce was the same tired old innuendoes and insinuations which had been extant in the alternative media for several years. Basically recycled dirt, but nothing of sufficient substance to add anything new or useful to the equation. As I indicated earlier, however, Cooper had attempted to insinuate himself under Christic's umbrella of credibility. And when they rejected him as the fraud that he is, he immediately resorted to reviling them as agents of the KGB.

A number of us monitored the KFI radio program very carefully that afternoon. Cooper never brought up Sheehan or Judge once. When asked by a caller what he thought about Robert Groden's research and books, however, Cooper indicated not only that **he did not know who Groden was** but also was **not even sure if he existed**. I have his exact words on tape. Anyone who has done any research at all on the Kennedy assassination will quickly encounter the pioneering, self-sacrificing, and courageous work of Robert Groden who has devoted over 25 years to intense study of the assassination. In fact, he is the first person ever to present the Zapruder film to the public on Geraldo Rivera's Goodnight America show in 1975. He worked diligently to persuade the House Select Committee to bring William Greer back on the stand for further questioning, and shares with me the conviction that Greer knew far more about the plot to kill Kennedy than he was made to tell publicly, that he did indeed step on the brakes of the limousine in the middle of the fusillade -- instead of getting the hell out of there -- and that he did

turn around twice to look back at Kennedy, but that he did not take his left hand off the steering wheel during the crucial time period when Kennedy was hit by the fatal shot(s).

Regarding my action or inaction at his Nov. 5, 1989 presentation at Hollywood High, what Cooper apparently failed to notice was that after our heated phone conversation of a few days before, I determined to attend and videotape his entire presentation and was, in fact, out of my seat most of the time running the video camera. I also set up my audio recorder to record. But Cooper's henchman running the sound and video system repeatedly shut it off when I walked away. I certainly took note of the fact that Cooper did not include my narration when he played the tape that evening. What he also fails to mention is that out of courtesy, I allowed the various other questioners to precede me in line while I carefully recorded those interchanges, hoping that someone else might take him to task regarding the driver theory. One person actually did begin to bring up the issue, but did not go into that specific angle.

Although I have taken a great deal of flak from friends and foes about this issue since that night, it should be apparent to anyone who has known me or seen me in action before or since that I have no problem standing up to anyone who is lying about me -- or many other issues that I feel strongly about -- on the radio, in print, on TV or in person. There are so many examples I can cite -- with literally thousands of witnesses -- that it is actually absurd to even consider that I was afraid or unwilling to confront Cooper. In fact, it was the main reason I drove with 2 friends 200 miles round-trip with a borrowed video camera to record every word from Bill Cooper's mouth for documentation purposes in the event I had to file a lawsuit.

A few examples (among many) of my penchant for taking liars to task include my confrontation in the summer of 1984 with former Presidential Press Secretary (under Jimmy Carter) Jody Powell at the University of Washington (Seattle) about President Carter and the true situation with the embassy takeover in Iran and the Shah's entry through the good offices of Henry Kissinger himself into the United States in 1979. The moderator actually refused to let Powell answer my question. And when I confronted him in the hallway (still nursing a broken shoulder from my experience in El Salvador), a huge crowd gathered around us pressing him to answer my question. He managed to slither around it fairly deftly, though. He must have had lots of practice in the White House.

I took Robert Scheer and Alexander Cockburn to task in front of well over 1,000 people at UCLA regarding their failure to report major allegations from several sources (including U.S. Green Berets who were assigned to provide security) concerning **George Bush's secret meeting with the Iranians off the island of Antigua in August 1988 on board the yacht *Christina*** after I had sent the editors the entire story. And once again the moderator cut off my microphone when both of them refused to address the question. Cockburn used my query to launch into a diatribe against the Christic Institute, for which I was later blamed. Fortunately, one of the people who recorded the event was an acquaintance of mine, who played the tape to Father Bill Davis of the Institute after he reported that a number of people had misinterpreted my question as a set-up to slam Christic. Davis very quickly realized my true intent.

I have confronted Contra apologists at several different events in California including Elliott Abrams at the Miramar in Montecito and another Contra apologist at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. I have appeared on a growing number of radio programs across the Country naming names in the Kennedy assassinations and others and naming some of the principals in the worldwide drug trade. I made a point of confronting Cooper on Las Vegas KVEG in late July 1989 in no uncertain terms as well as a week later on prime-time KFI Radio in L.A. Then and now, I have absolutely no qualms about confronting Cooper, Lear, or any of these other disinformation specialists in private or in public.

The simple truth is that on the night of Nov. 5, 1989 with only a couple of questioners left in line, I actually began to move from the corner of the floor where I was attending my video camera to join the line and take Cooper to task. Suddenly with no advance warning at all, he announced he had been informed that he had to cut the program right then with no more questions. At most events of this nature, the speaker or moderator will usually announce that they will take one-or-two more questions. And had that been the case, I would have certainly persuaded one of the other questioners to step aside. However, because of Cooper's abrupt termination of the Q&A, even that was not possible. I briefly considered shouting out my question from the floor. But I have had enough experience in producing such presentations that I knew I would have succeeded only in being characterized as a heckler. I passed on that option.

Anyone who was there that evening who observed me and my comments throughout will verify my statements here. Cooper is simply lying when he says I never got up from my seat, since I was on my feet most of the time running the camera and was on my feet en route to the questioners' line when he called the meeting to a halt.

I met with my attorney shortly afterward to outline the situation with Cooper for him. He recommended immediately sending a "cease-and-desist" letter and possibly filing a copyright violation action. But I unwisely held off since we had another action already underway, and I was in arrears to him at that time. I reluctantly decided that I needed to square up accounts before taking on another potentially long, time-consuming, and costly legal action. This, of course, is exactly what I believe Cooper and his cronies are deliberately provoking a number of serious researchers and activists to do in order to tie them up in costly, exhausting, and ultimately futile legal wrangling.

Following the holidays, in mid-January 1990 I called Cooper again in an attempt to reason with him and put a stop to the disinformation. But he was adamant that he had seen the information verifying Greer's shooting role in his Navy papers. I reminded him that he wasn't talking to some naive housewife; that no one would have written that down, and that it was complete bullshit. He insisted that I didn't know what I was talking about -- that I was actually right when I made the tape. Cooper claimed that now I didn't have the "balls" to take the credit. But he did. And he was going to carry the truth forward. I demanded to know again where he got his copy of the tape, and he again refused to tell me.

I knew there was little point trying to reason with him, but I tried a different tack by emphasizing to him that it certainly was important to rattle peoples' cages and get them to look at the situation. I countered, however, that the potential harm done by misleading them on an issue with something that is later disproven far outweighs the good. And that if he was really sincere in his belief that Greer fired the fatal shot, he should collaborate with me in a complete investigation to verify it once and for all instead of continually referring back to some secret papers no one else had seen. He refused to bite and insisted that was all the proof he needed, and there was no way I could stop him from showing the tape any time he wanted.

I then made it clear that if he was so intent on doing so, why didn't he at least pop for \$40 or \$50 bucks and get his own copy of the Zapruder film and edit his own version so that I, at least, would not be blamed for continuing to disinform people? He pleaded poverty (as he did in his August 1990 presentation at Beverly Hills High). Since I didn't know at that time that he and his partner, Stan Barrington had already sold hundreds of copies of my tape at \$20 each, I then ordered him to remove my narration from the tape he was showing and that if he did not, I would certainly bring legal action against him. He became even more belligerent, and at that point I simply signed off. Whether he did or did not remove it in his subsequent showings, I don't know, though my narration was clearly evident in the re-worked version of my tape by Nippon TV which was furnished to them by John Lear -- again without my knowledge or permission.

Cooper's statement in his book that *"people were able to see it better with no narration"* is just too ridiculous in light of all this to even address.

Conversations With A UFO Mechanic

The very next morning after Cooper's talk, I received an early call from Lear at home, telling me that "Bob" had finally decided to go completely public and would be appearing on several segments of a 9-part UFO series produced by George Knapp at Channel-8 TV in Las Vegas. He was very excited about the prospect of the entire story coming out and seemed sincerely pleased that so much of what he had been trying to bring forth would now be vindicated. When I questioned him as to whether "Dennis" was going to tell the entire story, he corrected me and explained that "Dennis" was the name of Bob's boss at the Test Site. It was used mainly as a cover and to deliberately embarrass him after the threatening treatment Bob had received at his hands.

I told Lear about the large crowd that showed up for Cooper's event the night before. He was apparently impressed enough to ask me again if I would be willing to set up similar events for him, since I was the only guy he "could trust not to screw" him. I was still very gun-shy after the events of the previous year and the snafu with Honegger, but reassured John that he would have no problem marketing himself with any reasonably competent promoter. After we hung up, I finally put "2 and 2 together" and realized that "Bob" was Bob Lazar -- the young whiz-kid who had given me his business card when I met him at Lear's home the last time I had visited there almost exactly 1 year before.

Since I believed Lazar might actually have been under a continuing threat and the program might even have been yanked, I decided to call him directly and verify that he actually had had the experiences Lear had been describing for the last 6 months. Bob answered and was very friendly and upbeat. I sensed that he was actually somewhat relieved that his entire story would finally be made public. When I explained that I had not really taken Lear all that seriously after what had happened before and had never really made any attempt to find out who "Dennis" was, he chuckled since he had certainly known who I was all along. As he admitted later, he had secretly videotaped all of us at our meeting at Lear's house the year before, just to cover himself.

During our brief conversation, Lazar was very candid and straightforward in verifying everything Lear had told me that I brought up to him down to the last detail. The various aspects of his story described by Lear included their being apprehended watching UFO maneuvers at the Test Site and his being threatened at gunpoint by security personnel; his being shot at on the freeway by assailants unknown; the assistance provided by Dr. Edward Teller in helping him obtain his job at S4 and the presence of each of their pictures in an issue of the Los Alamos paper -- his on the front and Teller's on the back; his clear working understanding of the UFO's propulsion technology; and his acquisition of solid proof that he had had such employment.

Following his answers to those questions, I cautiously figured that since either-or-both of our phones were probably monitored, I had heard enough for that time. I thanked him for his candor and offered to provide him with a place to land if he needed one. Just as we were signing off, there appeared to be some kind of commotion taking place there and I asked him if he was alright. He assured me everything was OK.

A few minutes later, Lazar called back and asked me what I knew about OSI and how much power they had. As a former Customs agent, I knew from additional research that OSI (Air Force Office of Special Investigations) agents have equally if not more extensive powers that transcended standard law enforcement since they deal so heavily with "national-security" matters and told him as much. I asked

why he wanted to know, but he replied that he'd rather not say right then and assured me everything was alright. I was quite concerned, but decided to respect his wishes and drop it for then.

I woke up early the next morning (Tuesday, Nov. 7) with the matter still on my mind and called Bob back to make sure he was still safe. He explained that the girlfriend of one of his associates at the Test Site had come by to tell him that her man had been questioned at length that day regarding his association with Lazar and would probably lose his Q-clearance as a result -- the "kiss of death" in terms of potential advancement within the high/lethal-tech scientific community within the military-industrial complex. I again expressed my concern for his safety and reiterated that there were several safe sites he could avail himself of in California if he needed to before signing off.

On Friday morning (Nov. 10 - my birthday), Lear called me early to begin chewing me out in extremely harsh terms for "setting Bob up". He railed at me that I should not have called Bob at all and wanted to know how I had gotten his number. When I was finally able to calm him down enough to get a word in edgewise, I patiently but firmly made it clear to him that Bob himself had actually given me his business card a year before when we met at John's house. And that I only decided to call Lazar after listening to John regale me with their joint exploits for the last 6 months and after he had informed me that Bob was going public. I carefully explained that it hadn't concerned me enough until then to even bother putting "2 and 2 together" to realize Bob's identity.

Lear then explained that the reason he was so upset was that the day after my last call to Lazar (Wed., Nov. 8), someone broke into Lazar's house and stole a number of things including samples of the "**Element-115**" UFO fuel that Lazar had removed from the Test Site to prove his allegations. Lear implied heavily that I might have had something to do with it. Or that Bob and I had discussed it over the phone, tipping off the jerks who were listening in.

I told Lear in no uncertain terms that I purposely did not discuss anything along that line with Lazar. I had actually cut the call short when he began to mention his having "proof" just in case anyone else was listening. I emphasized that if he wanted to blame anybody for anything, he had better get off my line since I had "eaten shit" for him far too long already while he lied to me or about me repeatedly to cover up his own asinine behavior. I emphasized again that he was the one calling me repeatedly for the last six months to blab about Lazar, and that I only called to hear Lazar confirm the basic story from his own mouth before he might have disappeared.

This calmed Lear down considerably and he then fell all over himself apologizing. But he emphasized that he was just so unnerved and distraught about Bob's safety and the number of people who had already gotten Lazar's number and were calling him incessantly. I reassured him that I had pretty much blown the entire story off until he had called a few days before to say that Lazar would be on the George Knapp program, since I knew and respected Knapp as a serious reporter with integrity who would not have risked his professional reputation on a hoaxer.

Lear then invited me to come out to visit with him and Lazar at his home by way of conciliation. I reminded him that I did not feel very comfortable with that after all that had transpired the year before. But he assured me that it was all water under the bridge with him and his wife, and that I was very welcome to visit. Given the monumental ramifications of Lazar's revelations -- if true -- I had no choice as a reporter and investigator to say "yes". I made arrangements to head out to Las Vegas the next weekend.

When I arrived, I met a friend who accompanied me up to Lear's home where we met with Lear, Lazar, and his friend Gene Huff whom I also remembered from our meeting there a year before. Then and since, I found both Lazar and Huff extremely friendly, sincere, and agreeable people. I have

developed a great appreciation for their sophisticated sense-of-humor along with a rarified perspective on a variety of issues. The conversation that ensued between the five of us was freewheeling, centering primarily, of course, on Bob's incredible UFO-related experiences. At one point during the conversation, the name "Gordon Novel" came up. I took great pains to emphasize to Lazar, Huff, and Lear that the man had been in the middle of a number of major national scandals including the assassination of John Kennedy. And that Lazar and Lear would be wise to keep contact with him to an absolute minimum. I emphasized to Lazar that as often as Novel had worked on behalf of the "agencies", that he was probably there masquerading as a propulsion-technology entrepreneur in order to find out just exactly how much Lazar actually knew or to entice him into some kind of compensated business agreement which could be manipulated around into espionage charges with little difficulty.

When they asked me point-blank how dangerous I thought Novel actually was, I reminded them that he was the man who had bragged about screwing up the Jim Garrison investigation on the radio 5 years before. He was the man hired by Charles Colson to de-gauss the Nixon Watergate tapes. And he was Larry Flynt's director of security when they obtained the Vicki Morgan sex tapes -- she was killed not long afterward -- and one of his underlings was shortly after implicated in the death of L.A. producer Roy Radin. I emphasized that I had no way of knowing if he was actually the kind of guy who would pull the trigger. But that he knew intimately the kind of guys who do.

Lear retired early that evening, so the four of us went to have dinner and continue the conversation at a nearby Mexican restaurant. Lazar expanded in great detail on his activities at S4 and provided extensive description of the craft he worked on as well as the extreme security measures involved in working there. He and Huff emphasized that certain of the things Lear had been saying about his experience were not accurate -- particularly statements Lear attributed to him during their first conversation at Lear's home following Lazar's decision to tell him about his employment at S4, specifically concerning an alleged "gravity phone" and an alleged "ultimatum" sent by the U.S. Military Command back to the "masters" of the *aliens* that Lear alleged we had been dealing with for the last 40 years. Rather than going into further detail regarding these disclosures, I would simply recommend that anyone consumed with such interest contact Lazar, if possible, through George Knapp at Las Vegas TV Channel-8 or perhaps through Don Ecker at UFO Magazine in California -- both of whom have met with and written about Lazar.

Lazar and Huff then began to tell me about how Lear and his wife had bad-rapped me about several issues, including the "stolen" phone and sunglasses along with the navigation map and photograph. I was not surprised at the Lears' pettiness after all the crap I had endured on their behalf and the hundreds of dollars worth of work I had performed on their house for which I was never compensated. I pointed out to my dinner companions that Lear actually had to borrow the money from his mother to pay me. We talked a while longer and then headed toward our cars in the parking lot.

Oddly enough as I was cautioning Lazar one last time to be extra careful, all four of us noticed an **unusual large, absolutely brilliant white object** moving fairly slowly across the sky in a horizontal trajectory from South-to-North, coming almost directly overhead before veering off to the northwest, over Nellis Air Force Base. All of us saw it clearly for at least 15-20 seconds. We all agreed that whatever it was, it was not an airplane or any conventional aircraft, nor was it a meteor. After the evening of intense revelations, I jokingly remarked to Lazar that he could tell the boys back at special-effects that I was convinced already -- this was definitely overkill. We all laughed somewhat nervously and went our ways.

Lear called me the next morning to invite me up to his home to continue the discussion and obviously got quite a charge out of our UFO "encounter" the night before, having already talked with Lazar by phone. Lear was apparently favorably impressed with my continuing efforts on Gritz's behalf

to publicize his discoveries in the Golden Triangle. He repeatedly asked me to help him set up speaking engagements once-or-twice a month to help him boost his income since he was falling about \$2,000 short every month. I was already uneasy after the events of the previous year. But knowing well that he truly did not have the money that everyone believed him to have inherited, I replied honestly that he should have no trouble at all getting out on the circuit with his name and background. I recommended that he should simply contact one of the better-known speakers' bureaus. Lear countered that I was the only person he trusted who knew the names and the players and knew the issues inside out. And that he would only be able to do one-or-two a month at best, which would not make it worthwhile to a regular bureau.

Rather than be overly blunt, I indicated that I really did not want to be associated publicly with the UFO field but preferred to keep tabs on new developments while I continued my investigations into known ongoing covert operations. I again smelled a set-up. And despite my genuine concern for his well-being, I figured it was not my problem how well he made his living. Nevertheless since I was actually pretty serious throughout this time about trying to develop the UFO material into an action/adventure feature film project (which would at least pay me for the effort), I did humor him by offering to make some inquiries about both areas. He didn't hesitate to prepare a "preliminary authorization" for me to do so on his behalf (*see attached copy*).

When I returned to LA with a copy of the Knapp 9-part TV special provided by Lear, I was at first very excited about contacting several news and film production groups. Gradually over the next few days, however, I convinced myself that -- lacking the means to fully verify most of the contents to my own satisfaction and having been thoroughly burned already by Lear and Cooper -- I would rather simply let the situation unfold before making any serious moves with the material.

Dallas Revisited

Following the holidays, in early January 1990, Lear called me again to question me at length about the Kennedy tape. He explained that his wife had bought him a new hi-powered VCR for Christmas with slow-motion and stop-frame function, and that he was able to stop the tape right after Kennedy was shot in the head and Greer was turning around. We discussed it for quite some time over the phone, during which I emphasized to him again that the NOVA footage clearly showed that Greer's chest was unobstructed and his entire shirt and tie were completely unobscured during the entire sequence. He countered that you could still see Greer withdrawing something from his shoulder. I began to get pretty impatient with his insistence -- particularly after his "lies" about the October Surprise flights and the "Lear Leap of Logic" about the creation of AIDS. In spite of that, I decided to humor him, figuring that he might finally be willing to go to Pennsylvania and meet with Groden and perhaps finally help me track down the supposed remaining 2 witnesses in Dallas to hear what they actually had to say.

Lear was emphatic that Greer really did kill Kennedy and pressed me very hard to give him the address and phone numbers of my original sources for the driver theory -- Perry Adams and David Evans. I "smelled a rat" but contacted Adams, whom I'd spoken to several times throughout this period. He agreed to speak to Lear if he wanted to call. Evans, on the other hand, remaining adamantly convinced that the driver theory was correct and thoroughly untrusting of anyone with ties to the intelligence community, also "smelled the rat" and insisted on forgoing communication with Lear. I have respected his wishes and protected his identity to this day.

Lear was emphatic also that he was expecting a large loan to clear on his house and was prepared to spend several thousand dollars to obtain a pristine copy of the original Zapruder film and have it thoroughly analyzed. After all the garbage I had had to endure at the hands of Cooper, I was actually hopeful that Lear might actually finally get with it and help us clarify the truth once and for all. He was

also quite boastful about a phone conversation he had had at length with Gordon Novel which he recorded and wanted to share with me as soon as I could get over to Las Vegas. Again, I was pretty flabbergasted that he would actually do so. But after all that had preceded this, I decided that if he wanted to share something like that, by God I'd be there to listen!

I drove over that weekend in early January. Lear quickly set up the sequence to show me how the supposed weapon/reflection off Kellerman's head -- immediately after the fatal head shot to JFK -- moved back down toward the dashboard at a sharp angle, which actually did seem to be pretty incompatible with Kellerman's movements at that point. At least upon first viewing.

I asked Lear to play it several more times, during which it became very apparent that that is, in fact, exactly what Kellerman did do. He literally hunkered down -- ducked and covered -- right after the shot. And so did Greer, probably fearing another final volley from the grassy knoll, perhaps to finish them all off. I asked Lear why he didn't cue up the close-up footage I had seen at the studio back in 1988 -- the real clear footage where Greer's chest can be seen clearly throughout the entire sequence. I asked him to shuttle through the program to bring up that sequence. But he insisted that this was the only segment that showed the driver in close-up and impatiently refused to "waste time" going through the rest of the tape.

I thought it was rather odd at the time since I had made the arrangements for him to obtain the videotape in the first place and I myself had never gotten my own copy. We ended up spending several more hours afterward discussing a number of other issues, anyway. It was very clear to me, however, that the segment he was playing was not the best close-up I remembered seeing in the NOVA special. I resolved to get my hands on a copy as soon as possible. Lear's behavior pretty well reinforced my earlier conviction that his concern with the driver theory at this late date was part of a continuing set-up.

I resolved that as long as that was likely the case, I would "play" Lear along as far as possible. I noted to my friend later that evening that it was only a matter of time before Lear and I would part company once and for all -- that I believed he was stringing me along for some reason, and that sooner-or-later we would inevitably "burn the bridges" between us. I decided that until then, I would milk him for all that he cared to blab about. We both agreed that given the crap I had endured already on his behalf, I was more than justified in taking that approach. With the continuing reporting of details related to the Marcos trial and the missing gold, I thought that perhaps Lear might finally be more forthcoming about his activities with Warton than he had been earlier. Fortunately, I was not wrong.

At this point, he asked me if I wanted to hear his conversation with Novel. Their early-morning tete-a-tete (which has since been transcribed) was startling to say the very least. Once again, I was completely amazed after all that had transpired that Lear would even consider letting me know he was in touch with Novel. Or that he had taped their conversation, much less that he would actually play it for me and then give me a copy. If it had been anybody else or at any other stage of our association, I might have said, "No. Keep it to yourself" or begged off in some other way.

But after all the bullshit and the game-playing and the grief that his giving the JFK tape to Cooper had already caused, I figured that if Novel had anything new to add to the story of Kennedy's death, it would help to make up for all the other bullshit. And I felt that if anyone was in a position to know after all these years, given his background, Gordon Novel was certainly a prime candidate. Whatever disgust I might have for many of his actions over the years, one has to give the man credit for simply staying alive through all the incredibly heavy situations he had moved through in his life.

I had already listened to Novel on an audiotape that I had just acquired at that time of a radio program in the SF Bay area in 1983. Gordon had called the studio at about 3 am after hearing his name

come up on the program while he was driving up to San Jose. It was talk radio at its finest to hear him openly admit that he had been recruited by Lyndon Johnson himself to destroy the Garrison investigation from the inside, where he was serving as Garrison's chief of security at his request. Then admit later that he had actually been hired by Charles Colson to de-gauss the Watergate tapes for Richard Nixon and would have *"succeeded in erasing them all if they had been willing to pay me more money."*

After listening to the self-anointed Kennedy "expert" Dave Emory accuse John Judge of being a closet agent of Western Goals -- a rabid right-wing outfit shortly before in Los Angeles -- it was actually quite amusing to hear him squirm on the earlier program once he realized Novel was actually the person he claimed to be. Emory repeatedly stammered out his assurance that *"I'm not gunning for you, Mr. Novel"* and bleated about his "healthy respect" for Novel's capabilities and his fervent hope that Novel wasn't inspired to be gunning for him.

I had actually developed a begrudging respect for Novel, who probably deserved to have been hung long before, but had craftily managed to end up on his feet numerous times and still remain a player in a number of major national political scenarios. Although he was and is a criminal of the first order, I cannot help but admire his audacity in claiming that:

"I'm the only guy who's ever stood up to and caused the Company to say 'uncle'. Okay? Say Uncle... I did it by a very super-sophisticated dirty trick that didn't even have to be performed which convinced the priesthood (i.e. the council consisting of all the ex-directors) that they should leave me the fuck alone and I would not interfere in their business as long as they weren't constantly trying to banana me... And the threat I had to lay down of what I'd do to the Company if they didn't get out of my fucking hair... I must have gotten everybody's funny bone because the threat was taken as very serious and one of the funniest ideas ever to come up for putting the Company out of business. I mean literally putting it out of business for at least a couple of weeks -- the whole magillah."

Novel claimed also that he had attempted to actually blackmail J. Edgar Hoover, but apparently his ploy backfired in that case. He was convicted on a fabricated arson charge as a result but managed to get himself out and back into action after serving 2 years. Whatever the final judgment that will be rendered against him, the man certainly has an intimate familiarity with the forces swirling around the death of John Kennedy.

Later that afternoon while I was still at Lear's, he suggested that we "step out for a cup of coffee". I thought that was rather odd since we easily could have gotten some coffee from the kitchen. No sooner had we entered the car than he began to speak in hushed tones about a trip he had made the night before with Lazar to Los Alamos, NM. He continued by describing how Lazar had become involved in a brothel operation in Las Vegas by supplying all kinds of high-tech electronic features that made it truly "space-age sex." I was completely stunned as Lear continued to relate how he had purposely ridden over to Los Alamos to talk the whole thing over with Bob. I asked Lear if he had actually been to visit the place. He gave me that knowing look, nodding that it really was "an incredible set-up." **[StealthSkater note: reported court records said that Lazar was helping the brothel owner computerize her records. Nothing along the lines of blackmailing etc. And nothing was said about the "incredible set-up" inferred in the last sentence above. See [doc](#) [pdf](#) [URL](#)]**

I responded that "set-up" was exactly the right word. Lear seemed to indicate concern that word of Lazar's involvement in the operation getting out could undermine all their efforts to get the UFO story out. To which I added a hearty AMEN! But then he asked me whether I thought he should tell his wife about it.

I shot back: "You've got to be kidding, John! After all that shit in 1988, she'll go completely nuclear about this! I can't believe you haven't jerked Lazar completely out of there already! It's just absolutely asinine for him to have anything to do with something like that -- not to mention illegal!"

Lear responded, "Well, if I don't tell her and she finds out, then she'll be even more angry. Besides, Gene already told his wife. If I don't tell her, she'll think I've been hiding something when she does find out."

I countered: "And if you do tell her, she's going to jump to the same conclusion anyway and blow the whistle on the whole deal and toss you out on your ass! I can't believe Lazar would do something so goddamn stupid with all the legitimate options he has in front of him. And I can't believe you'd even risk going over there after all that crap in '88. How many times have you been?"

Lear gave me that knowing look again with a smile. I just shook my head at the monumental stupidity of both of them. As we returned to the house, he made me promise that I would not say anything to anybody else about it -- especially his wife and Lazar -- and I nodded disgustedly, thinking to myself once again that these are all merely overgrown idiots, spoiled little Mama's boys with too many toys to play with. After we were back in his study, I made a point of almost grabbing Lear by the shirt to tell him firmly that if he had any regard whatever for his wife and family as well as Bob Lazar, he would insist that Lazar completely remove himself from the operation IMMEDIATELY and go and help him do it himself if necessary and never return. I insisted that with all the media -- not to mention military intelligence -- attention focused on Lazar, it was not a matter of IF he would be caught but WHEN and told Lear to mark my words. I asked him again if he hadn't learned anything from his fiasco in 1988, and he just sloughed it off. Once again, I was so completely disgusted that I completed other small talk and left shortly afterward.

I returned to California and re-immersed myself in several upcoming public events I was involved in presenting and tried to put the entire matter out of my mind. While I was thus engaged at the repeated urging of a number of people in Santa Barbara who had seen the Channel 8 series on UFOs, I did begin to make arrangements to present a "trial-run" event with Lear at the local movie house and actually printed flyers, etc. in preparation. He was actually quite thrilled about them and the event. But I was having a hard time sleeping at night. I couldn't help but reflect over all the garbage that had occurred already in relation to him and Cooper -- including the brothel operation -- and how difficult it would be -- as had already been graphically demonstrated by Cooper -- to undo any distortion or disinformation Lear might propagate during the event. I knew only too well how many people would eat up his every word, given his illustrious family name and public image. But I knew only too well the dark side behind it.

Following Lear's confirmation in person during my visit that he had indeed given Cooper a copy of the JFK tape in October 1988, I called Cooper again to insist that he honor my demand to stop showing the video -- to which he replied as before. When I pointed out that he was setting himself up for some very serious copyright-violation litigation, he scoffed at the suggestion, insisting that he didn't "give a damn" about violating my copyright or anyone else's. I acknowledged that I probably had no copyright claim on the tape, but that Zapruder and Groden certainly did. I asked him again why he was so insistent on using my video when he could easily obtain his own copy of the film and edit it to his own satisfaction, without continuing to make me appear to be promoting a theory I had given up on over a year before. He insisted it was "too bad" but that if I "didn't have the guts to stand up for the truth", he would tell it for me.

When I insisted once again that the driver theory was not true, he retorted again that *"I don't give a shit. If your tape is what it takes to wake the American people up, I'll use it whether it's true or not!"* I told him then in no uncertain terms that he was welcome to "go screw himself," but that he would learn soon enough that he already had and signed off. That is the last time I have called Cooper or spoken to him on the phone since.

In the immediate wake of Cooper's distortions, I finally decided that my already strained credibility could not withstand another such onslaught. Nor did I want to waste any more time or effort trying to undo any further damage that might occur through Lear's deliberate propagation of disinformation to open-minded but unsophisticated citizens in my hometown. A week before the event was scheduled to take place in late February, I cancelled it -- much to the disappointment of Lear and the dozens of people who were already planning to go. I called Lear to tell him then that he would have to find someone else, that it was just too costly for me to do at the time, and that I had my hands full with several other events. He was disappointed but handled it surprisingly good-naturedly. Then he began to tell me about some heat that researcher Martin Cannon had received following the printing of his article about Lear which included some quotes about Novel that Novel apparently became quite irritated about.

As I mentioned earlier, Cannon had written a letter a few months before to Daniel Sheehan, expressing well-justified concern about apparent contacts between the Institute and Cooper. It had concluded by stating that I was an "associate" of Lear's and Cooper's who had been misleading the "naive Christic volunteers about UFO-related issues "into the depths of Cooperism" -- implying that I was somehow stumping for Cooper when I had never even mentioned him to anyone at the Christic office. The legal activist had taken Cannon's letter and Sheehan's reply from the Christic files and had allowed them both to be copied and circulated around L.A. -- an unconscionable act by anyone's standards, which ended up causing me a great deal of grief with my true associates in California.

I jokingly told Lear that maybe Cannon should get to know Novel a little better before he began taking potshots at him since Novel was clearly the type who would shoot back. What Lear didn't know was that I had written Cannon a lengthy letter a couple of months before explaining my activities in detail. And that he and I had pretty well resolved the misunderstanding. What he also didn't know was that another friend of mine had written to Mary Ferrell (a highly-respected Kennedy researcher in Dallas) to ask her a number of questions about Novel along the lines of issues I've mentioned earlier, only to have his letter pique Novel's interest to the extent that he was ready to catch a flight out to Denver immediately to check out my friend. Since he is an absolute novice at this research and not at all used to threats and counter-threats, I had contacted Ferrell myself immediately to have her relay to Novel that I was the person he needed to question -- not R. who was entirely harmless. Up to that time, no one else had yet heard Lear's tape of Novel nor had I had it transcribed.

Patriots For Profit

Lear continued calling me on a weekly basis, usually at work during the day to share the latest "nugget" or new development in the UFO/covert operations arena. I went along with the discussions for the most part, figuring that perhaps he really was making a sincere effort to cultivate a friendship in the wake of considerable damage in the past. I never was able to lose the suspicion, however, that it was primarily an effort on his part to keep tabs on what I was up to and to make sure that we remained on at least "even" terms.

I figured that he was probably still fearful that I might go public with the stories about the 1981 weapons flights to Iran and the 1988 plans for shipment of the Marcos Gold. As a matter-of-fact, at that very time I had sent out an updated version of my original memo on the gold shipments to a selected

variety of national media and law enforcement in the midst of the trial of Imelda Marcos in New York. But again I received not a single acknowledgement of receipt, much less a concerned response.

In the middle of one of these conversations -- **precisely as I had anticipated 2 months before** -- Lear told me that the other TV station in Las Vegas, Channel 13 had tracked Lazar to the brothel, and that he had already admitted his involvement on a preemptive newscast on Channel 8. As clearly as I had foreseen this turn of events, it still was startling to actually hear of it unfolding. I kicked myself for not taking the liberty of confronting Lazar about it as soon as I had found out. Although we have never been close friends, I believe my credibility with Lazar and Huff has always been very strong precisely because I have never tried to "buddy up" to them or to capitalize off their story but merely treated them like the regular people they are -- with perhaps a couple of exceptions. I am actually pleased to say that as far as I know, our relations are still on the same level today despite all the crap that has ensued since - and no doubt lies ahead -- after these revelations.

I became very concerned about Lazar's situation since I knew that any excuse to arrest him could lead to a possible mandatory imprisonment and a likely MK-ULTRA-style "liquid lobotomy" which would leave Lazar wondering who he ever thought he was, much less what planet he was on. I have seen too many victims of the American Gulag to have any doubt whatsoever of the likely scenario. I again made arrangements to go back to Las Vegas to meet with them since I was also preparing to begin working with Gritz again on his new book Called to Serve and video-documentary "Reflections", and wanted to try to talk some sense into Lazar. Much to my disgust, I found that not only had he been charged with at least 5 separate counts, but that he also had already pleaded guilty to one count of felony pandering! I was absolutely stunned and asked who he had for an attorney, Donald Duck?

I was not only extremely disgusted that Lear had not followed my advice after all the grief his sexual escapades had caused him (and me), but also that no one had helped Lazar prepare any kind of adequate defense since a felony conviction for pandering in Clark County, Nevada is about as ridiculous as a felony conviction for skiing in Aspen, Colorado! It is well known that there are hundreds -- if not thousands -- of hookers and cathouses operating openly in Vegas. And the only ones which ever are shaken down by Metro Police are the ones that don't pay their "juice" to the Mob or "share their juice" with Metro. It didn't surprise me at all, in fact, when I learned that the 'Number 3' man at Metro had been a boyfriend/regular customer of the madam at Lazar's "bordello" for 8 years! So much for justice in Clark County.

The real irony is that Metro had actually staged a bust at the motel operation a few months before and actually knew about Lazar's presence. But they had no intention of busting him until he apparently was given bad advice and decided to admit his involvement on prime-time local TV, thereby leaving them no choice.

When I arrived at Lear's house, he had a hard time containing his mirth about something. I asked him what he could possibly think was so funny at a time like that with his friend looking at a prison term and/or lobotomy. He asked me if I'd seen Bill Cooper's new newsletter. I replied that I didn't even know he had one. Lear then said, "Sit down. You've got to see this!"

Apparently in the aftermath of Lazar's admissions, George Knapp felt honor-bound to address the UFO issue from the "other side" -- that is, pointing out all the inconsistencies and weirdness that has pervaded the issue and giving more time to the critics. His second 9-part series entitled "UFOs: The Best Evidence?" was, if anything, better than the first series (which was excellent). Lear "cut to the chase" initially in showing me a humorous segment poking fun at Knapp which was produced by local radio hosts Johnson&Tofte entitled "The Boob on the Tube", which Knapp had the class to include in his program. The next segment was a carefully edited examination of Bill Cooper which was absolutely

scathing in exposing him for the fraud he truly is. Knapp must have taken some non-reportorial delight in purposely selecting clips of Cooper which showed him with particularly stupid expressions on his mug.

I was actually so inspired by his genius in this regard that I followed suit in my selection of similar footage of former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs "Big Dick" Armitage in Gritz's new video. Armitage has been alleged by many investigators (including Gritz and H. Ross Perot) to have been massively involved for years in large-scale opium and heroin trafficking. Armitage was one of the key officials in the Defense Department who expedited weapons sales to Saddam Hussein for years prior to the invasion of Kuwait, all the while being directly responsible for the recovery of American Prisoners of War and Missing in Action from Southeast Asia. I had no qualms whatever in selecting, much less difficulty in locating, particularly dimwitted shots of him.

After his wife had left, Lear then showed me a copy of Cooper's latest CAJI (Citizens' Agency for Joint Intelligence) Newsletter in which he excoriated Knapp, Lazar, Lear, and others, accusing Lear of being a CIA agent and "Condor" (the OSI agent in the UFO COVER-UP ... LIVE! television special from the year before). Cooper had also accused Lear of having a hooker at his house during a meeting with him, Gordon Novel, Paul Shepherd, and some other gentleman. As I read Cooper's charges, as much as I had come to loathe the man, I couldn't help but reflect upon how similar his charges seemed to my own experiences at Lear's. When I asked John if there was any truth at all to what Cooper was alleging, he became evasive and mumbled that there were a few people at the house, but the situation was much different than Cooper described. I let the issue lay for then but noted that Cooper -- no matter what class of liar and fraud he was -- certainly had every right to feel outrage at the way he was represented on the program without any chance to directly rebut the charges -- particularly by an admitted government disinformation agent such as William Moore (no matter how he tries to justify his actions). **[StealthSkater note: for more, see the Bennewitz/Moore/Lear maze document at [doc](#) [pdf](#) [URL-doc](#) [URL-pdf](#)]**

Although I have nothing but contempt for Cooper, it was easily understandable why he would grab any dirt he could get his hands on to fling back at his accusers. Yet again I was reminded of how petty and asinine are most of the personalities in the "forefront" of the UFO issue and all the reasons why I preferred to stay completely out of it. Lear admitted also that he was very worried that Cooper's allegations about the hooker and his involvement with Lazar in an alleged "speed" (e.g. methamphetamine) lab could seriously affect his employment if carried any further "even though they were untrue."

I asked him why he didn't just go on the air and deny Cooper's accusations or take legal action. But he countered by questioning, "**Would you want to have someone like Bill Cooper owing you money for the next 20 years?**" I got his point, but sensed strongly that there were other reasons for Lear's reluctance to press Cooper. I certainly understood, however, his reluctance to drag his family name into any kind of serious public scrutiny, no matter the extent of his professed blamelessness.

I assured Lear that I was only warming up to do battle with Cooper concerning his appropriation and sale of the Kennedy tape. Lear himself had written to advise me about the situation shortly before, after attending a lecture by Bill Hamilton in Palmdale, California where copies of my tape were on sale for \$20 each with Bill Cooper's label on them. I assured Lear that whatever his beef with Cooper, it would have to wait until I set the record straight with the man once and for all. I made it clear that I would not be taking any major action until after I completed work on Gritz's new book and video and his Freedom Call convention was over. I made it clear that their successful completion without interruption was of first priority. But after that, Cooper was going to "feel the heat and see the light" precisely as I had advised him during our last conversation a few months before.

I then began to question Lear closely and obtained a highly detailed briefing on Lazar's situation. I asked him point-blank how he could have allowed Lazar to continue in the brothel operation after all that had happened before. And especially after my own heated insistence that he simply pull Lazar out of there bodily if necessary. He simply shrugged his shoulders and said, "*No one can tell Bob Lazar to do anything. I tried, but he wouldn't listen to me.*"

When I asked him why no one had helped Lazar to obtain more effective legal representation, Lear simply shrugged and said, "*What could I do? I don't know any good attorneys.*"

I interrupted his limp excuses to remind him that a classic "railroading" was underway and that Bob Lazar would probably be lobotomized within 3 days of incarceration. When I asked him why he wasn't doing anything more to help Lazar, he feebly protested that, "**When I got into this [UFO] thing, I said I would take it as far as I could go -- just to find out what the truth was. I've been through all the information all these guys have dug up including Bob. And if he gets put away now, I just can't be too concerned about it. I have to just keep moving on.**" After all his professed love and concern for Lazar over the previous year, and all the mileage he had tried to obtain through his association with Bob, I was just amazed at his cynical disconnection from Lazar's plight. I swear before all that is sacred that these were his words and intent, which I recall virtually verbatim. I was truly stunned.

During this same time period, I received another call from Lear to come up to his house to meet Paul Shepherd, who had been a "traveling companion" of Gordon Novel's and was at Lear's house the night of the alleged incident with the hooker. Since I had good reason at that point to find out whatever I could about Novel, I accepted the invitation and spent several hours in conversation with the 2 men about a variety of subjects including Novel. Although I had been forewarned to be careful around Shepherd (who was characterized as a "slippery, snaky" kind of guy), I found him to be refreshingly down-to-earth and candid. And despite his obviously intense interest in the UFO phenomena, he seemed to have a very balanced and mature approach to the situation for a 35-year-old man.

I did find it quite odd, however, when Lear appeared to be guiding Shepherd through a carefully-choreographed, step-by-step retelling of the "Night with the Hooker" story in which both admitted that the woman actually was present, but that it was simply impossible for "anything" to have happened. Up to that point, I really hadn't given the matter all that much thought. But now I began to seriously question exactly why Lear was going to so much trouble to try to convince me that nothing happened when he and I both knew damn well that such activity was SOP for him -- especially if he had several other men around to try and impress.

Prior to Shepherd's arrival, Lear had been very excited about sharing with me the audiotape of his more recent conversation with Novel. Gordon elaborated at twice the length as before upon all the issues discussed in the previous conversation, including some "wetwork" he claimed to have recently performed in the Caribbean "*for the last time*". He described his being ordered by Gen. Daniel Graham to "*get the hell away from the UFO business*" after he had repeatedly assured Lear previously that he had Graham's full backing in the UFO pursuits.

Lear then brought up Cooper's allegations, to which Novel launched into a lengthy recounting of the situation from his perspective, admitting the woman's presence but denying that Lear had had enough time alone with the woman to have "consummated" anything. I did find it pretty amusing -- considering Cooper's outraged charges -- that the woman apparently according to all accounts bummed all of Cooper's cigarettes before opening up a fresh pack of her own. As I said at the outset, in this line of work, hearing about a cigarette moocher right after hearing someone confess to "wetwork in the Caribbean" is not all that unusual -- even for someone who is not a CIA agent. I speak only for myself

in this regard, but I am inclined to believe Novel when he claims to have pushed the Agency to a stand-off since whatever he may lack, the man certainly seems to have no shortage of *cojones* -- unlike Lear.

Lear offered to make a duplicate of the second conversation with Novel, apparently in a continuing attempt to "impress" me or to at least keep me "inside the tent pissing out". But I declined, telling him that the last one was serious enough and I didn't want to compound the error in the event Novel ever decided to go on the rampage. I would have very much liked a copy of the conversation, but felt the issues had become far too serious at that point to risk carrying in my baggage anything more damaging concerning Novel.

My apprehension was particularly heightened at that point following a fortuitous discovery sometime in July during a meeting with an Australian film producer in Beverly Hills who had adapted part of Gritz's story into the opening segment of a planned film entitled "A Murder of Crows". I was stunned to discover on his dining-room table a giant front-page article in the Australian Sydney Morning Herald about the indictment of a former Australian government official in the attempt to move **550 tons of gold** -- no doubt all or part of the Marcos hoard! I had little doubt then or now that those responsible would eventually surface direct connections to the Secord-Clines-Colby clique involved in the Nugan-Hand banking scandal in Australia which resulted in the death of Frank Nugan and the disappearance of (former Green Beret and CIA agent) Michael Hand in late 1980. I highly recommend Jonathan Kwitny's excellent book The Crimes of Patriots for a detailing briefing on this miasma.

I had more than enough on hand concerning Novel, and any more of that nature could qualify as literal overkill. At that point, I would not have put it past Lear to have notified Novel that I had secretly taped their conversation (instead of him) in an effort to have Novel himself neutralize me. Stranger things have happened many times.

For that reason, following his sending to me a copy of the inscription to him by William Colby in his book Lost Victory, I had actually made an elaborate show of presenting Lear with a humorously (but in deadly earnest) typeset version of the transcript of his previous conversation with Novel. It was intended to be a subtle reminder that the game -- if it was to be a game -- was equally matched. I have no doubt he got the message when his eyes bulged out of his head and he whispered, "*My God, I didn't realize how serious this looks in print! He'd kill us both if he ever saw this! Who else has a copy?*"

Desert Solitaire

Sometime during this period while I was plugging away on the "Profiles in Conspiracy" chapter of Gritz's new book, Lear called up and asked me if I would like to go with him out to the Test Site to try to watch UFO maneuvers that evening. I immediately responded that I was too busy and couldn't risk losing time the next day by staying up too late. He was extremely insistent that I join him since he had so few opportunities to get out there and had a lot that he wanted to talk over with me. I was extremely apprehensive about the situation and really had no particular desire to sit out in the desert all night -- particularly within range of national-security goon squads -- but figured that maybe he wanted to get something off his chest.

Despite all the apprehension and mistrust that had come to swirl beneath the surface of our dealings with each other, I still felt then -- and now -- that Lear is basically one helluva nice guy who really wants to be a friend -- but just doesn't know how to remain discreet about matters that should remain private and/or confidential with anybody. Worse yet, his long-term connections with the Agency -- coupled with the preponderance of weapons cargos -- gives the giant lie to any "humanitarian" impulses he might profess in dealing with UFO or covert-operations issues.

However reluctantly, I did accompany Lear out to the Test Site, but decided to borrow the .45 he keeps hanging behind his desk just in case he or anyone else decided to pull anything "squirrelly" out in the desert. Since I had not had time to let anyone at all know where I was going -- which they would have thought was screwy anyway -- I figured I had better prepare for the worst. Although the evening was totally uneventful, the .45 still provided a giant measure of comfort in the event that anyone unexpected might have come roaring up.

Throughout the night, Lear and I discussed a variety of issues -- both of a personal nature and concerning the vast panoply of UFO and shadow government activities. I must confess that the time was somewhat poignant -- much like the time I was able to spend with my sister a couple of months before she was killed in a freak car accident -- since I already sensed that something would be happening fairly soon to completely eliminate further contact between Lear and me. I certainly didn't foresee anything morbid occurring, but sensed strongly that some issue would surface to irrevocably sever our communication. Consequently, I made it a point to talk as honestly, forthrightly, and directly with Lear as possible and focused repeatedly on his true beliefs about the reasons for our oppressive operations throughout the World -- particularly in the Third World -- and his true reasons for pursuing the UFO issue so obsessively. There were no revelatory confessions, either.

One item, though, stands out: After hours spent discussing the wide range of UFO incidents and individuals, I asked Lear, "If all these things have happened that you believe concerning the secret treaties with *aliens* and Eisenhower etc., and the establishment of the intelligence agencies in the post-war world to try to counter the alien threat, and given the incorporation of thousands of 'former' Nazis in these structures, why would these agencies have spent so much time and effort brutally suppressing so many small, weak countries throughout the world and overseeing the drugging of our own people by the tonnage? Why -- if we're facing such a huge threat from Zeta Reticuli or Alpha Timbuktu -- would they waste even an hour tormenting peasants in Guatemala, Bolivia, or Indonesia?"

Lear's only reply was "**That's all just a smokescreen.**"

When I pressed him about it to clarify his meaning, he said he had nothing to add. I thought that the only smokescreen operation underway was the one that he and those agencies were actively involved in -- keeping Americans from knowing about those operations and now using some contrived "*alien threat*" to replace the dreaded "commies" who were now our trading partners. **The only smokescreen was the one that concealed massive increases in expenditures for the weapons industries while we had smoke blown up our posteriors about the "peace dividend."**

The rest of the way back to Las Vegas Lear chose to reflect on his affair with the mistress mentioned earlier, whom I had come to know fairly well in the interim. I found her to be an intelligent and attractive woman myself and certainly could not fault him for his interest in her. But I had a hard time understanding how he could have rationalized dragging out the affair so close to home for the length of time that he did, even after she made concerted moves to end it. Since I've never been a great fan of his wife's, I think I actually would have had more respect for him if he had been more up-front about the affair and simply gone with the other woman if he was dissatisfied with his wife rather than sneaking around as long as he did, even for months after the episode to which I was a witness.

Lear insisted he had always lived "close to the edge" and that if he had it all to do over again, he would have made entirely the same moves. Since I also knew the girlfriend's version of events at that point, unbeknownst to him, I simply shook my head in pity since he obviously accorded the affair far more depth than she did -- at least after a certain point when she actually had to threaten to call his wife if he didn't leave her alone. As we parted company that morning, I assured him that I would be setting the record straight once and for all about Cooper and the videotape, and would do my best to set the

record straight on his behalf also. Somehow I knew that even if Cooper didn't resort to any cheap shots at Lear on the radio, it was only a matter of time before his sleazy lifestyle caught up with him.

By the time this actually took place in late July 1990, I had already made plans to confront Cooper on Las Vegas and L.A. radio and at his event in Beverly Hills in early August and had written a short piece on our dispute for UFO Magazine. As it in his book:

"... in the late summer of 1990, after I had been showing the film for over a year-and-a-half, Lars Hansson began to show up on the radio proclaiming that Greer, the driver, did not shoot the President. Lars Hansson showed up at my fall 1990 Beverly Hills High School lecture and disrupted the lecture, yelling out taunts and otherwise making an ass out of himself. When the lecture ended, he accosted people in the lobby and along with David Lifton, attempted to convince members of the audience that they really didn't see Greer shoot Kennedy. To their credit, most of the audience told Hansson and Lifton to stick it where the Sun don't shine. Once people see it with their own eyes, they can no longer be fooled. Hansson, Lifton, Grodin [sic], and the other agents of the secret government are running out of time. Americans are catching on to the scam. I shudder to think what will happen to these people when Americans finally get angry. Do not forget that Lear informed me that his source for the film was a CIA agent who later turned out to be Lars Hansson."

It is definitely important that you understand that by the summer of 1990, I had already appeared on the national TV news program "Inside Report" to admit my error in producing the tape and allowing it to get out through John Lear; to clarify that I did not and had not supported the driver theory since at least November of 1988; and specifically to confront Cooper's phoniness. When he discovered that I was going to appear on the program after thinking that he was going to be "the star of the show", **Bill Cooper backed out**. The producers -- apparently lacking a "bad guy", completely contrary to their agreed-upon treatment of my testimony -- knowingly and deliberately left out half of what I said and presented me promoting the driver theory when, in fact, I was repudiating it. Before I was able to expose their deliberate perfidy publicly, they went out of business.

By July of 1990 after working intermittently on the re-writing and editing of Bo Gritz's new book and video as he was planning his upcoming Freedom Call '90, I had determined to stay entirely out of the planning and execution of the event for a variety of reasons. My associate and I had just put on a very successful series of programs by Gritz, Dan Sheehan, Tony Avirgan, and Dr. Bob Strecker in Santa Barbara (for which I received nary a dime) and I was too worn out and financially depleted to go through it again. I felt that after all the crap with Cooper et al, I would prefer to keep a little distance from the event.

While working on the book, however, I learned that someone named Richard Murry had volunteered himself to act as Gritz's coordinator and had apparently gone to considerable lengths to make sure that Bill Cooper was guaranteed a prominent position in the proceedings. I had never heard of Murry before, but I did not hesitate to let Bo know -- as I had during our one meeting at his house the summer before -- that Cooper was a fraud and bad news, very much along the lines of three other individuals who had cozied up to Bo and then stabbed him in the back. I emphasized (as I had when Bo had asked me about participating in Cooper's event at the Showboat in Las Vegas in January 1990) that he had everything to lose and nothing to gain by having anything to do with the UFO issue -- much less with a phony like Bill Cooper. I reminded him then and again in July how he had admonished me back in mid-1988 to stay out of the UFO issue myself when I was first beginning to meet with Lear and to "stay focused on the immediate target" -- that is, POWs and the drug problem -- and urged him to follow his own counsel, since I knew well, from first-hand experience that Cooper and Lear were both phonies.

I had figured that Cooper would have buried himself in his own bullshit by that time. But like the snake-oil salesman I would accuse him of being shortly thereafter on Las Vegas radio, he keeps moving his dog&pony show from town-to-town and simply accuses his accusers of being agents of the secret government whenever they point out his lies or blatant reversals.

Though I had vowed not to involve myself in Gritz's Freedom Call, along with several of my associates I did make a concerted effort to persuade Gritz to drop Cooper from the program. I indicated to Bo that if he was willing to forego my advice after 2 years of intense interaction and make the same mistake he had made with Scott Barnes, Chuck Patterson, et al, then I'd have to seriously rethink my own commitments. I was getting too old to continue fighting obvious losing battles. Apparently we did have some impact, though Gritz still graciously allowed Cooper to present a "side-door workshop" down the hall after the main speakers had concluded. Although someone may accuse me of working behind the scenes to undermine Cooper, I have been open and candid about my efforts along these lines to one and all. I am only sorry I was unable to have him barred from the premises entirely. As could be expected, Cooper apparently made a cheap shot at the Christic Institute, blaming them for his exclusion when they had absolutely nothing to do with it.

Eyeball-To-Eyeball

I had already determined to take Cooper on over the airwaves as soon as Gritz's event was over, not wanting to taint the proceedings with our "personal feud". I was only able to attend the first evening and half of the next day, but still had occasion to actually be standing right next to Cooper at one point though he didn't notice me.

It took all the restraint I could muster to keep from confronting him then and there. But as much as I have come to detest Mr. Cooper, I had far greater respect for Gritz than to disrupt his program. I did determine, however, to confront Cooper publicly on the radio at the first opportunity following the conference, and expose his lies. As fate would have it, a close friend happened to have called KFI Radio in LA on my behalf at that time. And when Tom Leykis's producer heard I was the person who made the infamous Kennedy tape, he was delighted to have me on the upcoming show with Cooper. With that show already scheduled, I determined to fire the first salvo on the Billy Goodman show on KVEG in Las Vegas, which had promoted Cooper slavishly from the outset.

Goodman was lukewarm about having me on initially since I had deliberately been maintaining a low public profile in order to facilitate my investigative work. When he heard that I was going to be meeting Cooper head-on on KFI Radio in LA a few days later, he was anxious to "scoop" Tom Leykis and then actually became insistent that I appear on his show. When Bob Lazar also called him to suggest that he have me on, he couldn't get me on quick enough since "*Bob Lazaaaaaar....*" had been the primary factor in making the Billy Goodman show "happen". When Lazar quit calling in, Goodman's ratings evaporated.

I would have preferred to have started much earlier that evening since I was certain Goodman or someone else would immediately contact Cooper, and I didn't want to take unfair advantage of the situation. Bt the show was actually delayed an hour in starting until 1 am. After I'd made a few opening remarks about Lazar's upcoming sentencing, Goodman asked me something about the Kennedy assassination. Knowing I would probably not be able to complete many sentences afterward, I deliberately stated that Bill Cooper was "a fraud, a liar, a plagiarist, a snake-oil salesman, and a third-rate huckster" and that he was completely misusing the videotape that I had made after I had told him more than once to cease-and-desist. The audiotape of the entire confrontation is available to anyone who wants to hear it.

I was tired after a long week and simply not prepared for Cooper's bald-faced lies. Given my training and natural orientation toward diplomacy, I was more than ready to concede a point to him if it was true. And I did this several times.

My friends jumped me afterward about going so easy on him, and he later crowed that *"Everybody who heard the program thought I kicked your ass!"* Goodman -- who Lear regularly refers to as "Billy Buffoon" -- shamelessly ran interference for Cooper who (as he let slip during the program) was one of Goodman's biggest advertisers/sponsors. Even so, I made the main points I wanted to make. Despite Cooper's lies and threats, the ripples I created that evening have certainly rocked his boat and eventually will engulf him.

When Cooper claimed I had made the tape for Bo Gritz and John Lear (a bald-faced lie) and that I had given him an inscribed copy and a written authorization to show it (another lie), I emphasized that I did not know either one of the two men at the time I made the video. I surprised him by challenging him to present the copy he claimed I had given him to Tom Leykis as proof when we met on his program 5 days later in L.A. Needless to say, **Cooper had nothing to show because it simply never happened.** When I asked him off the air -- in front of Tom Leykis and the others present -- where the tape I had supposedly given him was, he could only snarl: *"I don't have to show you anything!"*

On that program, I did not hesitate to admit that I not only made the tape but also made a monumental error by stating the "driver scenario" as an actual fact in the narration, rather than as an apparent possibility. One man who thoroughly castigated me on the air claimed I had created the tape as a "straw man" -- that is, putting out something that was actually true but of such poor quality that it could easily be discredited. He called me a fraud and insisted I had been paid off to change my story. After I managed to get a word in, I emphasized that my intention in throwing the tape together was primarily to preserve our copy of the film and to secure the funding to obtain a pristine copy of the film and perform the best analysis available.

I pointed out that there were actually numerous other pieces of evidence besides the film that seemed to support the theory. And that I would have been the first to promote it -- after all, I made the damn thing! -- if I believed it was true. When he accused me of deliberately making a poor-quality tape just to make money, I reminded him that **I was not the one promoting it, showing, and selling it. Bill Cooper was!** That took the wind out of his sails somewhat. Most of the other callers pretty much tended to side with me -- particularly when I was able to bring out a number of the other crucial aspects of the assassination of which Cooper is apparently ignorant.

I was also able to point out the numerous inconsistencies in Cooper's claims about his own background -- particularly his statement that he had decided to have nothing to do with the U.S. Government following his military service even though his own resume claims **5 more years' involvement with the "intelligence community"** from 1975-1980. Cooper claimed to have been so unnerved by his exposure to the Naval briefing papers in 1971 (or was it 1972 or 1973? I think Cooper changes the date every time he's asked) that he had to go AWOL for 10 days to sort it out and wanted to have nothing further to do with the military or the intelligence community. After having his term of service extended by the Navy for a year in punishment, he nevertheless chose to continue working for the "intelligence community" from 1975-1980 according to his own resume! In my one meeting with him at his home in Fullerton, California in August 1989, during our 22 subsequent phone conversations in November 1989 and January 1990, and during our joint appearance on KFI Radio, he refused to answer any of my questions as to what his activities were on their behalf.

Regardless of who "won" the encounter, Cooper failed in front of 6 witnesses by being unable to produce the tape he claimed I had given to him, much less the authorization he claimed I had also given him. He reversed himself more than once when I took him to task regarding specific time periods he claimed to have gone AWOL and decided to get out of government service once and for all after seeing the "Top-Secret" documents.

I reminded him publicly that people he had claimed previously to be his staunchest allies told me he had bragged about sneaking the documents from their security lockers and sneaking the copies off his ship in his lunch pail. When I confronted him about the contradiction between his statement on the air regarding his unwillingness to work for the USG after reading the reports -- and the fact that he claims on his own resume that he performed services for "the intelligence community" from 1975-1980 -- he changed the subject. He refused to even discuss it off the air. His statement to me was *"That's for me to know! You'll never find out!"* The rest, however, is all on tape. You can listen to it yourself.

Oh yes, he was very forceful and overpowering in the bully-boy style he has relied on to intimidate others, shouting his way into control of the discussion, and lying repeatedly whenever I circled in too tightly on him. Some might think he carried the day, particularly when I was willing to concede agreement with the few truthful statements he did make. I know that I scored points with the audience through my willingness to concede I had made the film and that there were numerous other aspects related to the theory -- all of which Cooper was entirely ignorant.

I pointed out that the 2 alleged witnesses who were supposed to have been willing to confirm the theory could somehow never be located or identified. I described the mysterious .45- caliber slug found and photographed repeatedly on the other side of Elm Street which **Cooper had never discussed**. I described the extensive participation of "ex"-Nazis in the overall planning and execution of the hit and named names -- none of which he knew. Despite his blustering, bully-boy style of shouting down any unfavorable questioning, most of the listeners I talked to later said they believed I made a far more favorable impact than Cooper on the better-informed audience in Los Angeles.

Perhaps the greatest victory was that after hearing me out following Cooper's subsequent presentation at Beverly Hills High, the one gentleman who gave me such a hard time on the radio -- who also still prefers to subscribe to the driver scenario -- has become quite a good friend since. He has also shared some excellent information regarding several related issues with me and my associates. Despite our disagreement on the driver scenario, he has come to know well the depth and sincerity of my research and continuing efforts.

Despite Cooper's claims to the contrary, there were no free seats at his Beverly Hills High program. Everybody had to pay \$20 to get in, only to hear more of Cooper's recycled purloined material from the same UFO researchers whose documents and articles I myself had read from John Lear's files two years before. There were also no microphones provided, nor any Question&Answer session after his 3-hour harangue. Nor were any cameras or recording devices permitted. Hardly the open atmosphere one might expect from someone who was trying to enlighten the World about the imminent global threat facing them. Rather, it had all the hallmarks of a slickly-planned event to insure Cooper held all the cards and controlled distribution of all the recordings.

Perhaps because of the heat I had put on him, he was obviously defensive throughout the talk and actually did identify some of the many other researchers whose work he was quoting from for a change. The slide show was incredibly slow-moving, hard-to-read, and tedious. In one case, he quickly passed over a quote by Mikhail Gorbachev which appeared to indicate his belief in UFOs until an alert listener demanded that Cooper go back and read the rest of the quotation, in which Gorbachev said, *"For indeed,*

what could be more alien than war or the threat of war?" Cooper was visibly ruffled by that minor exposure of his deliberate sensationalism.

He used the occasion to heavily slam Don Ecker, Bob Lazar, Budd Hopkins, and me, repeatedly referring to Ecker's UFO "trashzine" and claimed that Bob Lazar was as "phony as a 3-dollar bill." Only a few months earlier Cooper had gushed all over Lazar on the Billy Goodman, claiming he had "*checked Bob out thoroughly*" and he was "*all he claimed he was*" and "*a great American patriot.*" Since no microphone had been provided with which to address Cooper, I had no choice but to shout out from the middle of the auditorium: "Is that why he just received a W-2 form from Naval Intelligence for his work at Area S4?" He did not like that one bit, to be sure.

When he later claimed during the showing of my videotape and the cheap colorized version of my tape by Nippon TV(which he claimed as absolute proof of the driver theory) that I had demanded that he remove my narration some time before, but that he "didn't have the money," I again had no choice but to shout out, "Your partner Stan Barrington says you sold several hundred copies of my tape. That should have given you plenty of money, Bill."

At that point he tried to restore dominance by stating that "*It's my show!*" to the obvious approval of a few of his most devoted sycophants, and ordered his ushers to eject me from the auditorium if I "*made another outburst.*" A couple of them approached me hesitantly, at which time I told them I had heard enough anyway and I would be happy to leave as soon as they refunded my money. They never returned.

Contrary to Cooper's statement, following his final boring remarks, I did not accost anyone. Rather, a large crowd of people eagerly besieged me not in the lobby but right in the aisle as I was trying to leave. Not to make any disparaging remarks but to eagerly question me about the tape and why I did not support my own statements on it which Cooper was promoting so heavily. I told them the simple truth as I have told you here ... at which point David Lifton appeared. I neither came with him to the event nor did I know he was present until that point. I had not spoken with him except for one time on the phone regarding the Greer theory 2 summers before.

Even then Lifton was adamant that he did not believe in the driver theory though he had been exposed to it many years before by Fred Newcomb, who had co-authored the Murder From Within manuscript with Perry Adams. Lifton is well-known by serious Kennedy assassination researchers to be no friend of Robert Groden. Nevertheless, he stated authoritatively that as much as we all would like to pin the fatal headshot on Greer, after viewing what he claimed was the finest copy of the film available shortly before, he was certain that (as I had been saying for nearly 2 years) **Greer's hands never left the steering wheel, even though he did look back twice and stepped on the brakes.** Clear indications -- as far as I am concerned -- that Greer was probably in on the plot. This crowd of between 50-75 people that Cooper claims was so antagonistic actually followed us both outside to the patio at my suggestion to facilitate clearing the hall. We continued the intense discussion there for over 2 hours longer. Without any urging on my part, they also bought over \$100 worth of some of the other literature I had brought along with me.

One fellow I met in the lobby during the intermission called me a week later, having tracked me down to tell me he had looked at the much-clearer Zapruder footage from the NOVA special and could clearly see that Greer didn't fire anything. He thanked me for having the guts to admit my error in letting the tape get out and for confronting Cooper. Cooper is right about one thing: once people see actual clear footage of the Zapruder film and not the 8th or 10th generation garbage that he drags around, they can indeed no longer be fooled and they will all denounce him for the fraud and shameless demagogue that he truly is.

Cooper's statement that "**Hansson, Grodin [sic], and Lifton are running out of time. Americans are catching on to the scam. I shudder to think what will happen to these people when Americans finally get angry. Do not forget that Lear informed me that his source for the film was a CIA agent who later turned out to be Lars Hansson.**" is simply another outright, bald-faced lie and malicious slander. Though I am not an attorney, it almost certainly qualifies as actual malicious baiting for some lunatic to go out and "terminate" us as agents.

The simple fact is that I had actually gotten into an hour-long argument with Lifton regarding the driver theory 2 years before, and had never written or spoken to Robert Groden until after our appearance on the TV program on which Cooper alone was afraid to appear. Since Groden and I had never met or spoken with each other before, he was unfamiliar with my beliefs concerning the driver theory. I have little doubt that he was referring to Cooper's published and videotaped statements when he characterized them on the program as "asinine", even though the producers had deliberately left out the most important half of my testimony and made me appear to be supporting the theory myself.

I have yet to meet Robert Groden personally and met Lifton for the first and only time at Cooper's event. Despite their personal and/or professional differences, however, they have performed 1,000 times the committed research AND sacrifice to bring the truth about Kennedy's murder to the American public than has Cooper. Even my 15-year effort in that regard pales beside their work. For Cooper to even dare to make such a statement about them is utterly shameless and completely asinine. I don't know either of them very well at all. But I would be willing to wager all that I have or will have that the odds are far greater that **if anyone works for the "Secret Government", it is "Wild Bill" Cooper. He certainly has the most acknowledged service time and the least time in doing the hard work in genuine research on the Kennedy assassination.**

To make such a statement about me is so absolutely, patently untruthful, and absurd after my own record of taking the Government on directly on my own and Gritz's behalf. Anyone who has made even the most feeble effort to check me out can quickly see through it. I can easily supply dozens of character witnesses who can verify my activities and lack of income for the last 10 years. As I said before, Cooper is a complete phony and a liar. And his cheap, third-grade technique of accusing anyone who exposes him of being "an agent of the Secret Government" is so petty, childish and disgusting it reeks. And again I ask you: what did Cooper do for "the intelligence community" between 1975-1980?

If he is so intent on alerting us all to the danger of takeover of which we are already acutely aware, and if he had no qualms about committing treason and stealing Top-Secret documents that no one else has ever seen, what could he possibly reveal about his intelligence-related functions for 5 years that could possibly be any more damaging to our "national security" than the purloined and fabricated gloom-and-doom scenario he is already spewing?

His campaign of smear tactics and vilification reeks of Goebbel's "Big Lie" propaganda techniques. His almost complete ignorance of or unwillingness to discuss the extreme extent of actual Nazi involvement in the post-war heroin and cocaine trade -- as well as the true composition of the controllers of Military-Industrial Complex that obviously rules this country and most of the World through planned programs of assassination and genocide -- is simply staggering. If as John Judge says, "*Goebbels would have given his saluting arm for the propagandizing power of television,*" he would certainly have sacrificed his "bird finger" for a bully-boy like Bill Cooper to go out and harangue the masses with his message of fear, smear, and confusion.

Considering all that I have related thus far, I do not think I am merely being paranoid in believing that Lear probably used Cooper's interest in the Kennedy assassination initially in a definite attempt to

discredit me. Given the unscrupulous hothead and publicity hound that Cooper is, it probably took very little urging to get him underway. Despite widespread suspicion that Lear and Cooper have actually been working for the same master(s) to spew disinformation since, I do believe that Lear's and Cooper's mutual contempt is as real as mine is for both of them.

Even so, I seriously doubt that Cooper had had any great concern at all about John Kennedy's death - or who was actually involved in effecting it -- until John Lear "pimped" him with my rough videotape "The Truth Betrayed: Dallas Revisited". It is obvious even to this day that Cooper has done very little research on the subject. In all the presentations that he has conducted on the subject which I have heard or seen, his discussion is limited almost exclusively to the "driver-shot-Kennedy" scenario and little else.

Whatever Cooper's actual motives in appropriating my videotape and selling it since he obtained a copy directly from him, John Lear knew clearly that I no longer supported the "driver-shot-Kennedy" theory long before he met with and furnished my tape to Cooper. And I have little doubt also that Cooper knew my stand on the issue well before he began to publicize my tape. They also both knew very well that the videotape I produced was by no means a finished product for display or distribution, but rather a research aid hastily edited from a poor-quality copy of the film to begin with.

Milton William "Bill" Cooper --in my opinion -- is not only a liar and a plagiarist but also a crude, loutish bully-boy who would be right at home in a brown shirt or -- better yet -- in a third-grader's sandbox. That is precisely his style of threatening and accusation. While Cooper has managed to get his hands on some good information from a variety of sources, he has sown more seeds of discord and dissension amongst a variety of sincere groups and researchers than any government disinformation agent could ever hope to.

If he is not on the payroll of Naval Intelligence or some other agency (as he has admitted he was from 1975-1980), he certainly should be receiving checks from them since he is doing a superlative job of distorting and disrupting the work of a number of dedicated and sincere researchers, and misleading thousands of genuinely concerned citizens who -- for whatever reason -- will not take the time to verify his claims. The only reason I doubted initially (and still do) that he was an agent was that I couldn't believe after meeting him that they have been reduced to hiring someone so crude, so asinine, and so transparent.

Although I was being pushed by him and some of his supporters at that time to help represent and promote him (and actually did provide limited media-related consultation to them for his Nov. 5, 1989 event before I knew better), I decided during our first and only meeting at his home in August 1989 that I did not like his overall "*you're either my friend or my enemy*" style and was not at all convinced of his veracity or his precision.

Since then, I have come to develop genuine loathing and contempt for the man (and for his alter ego, Mr. Lear). And not without exceedingly good reason, as you have been shown already. Since I first became aware of Mr. Cooper from Lear's computer bulletin board messages in November 1988, I have noted that virtually everyone else that he has initially sucked up to and slobbered over publicly has come in fairly short order to completely disassociate from him. Following their disavowal of Cooper, each has also subsequently received the most vicious denunciations from him either on stage, in print, or late at night over the phone. One close friend of mine received 2 death threats from Cooper at 2:30 am after simply calling to order an audiotape of Cooper from his friend Richard Murray.

While perhaps in some cases, his criticism of others may be partially -- or even completely -- justified (as in the case of Lear), Cooper is not at all above resorting to bald-faced lies to shore up his own position when he has been shown to be in error. Which is often. Indeed, I have never yet in my

lengthy personal and professional experience with military and law enforcement personnel, attorneys, covert operatives, and foreign-service snakes much less used-car dealers met anyone who will lie as blatantly and shamelessly as William Cooper (though he has indeed many close seconds). This behavior on his part is especially disgusting because I do believe that some of what he is promulgating is accurate and of utmost importance to Americans and all the World's citizens.

The tragic aspect is that he is so far off-base in the rest of his allegations -- and so foul-mouthed and crude in his dissembling and attacks on other genuine and sincere researchers such as Robert Groden -- that the baby ends up being thrown out with the bathwater when intelligent people finally learn enough to dismiss Bill Cooper as a wild-eyed fanatic at best. Most are far more inclined to view him as an outright disinformation agent and/or wacko.

I have tried to give the man the "benefit of the doubt" since first hearing of him in Nov. 1988 -- particularly since some of the information he has accessed and promulgates is true and valid. But after careful study, it becomes apparent that virtually all such material has come from others. After being on the receiving end of his lies, theft, and threats, I am steadfastly committed to making sure that people hear "the rest of the story" regarding his allegations and activities before they pass judgment on his veracity or mine.

One simple case in point regarding Bill Cooper's lack of accuracy, honesty, and precision is the way in which he has crusaded as the great exposé of the U.S. Army's involvement in the creation of AIDS. It is a matter of record that Dr. Robert Strecker and others were lecturing on this tragic fact years before their literature came into Cooper's hands. As a blatant example of Cooper's lack of precision and thoroughness, the excerpt from the Congressional Record concerning the Department of Defense Hearings testimony from Dr. McArthur on July 2, 1969 which Cooper distributes and has printed in his book on page 445 as "proof" of the Army's culpability (which I happen to agree with) he wrongly references back to "Part 5: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation". Anyone who had bothered to simply look up the testimony at their local library would quickly learn that nowhere in "Part 5" does McArthur's testimony appear and might quickly conclude that it has been faked. Obviously, anyone who distributes such information under that heading as proof is ill-informed at best and an outright fraud at worst.

On the other hand, anyone who (unlike Cooper) made at least a cursory search of the references before taking it out to grandstand and sell tickets would quickly learn that there were 7 parts to that particular series of Defense Appropriations hearings. The McArthur testimony actually appears in "Part 6: Chemical and Biological Warfare" on June 9, 1969 -- not July 1, 1969 as Cooper's reprint indicates. If it may seem that I'm splitting hairs here, bear in mind that the testimony is in **an entirely different book from an entirely different hearing on an entirely different day!** If Bill Cooper is that sloppy in his research about a relatively simple reference readily available to the public, how accurate is he with all the alleged meetings and secret documents he claims to have had access to?

According to several of Cooper's former confidantes, he actually bragged about **stealing** the top-secret documents that he claims to have had access to from their lockers, after which he photocopied them and sneaked them out of his duty station in his lunchpail. When I questioned him about this on KFI Radio in August 1990, he was evasive to the extreme. I seriously doubt Cooper had any serious function with ONI while he was in uniform or out of the service since he lacked the rank, the specific training, and much less the record to be legitimately accorded such a high level of trust. Nor has anyone come forward to verify such service.

I am certainly no great fan of Naval Intelligence in particular. Lee Harvey Oswald was one of their agents before his untimely demise. John Walker and his network were Naval Officers and/or

intelligence personnel. Christopher Boyce (the "Falcon"), on the other hand, was merely the son of a retired FBI agent. But the fact is that they are serving many years in prison for virtually the same acts as Cooper has bragged about committing both privately and publicly. If what Cooper is spewing so self-righteously is such a great threat to the world power-brokers -- not to mention their hand maidens in the intelligence communities -- why has he like Lear been so immune from prosecution?

If -- as Cooper claims in his book -- *UFO Magazine* writer (former Green Beret and deputy sheriff) Don Ecker lost his leg in a shotgun-training accident, is it not possible -- with as many lies as he has been caught in red-handed -- that Cooper might actually have simply had "one too many" when he rolled his motorcycle off the road and lost his own leg? I don't know and neither apparently does anyone else for sure, as is the case with almost all of the rest of his wild-eyed allegations. He certainly must have had several too many when he left the 10 life-threatening messages on the answering machines of his former promoters actors Michael Callan and Douglas Deane in July 1990. The audiotape of those messages is readily available for anyone to hear for themselves.

The first one on the tape gives you quite a feel for the man's subtlety and business acumen when he is failing to accomplish objectives:

Maniacal laughter precedes "Heeeeeey, maaaaaaan -- Somebody just sold me your kneeeees, and I'm comin' to get 'em. I'm comin' to get those knees. And I'm gonna break them motherfuckers into five million pieces..." Maniacal laughter fades to hangup.

Rudyard Kipling wrote in his poem "If" that one must learn to achieve mastery of life by being able to transcend many types of setbacks, including *"having your words twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools."* I had no idea at the time I first read those words 20 years ago just how precisely I would come to experience that reality personally. "Knave" is certainly one of the most complimentary terms I would accord Bill Cooper, who has not merely twisted my words but has blatantly lied repeatedly about my words and actions. And those of a number of others.

Fortunately, I have far more faith in the strength of the truth and the intelligence of our respective audiences that most will be able to sort out who is telling the truth once they have heard or read at least 2 sides of the story. Unlike Cooper, I have proof for every single allegation I am making (and witnesses in virtually every instance) and will be most happy to make this available at a reasonable cost to anyone who wants to examine it for themselves. I am also more than willing to submit to an independent professionally administered polygraph test along with this affidavit should anyone request it and be willing to pay for it. As embarrassing as a few of these disclosures have been for me as well, I have absolutely nothing to hide. I sincerely doubt that Mr. Cooper would be willing to submit to such a test with regard to my charges contained herein. I am absolutely certain that he would not pass if he did.

I find it particularly interesting that even the title of his opus Behold a Pale Horse is an outright plagiarism from an earlier novel by the same name written by Lannon D. Reed. Considering the fact that Cooper was so adamant in denying to me during our 2 phone conversations the involvement of "ex"-Nazis in the Cold-War nightmare we have had to endure since 1945 -- as well as in John Kennedy's assassination -- I found it particularly amusing that the book he stole his title from is actually subtitled "A Novel of Homosexuals' Persecution in the Nazi Holocaust."

To borrow a line from Wild Bill Cooper's book, *"I shudder to think of what will happen"* to him when the gay community and Holocaust survivors "finally get angry" about his cheap plagiarism and debasing of their experiences. As you can see, plagiarism is the least of his outrages.

Cooper's final statement about Lear's identification of me as a CIA agent (whether Lear actually said it or not) is ridiculous and almost laughable, given Lear's long-term association with the Agency himself and his fear and trembling since August 1988 about my exposing him for the sleazebucket and gunrunner that he is. It is even more disgusting and hypocritical in light of Cooper's almost slavish attempt to curry my favor during our first phone discussion and my subsequent meeting at his home in August 1989.

If it were not for the general ignorance of most of these issues by his audience, Cooper would probably have been put long ago in an institution where he belongs. Knowing his capacity for turning his own lies around on others, when he does finally go berserk and kill some innocent bystander who also appears to him to be "an agent of the Secret Government" or ends up on the losing end of the lawsuit I may eventually have to file, he will almost predictably claim that the Agency was funding me. Whatever funding I might be able to obtain to prosecute such a suit would come from honest efforts and not from any intelligence sources.

Cooper continues:

"Hansson later claimed that I violated his copyright. He had no copyright. Hansson himself violated someone's copyright my making the film and giving it to me Lear and Gritz. I didn't and still don't give a damn about copyright on THIS particular film. If I did, no one would ever know who really killed our President.

"Bo Gritz stated on radio that he felt exactly the same way. Hansson never attacked Lear or Gritz who still show the tape. And Gritz still makes it available. I wonder why? Are Lear, Hansson, and Gritz working together?"

I didn't "later claim" that Cooper violated my copyright. I informed him of that fact the first time I called him to confront him about his use of my videotape in late October 1989. I made it very clear to him that whether I had any legal claim to a copyright on the "Truth Betrayed" video or not, if he had any ethics at all, he would obtain his own copy of the film inexpensively from any of the several legitimate sources and make his own tape. I was not aware until several months later until John Lear himself informed me that he was selling it as well. I made it very clear that I had completely given up on the driver theory a year before and that Lear certainly was well aware of that fact.

As to whether-or-not I had violated Zapruder's or Groden's copyright, that is certainly debatable. Since I had made no copies of the tape for sale and had only given a very small handful of the tapes to close and trusted associates (aside from Lear), I seriously doubted then or now that I had violated any copyright laws. When Cooper says he doesn't "***give a damn about copyright on THIS particular film. If I did, no one would ever know who really killed our President,***" he certainly utters a mouthful. He obviously doesn't give a damn about copyrights on a high percentage of the material that he quotes as his own from a number of other researchers including the very title of his book, lifted from an earlier novel about homosexuals in Nazi Germany by Lannon Reed. And he certainly doesn't give a damn about enlightening his audience about all the other scumbags who participated in the planning, financing, and execution of the fairly-well orchestrated hit in Dallas that day. Whether William Greer was in on the plot in any capacity, he was one of a long list of perpetrators that Cooper completely overlooks in his obsessive concentration on the most sensational (and erroneous) aspect.

I have not heard the particular radio broadcast that I referred to earlier and that Cooper refers to here in which he claims that Gritz "***stated on radio that he felt exactly the same way.***"

Bo and I have done one radio program together on the subject and have spoken together publicly twice with references to the JFK murder. We collaborated on an entire chapter in his new book on the subject. I have little doubt that he probably did say something to the effect that he felt there should be no copyright on the Zapruder film. But I know for certain after a number of discussions on the subject with him that tossing my videotape out to the largely uninformed public with no additional information and references in support of -- or contradicting the statements I made on it -- is profoundly disorienting to the average person.

As a special-forces operative and triggerman for many years, Gritz is occasionally prone to "shoot from the hip" and ask questions later. He admitted -- when I confronted him about his impulsive decision to make copies of my tape available without advising me in mid-1989 -- that he did it primarily out of disgust with Cooper's excessively secretive and exclusive approach to the entire matter. He was so put off by Cooper's reliance on his "secret copy of the special uncut version of the Zapruder film" to bolster his own limited credibility -- when the same tape had been gathering dust in Gritz's living room for over a year at that time -- that he impulsively offered to make a copy of it available at the request of one of the callers.

Knowing from our discussions that I didn't support the theory any longer anyway -- and having seen much clearer footage in the studio where I had produced his documentary a few months before -- he considered it "no big deal" and offered it primarily to defuse Cooper's messianic approach to the matter. Despite his error in doing so without contacting me first, Gritz at least had the consideration for the eventual recipients to also include another fairly decent documentary on the assassination on the same tape in order to provide some kind of overall background. He didn't ask the producers of that program for permission to copy it, either. But that was his choice. I had nothing to do with it and did not find out until several months later. Gritz immediately discontinued distribution when I found out about it and requested him to stop.

Cooper finally makes a truthful statement when he says that I never attacked Lear, because I certainly should have exposed him for the fraud and lecher that he is over 2 years ago. Out of respect for John Lear's family -- particularly his mother (since I lost all respect for him over 2 years ago) and concern that my disclosures could bring considerable grief upon him and/or them -- and my complete disgust with Bill Cooper, it is true that I have given Lear far more leniency than I should have. It is certainly true that he has shown (and probably sold) the tape many times without my permission.

In addition to what I have already described, I have had it confirmed as well from the producers of the show that it was in fact John Lear who also made my videotape available to Nippon TV for broadcast without my permission, even though he was well aware of how to contact me at the same address I had had in California for over 2 years at that point. Although Cooper has touted Nippon's version as "computer-enhanced", the display at his Beverly Hills High program in August 1990 showed only a poorly colorized ("neonized" is perhaps more accurate), doctored version of my own videotape -- with my own voice clearly evident in the background -- and dubbed-in sound effects to indicate the gun blasts. It was even cheaper and shoddier than I had been led to believe by his grandiose claims when I challenged him on KFI Radio a few days before.

Cooper has attempted to make a second career for himself exposing "the greatest cover-up in human history," denouncing anyone as a CIA agent or an "agent of the secret government" who has questioned him in any way. I find this very disturbing and believe that anyone who is inclined to take any of Cooper's charges seriously should also demand and receive a detailed answer from him regarding his post-service intelligence-related functions. I honestly have no idea at this point what they were or if, in fact, he is currently a witting or unwitting agent of any intelligence agency. I would not be at all surprised to discover that he is, but I do not know that for a fact. Given the Agency's unwillingness to

disclose association with anyone, a disavowal from them of Cooper is a virtual certainty. Given the number of his demonstrated lies and flip-flopping, however, I am by no means sure that his resume statement is accurate, either. That's the big problem with liars.

The Best Evidence?

The only reason I elected in the midst of all this to become involved in any way at that point with Lazar's legal case was that Lear originally -- and then Huff and Lazar -- had told me in no uncertain terms that as part of Lazar's extensive briefing at S4, he had reviewed a number of documents related to the **development of AIDS as a biological weapon** (and had even been so specific as to have mentioned that the Naval Officer who had signed the final report certifying the weapon's operational status in 1972 was an R.M. Donner). Although I had virtually no way of telling if their statements were true, Lazar's credibility and consistency regarding other aspects of his story -- bolstered by 4 lie-detector tests -- had held up throughout our limited dealings. Furthermore, the record of U.S. Congressional funding of this specific type of research, at the very least, is available in your library in the Congressional Record from 1969. **[StealthSkater note: but what if actual funding was secured by a "black" drug-running fund outside the oversight of Congress?]**

My immediate and overriding concern was that if there was any chance whatsoever that Lazar was telling the truth and had not been fed bogus information, that he may well have been telling the truth about the **formula for the [AIDS] antidote** which he also claimed to have seen and memorized. If any of that was even remotely true, the risks of embarrassment -- much less imprisonment -- were far outweighed by the possibility of securing a means to eliminate this man-made scourge. For that reason alone and not out of any regard for Lear or any necessarily great affection for Lazar and Huff, I worked feverishly for the next few months to secure some of the crucial elements for the formula as well as to secure maximum media coverage for Lazar's case, virtually all of which he blew off entirely. Despite all of my feverish efforts, however, it was actually the serendipitous and fortuitous occurrence of 2 things that really kept Bob Lazar from going to prison.

The first was the unfortunate murder by strangulation of a black casino floorman by 3 Metro policemen who entered his apartment illegally to "question him" about his girlfriend's alleged prostitution, which created a firestorm of well-justified criticism and put the heat on Metro to avoid any other scandals which madam Toni Bullock's operation would have surely entailed. The second was a supreme blunder by some lowly underpaid file clerk somewhere in the bowels of the Defense Department who accidentally actually sent Lazar his W-2 from **Naval Intelligence** for the period of his employment at the Nevada Test Site which actually showed a '**MAJEST**' security classification, I'm told. The combination of those 2 factors running on the evening news days before Lazar's final sentencing stripped bare the hard-ass probation officer's motivations in condemning Lazar as a "con-man" and a "liar" and resulted in his being awarded 3 years probation by the conservative-but-fair judge presiding over his case.

After attending the next-to-last court hearing for Lazar, Lear asked me to come up to his house and help him with his sewer system. I really didn't have the time to spare but actually felt sorry for him at that point, since he apparently lacked the money to pay a proper outfit to do it. Who can you call to help you with something as unappealing as that? I had to cancel a couple of key meetings to do so and ended up spending most of the day helping him try to rout out his clogged drain lines -- without success. While we were talking, perhaps because of the "earthiness" of the situation, Lear was especially candid about a number of matters.

Again I found myself almost feeling sorry for the guy for having gotten so far in over his head on the UFO situation, and so far behind in his family situation. He began to express great concern about the

fact that he had been laid off from his flight job as well as about Cooper's continuing efforts to embarrass and discredit him. He was particularly distressed about the threat of Cooper's full disclosure about the woman who had come to the house the night that Cooper and Novel were there. I'd become pretty tired of hearing about it since I thought it was asinine for her to have been there at all -- regardless of what happened -- given his past history. When I asked him disinterestedly if anything had actually happened, if she really was there on "professional business", he automatically replied, *"Well yeah, of course. I was just too drunk to do anything."*

I didn't have the heart to start lecturing him again since it was obviously pointless anyway, if he was still pursuing the same stupid path he should have left behind 2 years before. I just nodded and decided that now that Lazar was pretty well off the hook, I would just as soon fade into the sunset and leave the entire sorry mess behind me. Lear asked me to stay for dinner, expressing appreciation for my friendship and understanding. But I just felt it was time to go.

Frankly, despite my disgust for the actions I have related thus far, that is the enduring image I have of the man -- one of pity. Despite all the luster and the awards and the recognition, John Lear is still so much like the little kid in third grade who couldn't do enough pull-ups or sit-ups to make the team to which he desperately wanted to belong, or to win his father's approval. Even Lazar and Huff (who had taken to calling each other "Gufon" and "Bufon" in sarcasm toward the UFO fanatics involved in MUFON) dismissed John as simply "Lear" when he asked them if he should be called "Lufon."

Following Lazar's sentencing to 3 years' unsupervised probation on the "weenie charge" (please excuse the pun), in September 1990, I became heavily involved assisting in the production of Gritz's new video and editing of his new book Called to Serve. When I returned to California at one point to continue editing the video after the owner of the original studio became somewhat panicked at the content and real or imagined surveillance being conducted against him, I contacted the owner of a flight service company which specialized in film work to discuss a film treatment I had in development. He was very receptive -- particularly when I mentioned my acquaintance with Lear -- and informed me that he had learned of John's layoff from his mother shortly before and was concerned about his immediate prospects. I told him I was actually anxious to put a film deal together on UFOs, incorporating specific aerial sequences with standard aircraft, that with any luck could include John in both a consultative and a flying capacity. I actually thought that perhaps getting Lear involved in larger creative project might actually help him acquire an entirely new perspective on life. The gentleman thought that would be a great idea as well. I agreed to send him the story treatment that I'd just completed in order for him to look it over and discuss it with some of his contacts.

A few days later, Lear called me up to chew me out about discussing his employment with the man (much like his bitching about my calling Lazar). Eventually I was able to make it clear that I didn't bring it up at all, but that the man had already learned of his situation from John's mother. I pointed out that I only mentioned that I thought it would be great if he had the chance to have a major involvement in a blockbuster film since we all knew his flying career was nearing an end, anyway, due to his difficulty in passing the annual physical. When I explained the general discussion regarding the film project, he became even more belligerent, claiming that he would settle for nothing less than co-writer on the script. I replied that he was welcome to be producer and director if that's what he wanted. All I wanted was to just get something rolling rather than talk and more talk.

After being extremely discreet and supportive of him through over 2 years of pretty asinine behavior, I was pretty disgusted at his accusations and decided to drop the entire project insofar as he was concerned. I called the flight-service director back the next day and discreetly informed him that Lear preferred to handle the project himself and that they would need to communicate with each other exclusively from that point on. I was completely bowing out of the loop myself. I was so completely

disgusted with Lear after actually trying to help him out that I resolved to sever communication with him once and for all. But it was not to be.

A few days later, he called me in L.A. early in the morning after I had been up until 3 am working on Gritz's new video to blab about the documents he had just received concerning "Operation WatchTower". I was still groggy after only a few hours sleep and responded slowly. Lear mentioned a number of details in the Cutolo Affidavit that were being held very discreetly at that point. I quickly came back to full consciousness as my anger began to rise. I asked him 3 different times where he obtained the documents. He lied to me repeatedly each time. I had actually just met with Oliver Stone the day before regarding the documents and the video in progress. And he, in turn, had passed the information on to award-winning reporters Seymour Hersh and David Oberst. I was absolutely aghast that a blabbermouth like Lear (whom I had already decided to sever connections with) now had his hands on them and could disrupt any efforts underway to confirm and substantiate their contents.

Worse yet, when I called back to Lear to try to find out who else he had talked to at that point and to convince him to keep his mouth shut about it for the time being, I discovered he had left a snide message on his answering machine -- heard by anyone who called him -- regarding me and the Kennedy tape. After all the crap I'd endured on his behalf and the hundreds (if not thousands) of miles and dollars I'd spent over a period of nearly 2 years trying to get him to see the actual truth of that situation, to hear him belittle me and the assassination itself in such a petty and crass manner -- given the multitude of sins I'd been sitting on for him -- was just too much to swallow any further. The fact was that Lear was the very person who had violated my trust in the first place by making the video public when it was never intended as any kind of final statement and by giving it to Cooper, which in turn led Gritz to foolishly make it available. All the while, I was acutely aware of deliberate treasonous/criminal behavior on his part, not to mention scandalous peccadilloes. I was outraged beyond belief.

I called him twice that evening to leave messages to the effect that I thought his behavior was asinine. I stated in no uncertain terms that if he really felt it necessary at that point to deal with such matters in that shallow a fashion, I felt no longer bound to maintain my silence about a number of matters that the media and the public had long deserved to know which I had been urging him to disclose throughout. I indicated that I was being questioned by some news agencies about my knowledge concerning the Marcos Gold shipments, and was seriously questioning my decision to keep him out of harm's way by feigning ignorance. He instead chose to interpret my messages first as a threat and later as an attempt to extort money from him. But they were neither.

I recorded my third message to Lear on my own tape recorder which clarified that there was a severe misunderstanding underway and a serious breach of trust and respect committed, and offered him -- in firm terms -- the opportunity to meet and talk about it privately before it escalated into open warfare. I made it very clear I was not threatening him or trying to extort money, but merely intent on encouraging him to sit down and talk about the situation.

When he refused to respond directly but instead called a number of my former acquaintances to misrepresent my statements to them -- and apparently implied that I had called to extort money from him, I then wrote him a certified letter, deliberately couching certain "delicate" issues in cryptic terms in case his wife might have intercepted it -- I made it very clear I had no desire for any money from him at all, but rather that we sit down and talk and get the problem between us resolved. He then called another friend of mine to complain that his wife had received the letter and was now visiting serious grief on him as a result.

Fortunately, my friend had the presence of mind to ask if that was before or after he had read the letter himself. Lear -- fool that he is -- admitted that he had actually left the letter laying on his desk and his wife found it there.

What I find especially ironic about this is the fact that I actually took deliberate pains to keep the discussion strictly between the two of us, when I easily could have deliberately dropped all the revelations on his wife with predictably nuclear results. Instead, I had purposely worded the contents so as to avoid any such references other than a phrase about his "dalliances in the French Quarter", which referred merely to his meeting there with Novel on the Fourth of July 1990. As a matter of fact, I had called him there from Santa Barbara that evening to see what advice Novel had to offer concerning how to keep Lazar from going to prison -- I figured he should know. To my knowledge, Lear actually did nothing at all out of the ordinary while in New Orleans. But apparently just the terminology that I chose was enough to set her brain working overtime.

The only time I actually managed to reach Lear -- as I described earlier (probably in early October 1990) -- he was extremely belligerent, immediately reading to me the third in a series of snide phone messages he had prepared to embarrass me, offering my phone messages to him for sale to anyone who called in. He then demanded to know how much I wanted -- claiming he had his checkbook in front of him -- for me to agree to quit attempting to contact him. When I explained that I simply wanted an apology, a retraction of his earlier messages, and to talk and get to the bottom of why this situation had come up in the first place, he laughed and accused me of deliberately creating grief for him at home by leaving the 3 phone messages.

He accused me of leaving drunken messages on his machine. But I reminded him that I rarely ever drink. And never to excess. I clarified that what he heard in my voice was not drunkenness but disgust. When I reminded him of all the grief he had caused for me with the Kennedy tape to begin with, of the thousands of people who had been disinformed by Cooper thanks to him, and of the countless people who had heard his phone messages about me, he was momentarily speechless. I emphasized once again that all I was asking for was for us to sit down in some neutral spot and get to the bottom of the dispute before it escalated any further, because I was sick and tired of being used as the whipping boy for his and Cooper's bullshit. He agreed to call me back later that day but never did. He has ignored or refused to listen to or look at any message I have tried to send him since, much less to talk with me.

In the meantime, I have learned from very reliable sources that Lear has boasted about enlisting another person to try to get me to admit to an attempt to extort money from him while that person was secretly tape-recording our conversation; that he had forged a threatening note and my signature and the end of my letter to him mentioned earlier, which he has copied and distributed to any number of other people; and that he has been stating in his public lectures that he was misled by me about the Greer theory, and only after he decided to go to see Robert Groden on his own did he realize he had been misled. Mind you, this was 2 years after I insisted that he contact Groden and gave him the number myself so that he could see why I didn't support the theory any longer.

As detailed as this accounting is, I still find it very unfortunate that it has become necessary since it is completely contrary to my own nature to betray trusts or unpleasantness related to a friend. But the key word here is 'friend'. If John Lear had ever truly been my friend, he would not only have had more respect than to have conducted his sleazy actions while I was anywhere around, much less begged me to cover for him, much less tried to use me as the scapegoat afterwards. If he had truly been my friend, he would have either been far more forthcoming about some of his other illicit activities and joined me in fully disclosing them to responsible authorities (if there is such a thing anymore). Or he would have kept them entirely to himself and not have tossed them out in the form of braggadocio. If John Lear had truly been my friend, he would have certainly been willing on any of the several occasions that I made

the offer to sit down with me and resolve the dispute that has arisen instead of resorting to lies, innuendo, attempted entrapment, outright forgery, and open statements to others about his desire to kill me. If he had been my friend, he certainly would not have violated my trust by giving the unfinished JFK videotape to Bill Cooper and God-knows-how many others, and showing it all over God-knows-where, especially after I had made it very clear to him from the beginning that it was not for public dissemination and later that I no longer supported it at all.

What I am simply trying to say after all these words is that if any of these reports about his recent actions are true -- and if Lear actually did characterize me as a CIA agent to Cooper -- then he easily qualifies as a bald-faced liar himself. You can believe what you will. If you choose to think that I must be guilty because I have devoted so much space to denial of their charges, that is your prerogative. You can believe me when I say that I have far better things to do than waste time on what you have just read. But I have become sick to death of the continuing lies that are spread about me by this man has openly dealt with known weapons smugglers for years to supply guns and explosives to anyone who could borrow enough money to pay for them, anywhere in the World. I would say that a high percentage of the funding for his beautiful home and other wherewithal -- if it wasn't given to him by his mother -- came from such blood money.

If they're willing, I will be happy to provide statements from any or all of the witnesses that I've referred to, or put you in touch with them directly with their permission. My personal and professional reputation has suffered so heavily from this mess that I seriously doubt even this effort will make very much difference. But my conscience has compelled me to simply state the truth for your benefit as well. Take it as you will. At least now I can go on to more important things with an uncluttered mind.

Epilogue

Since I finally decided to go public with this material, I have been in touch with a number of excellent reporters in this country, in Europe, and the Far East who have covered many of these issues for over a decade in some cases. I have received a high level of interest and follow-through as Lear and Warton have discovered already. I am assured that whatever may come to pass, the important issues contained herein will not be forgotten or pigeon-holed any longer.

Among the numerous excellent sources that I have developed over the last several years despite this distasteful series of events, one who is extremely knowledgeable has informed me of the pivotal role played in the arrangement of the October Surprise deals by one Hector Villalon, an Argentinian "diplomat." According to Honegger's reference to him on page 242 of her book October Surprise, Villalon did indeed play a key role in the arrangement. But Honegger has nothing else to add to that statement. I informed her in early June 1991 (as I am informing you now) that according to my source, Villalon was in on the plan from the beginning.

Unbeknownst to Honegger or any of the other journalists investigating the October Surprise, according to my source, Villalon was the personal secretary to Fulgencio Batista in Cuba and was in fact an OSS officer even after the creation of the CIA in 1947. As outlandish as this may seem, it is verifiable. Finally according to this source (whom the Iranians contacted early in 1980 for help in obtaining spare parts for their weapons systems), Villalon is old and very bitter about the U.S. betrayal of his country in the Falklands War. After all, he and his countrymen had done to support our numerous dirty little wars and dirty dealings. He may be very willing to talk about his role -- that is, before he becomes another victim of George Bush's "kinder, gentler nation." The latest news flash that I received as I was completing this report indicated that Bush was apparently planning to meet with Villalon sometime during his trip to Europe. Hmmm.

Americans should be very quick to note the irony that the outright theft of nearly a \$1 billion in the Silverado Bank swindle by the President's son Neil Bush has resulted in less than a hand-slapping, while so many who have placed Bush in Paris in October 1980 are either dead or behind bars on trumped-up charges. I have much, much more to report on this matter which is outside the purview of this report and will advise you as soon as the material has been fully verified and printed.

After singling out Lear for such in-depth scrutiny, it is only fair that I fill out the picture relating to Warton to a greater extent. Within the complete scope of the flight operations in which they have both participated for years, Lear -- despite his illustrious family name -- has really been little more than a "cabdriver" (if you will) for the brains and brawn behind the operations Hank Warton and his overseer in many operations Theodore Shackley. This makes Lear no less culpable, however, for he is more than intelligent enough to be fully aware of the ramifications of his choices to involve himself in such flights.

I am currently working with a source who is intimately familiar with such operations who was made to serve 6½ years of a 10-year sentence when he deliberately brought a load of 800 pounds of cocaine into an off-limits airport in Georgia in 1984 to bust the Ted Shackley/Oliver North/Michael Harari smuggling network. Although only 600 pounds of the load showed up in court, he succeeded in putting a major dent in the ring, leading eventually to the exposure of the entire operation 2 years later. But he nearly paid the ultimate price after being massively drugged for 3 years with a daily dose of 3,000 mg. of procaine as part of his "rehabilitation therapy."

In addition to the background I've already mentioned, it should in fairness be pointed out that (according to sources who have known him for years) Warton's Jewish parents were killed in front of him in Nazi Germany when he was a teenager. To prove his fidelity to his adopted country, Warton undertook an extremely dangerous behind-the-lines mission in North Africa before acquitting himself with honor with the U.S. Marines at Guadalcanal.

Since World War II, Warton has flown more air operations -- weapons deliveries for the most part -- than probably anyone would care to remember, especially those who contracted with him to do so. Warton has by his own admission also performed a great deal of contract work for the CIA. In one case, according to his own testimony, he had brought a load of East-Bloc small-arms weapons from Sofia, Bulgaria to Dugway Proving Grounds for testing purposes at the behest of his Agency and Pentagon handlers. Another agency became suspicious about one of his planes involved in the flight while it was temporarily parked in Florida prior to returning to his HQ in London. In short order Warton was looking at a felony charge. When he contacted his people at the Pentagon for backup, they informed him the situation had to be kept "low-profile" and they could not risk an investigation. Warton was promised that if he took the rap and paid the fines, they "would make it up" to him in future contracts. He dutifully pleaded guilty and received a felony conviction and a total of \$150,000 in fines.

Warton is now under investigation for alleged illegalities in connection with the planned sale of one of his C-130s with the Government attempting to use his previous conviction as proof of "predisposition." Whatever his actual guilt or innocence may be, Warton is not unlike many other true patriots who probably began and still continue in clandestine operations with sincere -- even admirable -- motives, perhaps seduced to some extent by the payoff and the excitement, but all too readily tossed on the slagheap by their Agency controllers when they got caught in a jam which threatened to expose their controllers.

Like so many others caught in this particular kind of "squeeze", after many years of unquestioning compliance with Agency requests, Warton is now appealing his earlier conviction by employing the equivalent of a "CIA defense" while attempting to prove that his actions in the recent sale were all above

board. Currently there is "bad blood" between the CIA (an unabashedly Catholic organization from its inception) and the Mossad, out of which rumors have arisen that the latter organization may soon be "surfacing" photographs of George Bush in Paris in October 1980. Unless Israel gets its way in current negotiations, Warton -- who has served both masters for decades -- may find himself in a uniquely tight squeeze. It remains to be seen how much loyalty will be extended by his masters to a faithful servant. Whatever the outcome, I have no doubt whatsoever that a very close scrutiny of the operations he directed will yield gigantic revelations about the higher-ups who ordered them.

After several consultations with various attorneys regarding Cooper's appropriation of the "Truth Betrayed" videotape and his unauthorized sale of it internationally, I was persuaded that since I had not intended to distribute it and therefore had not initiated any copyright acquisition, my legal standing in terms of Cooper's copyright violation was shaky at best. This, however, is hardly the case with Groden and Zaruder. Following the publication of Cooper's book (from which I have already quoted at length), I again discussed filing a slander suit but was persuaded that doing so would simply be a case of "throwing good money after bad" since Cooper barely has a pot to piss in, anyway. After considerable investigation into his limited holdings, whatever resources he does have to engage me in that fashion would probably be provided to him by others anyway, anxious to draw me into protracted legal wrangling which would only diminish my effectiveness in current efforts. Consequently I have decided -- as one shrewd veteran counseled -- to "take advantage of the free publicity Cooper's book is generating" and set the record straight publicly. This report, then, constitutes another salvo in that effort, and there remain plenty more revelations about Cooper in reserve.

I recently notified Bob Lazar as a friend that I was preparing to go public with this information. But I did not intend at that time to bring him up any more than necessary and certainly not with any vindictive motivation. At that time, I had no intention of discussing his proximity to the AIDS issue, and I will not be at all surprised if he denies any knowledge of it or his discussion of Lear's threats against me. Despite his earlier success with the polygraph regarding his UFO-related experiences, he could certainly not pass if he chose to deny my statements here. I can readily understand if he chooses to regard them as a betrayal of trust.

But I have felt and have encouraged him from the beginning of our association that he should have made more concerted efforts to get his information concerning AIDS into a number of responsible hands who would help him get it to the World -- as he himself said about the UFO-propulsion technology -- rather than waiting for some drug company to buy him out. I apologize sincerely if this revelation brings more heat upon him. But I feel the rest of the World deserves for him to come forward without delay. If he can waste his knowledge about anti-gravitational propulsion on a cathouse, he can certainly press his knowledge about AIDS into the service of the entire world, even if it takes a giant shove. We'll see.

Finally, this report would be incomplete if I failed to point out the role of a former Lear executive -- George Otis -- in "priming" Ronald Reagan for much of his Apocalyptic orientation during his years in the White House. According to a report in the Covert Action Information Bulletin, following his stint at Lear, Otis worked on the climate-control systems for the Minuteman missiles at Vandenberg Air Force Base before heading up his own aerospace contracting business. He was also a leader of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International (FGBMFI) -- a Pentecostal organization of business and military men. The FGBMFI actually provided the seed money for several of the television evangelist, including Pat Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), Jim Bakker's Praise The Lord (PTL), and Paul Crouch's Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN).

During a meeting in Sacramento with the Reagans -- he was introduced to them by Pat and Shirley Boone -- Otis and another FGBMFI leader Harald Bredesen focused strongly on biblical prophecy

concerning "the last days" and the "Second Coming of Christ." Bredesen has been a member of the board of directors of Robertson's CBN since 1962 and a longtime activist in the so-called charismatic movement. Following their discussion, the group formed a circle, held hands, and began to pray. Otis was suddenly "overcome with the Spirit" and appeared to be speaking in the "voice of God" to Reagan, telling him he would reside at "1600 Pennsylvania Avenue" if Reagan continued to "walk in My ways." According to reports from people close to Reagan during this period, he took that prophecy and its subsequent fulfillment very seriously. The "missing chapter" from Barbara Honegger's October Surprise -- along with some of her other handout material -- examine the ramifications of Reagan's apocalyptic orientation in detail and is highly recommended for review.

While Otis appears to be a staunch believer in "end-time" prophecy, he has been no stranger to more practical material considerations. He operated a short-wave radio "ministry" called "High Adventure" with the 4 "Voice of Hope" stations in Israeli-occupied Lebanon ("broadcasting from the Armageddon Bowl") along with a Spanish-language program broadcasting from southern California throughout the western hemisphere. Otis also built Middle East Television, then gave it to Pat Robertson's CBN. Both his TV and radio stations in Lebanon have been the targets of bombing attacks, probably owing to his close links with former Phalangist leader Major Sa'ad Haddad, his successor Gen. Antoine Lahad, and the Israeli military authorities.

It is particularly notable that most members of the FGBMFI hold responsible positions in military industries and the nuclear chain-of-command. Many active members are involved with the military (either active-duty or ex-officers) with experience working with nuclear-weapons systems. They interface heavily with the civilian side of the military-industrial complex. According to a number of informed and credible sources whom I know personally, it is very possible that much of the Apocalyptic, Armageddon-type ideology being promoted as a background context for foreign policy -- as was graphically evident during the recent Gulf War fiasco -- is merely a cynical manipulation of the masses of "believers" by the weapons manufacturers and their agents such as George Otis and Harald Bredesen.

Now that the hated Communists of yore have become essentially our trading partners, it is not at all surprising that people like John Lear and Bill Cooper -- with long-established family and professional ties to either the military or these industries (or both) -- are pushing the "Alien Armageddon" line. Currently, daily revelations of damaging testimony concerning the role of Robert Gates in the Iran/Contra scandal from formerly staunch CIA damage-control specialists such as former Saigon station chief and Iran/Contra Committee investigator Thomas Polgar (as seen on Nightline recently) are a harbinger of things to come. If my sources are correct that George Otis worked directly under Bob Gates himself, his possible -- if not probable -- connections to Lear (and especially Warton) could yield even more profound revelations. Stay tuned.

End of Statement

SIGNED UNDER THE PAINS AND PENALTIES OF PERJURY ON THIS 18TH DAY OF JULY, 1991.

_____ Lars C. Hansson Date SWORN to Before this _____ day of _____, 19____. _____ Notary Public I am a registered Notary Public in the State of Florida with a commission that expires on the _____ day of _____, 19____.

END

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