

ROBERT SHEAFFER

Psychic Vibrations

UFOs are back in the news once again, and with the hoax MJ-12 "crashed saucer" documents grabbing most of the headlines (see pp. 137-146), some of the more interesting UFO-related stories may have escaped notice. The *New York Post* reported that Beverly McKittrick, ex-wife of the late comedian Jackie Gleason, is now claiming that Gleason told her that in 1973 President Nixon, who was a friend of Gleason, took him to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida to see the bodies of four dead space aliens. Gleason was a staunch believer in UFOs, and reportedly had his home in Peekskill, New York, which he named "The Mothership," built to resemble a flying saucer. It might seem unlikely that a president would take a comedian into an ultrasecret area to gawk at the remains of a flying-saucer crew, but the apparent absurdity of it does not automatically refute the claim. For all we know, at this very moment President Reagan may be escorting Chevy Chase and Pee-Wee Herman into a high-security hangar to view the little bodies.

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Another alleged alien encounter just recently revealed was that of one of the most prolific abduction-finders of all, Leo Sprinkle, professor of counseling services at the University of Wyoming. For more than 20 years, Sprinkle has been using hypnosis to help other people "remember" their own abductions by UFO aliens, but until recently there was no hint that he himself would be counted among this



select group. Sprinkle spoke at the 1986 CSICOP Conference in Boulder, Colorado, telling of many unusual personal experiences, but a UFO abduction was not among them. However, the June 22, 1987, *National Enquirer* carried Sprinkle's picture superimposed upon a drawing of a flying saucer, under the headline "Space Aliens Abducted Me as a Child, Claims College Professor." Turnabout being fair play, when a colleague hypnotized *him*, Sprinkle recounted being taken aboard an alien craft while in the fifth grade and meeting "a very tall man," who looked human. He thinks he was taken on board the spacecraft more than once and that "those contacts were all to prepare me for my UFO research work." Apparently Sprinkle must have been so busy discovering other people's alleged abduction experiences that he somehow overlooked his own.

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While we are on the subject of UFO "abductions," it should be noted that the behavior of UFO-nauts has clearly taken a major turn for the worse. From the "peace and brotherhood" preached to 1950s "contactees," and the quiet and apparently purposeless abductions reported in the 1960s and 1970s, it appears that during the 1980s the aliens' behavior has turned positively menacing. Our scant knowledge of extraterrestrial psychology makes it difficult to pinpoint the cause for this alarming trend. However, it is clear that the aliens' interest in humankind is far more sexual, and their methods far less gentle, than was the case just a few years ago.

Budd Hopkins, abduction finder and author of *Missing Time* and the more recent *Intruders*, believes that space aliens are conducting genetic experiments on humans. They allegedly perform "gynecological experiments" on Earth women taken aboard their craft, presumably to remove ova. Some women claim to have been told about, or have actually seen, their half-alien progeny. Even males are not safe from such abuse: Whitley Strieber, author of the best-seller *Communion*, *Wolfen*, and other exciting tales, claims to have been anally raped by an alien probe, a procedure that intelligent aliens should realize is not likely to yield good genetic material but is nonetheless closely linked with sex in many people's minds. "Nowadays," says Strieber, "men find themselves on examining tables in flying saucers with vacuum devices attached to their privates, while women must endure the real agony of having their pregnancies disappear." It's enough to make one nostalgic for the platitudes of George Adamski! One reviewer of *Intruders* noted that "the most striking aspect of Hopkins's account is the interest shown by the abductors in the abductees' reproductive functions." (Freud would have had a great deal to say about such accounts.) The aliens also sometimes

allegedly implant some sort of "control mechanism" in the nose, sinus, or skull of the victim, which for some reason cannot be found afterward by terrestrial medical examiners.

Stanton Friedman, who calls himself the "Flying Saucer Physicist," holds the opinion that various contingents of aliens visiting us seem to be functioning somewhat as a "flying university." Some are geologists, others botanists, and still others conduct genetic experiments on humans. If Friedman is correct, this would explain the puzzling change in the behavior of the alleged aliens: The relatively gentle philosophers, psychologists, and theologians were the first to arrive, the anatomists came next, and the alien genetic engineers have only recently arrived on the scene.

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Finally, we understand that something of truly cosmic significance occurred this past August 16 and 17, but we're not sure exactly what. According to some astrologers, the ancient Mayan calendar, after allegedly counting more than 6,000 years (meaning the Mayans must have started it a few years *before* Creation week, if Bishop Ussher's chronology is correct), came to an end on August 16, 1987. To some, this foretold the end of the world, an event that, as far as we know, didn't happen. (If predictions of this kind had any validity, the world would already have been destroyed several times over.) Astrologer Bodo Capeller wrote that "the events in August point to a major realignment of our perception of reality. The cosmos itself is carrying us through a major step in evolution. A tremendous outpouring of divine love will take place of a magnitude unknown in recent memory. We are all participating if we like it or not."

Long before this cosmic event, radio commentators began to speak of the

coming "harmonic alignment" of the planets, an event that seemed to have escaped the notice of astronomers. Many Public Broadcasting Service stations scheduled several hours of coverage of the event, with live coverage from a number of "sacred sites" worldwide, thereby demonstrating a truly cosmic want of discernment. New Age author José Arguelles explained that in August our choice would be between a "new age" and all-out destruction and that the latter fate awaited the world unless enough people

gathered at sacred sites like Machu Picchu, Peru, on August 16 and 17. If you are still alive to read this, we may safely assume that the effort succeeded. On the upside, Arguelles noted that at this time we would have the opportunity to join a federation of extraterrestrials—but if we did, it escaped our notice. Astrologer Joseph Jochman summed it all up by saying that "the etheric web of the new earth crystal has been completed," but we confess that to us its meaning is less than crystal clear. •

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