

For "Report from Readers"
C.H. Watkins, Ottawa, Canada.

Having read Arthur Bray's book "Science, the Public and the UFO" a lot more studiously than it would appear your reviewer, Jerome Clark, has, I was appalled at the scathing comments in his review of this book, which are unjust, vicious and in questionable taste. Mr. Clark is entitled to his opinion, but heaven preserve us from the destructive criticism of a reviewer who, with complete lack of any human feeling and using his pen as rapier, slashes to shreds in a few short, sharp sentences, the honest endeavours of a man who has devoted over 20 years of dedicated research into the UFO phenomena. Mr. Clark must be light of conscience and extremely short-sighted if he did not find in this book the truth which has stood out so clearly to many other readers. He may have read much, but it would seem that he still has a lot to learn, first and foremost of which being that a good book reviewer has a moral responsibility to make a fair evaluation of a book, pointing out both its strengths and weaknesses. Being a reviewer does not give him the moral right to sit on a self-erected throne and deal out below-the-belt body blows to the defenceless writer, nor does it entitle him to use a good part of his review as a platform for sounding off his own ideas of how a book should be written. It is small wonder then that such a man missed the whole point of Bray's book - the humanitarian philosophy.

If Mr. Clark found this book "dull", one can only wonder what his jaded palate expects of a book on UFOs - dramatic entertainment, fiction instead of facts? Fortunately, this book was written for people less cynical than the "sophisticated" Mr. Clark, particularly those newcomers to the field of Ufology who can find between the covers of one book a concise history of the major UFO developments and views of experts over the past 2 decades, along with the author's proffered theories, a courageous exposure of the opponents to the UFO cause and some sound and logical philosophy.

It is somewhat amusing to observe the lordly manner in which Mr. Clark dismisses Arthur Bray's theories concerning "the nature and motives of UFO beings" - as "naive".