

look at the UFO coverup, dubbed "the Cosmic Watergate" (6), and in the process read a research paper by Cooper dated May 23, 1989. (7)

Early on, we noted serious documentation problems with the paper. Although Cooper includes a two page bibliography, very few of the facts, issues and conclusions discussed in the paper are referenced back to the bibliography or to any other available source. After reading the paper a second time, we came to an initial conclusion that he had probably taken some truths and half-truths that could be established to one degree or another and wrapped them up in a fictional UFO conspiracy blanket. A researcher could verify some of the obvious material, for example the existence of cited, classified National Security Council memoranda, the contents of which are conveniently not completely available. But, the important material connecting the conspiracy to flying saucers would not be verifiable. Perhaps Cooper hoped no one would notice. In this form, after a casual reading, the story would sound plausible to many; but to the serious researcher, it would be questionable. Even with this plausible scenario, however, we decided to look into some of the main points of information that were unfamiliar to us and not thoroughly discussed by Harder and Ecker. We wanted to see where this would lead.

#### Dr. Guillermo Mendoza

According to Cooper, a Dr. Guillermo Mendoza was brought in by the Government in 1951 to cure an ill "extraterrestrial biological entity" that was found at the Roswell crash. Dr. Mendoza was chosen because he was a botanist and because the entity, named EBE, had a chlorophyll-based, i.e. plant like, system. It was hoped that Mendoza could cure him. EBE reportedly died in 1952. Because of this experience, Mendoza became the world expert on alien biology.

Surprisingly, there was a scientist with this name who was active in research during the time in question. (8) Born in Mexico City on July 5, 1909, Guillermo Mendoza received his PhD in Zoology from Northwestern University in 1937. Holding various university positions, he spent the latter part of his career at Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa in the Biology Department. He was not a botanist. The index *Biological Abstracts* notes eleven articles by Dr. Mendoza from 1937 through 1967. Since this abstract service has gaps in the literature it covers, a sampling of the *Science Citation Index* from