

UFO Investigator

Vol. 1 #3. Jan. 58

P. 4

EMBER CRISIS, from p. 3

The press release was held up.

But that evening the pressure increased. Shortly after 10:00 p.m. the official teletypes brought a disturbing message from the Air Force Missile Development Center near Alamogordo, New Mexico.

James Stokes, a research engineer at the Center, had just reported a dramatic UFO encounter. A huge, disc-shaped object, Stokes said, had appeared between the Center and White Sands. It passed near Highway 24 in the desert, lit his radio and then stopped behind those of ten other cars.

Stokes estimated the UFO was about 500 feet. At its closest point he could feel a wave of heat. There were no visible portholes nor any lights.

This report, coming from a research engineer, was bad enough. But worse, the story had been picked up by the ALG in Alamogordo and was now on the press wires.

Though the Air Force did not believe it, then, a new radio interference had occurred at the very moment the story went on the air.

At 10:00 p.m. a dazzling light fire trailing a weird greenish-yellow vapor had flashed over Kodiak, Alaska. It was sighted by three persons, including Kodiak patrolman John Boucher.

Boucher was in his police car when suddenly the area around him "lighted up as if someone had turned on field lights." The light came from a flaming red ball whizzing out of the east.

"It skimmed about 50 feet over a school," Boucher reported to Navy HQ in Kodiak. "I attempted to radio police headquarters, but there was interference. It was a steady 'did-did-dit' that went on for about two minutes.

"Jan Bueckers, the guard at the jail, noticed the interference, too."

By now reports from reputable observers were coming in from widely separated points. For example:

● A mass sighting of UFOs in Barahona Province, Dominican Republic; seen by hundreds, several discs had hovered for two minutes, then sped off into the east.

● A report of a rocket-shaped UFO by Professor Jacques Hebert, Department of Physics, Ottawa University, Canada.

● At Spooner, Wisconsin, a sighting of a bright oval-shaped object streaking across the sky. Witnesses: Newspaper Editor William Stewart, an Episcopal minister, and three other citizens.

On Tuesday morning, November 5, three Air Force statements were released.

From the Air Defense Command: "One published saucer report will set off a rash of sightings."

From Air Force HQ: "We are making a

serious investigation of the Levelland case... (but) ...we don't investigate all of the reports."

From Air Technical Intelligence Center: "We investigate all the reports; we never know when one may turn up something new."

At the same time, the press release summary made up in July and stated by

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Dr. TELLER SAYS STRANGE LIFE FORMS MAY EXIST ON PLANET MARS

Life on Mars and other planets may be a strange chemical combination hard to recognize as life, according to Dr. Edward Teller, noted scientist who has been called the "father of the H-bomb."

During questioning about our space plans by the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee on Nov. 25, Dr. Teller said space explorations would lead to great advances in scientific knowledge.

"I am certain that people will go to the moon and will get to the planets," he told the subcommittee. He said it would be extremely valuable to put up an observatory on the moon because it would enable us to use wave lengths over the entire spectrum, whereas we now are limited to just a few.

"Then," he added, "even though I know the moon is a very inhospitable place I will look for any kinds of traces of life. They may show up in some strange and unexplainable chemical combinations. I will certainly look for something like that when we get to Mars. It is quite possible that when we get there first we won't even recognize life because it will be so strange.

"In exploration of the moon and planets there are a great number of most interesting and inspiring things.... If you make such a very big step like going to the moon, it will have both amusing and amazing and practical and military consequences."

THE UFO INVESTIGATOR

about the Sebago, the object glowing brightly for three seconds by four men on the ship. Lt. Donald Schaefer, Ensign Wayne Schotley, Quartermaster Kenneth Smith and Seaman-radioman Thomas Kirk.

The object was moving horizontally at very high speed. The men could see no visible means of propulsion nor any vapor trail.

During its maneuvers around the Sebago the unknown object at times reached a speed of almost 1000 mph. Once, briefly, it appeared to be stationary seven miles north of the vessel.

The last radar contact showed the object 175 miles north, heading toward Louisiana. It had covered this distance in 17 minutes as proved by the Sebago's official log.

Front page stories of this official report overshadowed a number of other verified cases revealed on Tuesday, November 5:

● At Selma, Alabama, three Air Force pilots disclosed that they had seen a UFO, like the one in the Sebago case, flash through the sky on Monday.

● Three Atlanta firemen reported seeing a huge round object with a shiny glow early Tuesday morning.

● From Johannesburg, South Africa, came a bulletin on a South African Air Force chase of two UFOs which had appeared over the city on Friday, Nov. 1.

(Details later sent to NICAP revealed three additional sightings, Nov. 2 to 4. On Nov. 1 two disc shaped objects were seen by hundreds of Johannesburg residents, one maneuvering at high speed, while the other hovered over the city. A Sabrejet pilot, ordered to attempt an interception, climbed to 45,000 feet but was still below the UFOs. In another case a UFO was caught in a searchlight beam from Dunnottar Air Force Base.)

("We can only assume," said a South African AF Intelligence officer, "that the objects were some form of physical phenomena for which we have no explanation.")

By Tuesday noon several American scientists had put out explanations for the key sightings based on their interpretation of the news accounts.

Explaining the Levelland and Alamogordo cases, Dr. Donald Menzel, Harvard Observatory, said the objects were nothing but mirages. He said it was not surprising that "a nervous foot" could stall a car in such cases, but did not mention the radio fading and reported effects on headlights.

In addition, an October statement by Dr. Menzel was repeated in which he said that besides weather phenomena, causes for UFO reports included floating cobwebs and owls which glowed as a result of fungus and rotted wood in their nests.

At Miami W. W. Talbott, former Weather Bureau observer, said ball lightning, caused the Texas and New Mexico

Continued on next page

STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE / OOD

EDWARD

SIDO ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

TELLER

6 JULY, 1987

Teller met Reagan just after he became Governor. - shortly
thereafter Reagan came to Livermore - preparing for (SPARTAN)
shot in the Aleutians - big nuclear explosion (few megatons)
"destroy incoming missiles with gamma rays at some distance
from explosion" (2hr) Reagan asked 6-12 questions
met 3 times 1 before 2 after talked thro' advisors
Teller surprised by speech

51 Do Oral History Interview ^{Georg Keyworth}
28. Sept, 1987. by Lt-Col. Bacon

"there is absolutely no question that SDI originated with the President" RR concerned with constraints placed on President by the current nuclear strategy - RR views influenced by NORAD visit in 79
Teller was pushing the bomb pumped x-ray laser. - Teller was invited for lunch and didn't know
- RR. wrote Hugh Soley at Time

Teller

New York Herald-Tribune NOV. 20 to
NOV. 22, 1955 page 1

Dr. Teller listed (Vof Calif) as working
on gravity problem - as well ^{Robert} Oppenheimer

TO: EDWARD TELLER
FROM: J. J. COUPLING

Recently, I watched the TV program, A IS FOR ATOM. B IS FOR BOMB, part of the NOVA series, which was devoted to you. I also heard you speak at Stanford and at KEPLER'S on the energy crisis. In fact, over the last thirty five odd years, I have watched with fascination and horror, the unfolding of your sick mind.

I agree completely with Linus Pauling that you are one of the most dangerous and lethal persons in the world, that world peace is very fragile and problematical because of your baneful influence, your completely irrational fear of the Russians, your insane credo, "BETTER DEAD THAN RED." and your unshakeable and groundless conviction that a nuclear war is winnable.

The Lord God makes very few mistakes, but He made boner when he allowed Fermi to die in his early fifties in 1954 and granted you more than the Biblical three score and ten to spread hatred and fear throughout the world.

The population of your beloved Hungary is a minuscule fraction of the world's population. Even if Hungary is enslaved by Russia, the world is still a beautiful place, still worth saving for non-Hungarians. In your undying, blind hatred of Russia for enslaving Hungary, you want the entire world to go up in flames and consign billions to a horrible death. You remind me of Corporal Hitler, who gave orders to destroy Germany and Europe after it was clear that the Nazi tyranny would be wiped from the face of the earth.

If I were invited to give your necrology, I would say, "Edward Teller was one of the most evil men who ever lived. He could have made fundamental and brilliant contributions to our understanding of Nature. Instead he wasted his considerable scientific talent and harnessed his demonic energies trying to start WORLD WAR III, in order to destroy Russia for enslaving Hungary.

May God have mercy on his soul!. Those of us who knew him can never forgive him."



Science Advisors, Jerry Wiesner had the easiest access to his President, John F. Kennedy. President Kennedy made only one very important decision concerning science--to pursue the moon landing. The fact is that the Science Advisor and all his staff fought tooth and nail against the Apollo moon landing program, and in this most important scientific decision, the President went straight against the advice of his Science Advisor. I suspect that JFK, who was a truly charming man, gave the impression of listening and deliberately created the impression of good relations between himself and his Science Advisor. At any rate, this illusionary closeness to his Science Advisor made JFK most popular among scientists, a most successful political move.

Ideally, we should have a President who has time to listen carefully to advice on science. Failing that, there should be one or more high officials in government whose job it would be to listen seriously to the Science Advisor and establish a very effective link between the Science Advisor and the President. I do not expect either ideal to be fully realized.

However, today, there is a very excellent choice for such a go-between in our Vice President, Nelson Rockefeller. It is well-known that the Vice President is a person out of a job, just as the President is a person who is overworked. Furthermore, in any decent arrangement, the Vice President has ready access to the President, to every high office, and to the National Security Council. He can receive recommendations, propose problems to be solved, and in general serve as the natural bridge between more specialized groups.

Nelson Rockefeller, by fortunate coincidence, is a person who for decades has demonstrated his open ear for science and scientific opinion. I not only had



HOOVER INSTITUTION

ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

Stanford, California 94305



June 26, 1981

Dr. G. A. Keyworth
Executive Office of
the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Jay:

Enclosed you'll find two papers. One is a copy of an address by James Neel on nuclear wastes. I received it from John Lawrence (brother of E. O. Lawrence; the underlinings in the manuscript have been made by John). It seems that the confusion about nuclear waste is even worse than I suspected. Maybe you can do something about it.

The other paper is just for fun. It is something I wrote in 1975, and perhaps you might want to read it at your leisure.

I heard with pleasure that Tom Johnson is apt to join you for a year.

With all good wishes, *(you need all of them),*

Edward Teller



THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

LOCATION

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DATE

SEPTEMBER 14, 1982

TIME DAY

2:21 p.m. TUESDAY

PHONE

P = Placed
R = Rec'd

continued

Mr. Baker
Elizabeth H. Dole, Assistant for Public Liaison
Kenneth M. Duberstein, Assistant for Legislative Affairs
James W. Cicconi, Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff
Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant for Public Liaison

2:32

The President returned to the Oval Office.

2:42

The President went to the Cabinet Room.

2:42

3:02

The President met to discuss the tuition tax credit legislation with select Senators and administration officials. For a list of attendees, see APPENDIX "B."
Members of the press, in/out

3:02

The President returned to the Oval Office.

3:08

3:33

The President met with:
Vice President Bush
Edward Teller, Senior Research Fellow, Hoover Institute, Stanford University, Stanford, California
Mr. Meese
Mr. Clark
George A. Keyworth, Staff Member, National Security Council (NSC)
Raymond Polick, Staff Member, NSC
Sydell P. Gold, Staff Member, NSC

3:36

The President went to the East Room.

3:36

3:49

The President participated in a meeting with selected representatives of major trade associations to discuss the Private Sector Initiatives Program. For a list of attendees, see APPENDIX "C."
Members of the press

3:49

The President returned to the Oval Office.

3:50

3:55

The President met with the Chairman and representatives of the Combined Federal Campaign. For a list of attendees, see APPENDIX "D."
Members of the press



Washington Roundup

Laser Talks

Laser weapons development for ballistic missile defense centered on talks at the White House, Defense Dept. and U. S. Senate. President Reagan met last week with Edward Teller, the nuclear physicist instrumental in developing the hydrogen warhead, and Lowell L. Wood, an expert in development of X-ray lasers at Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos laboratories. Teller has been critical of the Administration, claiming that the White House is ignoring technology advances in short-wavelength lasers, especially the X-ray laser pumped by a small nuclear device. The U. S. is conducting X-ray laser tests at the Nevada underground nuclear test site (AW&ST Feb. 23, 1981, p. 25). Teller is urging that funding be increased for this effort by approximately \$200 million a year over the next several years.

Teller and Wood also talked to Sen. Ted Stevens (R.-Alaska), chairman of the Appropriations defense subcommittee, telling him they support the congressional authorizations position to increase short-wavelength laser funding in Fiscal 1983 at the expense of the USAF management plan for space-based, long-wavelength chemical lasers. Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger met late last week with Sen. Malcolm Wallop (R.-Wyo.), a chemical laser supporter, and his staff member, Angelo Codevilla. The meeting included Richard D. DeLauer, under secretary of Defense for research and engineering, Fred C. Ikle, under secretary for policy, and laser technology experts from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Wallop and some colleagues are pressing for the Senate Appropriations Committee to increase funding to accelerate a space-based laser feasibility demonstration.

Clouded Optics

The Defense Dept., concerned over sharp public and professional reaction after department officials descended on a Society of Photo-Optical Instrument Engineers (SPIE) conference and directly or indirectly caused withdrawal of 120 technical papers, is trying to come up with guidelines within about 30 days. One contentious point was that the Defense Dept. "reviewers" arrived less than three days before the conference, apparently at the urging of a SPIE delegate who complained of what he considered security violations (AW&ST Sept. 13, p. 30). On the other hand, the Defense Dept. said the fact that the Soviet Union and client countries would be attending prompted the review action.

This brought charges of government censorship of unclassified papers and, if nothing else, federal intimidation of preparers of papers for public presentation. When the dust settled, Defense officials agreed to meet with SPIE president Richard J. Wollensak. The upshot is yet another Pentagon steering committee to report on proposed guidelines to Defense Secretary Weinberger in 30 days. Still uncertain: are the guidelines for the Defense Dept. or the aerospace industry in general? As one Pentagon official put it: "It's not the secret and top-secret stuff, or the very basic stuff at the bottom. It's the middle ground that is the problem."

Compensation Cut

An indignant Civil Aeronautics Board denied Continental Airlines' request for \$2.5-million compensation for losses in providing backup services at Honolulu-Pago Pago from Feb. 1-June 1, and last week awarded instead \$21,394 for a shorter period. Member George Dalley noted the wide discrepancy between the request and the staff recommendation, and likened the Continental request to "raiding the public treasury." Continental argued that it reserved the equivalent of a full McDonnell Douglas DC-10 and retained flight crews beyond contract provisions to perform the backup service.

National Aeronautics and Space Administrator James M. Beggs last week invited Canada to select and fly a crewman on a coming space shuttle mission. Several years ago the U. S. and Canada informally discussed flight of a Canadian in connection with Canada's development of the shuttle remote manipulator system. Beggs said flight of a Canadian could take place within the next several months, but Canadian science and technology officials said it will take some time to determine just what type mission would be best. Johnson's Space Center's Flight Operations Div. is ready to fly non-career astronauts as early as Mission 6.

'Sales Study

National Academy of Engineering will start a year-long study of the global shift in commercial aviation sales from U. S. manufacturers to their foreign competitors. The academy will address the issues of government subsidies, tax structures and technology advancements as they apply to the sale of aviation-related products. The product areas to be investigated include large commercial and commuter aircraft, aircraft engines and helicopters.

—Washington Staff



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR W. P. CLARK

FROM:

JAY KEYWORTH *Jay*

SUBJECT:

RECOMMENDATION THAT EDWARD TELLER RECEIVE
AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE PRESIDENT

Several weeks ago I suggested to you that we delay determining whether a meeting between the President and Edward Teller should occur until I had the opportunity to hear Dr. Teller's concerns. I have held extensive discussions with him and now strongly recommend that such a meeting should be arranged when possible.

Dr. Teller has not personally sought such an appointment. He is well aware of the pressure upon the President's time. Nevertheless, I believe he will be somewhat offended if the President whom he has so strongly supported from the outset of the 1980 campaign should not seek his advice. In many ways, Edward Teller is one of the last members of the grand tradition, and a patriot who has been both abused and under appreciated. I believe the counsel he will offer will be both constructive and thoughtful. Basically, Dr. Teller believes that superior American technology must be exploited to assure that we regain an adequate defense posture and, ultimately, withdraw from a strategy of nuclear deterrence and mutual assured destruction. His emphasis upon directed-energy nuclear weapons, expressed in the accompanying letter to the President, is only symbolic of one technology he supports. His more general considerations are, in my opinion, well conceived and consonant with a Presidential strategic perspective. He has been vigorously defending the Administration's posture with respect to the "nuclear freeze" movement and I believe his views merit attention.

As my close friend and mentor, I confess some lack of objectivity in assessing Edward Teller's attributes. However, as I expressed to the President, his contributions to the nation's defense have been rarely surpassed and the depth of his perceptions and understanding make his counsel invaluable. I believe that both these considerations and his unflagging support of the President justify a personal meeting.



#511 How Much Is Secrecy Hurting the U.S.?

MR. BUCKLEY: Suppose that an act of adultery would have the effect of bringing out information that would mean the successful termination of a war. Suppose that a single assassination would end the life of a tyrant engaged in genocide. There are nevertheless theological arguments that would be advanced against the commission of such acts, an extension of the principle that the ends are not justified by any means. But suppose that nuclear technology could be ^{used} to defend the public from nuclear ~~xxx~~ technology. Is this a paradox? There are those who say it is not, that to concede as we do the awful potential of atomic power ought not to commit us to the proposition that any use of atomic power is evil. Yet such theological turns of mind, in the opinion of Dr. Edward Teller, are in fact preventing us from ingenious scientific work designed to protect the American people, ^{and} indirectly other people, ^{from} the possible ravages of nuclear death. He maintains that it would serve human ends better to organize scientists to develop a defense technology against nuclear war as opposed ~~xxxxxx~~ or compared with lying down in Central Park or outside the United Nations seeking to advance the same end.

Few people have given more thought to the problem of nuclear power than Edward Teller, who had the decisive hand in the development of the hydrogen bomb, and few people are better acquainted ~~xxxx~~ than he with the scientific possibilities of nuclear power. But the problem is: Can he talk about what he knows? And if he cannot, how much is the public losing in virtue of his silence and that of other trained and thoughtful scientists bound by our ~~xxxx~~ secrecy laws? Dr. Teller came to America in 1941, devoted himself to the Manhattan Project, to the Livermore Laboratory of which he was director, ^{and} to the University of California, which he served as professor of physics. He is now a senior fellow of the Hoover Institute, the author of many books, most recently The Pursuit of Simplicity. He has served the



government in a number of capacities and won most of the awards given to outstanding scientists. He is currently on the White House Science Advisory Council.

Our examiner today will be Mr. Mark Green, author of Winning Back America--from those awful people in the White House.

I should like to begin by asking Dr. Teller--

DR. TELLER: May I have ^{an} exceptional privilege to ask you a question?

MR. BUCKLEY: Certainly.

DR. TELLER: An easy one. A paradox. Fortunately we have a cease fire in the Falklands. We have a partial cease fire in Lebanon. What are we doing on Firing Line?

MR. BUCKLEY: (laughing) Isn't it a law of physics that every action has an equal and opposite reaction?

DR. TELLER: Yes.

MR. BUCKLEY: Could this be a possible reaction to the cessation of hostilities in the Falklands?

DR. TELLER: I think that not for the first time I agree with you. We need ~~to~~ go around with the Firing Line at home lest firing lines develop abroad.

MR. BUCKLEY: I think that's an excellent rubric under which to proceed, so now I will proceed to ask you the question I was about to ask you, while joining in the jubilation ^{over} ~~ex~~ the cessation of hostilities apparently in Lebanon and in the Falkland Islands. But you do distinguish between secrets we need to guard and those we don't. For instance, I think you wrote once, "There would be no point in giving away secrets as to the location of our nuclear submarines." How do you draw that distinction?

DR. TELLER: If you really ask this question often enough and carefully enough--carefully enough--I'm afraid you'll confuse me, but my first answer is simple. Short-term secrets are both necessary and effective. The secret that is supposed to be kept for more than a year will not be



a secret from our opponents, may be a secret from our allies, and will help to confuse the American people.

MR. BUCKLEY: And will be a secret to the American people, right?

DR. TELLER: It will be a secret, and as a result, they will be misinformed, will fall for all kinds of remarkable myths; and since they are the decision makers in this country, they have, as we call it in secrecy, a need to know.

MR. BUCKLEY: So we have the paradox then that there's almost an inverse proportion between what we vouchsafe to people who love us and that which gets known by people who hate us.

DR. TELLER: People who maybe hate us certainly disagree with us. I don't know, you know, these people in the Kremlin. They love us; they want to liberate us, only we haven't recognized it yet.

MR. BUCKLEY: The--

DR. TELLER: I haven't recognized it.

MR. BUCKLEY: That's right. The seductive disguises are both abstruse and, unhappily, often successful.

DR. TELLER: ~~XXXXXX~~ Yes.

MR. BUCKLEY: But they have never yet got the vote of a free people, have they?

DR. TELLER: Hardly ever.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, San Marino, wasn't it?

DR. TELLER: In Greece

~~MR. BUCKLEY:~~

~~DR. TELLER:~~ → the vote was pretty close to a vote on Communism.

MR. BUCKLEY: On the whole I think if any political generality is safe, it is I think safe to say that the reason Communism needs to advance by force is that it cannot advance by plebiscitary sanction. But now, on the matter of secrets that can be kept for the short term, using your own example of the movements of the nuclear fleet, inasmuch as that changes



from day to day, that would be in the category of secrets that you would seek ~~cease~~ to keep forever.

DR. TELLER: These I would keep as the movements of the submarines ^{that} took place in the last few months.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes.

DR. TELLER: After that that particular secret can be ~~opened~~ open to the public.

MR. BUCKLEY: Are you, by ~~advocating~~ ^{applying} the end to official secrecy, as regards thought rather than know-how--correct?--

DR. TELLER: I am advocating the end of long-term secrecy. I am advocating the end of secrecy of knowledge. On the other hand, you come to the sensitive issue that is much more difficult to answer. Know-how is something that can be kept secret for a longer time and often needs to be. You know what is the best-kept secret that I was keeping?

MR. BUCKLEY: What?

DR. TELLER: Quantum mechanics. I tried to explain it to any number of students. It's still a secret.

MR. BUCKLEY: (laughing) That wasn't the ~~fix~~ fault of the ~~professor~~ ^{Pentagon, was it?}

DR. TELLER: You see, know-how--know-how--is hard to transmit. I would not invite Communist scientists into our laboratories. I would not want to teach them the tricks of the trade. And this is the kind of secrecy which our industry actually has been practicing for a long time with some success.

MR. BUCKLEY: We don't yet know how to make Coca Cola, and that's been a secret now for 75 years.

DR. TELLER: You know, I never found out about that. I don't drink Coca Cola so I'm not quite sure--

MR. BUCKLEY: I'm--

DR. TELLER: People really don't know how to make it?

MR. BUCKLEY: I'm told that it is a continuing secret, i.e., that if you and I set out to duplicate the taste of Coca Cola we wouldn't know how to



do it. Maybe you would, but I-- Other people haven't succeeded. That's why it's not sold in Taiwan.

DR. TELLER: I did not try, and I must say--and ^{to the point} you got me ~~that time~~ where I am confused very rapidly--I don't mind if the secret of Coca Cola is kept forever. Or why ~~is~~ that it can't be kept.

MR. BUCKLEY: Let me ask you, Dr. Teller, to make a couple of distinctions. You are opposed to our secrecy laws for two reasons. No. 1, they are ineffective as regards the Soviet Union, but they do prevent the stimulation of knowledge within the United States. *If we --*

DR. TELLER: They prevent our collaboration--our close collaboration--with our allies. That is also it.

MR. BUCKLEY: Okay. Now, if we could have protections which were effective, would this change your mind?

DR. TELLER: Yes.

MR. BUCKLEY: In other words, if you could guarantee that the Soviet Union would not acquire our knowledge, you would back such laws as were necessary to prevent the circulation of that knowledge? Or would you say the compensating loss among American scientists would be too great?

DR. TELLER: That would be too great. I would change my mind only if we had a system whereby we could tell the American people and keep it a secret from the Russians.

MR. BUCKLEY: I see. ~~So if--~~

DR. TELLER: I don't quite know how to do that, you know.

MR. BUCKLEY: Sort of an invisible ink that only we could read, and they couldn't.

DR. TELLER: Precisely.

MR. BUCKLEY: Which hasn't been invented.

DR. TELLER: I haven't.

MR. BUCKLEY: No.

DR. TELLER: And I must say that I may be, you know, not enterprising



enough. I have ^{sort} ~~thought~~ ^{given} of ~~giving~~ up on trying to find such invisible ink.

MR. BUCKLEY: Well, they don't know how to penetrate the meaning on the Bill of Rights, do they?

DR. TELLER: They don't, ^{And} those secrets, the real secrets, the secrets-- I don't like to overuse the word ^{of} God, ^{the} secrets that require not information but understanding. Those can be kept very well, but if you give them a way, God bless you, ^{because} ~~because~~ you have produced understanding.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, yes. Well, Dr. Teller, at a very concrete level, you have alluded several times, most recently in an unpublished paper that I've read, to possibilities that America might engage in that would have the effect of neutralizing any nuclear offensive against us. Now, as I understand it, we are not proceeding with that enterprise in some way because of the secrecy laws. Or is it, because of a scientific demoralization?

DR. TELLER: We are proceeding with it. We are not proceeding with it at nearly the required rate.

MR. BUCKLEY: Why?

DR. TELLER: No funds. Scientists outside the few who work for Defense are not sufficiently interested. This is the demoralization. We are not making progress fast enough, even though we ^{have} ~~have~~ indications that the Soviets are ahead of us. They will know how to defend themselves; we won't. And if the nuclear freeze movement succeeds, we will be fools; the Soviets won't.

MR. BUCKLEY: Are you telling me that the Soviet Union is currently engaged in defensive work of the same kind that you recommend to America, which ~~is~~ would have the effect of making it safe for them to launch a first strike?

DR. TELLER: I am not telling you ~~is~~ that. I am only telling you that I have reasons ^{it} to suspect. I have strong reasons ^{it} to suspect.

MR. BUCKLEY: Now, this lack of interest among scientists results from

what? Why isn't there the spirit of the Manhattan Project at work here?

Surely looking at the Soviet Union, they see all the same reasons to desire



to contain it that they saw to contain Hitler, and even more in the sense that it's more dangerous to their own personal security than Hitler was. Why is that morale so low?

DR. TELLER: Why was the morale so low in 1935? Why was there Chamberlain? Why ~~xxx~~ did we not avoid the second world war? I don't know. But I suspect that people don't like to think about subjects that are disagreeable if there is the option to forget it--to forget the existence of Hitler, to assume that he is too foolish, not dangerous enough--anything but really ~~confronting~~ confront a serious problem.

MR. BUCKLEY: But, Dr. Teller, there are two things wrong I think with your statement. In the first place, it is clear why the ~~xxx~~ pacifism of 1935 was so endemic, and the reason for that was 18 million deaths in a pointless war 20 years earlier. Secondly, people do like to think about disagreeable subjects as witness all the scientists who lecture us so incessantly about the evils of nuclear ~~xxx~~ technology. Why therefore, since they're thinking about that nightmare, don't they think about ingenious ways to abort that nightmare?

DR. TELLER: A wonderful question. To disagreeable subjects we have what psychologists call a love-hate relation. We hate to think about disagreeable subjects if we know that they are real. We love to think about them if somewhere deep down, or not so deep down, we realize that it is not true. We don't like to think about death, but we may go to a film on Dracula.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, but these scientists do know that the Soviet Union is real. It's not Dracula. It's made of men who have a very hard mailed fist and occasionally use it.

DR. TELLER: Bill, you make a mistake, which really surprises me. You assume that scientists are different from other people. Scientists are precisely the same as other people in all their psychological makeup. They differ from other people only when it comes to their narrow speciality. A scientist is different from a ~~nonscientist~~ nonscientist as a chess player



is different from a non chess player.

MR. BUCKLEY: Wait a minute. A scientist is a problem breaker. A scientist is born to face reality and to figure out how to invent a wheel.

DR. TELLER: No.

MR. BUCKLEY: Most-- After all, you invented the damn thing, the hydrogen bomb. It must have been because you saw a challenge that you could penetrate.

DR. TELLER: It was a specific challenge just as a chess player is facing a specific challenge.

MR. BUCKLEY: Isn't a first strike by the Soviet Union a specific challenge?

DR. TELLER: Yes, but the people who know how to face one specific challenge don't know how to face another--

MR. BUCKLEY: Why not?

DR. TELLER: --specific challenge.

MR. BUCKLEY: Why not?

DR. TELLER: Because there are ~~ex~~ too many specific challenges in this world, and no man's mind, intellect, moral fiber is great enough to stand up under all these challenges. Now, let me tell you about ^{that} ~~this~~. I have set myself the goal to think of as many specific challenges as I can, but I find that because of that-- First of all, I don't succeed. I don't succeed often enough. And secondly, while I do it over a wider region than many other people, I wind up in a very disagreeable situation where I cannot come to a common understanding with other people because practically everybody, and particularly the successful ones, are the ones who are zeroed in on one specific challenge. A piano player is not a good football player and not an excellent linguist.

MR. BUCKLEY: I don't deny that there are versatilities that would not necessarily be wide enough to confront all these problems, and I'm certainly not asking you to solve the problem of original sin. But we do know that ~~somebody~~ somebody figured out how to take several hundred million pounds of



explosives and launch them in the Soviet Union and make them fall in the United States. Now, it is a ~~xxxx~~ challenge that would fall within the apparent competence of the same scientists who invented that to investⁿ something that would frustrate that. The same people who ~~invented~~ invent fighter airplanes that get in the way--that sink submarines--are the same kind of people who invent submarines, right?

DR. TELLER: You have explained a good part, an important part, of my own psychology, but most of the people who have worked on the original Manhattan Project, who worked on the bombs that were unfortunately dropped on Japan--because had we demonstrated ^{them} and not killed anybody we would now be in a much more reasonable frame of mind--

MR. BUCKLEY: Which was not a scientific decision, however.

DR. TELLER:~ It was not a scientific decision, but these same people who worked on that worked because there was a war on, because very particularly the war was directed against Hitler, a kind of person who seemed to have no redeeming features, if any. I like to think even of him as of a man that ~~might~~ ^{must} have had ~~xxxxxx~~ some redeeming feature. Instead today, our adversaries--and I have not called them our enemies--~~our~~ ^{our} adversaries are people who say they want our own good, and too many American scientists believe that perhaps there is a point in the future--in the Communist future as the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{Soviets see it}. They are not Communists, but they know, and they know right^{ly}, that original sin is still with us, and they know that our ~~xxx~~ government is not perfect, and they are not so clear which of the governments is worse, although somehow they know that the Soviet government is no better because they are still here.

MR. BUCKLEY: It is true that Communism is millennialist and Nazism was not, that's true. It was purely nationalistic.

DR. TELLER: Oh, but millennialism is the wrong word. Hitler talked of the 'thousand-year Reich.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes, involving the power of Germany.



DR. TELLER: Yes.

MR. BUCKLEY: It wasn't a philosophy in the sense that Communism was a philosophy that was being moved by the imperative of history. Now I'm leading to this question: I acknowledge that difference between Hitler and his Communist counterparts; however, mightn't it be that the scientists who worked to detonate that bomb did so at a moment in which ^{they} experienced themselves no threat from Hitler because he didn't have an atomic bomb, whereas the scientific community today is a community that senses a fear of Communism because Communism has the existing capacity to destroy America? So could that be the psychological distinction that causes them on the one hand to be energetic in seeking to devise an instrument to end ^a the war and on the other hand sluggish to devise an instrument to abort the Soviet threat?

DR. TELLER: My ignorance is boundless, but nowhere more so than when it comes to psychology. What is the component of fear in the behavior of scientists? What is the component of guilt? What is the component--

MR. BUCKLEY: What guilt is there involved in making a defensive mechanism? Who gets hurt if you explode one of those bombs you talk about in the atmosphere that has the effect of neutralizing Soviet bombs destined to land on us? Who gets hurt? Nobody.

DR. TELLER: You are making a terrible mistake.

MR. BUCKLEY: What?

DR. TELLER: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ You mix up psychology with logic. They have a guilt about Hiroshima, even if they were not alive at that time because guilt gets inherited from generation to generation, and guilt is illogical and does not often enough make the subtle but most important difference between aggressive weapons and ^{defensive} ~~defensive~~ weapons.

MR. BUCKLEY: Assuming that you were addressing at this moment a room full of 50-year-old scientists. Are you telling me that you find considerable resistance in suggesting to them that their idealism would be fruitfully



engaged in developing a weapon in which would make it impossible for anyone to wipe out America with atomic weaponry?

DR. TELLER: ~~A lot of~~ ^{lots of} 50-year-olds and 60-year-olds. You know, I am 74. The 50-year-olds were 13 years when the bomb was dropped. Their guilt is inherited. I ~~may~~ ^{may} have a Chinaman's chance to turn them around.

MR. BUCKLEY: Because it's more attenuated than that of the 60-year-olds?

DR. TELLER: Right.

MR. BUCKLEY: Now, to what extent are you actually engaged in trying to turn them around? Do you-- Are we talking about a dozen people or are we talking about 10 dozen people?

DR. TELLER: ~~xxxxxx~~ I am talking--

MR. BUCKLEY: What sort of resources do we have?

DR. TELLER: ~~I am~~ ^{I am} talking about at the very least of 100 dozen people, and I am one tenth as much engaged in that as I would be if you would tell me how to do it effectively. I am trying. I am trying as hard as I can because on that ~~fact~~ does it depend--

MR. BUCKLEY: Well--

DR. TELLER: --whether there will be a third world war or not, because I want to tell you what the main difference is between Hitler and ^{the} people in the Kremlin. The main difference is that Hitler was an ^{adventurer} ~~individual~~. That undid him in the end, but it also made him at ^{the} a proper moment--

MR. BUCKLEY: More vulnerable?

DR. TELLER: Not only more vulnerable but first of all, more dangerous.

MR. BUCKLEY: That's right, that's right. We are now facing very conservative adversaries, people who don't want any adventure, only a sure thing. That gives us a little hope to avoid war, but very little hope to survive if war comes.

MR. BUCKLEY: I accept your analysis, but I'd like you this: since you began by referring to a shortage of funds, not demoralized--

DR. TELLER: No.

MR. BUCKLEY: --and Cap Weinberger is not demoralized.

DR. TELLER: But neither of them know enough about technology. Each of them tends to see in terms of an arms race of more and more of the same. In the whole government we have three really reputable scientists: Victor ~~Love~~^{Love}~~ll~~, undersecretary in the Pentagon; Jay ~~Keyworth~~^{Keyworth}, the President's science advisor; and Hans ~~Mark~~^{Mark}, deputy director of NASA. Neither has a high enough position. Policy is made by people who do not understand enough about technology.

MR. BUCKLEY: Do you have to understand technology to make the correct decision? Roosevelt knew nothing about technology, and he nevertheless gave you all the money that was needed to develop the atom bomb. Why does a leader have to understand about technology to understand the potential uses of technology?

DR. TELLER: First of all, Roosevelt had less competition. At the time of Roosevelt our ~~xxx~~ adversaries underestimated technology even more than we did. Hitler at the beginning of the war had a jet plane and failed to develop it for instance. Also at the time of Roosevelt we had some ingenious people around ~~There is~~^{with} one awful fault that I have to admit: some of them were Hungarian. And one of them, my very good friend, Leo ~~Szilard~~^{Szilard} realized this difficulty. He also was a good friend of Einstein.

MR. BUCKLEY: Yes.

DR. TELLER: And they made Einstein write a letter to Hitler--

MR. BUCKLEY: To Roosevelt, yes.

DR. TELLER: To Roosevelt, and Roosevelt sat up and listened.

MR. BUCKLEY: Is there any reason why-- Do you have any reason to suppose that a letter written by you to President Reagan would not be listened to? In the first place, you're old friends, and in the second place, he has the highest esteem for you, and in the third place, he swings along the same thought lines that you do. So you are saying that there exist



scientific perceptions which go undernourished because of a lack of funds and a lack of scientific enthusiasm. We can't do anything about scientific enthusiasm that we know of right away. We can do something about the funds. What kind of money are you talking about?

~~DR. TELLER:~~

~~MR. BUCKLEY:~~ Five, ten, fifteen, twenty, fifty, a hundred billion?

DR. TELLER: I have been working very hard for the last few months to get \$110 million. I'm not getting it.

MR. BUCKLEY: You mean to do abstract research?

DR. TELLER: No. For the reasonably rapid development of the defensive weapons. There is a voice in Congress, there is a voice in the government, and I am sorry to say--you introduced me very kindly--I am no Einstein. If I had Einstein's reputation, that money would be available.

MR. BUCKLEY: Well, we really don't know that. I mean, Mozart had a reputation, ^{and} he died in a pauper's grave. So talent and the availability of money are not always correlated. But here a hundred-- Are you now telling me that if you were free to recite the potential of the weapons you have in mind, you would ~~xxx~~ then stimulate a public discussion which would have the effect of bringing on the money and that the secrecy laws are preventing you from ^{doing} exactly that?

DR. TELLER: May I tell you one little secret which is not classified? From the time that President Reagan has been nominated, I had not a single occasion to talk to him.

MR. BUCKLEY: Have you sought out such an occasion?

DR. TELLER: I have talked to people to whom I am close and who in turn are close to the President. I did not make the unreasonable request that I should talk to the President in person. Neither did Einstein. ^e

MR. BUCKLEY: He just wrote him a letter.

DR. TELLER: He ^{just} wrote a letter. I have tried what seemed to me reasonable to get action on these ideas. I may have been clumsy in one way or the



August 8, 1983

TO: Conferees, August 10 and August 24

FROM: Edward Teller *E. T.*

SUBJECT: Comments on the Implementation of the President's Address of March 23

1. Discussion of detailed execution and deployment are premature. The President spoke of a vigorous research program, and I hope that this will be the focus of the report.
2. Successful defense need not offer 100% assurance. It should suffice, particularly in its early stages that it should be less expensive than the response on the part of the attacker, either by increasing the attacking force, or by introducing measures to neutralize the defense. This criterion justifies the effort and opens the way to further improvements.
3. Predeployment of defensive stations in space should not be mentioned. Such stations will probably not satisfy condition "2" above, because our opponents will have years in which to destroy these stations, while the stations have only minutes to execute the defense. For this reason as well as other reasons, predeployment appears impractical.
4. The designation "Star Wars" is an invention of the press designed to defeat the proposal. It should be replaced by a more appropriate wording, as an example I propose Mutual Assured Survival or MAS. This does not imply that MAD was ever national policy, but it is a widely spread national perception. I believe MAS may do, but I hope that a better suggestion will be made.
5. Early and feasible goals should be emphasized. An example is the introduction of methods to destroy satellites in synchronous orbit and on the other hand introduce methods to ensure continuing observation from space. In this complementary pair of programs the second, and difficult, objective will have to be pursued in a multiplicity of ways. It should be noted that observation stations or "eyes in the sky" are different from battle stations, because they can be much smaller, much fewer in numbers and because they form an important part of any defense.
6. Ruling out some alternatives is important in order to sharpen the program, but nothing must be ruled out except for convincing reasons. For instance, to rule out nuclear kill in the terminal phase of ballistic missile defense would be a serious mistake, because non-nuclear kill can be overcome with greater ease.
7. It is most important to replace the dichotomy of conventional versus nuclear by the dichotomy of the choice between attack and destruction on the one hand and defense and protection on the other. The proposal will be a success if a practical outline is given as to how the goal of defense, protection, saving of lives, and consequent deterrence of aggressive war can be reached.



technologies and a presidential decision was still months away. At that point Bendtsen began to believe that the issue was being studied to death and nothing would be done.³

The cooling of enthusiasm for missile defenses in the White House was mysterious to Bendtsen, but between October and January the White House staff was reshuffled, and the three leading advocates of missile defenses were shorn of their national-security roles.

Some six months after the inauguration Baker and Deaver had concluded that the system they had set up to deal with foreign and defense policy was not working. They had hoped to put foreign policy on the back burner while they concentrated on getting the President's economic program and defense budget through the Congress, but major issues kept cropping up, and decisions had to be made. Meese was theoretically in charge of the process, but, given his disorganization, decision memos and national-security documents would disappear into the piles of paper in his office, never to reemerge. Allen rarely saw the President, and since Meese knew little about the issues, Reagan was not properly briefed; many decisions remained pending, others were made by default, and Secretary of State Alexander Haig was raising Cain. Then, on August 19, an embarrassing incident occurred. Two U.S. Navy fighter planes shot down two attacking Libyan jets sixty miles off the Libyan coast. Allen informed Meese at 11:00 p.m., but Meese did not wake the President until four-thirty the next morning. The delay had no consequence, because there was no action to be taken, but since Reagan was already acquiring a reputation for idleness and for inattention to pressing matters of national security, the news of Meese's failure to wake him gave rise to innumerable jokes and editorial cartoons.⁴

After this incident Baker and Deaver decided that the role of the national-security adviser had to be upgraded and that Richard Allen would have to go. Meese naturally resisted having the NSC staff taken out from under his jurisdiction, and since Reagan disliked settling disputes among his advisers, it took Baker and Deaver some time, and the help of Nancy Reagan, to obtain the President's consent to the reorganization. To make the change more palatable to Reagan, they proposed that William Clark, his old friend from California, who had been brought into the administration as Haig's deputy secretary of state, be made NSC adviser. Then they held off replacing Allen because a feud had developed between Allen and Haig, and they did not want to leave the impression that Haig had triumphed over the White House staff. While they were waiting for the fuss to blow over, an NSC aide—Colonel Oliver North—found a thousand dollars in cash in Richard Allen's safe. It transpired that, back in January, Allen had obtained an interview with Nancy Reagan for a Japanese women's magazine as a favor to Japanese business friends. The journalist gave him an envelope with a wad of cash destined for Nancy Reagan, and, rather than turning it down, he had

put it in his safe. Allen was investigated and it eventually emerged that he had asked his secretary to turn the cash over to the Treasury, and she had forgotten to do it. But, given the previous news stories about Allen's business dealings, the incident got a good deal of press attention, and Baker and Deaver took the opportunity to let Allen go.⁵

On taking office on January 1, Clark began reporting directly to the President, thus removing Meese and his policy staff from any line responsibility for national-security affairs. A neophyte in foreign and defense policy, Clark brought Robert McFarlane, a former Marine lieutenant colonel who had served on Kissinger's NSC staff, with him from the State Department to serve as his deputy and foreign-policy adviser. To help him with defense issues, he brought in Thomas C. Reed, an old friend of his from California. Reed, who had just reviewed strategic defenses for the Pentagon's Defense Science Board and concluded that none of them currently looked promising, had no interest in hearing from outside lobbyists.⁶ Clark, who knew nothing about the subject, took the advice of his aides and paid no attention. The whole issue of missile defenses thus passed into the hands of the President's science adviser, George Keyworth.

At the time missile-defense advocates inside and outside the White House did not register any alarm about the changes in the staff. Clark, another California conservative, could be expected to share their views. Plus they thought Keyworth an advocate of defenses, and had some reason to think so.

In the spring of 1981 the search for a White House science adviser had fallen to Anderson's Office for Policy Development, and Anderson had looked for a very particular sort of person to fill the job. While working for the Nixon administration, Anderson had, so he tells us, observed that the role of the science adviser had changed: whereas the adviser had started as a representative of the President's, he had become a representative of the scientific community to the President, and, in Anderson's view, the representative of "just one more powerful special interest group whose eyes were fixed on the growing pots of money in Washington."⁷ This was a fairly common view in the Reagan administration, and in the interests of cutting back the bureaucracy OMB officials had toyed with the idea of dispensing with a science adviser and with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy altogether.⁸ Anderson had favored reducing the OSTP staff, and he had looked for a science adviser who would support the administration's policies and otherwise do what he was told to do. Keyworth, a forty-one-year-old nuclear physicist from Los Alamos, seemed to fit his requirements perfectly. He was, Anderson observed, "a relatively unknown scientist" who "was not hostile to using science to help defend the country," and he had been recommended to the White House by Edward Teller.⁹ Most of the scientific establishment had reacted with unease, or actual alarm, to his ap-

megawatts in front of the senator and the secretary. At the end Wallop challenged Weinberger to make a judgment about who was right and who was wrong. According to Codevilla, Weinberger said that he was not qualified to make such a judgment. Wallop then asked him if he didn't agree that the Soviet ICBM force was the principal military threat to the United States and that the revolution in anti-missile technology was the most important strategic development since the atom bomb. Weinberger replied that these matters were essential but that others would have to make the technical judgments.⁹⁶

Wallop was now completely blocked. The opposition to his project had become a solid wall that ran through the Senate and the House Armed Services Committees, the Army and the Air Force, the Pentagon's Office of Research and Engineering, DARPA, the White House and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Only the defense contractors still favored the project—but they were not allowed to testify at the Armed Services Committee hearings. Towards the end of the year Cooper, with the consent of Congress, reduced DARPA's chemical-laser programs to a much smaller research activity. There was nothing Wallop could do about it.⁹⁷

By the end of 1982 Edward Teller had also gotten nowhere with his project. Thanks in part to the administration's attempt to stop Wallop's campaign, the Livermore X-ray laser program was receiving an ample share of the laser research funds, but Teller had much larger ambitions for Excalibur: he wanted a program on the scale of the Manhattan Project. On trips to Washington he lobbied congressmen and administration officials indefatigably, and since he was a member of the White House Science Council, he lobbied the Frieman panel whenever he could.

In June the Frieman panel had held a review of the X-ray laser. Under the supervision of their director, Roy Woodruff, the Livermore scientists gave a far less optimistic account of its prospects than Teller had given the Bendetsen group. Asked for their scenario, they said that, if an additional \$150–200 million were put into Excalibur for six years, they could complete all the nuclear tests required to bring the X-ray laser to the second phase of the development process: an assessment of its scientific feasibility. After that the lab would have to tackle all the work of making the laser into a weapon, plus all the difficult tasks involved with creating instruments to track enemy missiles and point the laser. Even if some of these tasks could be performed simultaneously, there could, according to the scientists, be no laser anti-missile weapon until the mid-1990s, and that at the earliest. In the late fall the Frieman panel reported that the X-ray laser could not yet be thought of as military technology.⁹⁸

When Teller heard what the panel had concluded, he threw a fit and threatened to resign from the White House Science Council if the panel did

ignation would have caused, Frieman agreed to listen to a second Livermore briefing. Teller then went to work on Woodruff to change the Livermore report to reflect his own view that a "fully weaponized" laser could be built in five years. Aware that he, and not Teller, would be held responsible for promises that Livermore could not keep, Woodruff refused, and at the second review session, in February 1983, he gave an even more conservative schedule for the X-ray laser than had been given before.⁹⁹

In the meantime, Teller made efforts to see the President. He pressed Keyworth to get him a private interview, but Keyworth, who did not share Teller's view of the laser, and who knew that Reagan's aides took pains to avoid exposing the President to special pleading, dodged his requests whenever they came up. In June, Teller tried another tack. During an appearance on William F. Buckley's television show, *Firing Line*, he warned that the Soviets were developing advanced anti-missile weapons and spoke of a dire threat to the United States. When Buckley asked why he did not take this important matter to the President, Teller said that he had not had a single opportunity to see Reagan since he was nominated. This public complaint galvanized the White House to grant Teller the audience he sought.¹⁰⁰

The meeting took place on September 14, and, according to a National Security Council staff member who sat in on it, Teller made a powerful presentation on "third-generation" nuclear weapons and their potential to destroy enemy missiles and revolutionize American strategy. Reagan asked if an anti-missile system could be made to work, and Teller said that there was good evidence that it could. According to the NSC staff member, Reagan seemed to accept what Teller had told him, but William Clark expressed doubts and questioned Teller closely about third-generation weapons.¹⁰¹ Later Keyworth called the meeting a "disaster"; Teller had baldly asked Reagan for a huge increase in funding for the X-ray laser, and Meese and Clark had had to cut the meeting short.¹⁰²

Possibly Teller's talk of laser weapons made some impression on Reagan; possibly the President was simply listening politely to the eminent conservative. In any case, just as at the January 1982 meeting, he left the matter to his staff to resolve, and clearly his key advisers were not in the grip of any technological enthusiasm. Teller persistently lobbied the White House, but there was no follow-up to the meeting.

In October, Bendetsen, having come to the end of his patience, decided to reconvene his High Frontier panel to "prod" the White House into action. The group met on December 21 at the headquarters of the Northrop Corporation in Los Angeles and determined that it would provide the White House with draft remarks for an insert into the President's forthcoming State of the Union address. As composed by Bendetsen and amended by Teller, the draft called for a transition from the "anachronistic doctrine of MAD" to a doctrine of "assured survival." The nation, it said, was now ready

Selling the Strategic Defense Initiative

NOT SURPRISINGLY, the President's call for a program to make ballistic missiles obsolete appalled defense experts in and out of the administration. The Joint Chiefs were stunned by the precipitous action and the sweeping language. The chief technical experts in the Pentagon were furious. According to witnesses, Richard DeLauer, the undersecretary of defense for research and engineering, "went ballistic" and asked how nuclear policy could be the subject of such a "half-baked political travesty."¹ The day before Reagan's speech, Major General Donald L. Lamberson, the director of the Pentagon's directed-energy programs, had told a Senate Armed Services subcommittee that space-based laser weapons were insufficiently promising to warrant additional funding; and on the day of the speech, Dr. Robert Cooper, the Defense Department's director of advanced research, told a House committee much the same thing. Warned in advance about the initiative, Brent Scowcroft urged McFarlane to put the speech on hold until the MX issue could be resolved. He thought it an attempt to steal the anti-nuclear movement's clothes. The report of his commission, which went to the White House on April 6, stated quite flatly that "applications of current technology offer no real promise of being able to defend the United States against massive nuclear attack in this century."²

Beyond that, the initiative was a political disaster. Calls and telegrams to the White House may have run in its favor, but the reaction was otherwise almost entirely negative. In the Congress only Malcolm Wallop and the few other missile-defense enthusiasts volunteered support. In the House, where a debate on the freeze resolution was proceeding, Democrats derided the idea mercilessly. "The only thing the President did not tell us last night," Representative Tom Downey (Democrat of New York) scoffed, "was that the Evil Empire was about to launch a Death Star against the United States." Referring to another current movie, Representative Edward Markey (Democrat of Massachusetts) called Edward Teller "the original E.T." and accused him

and the Force of Good."³ The Republicans did not know how to respond. What was the President talking about? Like the Democrats, most assimilated the initiative to the rest of the President's bellicose speech and assumed that, if anything, he was proposing some new kind of ABM system.⁴ Since the House had just cut the administration's request for an increase in the military budget by more than half, this seemed political folly. Not wanting to criticize the President, however, most Republicans fell into a deep silence on the issue. Backed into a corner by journalists, the minority leader of the House, the mild-mannered Robert Michel of Illinois, said that the speech might be "a bit of overkill" and worried that people were getting "a general image of [Republicans] being rather macho on the defense budget."⁵

The initiative received a great deal of press attention and was generally treated as a scandal. The April 4 cover of *Newsweek* read: "Star Wars: Will Space Be the Next Battleground?" *Time* magazine, whose cover depicted Reagan against a backdrop of Buck Rogers weaponry, spoke of the President's "video-game vision" and speculated that, although it was "vintage Reagan" in its sweeping simplicity, it was also "partly a political ploy to change the context of the debate over defense spending."⁶ Editorialists around the country were generally harsh in their judgments. The *New York Times* called Reagan's idea "a pipe dream, a projection of fantasy in policy." The *Chicago Sun Times* called the speech "an appalling disservice," and the *Atlanta Constitution* warned that the initiative might destabilize the already tenuous military balance between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Many editorialists seemed unable to decide whether the initiative was dangerous or a transparent hoax—or just a fantasy. In the *New York Times*, Leslie Gelb reported that some administration officials were speculating that Reagan had made the speech in order to divert attention from the freeze movement.⁷

A few days after the speech, White House and other administration officials began beating a public retreat from the President's dramatic announcement. Officials said that the initiative was an idea, not a program, and that it involved directed-energy weapons, which would not be ready for twenty years. They assured reporters that it entailed no more than a change in the emphasis of research, since the Pentagon was already spending a billion dollars a year on conventional and exotic missile-defense technologies. In any case, they said, the March 23 speech was only the first part of a "trilogy," which would include a speech on arms control and a report on the conclusions of the Scowcroft Commission.⁸ On March 29 Reagan himself maintained that the initiative would not be a crash program, such as the one that had produced the atom bomb, but merely an extension of the research programs already under way. Asked if he would like to see the research funds doubled or tripled, he said, "I don't see any need for that, no."⁹ The question was then: what had he been talking about?

The official backpedaling contributed mightily to the view that the ini-

Northridge and to have obtained master's degrees in electronic technology from the California Institute of Technology (CalTech) and physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), though no record exists of his having attended any of these institutions.

In 1980, Lazar married a woman named Carol Strong, who was thirteen years his senior. After Bob spent some time working for Fairchild Industries, the couple found its way to Los Alamos, New Mexico, where Lazar says^{*} he worked as a research physicist at the Meson Physics Facility of Los Alamos National Laboratories (LANL). Here he was awarded a top-secret security clearance for classified defense work, reportedly involving particle-beam accelerators as part of the Strategic Defense Initiative (a.k.a. "Star Wars") program.

On June 27, 1982, a front-page feature story in the local newspaper, the *Los Alamos Monitor*, confirmed that Lazar had by then begun his hobby of powering automobiles with jet engines. L.A. MAN JOINS THE JET SET—AT 200 MPH, the headline proclaimed, followed by an article whose photographs show a converted Honda with air scoops and a license plate that read JETUBET. The story explained that the car's engine, made of stainless steel and titanium, ran on liquid propane with a kerosene afterburner capable of generating eight hundred pounds of thrust. Lazar reported that he had driven the vehicle over two hundred miles per hour on a dry lake near Los Angeles.

As it happened, the day after this article appeared, Dr. Edward Teller—chief proponent of SDI, so-called father of the hydrogen bomb, and, according to some, the model for Dr. Strangelove in the Stanley Kubrick film—was speaking against the nuclear-freeze movement in Los Alamos. Arriving early for the talk, Lazar saw Teller sitting outside the lecture hall, perusing the jet-car story in the paper. "That's me you're reading about," Lazar announced by way of an introduction. The famous physicist politely told the young technician that he found the article "very interesting." In the time remaining before Teller's speech, the two repaired to a nearby coffee shop for a science chat.

Three years later, while vacationing in Nevada, Bob and Carol purportedly purchased a partial interest in a brothel called the Honeysuckle Ranch. Not long afterward they bought a house in Las Vegas, though Bob

^{*} Since many of Lazar's claims remain unverified (for reasons that he says are attributable to official expungement of his records), I will simply repeat much of his story as he and Huff tell it, leaving most of the questions for later.

continued to spend time in Los Alamos, where for unknown reasons he had left his job at LANL. He and Carol subsequently started a film-processing business out of their house, catering largely to the Las Vegas real-estate industry, which was enjoying an economic boom; in the 1980s, Sin City was the fastest-growing metropolis in the country. Lazar became known as "Bob the photo guy" among the community of local appraisers, which included Gene Huff.

Carol died in 1986, and Lazar married another woman named Tracy Murk, whom he had met in Los Alamos. Like Bob, Tracy (whose looks have been described by Huff as "model quality") lived there because of the national laboratory, where her father, Don, worked on detonation charges for A-bombs. In any case, two months after Carol died, Lazar declared bankruptcy, listing among his reasons for financial hardship "loss of spouse" and "loss of business." Nevertheless, he continued making photo deliveries in his jet-powered Honda, piquing the curiosity of a good many observers, including Gene Huff. The down-to-earth appraiser considered his eccentric film processor "somewhat of an egghead," but as he got to know Bob better, he grew impressed with Lazar's knack for things scientific—not just jet propulsion but computers, electronics, explosives, et al.

One day, Lazar made up a batch of nitroglycerine while Huff sat talking to him at the kitchen table. Then they took it out in the desert and blew it up. Eventually the fascinated Huff asked Lazar, "What's the difference between you and a scientist?" When Bob divulged that he had degrees in physics and electronic technology, Gene asked why he hadn't mentioned this before. "What did you want me to do?" Lazar responded. "Say, 'Hey, man—I'm a scientist?'" He shook his head and stalked away.

As it happened, Huff was also friends with the son of William P. Lear, the man who designed the Learjet and eight-track stereo. John Lear, for whom Gene had appraised some property in Las Vegas, was an accomplished pilot in his own right: He held every airline certificate ever issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, had flown 160 different types of aircraft in fifty countries, owned seventeen Learjet speed records, and had carried out secret missions around the world for the CIA. He had also run for the Nevada state senate and—apparently beginning in 1986, when he met some Air Force "personnel" who'd witnessed a UFO landing in England—become convinced that the U.S. government was in cahoots with a race of extraterrestrial biological entities, or "EBEs." Between 1969

force that we call gravity) "total nonsense," Lazar says that gravity actually breaks down into two types of (electromagnetic) waves, unsurprisingly labeled *A* and *B*. The latter constitutes "big gravity"—the kind that holds the Earth to the Sun, and the moon and satellites and ourselves to the Earth. By contrast, Gravity *A*, although much stronger than *B*, operates on a much smaller scale. Referred to in mainstream physics as the "strong nuclear force," it holds protons and neutrons together.

Lazar argues that the character of matter found in any solar system reflects the conditions that applied during the creation of that system. Since most solar systems in the Milky Way have more and/or larger suns than ours, it stands to reason that their elements have more mass and energy. Hence, the binary Zeta Reticuli system contains heavier elements—for example, 115—than those found on Earth. As elements become heavier, he says, they exert gravity *A* waves so intense that the atoms possess their own force fields. The harnessing of this power is the key to interstellar travel.

The saucer that Lazar worked on at S-4 boasted three gravity amplifiers and a reactor. The latter, which was about the size of a basketball, contained a small particle accelerator, in which a chunk of 115 was bombarded with protons. When a new proton plugs into the nucleus, it becomes an atom of Element 116, which decays instantly; in doing so, it radiates antimatter, which in colliding with gaseous matter in the reactor detonates an annihilation reaction 100 percent effective in converting mass to energy (and thus far more powerful than either fission or fusion, the nuclear reactions that take place in atomic and hydrogen bombs). Amplified by this awesome force, which is converted into electric current by a (similarly 100 percent efficient) thermoelectric generator, the Gravity *A* wave is channeled through a guide and focused on some distant point where the operator wants to go. The resulting gravitational field is strong enough to warp space and time between the two points, effectively pulling the destination to the craft without any passage of time. Analogously, if we view space as a rubber sheet, we can bring points closer together simply by stretching and/or pinching the surface.

For such travel, the craft turns on its side with all three gravity amplifiers employed in the so-called "Delta" configuration. When the disc enters the external gravitational field of some planet or other large body, only one amplifier is activated and the Gravity *A* wave is phase-shifted into

the *B* type exerted by the Earth. This is called "Omicron" mode, in which the craft floats on a gravitational field like a cork and can thus be affected by local weather. In this configuration, the idle amplifiers could conceivably be used to pick up people or cattle or anything else that UFO stories describe being picked up (though Lazar says that, in the model he worked on, there was no bay door on the bottom to receive any such cargo). Because of its sleek appearance, he nicknamed this craft the "Sport Model"; other shapes in the fleet included the "Top Hat" and the "Jell-O Mold." Of the nine discs at S-4, Lazar says, about half were functional. One had a hole in the fuselage that looked like it might have been made by a bullet.

At least once, Lazar was able to watch the Sport Model hovering in Omicron mode above Papoose Lake. As he later described it to TV reporter George Knapp:

It was just about dusk. I came out of the door that was outside the hangar, which led to a hallway . . . and the disc was already outside. Whether they carted it out or flew it out, I don't know. It was sitting on the ground. Right off to the side there was a guy with a scanner. The first thing I was told was to stand by him and not go anywhere else. . . . The disc sat out there for a period of time, then the bottom of it glowed blue and it began to hiss, like high voltage does on a round sphere. It's my impression that the reason they're round and have no sharp edges is to contain the voltage. . . . It lifted off the ground, quietly, except for that little hiss in the background, and that stopped as soon as it reached about twenty or thirty feet. It shifted over to the left, shifted over to the right, and set back down. I mean, it doesn't sound like much, but it was incredibly impressive, just—mind-boggling. It's just magic!

The reference to "no sharp edges" is consistent with Lazar's claim that the entire craft seemed to be cast out of one piece of material, as if it were injection-molded or made of wax and melted down. Even the junctions of the walls, floors, and ceilings were rounded, as were the edges of every object or device in the vehicle. There were no nuts, no bolts, no wires, no lights, and no physical connections between different parts of the propulsion system, which worked like a Tesla coil, with a transmitter and receiver.

believer in both categories. I feel everything is possible. Many of our man-made UFO's are *Un Funded Opportunities*. In both categories, there are a lot of kooks and charlatans—be cautious."

"Ben Rich told me twice before he died: 'We have things at Area 51 that you and the best minds in the world won't even be able to conceive that we have for thirty or forty years, and won't be made public for another fifty,'" said Goodall. "A friend of mine at Lockheed told me, 'We have things in the Nevada desert that are alien to your way of thinking—far beyond anything you see on *Star Trek*.' One time, I interviewed a retired senior master sergeant who had been at Groom Lake three different times as an Air Force safety specialist; I got his name through a mutual friend, met him at Nellis, and then we went off base. At first he was real nervous, but when he warmed up he told me, 'We have things in the Nevada desert that are literally out of this world. Things that would make George Lucas envious.' I know one retired guy who worked at Lockheed for thirty years, most of the time at Area 51; he's very proud of what he's done, and he wants the story of the place to be told so that his grandchildren will have some idea of what he was involved in. In the summer of '86, I asked him if he believes in UFOs; he said, 'They absolutely, positively do exist.' I said, 'Can you expand on that?' And he said, 'No, I've said too much as it is.'"

"I've never seen a UFO near Groom Lake," said Andrews. "I've looked; I've seen lights and flares and things like that, but nothing I couldn't identify. Still, when Lazar's story came out, I thought: Good—let's listen to it. I don't know if he's telling the truth, but I found him to be an interesting guy. And as Jim says, his story has not changed in all these years. I sent Lazar's W-2 to a Navy captain who said he'd be happy to verify it, but then he never answered me. He could have either verified the W-2 or said Bob Lazar was a liar, but they won't do that. That's what happens with these people; if you get too close, it just dries up."

"I took Lazar's W-2 form to the Office of Naval Intelligence in the Pentagon," said Goodall. "The guy at the front desk looked at it and took it into his admiral's office. A second later the admiral came out and told me, 'I don't know where you got this, but I don't ever want to see it again—and I'm ordering you to leave this office right now.'"

Andrews pulled out another file of correspondence. On a Department of the Navy letterhead ("Headquarters, Naval Investigative Service Command"), a Captain R. A. Jones agreed in January 1991 to confirm the

authenticity of Lazar's "Employer's Identification Number of 46-1007639." Two months later (after some further prompting from Andrews), Jones reported that his inspector general had found that the Naval Intelligence Command had not issued the W-2 in question.

"Nonsense, Captain," Andrews shot back. "A damn stonewall and bureaucratic bullshit." In his own caustic letter, Andrews speculated about the response Jones must have received when he presented a copy of Lazar's W-2 to his inspector general: "*We have nothing to say about Bob Lazar . . . Don't you get involved with the Bob Lazar thing . . . You are not to say anything about Bob Lazar . . . do you understand?!!!*" Going on to condemn the captain for breaking his promise, Andrews reissued his demand to "confirm the authenticity" of the W-2, opining that "someone within NISC" must be cleared to comb the Navy's classified records.

"And indeed, Counselor," he concluded, "who has the right to classify cosmic scientific evidence?"

Confronted with this outburst, Captain Jones responded, "Within the Department of the Navy, the Naval Investigative Service Command is solely responsible for investigating actual, suspected or alleged major criminal offenses committed against a person, the United States Government or its property, or private property, including attempts or conspiracies to commit such offenses." Andrews fired off a final letter, in which he concluded from the official silence that "Robert Scott Lazar did indeed work on recovered UFOs," and that "UFOs ARE real and our planet is being visited and we can't do a damn thing about it."

This seemed slightly more than what Andrews had described as "a little bit of a gap" in his point of view toward flying saucers. In fact, he sounded suspiciously like a type of UFO fanatic that he himself had derided in his 1986 letter to Ben Rich—a class of crusader that Andrews described as "tenacious, prolific, *wanting* to believe something is there and somewhat prone to make macro jumps in logic and having a tendency to bombard with writing/documentation the person he should be asking but instead his effort becomes, by default, an effort of *convincing* the person he should be asking and it is overkill."

As it turned out, the epistolary exchange with Captain Jones had been preceded by a couple of others Andrews had had with the Internal Revenue Service, and with the secretary of Dr. Edward Teller.

In December 1990, Andrews filed a Freedom of Information Act

request with the IRS seeking "a yes or no answer that [Employee Identification Number] 46-1007639 is a match for the U.S. Department of Naval Intelligence, Washington DC 20038." Eight months later (after an appeal and letter of complaint to Senator Alan Cranston, President George Bush, and Vice President Dan Quayle), Andrews received the response that "there is no taxpayer, agency, or other employer with this EIN [and] no practical method of determining whether the United States Department of Naval Intelligence or other employer once had this EIN." In reply, Andrews pointed out that individuals are asked to keep personal tax records for five years, and that the IRS's national computer database should have been able to verify an employee ID number within seconds unless the number was classified. "Someone is lying," Andrews had declared. "Plain and simple. The question is who and not if. And I already know the why."

As for Teller, Andrews had begun writing to him in February 1988, more than a year before Bob Lazar appeared on the public horizon. After describing himself as a longtime fan of Teller's and declaring his support of continued defense spending, Andrews eventually got around to asking if the Strategic Defense Initiative was really designed to thwart the Russians as opposed to some other "outside threat." "Dr. Teller, you spend time at the Test Site," Andrews wrote. "Is there something you should be telling us about UFOs? Are you a current member of MJ-12?"

When he received no response, Andrews wrote again to thank Teller for silently confirming that he was indeed a member of MJ-12. This prompted a response from the physicist's secretary, Patricia W. French, who reported that the ailing Dr. Teller had been incapacitated by recent surgery and would be unable to answer letters "for a long, long time." Andrews duly expressed his sympathy, but two years later, when he noticed that Teller would soon be speaking at a conference in New Orleans, he resubmitted all of his previous correspondence. By this time, Bob Lazar had come along, so Andrews also asked in passing if Teller was familiar with Element 115.

In time, Andrews conveyed all of Lazar's claims about having met and been referred for his job at S-4 by the physicist, repeatedly asking Teller to confirm or deny the allegations. When Andrews called French on the phone, she went so far as to tell him that Teller "disagrees with your thesis," but when Andrews asked for a signed statement that "Everything Bob Lazar claims regarding his connection with Dr. Teller is untrue," he

remained unanswered. Interestingly enough, when Andrews asked French about another rumor—that Teller had been present at the Bush-Gorbachev Malta summit in late 1990—she denied it within a week. But neither she nor Teller ever directly addressed Andrews's question about Bob Lazar.

"Usually, when somebody fabricates something outrageous, there's an ulterior motive—money or prestige or publicity," said Goodall. "But Bob Lazar doesn't want publicity, and if he ever had a security clearance, it's now long dead. So it would serve no purpose whatsoever for him to fabricate a story about going out to S-4, especially when, in the first twenty minutes I knew him, one-on-one, he said John Lear was out of his mind for believing in UFOs."

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"When I first met Bob, in November 1988," Goodall said, "I'd just photographed the Tonopah Test Range with John Lear. I wanted to get the film processed, and Bob was over at John's house. He'd just moved out from Los—uh, Albuquerque, in New Mexico. He said he had a C-41 processor at home, so we jumped in his 280ZX and drove across town. While we were going over there, he told me: 'You know, I'm a nuclear physicist. If I can't prove it mathematically or put my hands on it, it doesn't exist. I like John Lear, but the poor guy's really full of shit. He believes in UFOs! Give me a break! How can a man that intelligent—with that background, from such a famous aviation family—believe in flying saucers?'"

"I introduced Jim to John Lear," Andrews revealed. "In fact, I'm the guy who turned John Lear on to UFOs. I remember talking to him about it on the phone when I lived in Ventura. He said, 'That's all bullshit,' but after I told him to read the literature and talk to his contacts in the military, he did a hundred-and-eighty-degree turn and became a real believer."

"Do you think he's sane?" I asked.

"John has a different way of thinking, but I think he's sane," said Andrews. "I want someone to give me a good way of determining who's sane and who's insane. Edison and the Wright brothers might have been insane. After all, if Man was meant to fly, he'd have a propellor on his forehead."

"I think there are times when John Lear pulls your leg and you don't even know it," said Goodall. "Among other things, John is a prankster. But the man lost a hundred-and-fifty-thousand-dollar-a-year job because he

wouldn't back down on UFOs. Back when he was an LT-11 pilot, he gave a talk in Houston on UFOs. Some reporter called the president of John's company and said, 'You have a senior captain touting the fact that UFOs are real. Either you tell him to back off, or I'm gonna spread the word that you have mentally unstable people flying your airplanes.' The president called John into his office and said, 'Tell me face-to-face that this UFO stuff is a bunch of shit, and you can walk out of here and go back to work. If you don't, I gotta fire ya.' John said, 'I can't because it's real and I believe it.' How many guys do you know who'd give up a job like that for a belief they don't believe in?"

"I don't often agree with John," said Andrews, "but if I needed a friend, I would pick him because he's honest."

Actually, it was apparent from Andrews's letters to Teller that, by early 1988, the model designer had adopted at least some of Lear's cosmology. In his first letter to Teller on February 13, 1988—the one in which Andrews asked the physicist if he was a member of MJ-12, written ten months before Lazar claims he was sent to Papoose Lake (written, in fact, before either Lear or Andrews had even met Lazar)—Andrews mentioned that he had some friends "who have worked, or currently work, at . . . Groom Lake and S4." Television reporter George Knapp, trying to bolster Lazar's credibility, had said that "There are many things Lazar knows that he couldn't have known if he didn't work there. For one, how many people had ever heard of S-4 at all before Lazar went public?" Ufologist Bill Moore, for one, claimed that *he* had previously known about S-4 and told John Lear about it. Lear denied this, but Andrews's first letter to Teller seemed to indicate that Lear had mentioned the term "S-4" to Andrews before either man met Lazar, establishing the possibility that Bob found out about it not on the "job" but from John Lear himself. When I put this to Andrews, he acknowledged that it could be true.

It was getting late; Goodall said he had to get up early to catch a plane the next morning. As we stood up to shake hands, I asked the two what they would do now that the Air Force had succeeded in closing the nearest vantage points on Area 51.

"Just because they took away White Sides and Freedom Ridge doesn't mean you can't still see what flies out of that place," Goodall divulged. "I have a vantage point now, in the mountains on public land, where I can see two hundred and seventy degrees all the way around to the north end of the twenty-seven-thousand-foot runway. It's the same place where they

looked for me and Glenn Campbell for four hours and couldn't find us. They overflowed us with a helicopter and later confiscated our film because it had incriminating evidence that an Air Force helicopter was in direct violation of Air Force safety regulation 60-15, which says they cannot operate within five hundred feet of a civilian's person, vehicle, vessel, or premise within a military operating area, unless it's a rescue."

We got our coats as Andrews started turning out lights. "There's something very, very special about Area 51," he said as we made our way toward the door. "Something out of the ordinary. It's not because of the hardware; there's something else going on. I don't understand it, unless there's subterfuge at work and they're trying to make Groom Lake seem like the big thing when it's really far away. One Air Force guy, a friend of ours, told us to 'look to the north.' I think he might have meant Canada."

As Andrews flicked off the last light, Goodall turned away from the automobile models he'd been perusing on Andrews's office walls.

"Cars," he commented as he went out the door toward the elevator. "Yuck."

Jarod explained, had been spent at Facility X, where he had worked under a "benevolent dictatorship" that had access to and control over every aspect of an employee's life. The group was now experiencing attrition, since it had known little turnover and most of its workers were getting on in years. Younger people, it was discovered, weren't nearly as willing to give up so much of their personal freedom. Nevertheless, he said he'd recently been assigned a young protégé who was training to enter the secret saucer-engineering program.

Jarod described the controlling organization as a "satellite government" that lived by its own rules, outside the control of Congress, the Pentagon, or the President. Indications were that those ultimately calling the shots were the ETs themselves, since they were the ones who held the keys to the coveted technology. As opposed to the assertions of Alfred, Jarod's scenario suggested that alien systems had never been applied to military hardware, probably under the visitors' orders. (Nevertheless, Campbell opined, "their willingness to give us their technology and teach us how to use it suggests that they do have a long-term plan to take over the world. They will lure us under their control with all their neat stuff, and then they'll steal our women.") One of Jarod's less palatable opinions was that the secret government itself was eventually going to seize total power, and that the ensuing arrangement would be an improvement over our flawed "democracy." Campbell optimistically countered that, since duties at Facility X were rigidly compartmentalized and Jarod was merely a drone in the hive, his theories about the long-term agenda were solely matters of speculation.

Workers had, however, been briefed on the history of the program—and based on that background, Jarod offered the following chronicle to Campbell in *Rat # 24*:

This is the way I recall what was explained to the group I was assigned to, and only after we were all cleared for the project that was to be our responsibility (mechanical design for the avionics on the flight deck for the disc simulators).

To protect what was found at the disc crash sites in New Mexico and Arizona, those in charge at the time scrambled for a position and a decision as to whom in the government would carry the responsibility. This included security, material, personnel, documents and military and civilian intelligence.

It was not decided until the Eisenhower administration in the early part of 1953. A group was formed by the President, and the chairman of the group was Vice President Richard M. Nixon. Around June of 1953, the final decision was made to set up a "satellite government." This separate government would interface with the U.S. Government for support only. Personnel involved in any part of disc retrieval, including first hand knowledge, were re-assigned as satellite government entities. Additionally, new security requirements were established and new clearances assigned. . . . Normally, clearances take two to three years for any responsible positions connected with disc design. (Bob Lazar was an unusual case due to his recommendation by Teller. This gave him an edge without going through a long clearance process. Teller is high up in the satellite government organization.) The rule for disclosure of information is fifteen years after retirement in cases like mine. . . . Here is a list of what is classified under their rules: technical data, drawings, photos, sketches, illustrations, procedures, all documents relating to personnel, companies, related associate military groups, code names, types of classifications, names of people, etc. Yes, I have dropped a few names, but only with permission. During my tenure at Facility X, Nixon and another former president made visits. We even got a handshake. What was amusing to us in the group was that most other visitors to our facility did not shake our hands nor did we know their names; they were familiar to us by face only.

The background as told to my group had some very interesting twists regarding craft retrieval and the first visitor encounter. Little did the government know that retrieval operations were monitored by the visitors. They, the visitors, were well aware of the mishap of one of their vessels; however, the military got to the crash site first. No details were provided to us on how contact was made to set up the initial meeting. The reason for contact almost six years after the Roswell incident was recalled as follows: The vessel that fell in Arizona in 1953 contained four entities; two were disabled and two were reasonably well but somewhat confused. (The visitors monitoring the retrieval activities noted with much pleasure the humane treatment provided to those involved.) All entities were later taken to Facility X for medical treatment and tests. Additionally, before leaving the scene, the two that were standing upright were allowed

something inherently totally bizarre in nature. Nixon did it right by establishing the satellite government. This provided cover for the visitors plus a totally new concept for protecting all information relating to this subject. The most complicated provisions of this pact was meeting the demands of the boys.

Selection of personnel in the organization was directed by the visitors. The leader was named to be the bioastronomical engineer who first made contact; his name cannot be told at this time. You cannot imagine the situation this caused. It was like putting a private in charge of the generals. Nearly all appointments were selected from the science field. All of the direction did not come from those boys picked up in the Arizona scenario: There is a chain of command. What they asked for is not completely known but some of the items included materials. One item was boron. We use this material for many things such as metals and nuclear processes. Some discord between us and the boys was identified but it was not necessarily a problem that could not be dealt with.

What is surprising to me after reading many of the UFO books and listening to various speakers on this subject is that they almost have it right. But the information they are looking for is not in the known governmental chain of agencies but only in the exacto facto organization described above. It is believed that release of further information will come from the visitors themselves, but it will be accomplished a piece at a time. If you have understood any of the above it should give one clue. Impatience is not a virtue of the visitors. To shed some light on how it will proceed the example is a recent episode going on in New Mexico. [Reference to the recent Midway sightings by a family in New Mexico.] Of course, this is where most all activity began. From what I know, the exacto facto government is again scrambling for a solution; the probable reason is distrust, not us of them, but them of us. These displays are one way for them to show disfavor. From my experience, the boys are very conservative with some emotions and occasionally show a sense of humor. Hard to get used to but nonetheless amusing. Whatever way they decide, I am sure it will be beneficial to mankind. For me, the sooner the better, some weights will be removed. No, I am not radical, just a practical engineer.

In that and other issues of the *Desert Rat*, Campbell went on to reveal more esoteric details of Jarod's framework. Two elements in particular would attain immortality in Interceptor lore. In one of his talks about the visitors, Jarod said in passing: "All I know is they sure take a lot of boron." Upon being questioned about this, he mentioned that boron was useful for preserving human bodies, but said that he didn't really know what the visitors needed it for. Still, he felt that the aliens had been harvesting boron from Earth for centuries, having only recently been forced by the spread of human civilization into direct contact with *Homo sapiens*.

"Boron is a fascinating element, important to many chemical reactions and as an ingredient in some high-strength fiber composites," Campbell revealed in *Rat #24*. "As a water softener in laundry detergent, boron helps get clothes 'whiter than white'—which may be important if you are a Gray. Boron is among the hardest substances on earth, second only to diamond. . . . Another interesting property of boron, according to a colleague who has done some research, is that it soaks up neutrons like a sponge, which may be useful in shielding or controlling nuclear reactions."

Yet another *Rat* reader revealed that boron was a common component in control rods for fission reactors, and that during the Manhattan Project, denizens of Los Alamos were forbidden to wash their clothes in boron bleach. Campbell learned from an encyclopedia that the majority of the world's boron comes from the United States "and most of that is extracted from a big hole in the ground at—you guessed it—Boron, California, which happens to be adjacent to the most secret part of Edwards Air Force Base. The second largest producer is Searles Dry Lake at Trona, California, which happens to be adjacent to the highly restricted China Lake Naval Weapons Center. The other boron mines in the U.S. are in those military/UFO hotbeds, Nevada and New Mexico. Are we beginning to detect a BORON CONSPIRACY??? In any case, our recommendation to investors is BUY."

Another intriguing tidbit had to do with the visitors' language. Psychospy related that, at a small meeting of UFO buffs, Jarod had asked his audience: "What is the most difficult language on Earth to learn?"

"Hungarian" said someone in the back.

"Jarod was impressed. 'Who said that? Right, Hungarian. They speak a higher form of Hungarian.' Jarod said this is what his supervisor had told

him and his supervisor had never lied. Jarod then moved on to other topics in his talk without us having a chance to grill him.

"Oooo-la-la!" Psychospy remarked. "This is something we never expected. The aliens can talk to Zsa Zsa Gabor! But it's a HIGHER FORM of Hungarian, so maybe they can talk to Eva Gabor now that she has passed on.

"With all due respect, THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING WE'VE EVER HEARD. We can't think of any reason extraterrestrials arriving on Earth would step off the ship speaking Hungarian, but we can imagine the headline in the *Weekly World News*: 'Zsa Zsa Consults with Space Aliens.' If the aliens were to speak an Earth language, you'd think it would be English, the dominant tongue of the boron trade, or maybe Esperanto, a highly rational language invented by academics and rejected by the rest of humanity. . . .

"[May] we suggest ambitious college students consider the benefits of Hungarian," Psychospy concluded. "Take a few introductory classes, and when the aliens reveal themselves, you'll be way ahead of everyone else."

Psychospy joked, but a little background research revealed some intriguing facts about Hungarian. Not only was Magyar (the dominant language and people of Hungary) difficult to learn, it was surprisingly disconnected from any neighboring linguistic tradition, having more in common with Finnish and even Mongolian than with the Indo-European-derived tongues surrounding it. Magyar-like archaeological artifacts have even been found in the Xinjiang Province of China, dating from the ninth and tenth centuries.

Moreover, a millennium after that—as William Broad writes in his book *Teller's War*—a clutch of brilliant Hungarian scientists

were to have a remarkable impact on science in the United States and were universally seen as visionaries. Szilard, Wigner and Teller played important roles in the push for the atom bomb. Von Neumann was a mathematical genius who helped build giant computers used for H-bomb calculations. Fermi, the Italian physicist, once mused over the number of stars in the universe and its age, saying that if aliens existed they should have visited Earth. Indeed, Szilard joked, "They call themselves Hungarians." Teller also delighted in this notion, applying it to himself with relish. Late in

life, after getting to know someone he liked,* he would sometimes give the person permission to call him "E.T."

John McPhee elaborated on this theme in his book *The Curve of Binding Energy*:

Not all Los Alamos theories could be tested. Long popular within the Theoretical Division was, for example, a theory that the people of Hungary are Martians. The reasoning went like this: The Martians left their own planet several aeons ago and came to Earth; they landed in what is now Hungary; the tribes of Europe were so primitive and barbarian that it was necessary for the Martians to conceal their evolutionary difference or be hacked to pieces. Through the years, the concealment had on the whole been successful, but the Martians had three characteristics too strong to hide: their wanderlust, which found its outlet in the Hungarian gypsy; their language (Hungarian is not related to any of the languages spoken in surrounding countries); and their unearthly intelligence. One had only to look around to see the evidence: Teller, Wigner, Szilard, von Neumann—Hungarians all.

The connections weren't limited to Los Alamos. Looking through *Scientific American* magazine one day, Campbell came across an IBM ad describing the science-fiction concept of quantum teleportation (the disappearance of an object in one place as a replica of it appears in another place), accompanied by the apparent non sequitur of a recommendation on how to learn more about—Hungarian goulash!

As far as folklore was concerned, Campbell was to have a field day with the idea of Hungarian aliens. Trying to imagine how such a story could have gotten started (but assuming that Jarod was sincere), Glenn posited that perhaps the program linguists, after gaining some exposure to the visitors' language, had concluded that it was *similar* to Hungarian—albeit with refinements or eccentricities that called to the academic mind a "higher form" of a Magyar-like structure. Then again, aliens or no aliens, it was entirely conceivable that, in the late forties and early fifties, the Hungarian faction at Los Alamos, feeling homesick and out of place, puckishly

* E.g., Robert Lazar?