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UFO UpDates Mailing List

A Need to Know and You Don't Need to Know

From: **James Easton** <pulsar@compuserve.com>
 Date: Wed, 9 Apr 1997 21:21:53 -0400
 Fwd Date: Thu, 10 Apr 1997 10:12:49 -0400
 Subject: A Need to Know and You Don't Need to Know

I thought this might be of interest to the list, especially for subscribers in the US.

As always, you must make of it what you will.

I mentioned this on CompuServe last year and some current discussions there were a reminder I had kept this on file:

On 15 January, 1996, a UK national TV series, *The Paranormal World of Paul McKenna* (a well known stage hypnotist), discussed the subject of UFOs.

The program featured a brief interview with former US President Jimmy Carter, interviewed (it seemed specifically for the program) as he was leaving a building with some colleagues. He was asked about his own UFO sighting and stopped to obligingly give details.

Nothing of significance in that, but what was interesting was his response to a quick follow-up question:

"In '76 you said you'd try and get the release of all information to the public and to scientists about other UFO sightings. Do you think you achieved that?"

Carter responded:

"I'm not sure, but we did release a lot of the information..."

At this point his pleasant demeanour changes and with a noticeably more serious look, he adds:

"...but I don't know how much was not released".

James.

UFO

Asked to comment on a report that he had seen an unidentified flying object and no longer laughs at people who believe in them, he said, "One night I was getting ready to speak to a Lions club in southwest Georgia, and there were about 20 members outside, and a light appeared in the western sky, and it got bright and then disappeared.

"I was running for Governor, I think, at the time. The episode was reported in the newspapers and to that extent it was true."

Carter made light of the report and told the crowded hearing room, to laughter, "I think it was a light telling me to enter the primaries."

Los Angeles Times
May 12, 1976

UFOs

"I don't laugh at people anymore when they say they have seen UFOs because I've seen one myself."

AP
May 11, 1976

Declassified
Photocopy from Gerald R. Ford Library

*Rees Ford Committee Records
Research Office
Carter Quote file
Box H34*



JIMMY CARTER: THE PSYCHIC CONNECTION

Ex-prez used
seer to find
missing plane
PLUS
He claims
close
encounter
with UFO!



Jimmy Carter reveals that he told the CIA to work with a psychic to locate a plane that had crashed somewhere in the Central African Republic (circle)

FORMER President Jimmy Carter has made a shocking revelation – during his stint in the White House, he had a psychic work with the CIA to locate a missing plane.

Carter, 81, a graduate of the Naval Academy and ex-officer, also confesses to having a close encounter with a UFO!

Carter contacted the psychic during his 1977-81 White House term, after CIA officials came to him in a quandary.

“We had a plane go down in the Central African Republic,” he recalls. “A twin-engine plane. Small plane. And we couldn’t find it.”

“So we oriented satellites that were going around the earth every 90 minutes to fly over that spot where we thought it might be to

take photographs. We couldn’t find it.”

The 39th president told GQ Magazine that, in desperation, he gave the spy agency the green light to turn to a psychic for help.

“The director of the CIA came and told me that he had contacted a woman in California who claimed to have supernatural capabilities,” says Carter.

“She went into a trance and she wrote down latitudes and longitudes, and we sent our satellite over that latitude and longitude, and there was the plane.”

Amazingly, Carter also says he

personally witnessed a UFO’s visit to rural Georgia while he was governor of the state in 1969.

“It was the darndest thing I’ve ever seen,” he says. “It was big. It was very bright, it changed colors and it was about the size of the moon.”

“We watched it for ten minutes, but none of us could figure out what it was. One thing’s for sure. I’ll never make fun of people who say they’ve seen unidentified objects in the sky.”

The ex-president says there were a bunch of other witnesses to the encounter.

“I was preparing to give a

‘All of a sudden, it changed color’

speech to a Lions Club,” he says. “There were about 25 of us men standing around. All of a sudden, one of the men looked up and said, ‘Look, over in the west.’”

“It got closer and closer to us. And then it stopped beyond the pine trees. And all of a sudden it changed color to blue, and then it changed to red, then back to white. And then it receded into the distance.”

Carter filed a formal report on the incident at the time.

While he won’t admit that he thinks the object came from space, to this day, he says he’s baffled by what he witnessed.

“I’ve never believed it was from Mars,” says Carter. “But I saw an object.”

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Chapter 5

In-Depth Discussions With Carter

In late June 1976, Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter distinguished himself in the eyes of CIA officials by becoming the first presidential hopeful to request intelligence briefings even before receiving his party's nomination. Carter's request, which was directed to President Gerald Ford, prompted discussions involving the President, CIA Director George Bush, and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft about who should provide such intelligence briefings and when they should be made available to the candidate. Bush recommended to Ford that as a first step he, Bush, should meet with Carter to discuss the ground rules and arrange for follow-on briefings, which would be delivered by intelligence professionals. The ever-cautious Scowcroft recommended instead that all briefings should be given by the DCI, accompanied and supported by the appropriate National Intelligence Officers, who were the Intelligence Community's senior substantive experts.

These deliberations resulted in a decision by Ford that Bush should meet with Carter to discuss the parameters and arrangements for the provision of intelligence support. Such a session could be arranged before the nomination. Following the nomination, Carter would be provided in-depth intelligence briefings by the National Intelligence Officers. The President insisted that the DCI chair the sessions even though he would not necessarily be obliged to give the briefings himself.

Pursuant to the President's instructions, Bush contacted Carter to arrange a meeting. The two met on 5 July in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where Carter was attending a meeting of Democratic governors. In the course of the meeting, the Director informed Carter that the President had asked him to preside over the briefings that would follow. Bush introduced to Carter one senior Agency officer, Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence Richard Lehman, noting that he would be the action officer in charge of preparing the briefings that would follow in Plains, Georgia. They would begin after the Democratic Convention the next week. Carter, in turn, indicated that he would welcome detailed discussions of selected subjects such as Soviet strategic programs. He designated his "issues man," Stuart Eizenstat, to be his contact and proposed to receive briefings every week to 10 days.

get → Although the initial meeting was to have been limited to a discussion of the arrangements for future briefings, Lehman noted in his Memorandum for the Record that "The conversation ranged over virtually the entire field of intelligence." [97] Carter was briefed on a number of current developments abroad and was shown a variety of intelligence materials and publications, including satellite photographs. Lehman reported that the Governor asked a great many questions "ranging from the future of Rhodesia to morale in the Agency."

In thinking back to that pre-nomination meeting with the DCI in Pennsylvania, Carter recalled in 1993 that "I was very honored to have President (then DCI) Bush come to brief me. President Ford offered every assistance. I hardly knew him and had never been in the Oval Office." [98]

In soliciting the CIA briefings, Carter was already displaying the interest in detail that was to be a mark of his presidency. The day following his meeting with Bush in Pennsylvania, Carter told newsmen that he would receive "a six-hour briefing" shortly after the Democratic nomination. On several subsequent occasions during the campaign, the Governor expressed the hope that by being fully informed he could avoid committing himself to positions that might later embarrass him as a candidate or as President. Asked in 1993 about his motives in arranging what became a series of immensely time-consuming sessions, Carter affirmed that "I wanted the long briefings in Plains. I wanted particularly not to make any inadvertent mistake that would complicate things for President Ford on SALT or later for me." Just prior to the presidential debates, Carter remembers "I wanted to know what was going on."

Extended Preelection Briefings

When the time came in late July to meet Carter in Plains, Agency officers discovered that the first challenge was to get there. CIA's Director in 1976 normally used a Gulfstream aircraft for his travel within the United States. Plains had a 4,400-foot sod airstrip that was not suitable for Gulfstream operations. The manager of the airfield at Americus, Georgia, some 10 miles from Plains, informed the Agency aircrew that Gulfstream aircraft had occasionally used his 4,200-foot paved airstrip, but that they should be aware there was no kerosene fuel available at the facility. Moreover, the airfield at Americus had no control tower and was, thus, suitable for operation only in daylight hours. On discovering that the nearest all-weather facility with an instrument landing system was at Albany, some 45 miles from Plains, Agency officials sought help from the US military.

A few phone calls resulted in arrangements whereby Bush and his party would travel from Washington, DC, directly to Lawson Army Airfield at Fort Benning, Georgia. At Fort Benning, they were told, the Director would be transferred to a US Army Bell helicopter for a 30-minute flight to Peterson Field at Plains. The Agency aircrew that normally flew the DCI was puzzled that their manuals made no mention of Peterson Field. Another call revealed that it was not exactly Peterson Field; rather, it was Peterson's field, Peterson being a farmer who owned land at the edge of Plains.

In the planning stages of the first visit, Lehman and Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, agreed that they should minimize press attention to the Director's visit. This strategy was intended to reinforce the nonpolitical nature of the briefings, Powell having assured CIA that the Governor wanted to avoid any appearance of taking political advantage of the Agency briefing. However, with the growing number of reporters in Plains desperate for news, and with the expected helicopter arrival, it became obvious that the visit would not go unnoticed. The press was, therefore, informed of the time and place of the Director's arrival. Bush talked briefly with reporters after disembarking from the helicopter, enabling the rest of the party to unload the briefing materials and travel the short distance to Carter's home. Despite the original intentions of the planners, Lehman remembers that the visit "could not possibly have been more conspicuous." [99]

The first CIA session was highly publicized for another reason as well--it was sandwiched into a week filled with other high-level briefings of the nominee. The Agency's presentation occurred on Wednesday, 28 July, preceded by a discussion of defense issues that lasted most of the day Monday, and a session with leading economists on Tuesday. Thursday was dedicated to a foreign policy presentation by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Commenting on this series of briefings in 1993, Carter remembered especially "the value of Secretary Kissinger's whole day of briefings."

Carter himself drew added press attention to the Agency briefing by discussing it at some length with reporters the day before. On Tuesday the Governor informed newsmen that "he had asked the CIA to brief him on confidential information concerning Lebanon and the Middle East, Rhodesia, South Africa, and South Korea, plus the interrelationships between the United States, the Soviet Union, and China." [100] He piqued reporters' interest by volunteering that he had not decided whether he would replace Bush as CIA Director if he were elected president. The Governor noted that Bush had previously been involved in Republican politics but added that he "has brought the CIA a good background as former United Nations Ambassador and US representative to China." Carter added his choice for CIA head would be a person "with stature with the American people, whose integrity was beyond doubt and with some analytic ability." *

CIA's session with Carter began about 1:00 p.m. and continued without interruption for a full six hours, adjourning about 7:00 p.m. [101] The session included a current intelligence review of world trouble spots: Lebanon, Iraqi-Syrian relations, strains between Egypt and Libya, the Taiwan Straits, Rhodesia, the Cuban presence in Angola, and developments in Uganda. These subjects were covered in approximately 30 minutes. The bulk of the afternoon was devoted to a discussion of Soviet strategic programs and the status of the SALT talks.

Bush made some brief introductory comments, but most of the briefing was delivered by two Agency experts in strategic systems, Howard Stoertz and Ray McCrory. The two provided a detailed description of Soviet forces for intercontinental nuclear attack and for nuclear attack on the Eurasian periphery. Their presentation focused also on Soviet strategic defense capabilities and US estimates of long-term prospects for the strategic balance. An ensuing discussion of SALT compliance issues was very detailed; it included a description of how monitoring was carried out and how the process worked within the US Government for determining whether a violation had occurred. Participants from the Agency were surprised that the discussion of strategic issues went on so long that they were forced to jettison plans to discuss Soviet political developments, foreign policy, and the state of the Soviet economy.

Carter was a very careful and interested listener and an active participant. All who were present remember that he asked a great many questions, often in minute detail. He was especially interested in the nature of the Intelligence Community's evidence, including satellite photography of deployed Soviet weapons. The Governor asked detailed questions about the obligations of the USSR and the United States under the interim agreement and about the truth of the charges being made in the press that the Soviets were violating SALT I understandings. *

Carter's running mate, Senator Walter "Fritz" Mondale, also attended the briefing. He was especially interested in the role and knowledge of the Congress in arms control issues. He wanted to understand precisely whether the Soviets were justified in any of their charges that the United States had violated the SALT I agreement. Mondale also was well informed about and sensitive to the specific issue of whether Minuteman missile shelters constituted a violation of the interim agreement.

A different set of questions from Mondale caused the CIA Director some concern because they raised sensitive policy issues. In some cases his queries related to ongoing CIA relationships with foreign liaison services or the Agency's operations. Lehman noted in a Memorandum for the Record some days after the July briefing that he had informed Carter aide Eizenstat that the DCI had been uncomfortable with some of Mondale's questions, particularly those concerning covert action. [102] Lehman explained that the Director felt that answering these questions would go beyond the guidelines set by President Ford. He underscored that the DCI hoped to avoid being put in the

position of having to refuse to answer certain questions.

Carter, Mondale, and Eizenstat left with Agency officers a number of factual questions that there had not been time to discuss during the briefing. Lehman provided Eizenstat answers to some of these questions by telephone; others were simply lost in the press of business. One matter about which Carter asked showed he had studied carefully the foreign policy issues in which John Kennedy had become involved during his candidacy some 16 years earlier. That issue related to Taiwan and the offshore islands. Lehman consulted in Washington before articulating precisely for the Governor what the US commitment was to defending Quemoy, Matsu, and certain other territories. In fact, this issue, which had been so important in the 1960 campaign, did not play a significant role in 1976.

Agency officers were pleased when Eizenstat informed Lehman on 29 July, the day following the initial session, that Carter had been "extremely pleased with the briefings." In response to Lehman's question, Eizenstat indicated the Governor had no suggestions for any changes in the format, the level of detail, or the length of the briefings, having described them as just right. Senior Agency officers had been anxious, unable to believe that Carter really wanted to sit through six hours of nonstop briefings. The participants had been impressed not only with the Governor's endurance and interest but with the hospitality he and Mrs. Carter had shown them. They were particularly touched that Mrs. Carter brought in a bowl of peaches in the late afternoon, a welcome diversion after several hours of briefings.

The second major preelection briefing of Carter took place in Plains two weeks later on 12 August. At least in the memory of one working-level officer who took part, the most dramatic and memorable moment occurred not during the session with Carter himself but during the helicopter flight from Fort Benning to Plains. Asked if he had had a difficult flight, he remembered, "Not at all. It was fine. The problem was that during the short flight I realized I had left my briefing materials back in the Operations Center at Headquarters. It was your worst nightmare, going with the Director to brief the man who may be the next president and forgetting your materials." 2ND

The rattled briefers were further shaken when they arrived. With some time to spare before they were due at Carter's home, they visited the Carter campaign headquarters where they were introduced to the Governor's mother, Lillian Carter. Upon meeting the CIA officers, Mrs. Carter volunteered that she understood "Jimmy was going to clear the government of all vestiges of Republicans, including CIA Director Bush." Her plainspoken prediction reflected progressively more pointed comments the candidate had been making to the press about the possibility of replacing key government officials, including Bush. @ m

Bush himself was realistic and outwardly relaxed about the likelihood that he would be replaced, joking about it with his CIA colleagues. The latter were more apprehensive about the prospect that, if their boss were replaced, the job would be "politicized." They were acutely aware that the four previous presidents had not appointed a new Director of Central Intelligence when they came into office. The last such occasion had been Dwight Eisenhower's appointment of Allen Dulles 24 years earlier. 1-2

Having learned in the first session that Carter was likely to ask numerous and detailed questions, Bush brought eight CIA officers with him to the second briefing to ensure that the team could handle any subject the Governor might raise. Carter again asked that Mondale be present and this time also included Eizenstat and Mondale's foreign policy aide, David Aaron. Aaron's inclusion, at Carter's request, helped relieve an awkward situation. Aaron had shown up at the first session but had not been permitted to attend, as his role was unclear. In time, he was to become the Deputy National x

Security Adviser. Zbigniew Brzezinski had not yet been named National Security Adviser and did not attend any of the briefing sessions.

The substantive issues discussed during the second session related primarily to the status of Soviet conventional forces and to developments in China. In addition, an overview of current developments was provided that focused on Greek-Turkish tensions, strains between Egypt and Libya, a recent Rhodesian raid into Mozambique, the problems of Somalia and Djibouti, a recent exchange of fire across the Korean demilitarized zone, and civil strife in Lebanon. There was also considerable discussion, as at the first briefing, of Soviet strategic programs and arms control negotiating issues. The status of the Soviets' Backfire bomber and SS-X-20 missile programs was carefully reviewed. [103]

Obviously feeling more relaxed than he had in the earlier session, Bush led off this second exchange with some more expansive general comments and introductions of the other participants. Throughout the discussions he made occasional comments, using to advantage his experience as US representative in Beijing. Carter was again a very active participant with so many questions and comments that the briefers were unable to cover the requested topics, even though the session lasted from 11:00 a.m. until almost 5:00 p.m.

One of the participants remembers, "I was impressed with Carter. He was a very, very quick study, able to digest immediately everything we gave him--fact after fact. He seemed to have a photographic memory and would often repeat back to us the points we had made to be absolutely sure that he understood. He used his very detailed questions to be certain he understood the nuances, which he described with precision when he rephrased the points we had made." [104] The CIA participants, arrayed in a circle in Carter's family room, watched with fascination as the Governor, from his corner of the room, would spin the globe next to his chair as if to allow it to determine the country about which he would ask next. By the time the afternoon was over they felt they had covered the world.

In addition to pleasing his visitors with his obvious interest in the substance of their business, Carter was a more relaxed host during the second session. He adjourned the proceedings for an hour or so while Mrs. Carter served lunch. The participants, during the break, spelled one another playing with Amy Carter and her cat on the couch.

Toward the end of the briefing, Mondale made an unsolicited contribution that greatly pleased the Agency officers in attendance. In remarks seemingly directed both to Carter and Bush, Mondale expressed his respect for the Agency. He said CIA had reformed itself completely over the last two years, underscoring that this was a remarkable achievement for any government organization. Mondale was referring, of course, to the efforts undertaken by CIA Directors William Colby and George Bush in the wake of the revelations of CIA misdeeds that had been so widely publicized in the early 1970s. The Senator's background enabled him also to make some perceptive and useful comments about the nature of Congressional review of the Intelligence Community and its budget.

Like candidates before and after them, Carter and Mondale were shown and took an interest in certain unique CIA products. They were each given copies of an Agency compilation of foreign, particularly Soviet, press commentary on their candidacies. Carter was interested in studying some sample satellite photography showing much of southwest Georgia. The Governor seemed to find tracking the geography of his home region a useful technique for understanding the capabilities of the imaging system.

Reflecting the Governor's insatiable interests, the Carter team had provided CIA in advance of the briefing a list of 44 specific questions that they hoped could be answered. A few of the questions raised delicate policy and operational issues, just as Mondale's questions had done two weeks earlier. Because the President had not approved the Agency's discussion of these matters before the election, the Director reiterated the ground rules at the outset of the briefing.

MC
with MB
people
In fact, by the time the group turned to the list of 44 questions late in the afternoon, time was running out and the awkward issue of political delicacy did not have to be faced directly. Lehman recorded in his Memorandum for the Record that "I was able to give very brief, often one-sentence answers...this moved so fast that our listeners were unable to check our replies against their list of questions, probably a highly desirable thing." As Lehman's comment implied, at the time it seemed sensible simply to stick to the essential facts and avoid addressing the complicated policy issues, but the matter was not that simple and did not go away.

Not only did the problem persist, it returned within a week, precipitated by events in Korea. On 18 August a donnybrook over the removal of a tree from the demilitarized zone dramatically raised tensions on the Peninsula. In the days following that incident, Carter received a number of questions from the press regarding his position on Korea and asked Eizenstat to call Lehman and request a briefing on the situation. The available facts were fairly straightforward, and it was decided that a formal briefing was unnecessary. A senior Agency analyst, John Whitman, briefed Eizenstat by telephone regarding developments in North Korea and the Chinese and Soviet reactions.

Understandably in the circumstances, Eizenstat was interested also in the status of US forces and in the US reaction to the heightened tensions. He was reminded that the President's guidelines provided that the Agency should brief only on foreign developments and not on US policy or actions. Eizenstat was asked if he had channels to the Departments of State and Defense that he could use to acquire the information that Carter needed. On hearing that such channels did not exist, Whitman suggested that he or Carter might wish to contact Scowcroft. Eizenstat responded that the Governor did not want to approach Scowcroft "lest he (Carter) become enmeshed."

Whitman recorded in a Memorandum for the Record that Eizenstat appreciated the prompt telephone update on Korea and that their exchange on the ground rules of CIA's liaison with the Carter team was an amiable one. [105] Whitman also recorded that "It is nevertheless clear that, since we are their only official channel to the Executive Branch, dicey moments may occur in the future." In many similar circumstances over the years, CIA was to be the only authorized ongoing link between a sitting administration and a presidential candidate or president-elect of the other party. Agency officers have cherished such opportunities, in part, for their implicit acknowledgment that CIA can be trusted to provide information in a nonpolitical manner. At the same time, however, they have often had concerns about whether this exclusive system might not unduly limit an incoming administration.

Before the end of August 1976, separate briefings were also given the two vice-presidential candidates. On 23 August, Bush and seven senior Agency experts briefed Ford's running mate, Senator Robert Dole, in a comprehensive session that covered Soviet strategic programs and conventional forces. The group also informed Dole of current intelligence related to the Korea crisis, tensions between Egypt and Libya, and developments in South Africa and Rhodesia. The Senator's questions related primarily to the military strengths of the two sides in Korea. [106]

On 24 August, Whitman provided a briefing to Mondale and Aaron that focused primarily on Soviet ICBM dismantling and destruction. He also covered developments in Korea and answered a number of questions from the Senator related to US satellite reconnaissance capabilities. On this occasion, Aaron raised with Whitman the possibility of the Agency providing another briefing along the lines of those given in Plains, this time focusing on the Middle East and southern Africa. Given Carter's heavy schedule, the two discussed the possibility of providing such a briefing in Washington to Mondale, Aaron, and Eizenstat,[107] but there was no time available in the campaign schedule and the Carter-Mondale team received no further intelligence briefings until after the election on 3 November.

In the 1976 campaign there were three 90-minute debates between candidates Ford and Carter. The resumption of debates during a presidential campaign after a 16-year hiatus raised concerns in the minds of senior Agency executives, who had an all-too-clear memory of how CIA had been caught up in the controversial issues raised in the Kennedy-Nixon encounters in 1960. In July and August 1976, Agency officers were heartened by Carter's repeated reassurances that he did not want to take political advantage of intelligence briefings and statements and that he wanted only to understand the facts to avoid making mistakes.

In fact, two of the three presidential debates included virtually no discussion of foreign policy issues. The debate on 23 September in Philadelphia focused on domestic and economic policy matters. The debate on 22 October in Williamsburg, Virginia, contained only a very brief exchange on Yugoslavia, including specifically the question of the appropriate US response to a possible post-Tito Soviet invasion of that country. The remainder of that debate addressed domestic issues.

The one debate dedicated to foreign and defense issues was held on 6 October in San Francisco. Agency officers were relieved that the CIA and its programs did not become a big part of any of the key subjects discussed. These included US leadership abroad, the proper level for the US defense budget, the US position for future SALT talks, cooperation with authoritarian regimes, grain sales to the Soviet Union, arms sales and peace negotiations in the Middle East, energy policy, proliferation, and the future of the Panama Canal.

CIA was mentioned only twice during the debate, both times by Carter as part of his comments on integrity and leadership in foreign affairs. Early in the debate the Governor said, "I've traveled the last 21 months among the people of this country. I've talked to them and I've listened. And I've seen at first hand in a very vivid way the deep hurt that has come to this country in the aftermath of Vietnam and Cambodia, Chile and Pakistan, and Angola and Watergate, the CIA revelations." There could be no doubt that he had carefully planned this formulation: he used almost exactly the same words more than an hour later in his closing statement, saying, "And we've been hurt in recent years in this country in the aftermath of Vietnam, Cambodia, Chile, Pakistan, Angola, Watergate, CIA." [108]

From the Agency's point of view, Carter's formulation was unfortunate. At the same time, there was relief that he had made only passing references, that the Intelligence Community's activities had not become a bigger issue in the campaign, and that the Agency's operations and analyses had not become entwined in discussion of the substantive issues. Thinking back on this specific issue in 1993, Carter commented that, in his mind, "Politicization of intelligence was not a problem in the debates or otherwise."

Operational and Political Issues Arise

* Three days following the election on 2 November, Bush telephoned Carter to offer his congratulations and tender his resignation as CIA Director. Bush told Carter frankly that he was unclear about the protocol in such a situation and asked if the President-elect would like a letter of resignation. Carter graciously said that was not necessary and thanked Bush for his call. [109]

Briefing In the telephone conversation, Bush proposed they get together soon so he could inform Carter about certain "exotic and very closely held items relating to sources and methods." Bush informed Carter of the kinds of support CIA had offered past presidents-elect during periods of transition, describing specifically the office that had been set up for Nixon in New York in 1968. In reply, the new President-elect said that he would be very interested in having such a session. The two resolved to leave the arrangements to Lehman and Eizenstat, as they had done for the preelection briefings. *

The one postelection session with Carter that Bush chaired was held on 19 November. This meeting was another multihour session in which Bush was assisted by a half-dozen senior officers. The most significant discussions of the day, however, were in the first 45 minutes, during which Bush met privately with Carter and Mondale, accompanied only by his personal assistant, Jennifer Fitzgerald. This group of four assembled in the little-used small living room in the Carter home while the larger group of aides from both sides waited in the larger and more informal study. *schedule*

Bush informed Carter that he wanted to discuss a personal matter and reopened the question of the CIA directorship. The DCI reminded Carter that there had been charges of politics when Bush was nominated to head CIA and that he, Bush, felt that if he were to leave at the end of the Ford presidency there might well be another political outcry. He elaborated, stating that, if he were seen to have done a reasonable job, the charge could be made that replacing him had politicized the Agency. Bush volunteered that he could be helpful in muting such criticism. He added that any CIA Director needed to have direct access to the President and cited occasions when he had used such access to President Ford. Later Bush recorded that, after "weighing both the political problem and the confidence/direct access problem that I felt clearly that I should leave and the President-elect should put his own man in the organization in whom he had confidence." [110]

Whatever Bush's intent may have been, his reopening the question of his own tenure clearly surprised Carter, who had thought the matter settled when Bush had telephoned him two weeks earlier. In 1993, Carter volunteered that his impression from that exchange in 1976 was that "Bush wanted to be kept on as DCI." Parenthetically and laughingly, he added, "If I had agreed to that (Bush) never would have become president. His career would have gone off on a whole different track!"

Carter explained, "It would be good in general to have some overlap (of a DCI serving from one president to the next). But the job of DCI must be depoliticized. Bush was too political. That is why I selected Stan Turner. He didn't want the job, he wanted to be CNO (Chief of Naval Operations)."

Carter was unambiguous in his response after Bush finished his discussion of the pros and cons of his staying on as Director. The DCI had finished with an observation that--all things considered--he probably should be replaced. The President-elect, according to Bush, "simply said 'Okay,' or something like this, with no discussion, no questions about any of the points I had made.... As in the rest of the briefing, Carter was very cold or cool, no editorializing, no niceties, very business-like." Bush also noted that Mondale at this point "spoke up and rather generously said that things had

gotten better since I'd been there...." The three concluded with a discussion of the timing of the announcement of a new CIA Director-designate.



Given Carter's expressed views on the politicization issue, senior Agency officers later found it ironic that his first choice for CIA Director was Theodore Sorensen, the former Kennedy political adviser and speechwriter. Sorensen was nominated on 24 December but in mid-January withdrew his name because of mounting criticism that he had played a very political role in the Kennedy administration.

His private session with Carter gave Bush the opportunity to inform the President-elect of a variety of sensitive human-source and technical collection programs. In the first such session since Kennedy was briefed by Allen Dulles on covert action activities in Cuba, the DCI took 30 minutes or more to inform Carter of specific operational undertakings he needed to be aware of early in his presidency. He also showed Carter and Mondale samples of reporting from sensitive sources, underscoring that the lives of CIA assets were literally at stake. Bush underscored that if the President-elect felt he needed additional information he could, of course, contact CIA.

The DCI also used the occasion of the small group meeting to show the President-elect a copy of the President's Daily Brief. He described the distribution of the publication and informed Carter that President Ford had approved providing it to him on a daily basis starting immediately. This subject was to be discussed further in the larger briefing session.

In all, Bush described to the President-elect more than a dozen sensitive CIA programs and issues. At the time of the briefing, and when discussing it some 17 years after the fact, Bush was puzzled that Carter had virtually no comment and asked no questions during the whole session. He had not indicated whether he thought the operations were good or bad, or that he was surprised or not surprised. He asked for no follow-up action or information. Bush commented that Carter "seemed a little impatient, he didn't say much but seemed to be a little turned off. He tended to moralize." [111]

In fact, Carter was "turned off" and uncomfortable with many of the Agency's sensitive collection programs. He ordered some discontinued during the brief period when Henry Knoche served as Acting Director from late January to early March 1977. There was only one item raised in the discussion of sensitive matters between Bush and Carter to which the President-elect reacted positively. Somewhat incongruously, Bush had taken with him to Plains a letter to the President-elect from John Harper, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, DC, inviting President Carter to worship there. Without a moment's thought, the President-elect said that he felt sure he would be able to do this.

Bush was obviously relieved when the smaller session was finished and he and Carter joined the larger group for the substantive briefings. The DCI recorded that Carter, in the larger session that followed, "was very attentive, listening intently and showing much more warmth in the bigger meeting than in the smaller.... He called the briefers by their first names. Actually, he referred to me a little more in this briefing than he did in the earlier ones where I had the distinct feeling he was somewhat uncomfortable with my being there."

During the larger group session on the afternoon of 19 November, Carter and Mondale were briefed on the US Intelligence Community in more detail than had been given any other president-elect before or since. Recalling the session in 1993, Bush said "I felt that a President-elect should get a

formal briefing early on how intelligence works--what the assets are, what's available real time, methodology, sources and methods protection, etc." If Bush was the inspiration for the session, the bulk of the actual briefing was by Knoche, then Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, and Adm. Daniel Murphy, Director of the Intelligence Community Staff.

The two primary briefers discussed the priorities and budget of the Intelligence Community and the array of satellites and aircraft that comprised its technical intelligence reconnaissance program. There was considerable discussion of the CIA's management of its covert action programs. Knoche ensured that the Governor was aware of the procedures involved with authorizing such programs, including the Director's authorities, the role of the Operations Advisory Group and the oversight responsibilities of the Congress. He discussed CIA's clandestine intelligence collection efforts and showed the Governor examples of some of the technical collection gear used by CIA assets abroad. Knoche also spent some time discussing the Agency's unique contacts with foreign leaders and how CIA activities abroad are coordinated with the US ambassador in the country concerned.

The group reviewed the history of the CIA from the time of the Office of Strategic Services, emphasizing how intelligence priorities, programs, and resource levels had evolved through the decades of the 1950s and 1960s and until 1976. As a result of this extended discussion, Carter came to the presidency with a more detailed understanding of the capabilities and activities of the US Intelligence Community than any previous president had possessed at that early stage.

During the afternoon session there was also a discussion of selected substantive issues in which Carter had specifically indicated an interest. These included the politics of OPEC and the international petroleum situation. As in the preelection sessions, the Agency's Director of Current Intelligence provided an update on crisis areas: Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli situation, the Horn of Africa, Rhodesia, and Soviet-Polish tensions. The Governor was also provided an oral briefing and written information regarding Soviet views and statements on the incoming Carter administration, specifically related to the politics of arms control.^[112]

Throughout the day, Carter continued to be an active participant in the discussions; he and Mondale both had numerous comments and questions about the Soviet topics. They had received communications from Soviet General Secretary Brezhnev and Ambassador Dobrynin and were interested in discussing the meaning and implications of those messages. The President- and Vice President-elect repeatedly sought to clarify whether one dared rely on Soviet statements. Bush and Lehman, a long-time CIA Soviet expert, came away from the session pleased at the depth of Carter's interest in Soviet matters. They appreciated the perceptive questions he asked but also thought he had some decidedly naive and unrealistic ideas about the Soviet Union. Lehman recalled in 1993 that, while Carter clearly understood the issues in an abstract way, he "obviously had no comprehension of the Soviet system as it actually worked. Later, when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, it was as if the scales had dropped from his eyes."

Lehman at one point offered to have Agency specialists prepare a paper for Carter on the subject of how the Soviet system worked. Back in Washington, with the paper in preparation, Lehman was discouraged when Mondale adviser Aaron called "with glee" to report that the President-elect had declined to have the paper prepared after all. Unintentionally, perhaps, senior Agency officers had got themselves in the middle of some delicate maneuvering among Carter's advisers regarding who would have the new president's ear regarding how he should look at the Soviet Union and its leaders.

The last item of the day was to clarify with the Governor whether he wished to receive the PDB on a daily basis in Plains. Bush had extended President Ford's offer during their private session several

hours earlier, and Carter apparently had been pondering it throughout the afternoon briefings. When Lehman raised the question again before their departure, Carter accepted Ford's offer and said the sample copy that had been shown him looked useful. Lehman noted that, although Aaron objected--presumably because he would not be present--the decision was made to station a CIA officer in Plains to provide the PDB. This daily support began on 29 November.

Knoche, the most active player on the Agency's side, came away from the 19 November session predicting that "we will find a good customer and champion of intelligence during Carter's incumbency in the White House." Lehman recorded that "the general tone of the entire session was extremely friendly and as intense as the previous ones." For his part, the President-elect, during an unusual public session with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on 23 November: "President Ford has been very gracious to me in letting me meet with his key leaders.... I have had a complete briefing from the CIA which will be set up on a daily basis from now on."[\[113\]](#)

With Carter having clarified his intention to replace Bush as DCI during the 19 November meeting, the Director on 24 November publicly announced his resignation. To no one's surprise, the novelty of a newly elected president promptly replacing the CIA Director led the press to read the most ominous possible interpretation into the announcement. Evans and Novak, for example, opined that "the departure of George Bush from the CIA sooner than anybody expected...stems from the nature of his encounter with President-elect Carter during the transition." The journalist team wrote that "Bush's six-hour intelligence briefing of Carter at Plains on November 19 was called a 'disaster' by one Carter insider." They cited a "key Carterite" as telling them that "Jimmy just wasn't impressed with Bush."[\[114\]](#)

The Evans-Novak article appeared on a Saturday morning. By mid-afternoon, Jody Powell telephoned Bush to report that Carter had asked him to pass along his feeling that the article was all nonsense (in fact using a more graphic term to characterize the nonsense). Powell expressed Carter's very high regard for Bush and indicated the President-elect would be making a statement personally to set the record straight. At the same time, Aaron telephoned Knoche to pass along much the same message and to underscore that Carter was very high on CIA. Agency personnel were heartened on 29 November when Carter released a statement describing as "completely untrue" reports that he was displeased with the caliber of the briefings he had received from the outgoing CIA Director. Powell added on that date that Carter had found the briefings "professional, competent, and most helpful."[\[115\]](#)

In discussing the sessions during an interview in 1994, Ambassador Mondale recalled that Carter had been particularly fond of the briefings and focused on the material "with extraordinary intensity." He remembered with a smile that "a fellow named George Bush came down" to Plains to guide them through "stacks of maps and graphs and other data." Mondale observed that he and Carter found the sessions "extremely useful in helping to understand the realities of foreign events at the time."[\[116\]](#)

A final briefing session was held in Plains on 3 December, without the DCI and the large contingent of experts. Lehman recalls, "I traveled to Plains alone. It was pouring rain, there was a cordon of Secret Service at the Governor's home and he was in the house alone; no servants, no staff, nobody. For two and a half hours we roamed over a wide range of intelligence business and certain substantive issues." Two additional sessions were held on 9 and 10 December at Blair House in Washington, DC. Lehman was also the briefer at these sessions, which were abbreviated but included the usual mix of agenda items touching on intelligence operations and developments abroad. Bush stopped by the session on 9 December to give Carter a 20-minute update on a half-dozen sensitive operational developments and to inquire how the briefings were going. Carter expressed his

satisfaction with the support he was receiving, including in Plains. He good-naturedly refused to be drawn out on who would be appointed DCI.

Carter's Use of the President's Daily Brief

Immediately after the Thanksgiving holiday, the Agency began to send the PDB to Carter in Plains on a daily basis. This established another precedent in terms of the level of support provided a president-elect during the transition period. Each morning at 6:30, a copy of exactly the same document that was about to be shown President Ford was faxed to Plains by the White House Communications Agency. At the Georgia end, CIA had stationed a midlevel officer who was responsible for receiving the document and delivering it to Carter personally at 8:00.

The CIA officer who met with Carter was John Biddiscomb, an imagery specialist from the Directorate of Science and Technology. Biddiscomb was selected because he would be adept at answering any questions Carter had on the satellite photography that was sent to Plains along with the text of the daily current intelligence items. It was not thought that the Agency should station a more senior substantive expert in Plains, in part, because Carter's foreign affairs advisers were in Atlanta or Washington and were uneasy at the prospect that the daily sessions might turn into extended substantive discussions in which they were not involved.

Carter was a punctual and interested reader. He would arrive at his office each morning at 8:00 to meet Biddiscomb and would typically spend 30 to 45 minutes reading through the day's current intelligence. Biddiscomb recalls that Carter always extended a warm welcome and was appreciative of the material made available to him. He showed particular interest in items on the Soviet Union and international petroleum matters.^[117]

As the weeks went along, Carter was sent a considerable volume of supplementary material in addition to the PDB. This material included biographies of key world leaders, more detailed information on crises abroad, and the reactions of foreign governments to the new US administration. When Carter had finished reading the PDB or other material, he would initial it with a "JC." At the conclusion of each day's session, Biddiscomb would telephone Lehman at CIA with feedback on Carter's interests and to pass along any questions that the Governor may have had.

The Agency's continuous presence in Plains gave it an unusual degree of access to the President-elect. The ground rules in Plains were that only Biddiscomb and Carter's own appointments secretary had the authority to call him directly at any time. In fact, CIA did not exercise this prerogative of special access with the exception of one occasion on which Biddiscomb contacted Carter late one evening to pass along a message from Aaron in Washington. While Biddiscomb appreciated Carter's graciousness and the access he was granted, there was throughout the period a continuing formality to the early-morning sessions that did not really permit the establishment of a familiar relationship with the President-elect.

The occasional light moments that occurred arose typically when Carter's brother, Billy, would put in an appearance at the President-elect's office. On one occasion Billy inquired of his brother whether he had permission to ask the CIA to "take care of some of these reporters" who were becoming a bit oppressive. Ever cautious, the President-elect said "You'll have to ask Mr. Biddiscomb about that." Biddiscomb wisely replied that the Agency had its hands full dealing with reporters itself and probably could not be much help. In reality, Biddiscomb was relieved that the press contingent in Georgia showed very little interest in the CIA presence, once it had become clear that it was a routine

daily operation that would result in no announcements to the press. He had made no particular efforts to avoid the press, which in any case would have been impossible in the setting. Not infrequently, for example, he found himself in a local restaurant surrounded by reporters and Secret Service officers. On one occasion, the President-elect and his family were there as well.

When Lehman briefed Carter in Plains on 3 December and during his visit to Washington on 9 December, the first item on his agenda was to elicit Carter's reaction to the PDB and the supplementary material he had been receiving since Thanksgiving.^[118] Lehman's Memorandums for the Record make clear that Carter did not find the PDB satisfactory. The Governor was aware that no changes would be made until after his inauguration on 21 January, but he underscored that he would expect changes, once that date arrived. Carter stressed that he was "a voracious reader of the press" and would prefer a publication that contained only items not covered in the newspapers.

During their first discussion of the PDB format, Lehman left with Carter samples of PDBs that had been prepared for the last four presidents to illustrate some of the different options available. As a first step, Carter asked Lehman to experiment with the supplemental material, adding longer pieces with more background material. These were to include "insights into proposals that might be coming from other countries," for example those relating to Middle East peace negotiations. Carter also asked on that date for additional biographical material on foreign leaders. Lehman left with him a collection of biographies on key Chinese officials.

By the time Carter and Lehman met at Blair House on 10 December, it was obvious the President-elect was a little impatient that he would have to wait until January to receive the publications in the form that he preferred. A big part of the problem seemed to be that the PDB being prepared for the outgoing President appeared in a different format than the material prepared for the President-elect in the separate supplement. The Governor was reading both but was unhappy. Lehman's reaction was to direct that for the next few weeks CIA should print the supplement in the same format as the PDB and transmit both to Plains at the same time and as one package so that they would look alike to the Governor. Following the inauguration, the supplement could be dropped and all appropriate material published in the PDB in whatever format the Governor preferred.

On 10 December, Lehman also took the opportunity to introduce David Peterson, the CIA officer responsible for the production of the PDB. Lehman indicated that Peterson would deliver the PDB to Governor Carter the next time he came to Washington. In his Memorandum for the Record, Lehman, obviously mindful of the Agency's practice earlier in the Ford administration, noted that he hoped to develop a situation in which Peterson would be briefing the President every morning after the inauguration, adding that he had not yet suggested this to the Carter entourage. During their first meeting, Carter remarked to Peterson that he liked the PDB but would want to talk with him further about its contents at a later time, probably after the inauguration.^[119]

Carter seemed to enjoy and benefit from the substantive discussions held at Blair House during his visits to Washington in the transition period. In the presence of more senior Agency officers in Washington, he was considerably more expansive in his comments than he was during the daily current intelligence sessions in Plains. In these relatively informal and relaxed sessions, the President-elect was even able occasionally to find some humor in the intelligence he was provided, joking among other things about the positive statements Libyan President Qadhafi was making about the upcoming Democratic administration in Washington. Carter commented in 1993 that he remembered the Blair House sessions as being very useful to him--not only the briefings provided by CIA but also one given him by representatives of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The JCS briefers had met with Carter at Blair House to go over with him his responsibilities in the event of nuclear attack. Carter recalls taking particular pride in insisting that the Vice President-elect also receive this briefing in order to prepare for the eventuality that he might need to discharge those weighty responsibilities. To Carter's knowledge, Vice Presidents had not previously been briefed in such a way.

During the last of the Blair House sessions, Carter settled on a version of the PDB that he liked. The format he selected was notable primarily for the large amount of white space on the page--space in which he could write notes. On inauguration day, 20 January, Peterson met with Carter and presented him the first issue of the PDB printed in the new format.

With Bush having resigned effective 20 January, it fell to Acting DCI Knoche to meet with the new President and National Security Adviser Brzezinski the next day to brief them on a sensitive satellite collection capability that had not previously been discussed. On that occasion Carter affirmed to Knoche personally that he wanted him to act as DCI until a successor was confirmed (Sorensen by that time had withdrawn his name). Carter expressed his pride in CIA and indicated that Knoche had his full confidence. A bit more than two weeks later, on 5 February, Carter telephoned Knoche to inform him that Adm. Stansfield Turner would be nominated to be the next Director.

Carter used the occasion of the first meeting of the National Security Council on 22 January to underscore to all attendees the importance of the PDB, which he thought had "sharpened in focus in recent days." [120] Confirming again that he had been disappointed by earlier versions that he found wordy and "no different from The New York Times," he asked Knoche to ensure that the publication continued to be "sharp and focused, brief and clear as to what the intelligence is." Carter directed that Knoche should disseminate the PDB only to him, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Adviser, at the same time informing both Secretaries that their deputies would not receive it.

Brzezinski and Aaron had not been seeing the PDB during the transition period, so it fell to Peterson to talk with them following the inauguration to familiarize them with the publication and procedures for distributing it. Carter had obviously been discussing his preferences with Brzezinski, because the latter reiterated Carter's guidelines for the publication, underscoring that it should not repeat material available in the newspapers.

The new President quickly put into place a system for keeping himself informed of developments abroad on a day-to-day basis that was very similar to the process used by Ford. That is, he preferred to start each morning with a one-on-one meeting with his National Security Adviser. Carter later wrote in his memoirs, "The PDB Zbig brought to me each morning was a highly secret document, distributed to only five people...Zbig and I would discuss the report and other developments relating to defense and foreign affairs. Often, while he was still present, I would call the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense on a secure telephone to obtain additional information or get their opinions. They, too, were early risers, always at their desks by seven o'clock." [121]



The downside of this system from the CIA perspective was that the Agency's briefing officer was not present when the President read through the day's current intelligence. In discussing this set of procedures in 1993, Carter evinced awareness that the system he adopted had the effect of denying

CIA immediate feedback on his reactions and questions, but made clear he thought good management demanded that he work through the National Security Adviser. Carter remembered, "Zbig was enough day-to-day. I read the PDB and the Secretary of State's Morning Report. I wanted Brzezinski to draw to my attention things I needed to do something about. If (Secretary of Defense) Harold Brown could handle a matter and I didn't need to be aware of it that was fine."

In fact, the CIA received considerably more feedback from Carter than it had from Ford. Heartening evidence that this would be the case appeared within days of the inauguration, because the President frequently wrote comments on his copy of the PDB. But this practice was to create another minor problem.

Peterson would deliver the PDB to Brzezinski each morning, retrieve the previous day's edition, and note down any reactions Carter may have expressed to Brzezinski. On 31 January, Brzezinski informed Peterson that he would no longer be able to return to the Agency the President's copy of the PDB. [122] Brzezinski showed Peterson the issue for Saturday, 29 January, on which the President had written several action directives and questions addressed to Brzezinski and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. Brzezinski decreed that these presidential notations demanded that the original copies of the PDBs should be securely stored at the White House. CIA had no problem with this procedure because Brzezinski offered assurances that the Agency would be informed of the President's annotations whenever his comments related to the substance of the intelligence.

Peterson recalls that the President often wrote on the PDB and that the copies were shown to him as promised. Carter's notations usually were instructions to his senior policymakers. Such directives obviously were properly the property of the President, the National Security Council staff, and the Departments of State and Defense. For planning purposes, however, it proved very useful to the Agency to be informed of these directives in order that timely and relevant intelligence could be provided to the President.

In the months that followed, Carter initiated one other practice that was immensely valuable in keeping the CIA informed of his policy and intelligence interests and opened opportunities for the Intelligence Community to provide useful service to the new President. When Turner took up the post of DCI in mid-March, he began--at the President's invitation--a practice of personally providing Carter in-depth weekly briefings on a subject of particular interest. The Agency had not had such an opportunity since the period when DCI "Beedle" Smith regularly briefed President Harry Truman. The five intervening Presidents had been briefed in varying ways, sometimes frequently and in depth, but never in the systematic way that the Agency was able to establish with Carter.

In thinking back over the intelligence support he received, Carter in 1993 recalled that he valued Turner's briefings highly, even though they were later to slip from their regular weekly schedule. He noted that "From the daily material--the PDB--I selected the items I wanted discussed in more detail the next week by the DCI. I particularly remember the briefings I received on confessional and political groups in Lebanon, on a new imaging system, and on the South African nuclear program."

Carter began his presidency with a deep understanding of intelligence. He had received in-depth briefings on developments abroad and on the most sensitive operations of the US Intelligence Community. He had received daily current intelligence support--the PDB--during the transition period that continued once he was in office. Throughout his presidency he received weekly substantive briefings. In the course of four years, Carter was to enjoy great foreign policy successes, like the Camp David accords, and to suffer great disappointments, as with the Iranian seizure of US hostages. Throughout it all, he received an unprecedented level of detailed intelligence information.

- [97] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "Meeting with Governor Carter," 6 July 1976.
- [98] Jimmy Carter, interview by the author in Atlanta, Georgia, 23 June 1993. Unless otherwise indicated, subsequent quotations from Carter come from this interview.
- [99] Richard Lehman, interview by the author in McLean, Virginia, 10 March 1993. Unless otherwise indicated, subsequent comments are also from this interview.
- [100] Associated Press, 28 July 1976.
- [101] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "First Briefing of Governor Carter," 29 July 1976.
- [102] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "Conversation with Stuart Eizenstat," 3 August 1976.
- [103] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "Briefing of Governor Carter, 12 August 1976," 16 August 1976.
- [104] Wayne Wolfe, interview by the author in McLean, Virginia, 13 December 1993.
- [105] John Whitman, Memorandum for the Record, "Inquiry from Governor Carter on Korea," 20 August 1976.
- [106] John Whitman, Memorandum for the Record, "Briefing of Senator Dole," 24 August 1976.
- [107] John Whitman, Memorandum for the Record, "Conversation with Senator Mondale," 24 August 1976.
- [108] *The New York Times*, 7 October 1976, p. 36.
- [109] George Bush, Memorandum of Conversation, "President-Elect Jimmy Carter," 6 November 1976.
- [110] George Bush, Memorandum of Conversation, 22 November 1976.
- [111] George Bush, interview by the author in Kennebunkport, Maine, 6 May 1993.
- [112] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "Briefing of the President-elect," 19 November 1976.
- [113] Jimmy Carter, "President-elect Jimmy Carter's Views Concerning Foreign Policy," Briefing Before the Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, 23 November 1976.
- [114] Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, *The Washington Post*, 27 November 1976.
- [115] United Press International, 29 November 1976.
- [116] Walter Mondale, interview by the author in Tokyo, Japan, 15 April 1994.
- [117] John Biddiscomb, telephone interview by the author, 28 April 1993.
- [118] Richard Lehman, Memorandum for the Record, "Briefing of the President-elect," 13 December 1976.
- [119] David Peterson, interview by the author in McLean, Virginia, 4 March 1993.
- [120] Henry Knoche, Memorandum for the Record, "PDB," 24 January 1977.
- [121] Jimmy Carter, *Keeping Faith: Memoirs of a President* (New York: Bantam Books, 1982) p. 55.
- [122] David Peterson, Memorandum for the Record, "White House Copy of the PDB," 31 January 1977.

Art Bell July 06, 00.

Weller - access to process "Carter contacted" "spiritually attuned"
advanced protocols for scientific study 3-4 years

Daniel achieves Jan 21 came to power

- two sets of major studies Cashed by House SET ~~congress~~
obtain V.L. section about ET intelligence
as special consultant died

amazement was denied "never before" at National Headquarters

JPL - 34R SETI - as consultant "religious implications"

room new building - "completely stunned"

Smith selected chairman "space policy"

1)

2) "5-6% no other rational explanation" "coming from one
of the 2-6 civilizations"

May/Sept 77

- did not make it into public domain

- require citizen mobilization investigation

"they are not going to do this thing" gov't + the UFOs

Wells - people pushing Carter from outside "Richard Hoagland
after Carter

- Carter → Fletcher - start UFO investigation

Alfred W. ~~Wells~~ ~~Wells~~ confirmed ^{told} 79 - NASA been approached blocked.

26 November 1976

NOTE FOR: The Honorable Brent Scowcroft
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

FROM : George Bush

Brent,

This is Dick Lehman's report of the
substantive briefing of President-elect
Carter on 19 November.

(SEE FILE BELOW)

George Bush

Attachment
As stated

Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
✓ - DCI (w/att)

~~SECRET~~

20

(b)(3)

22 November 1976

(LORDMAN'S APPROVAL OF
DCI/CIA/NSA/SECURITY
IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of the President-Elect, 19 November 1976

1. The President-elect was briefed in Plains on 19 November from 1300 to approximately 1900. Also present were the Vice President-elect, Mr. Eizenstat and Mr. Aaron. The briefing team consisted of the DCI, the DDCI, Admiral Murphy, [REDACTED] and (L)(3) myself.
2. The DCI met privately with Governor Carter and Senator Mondale for about 45 minutes before the main briefing began. That briefing opened with Admiral Murphy on Community matters, in which he emphasized the CFI, the national intelligence budget, and the imagery satellite collection systems. Mr. Knoche then followed with a briefing on the Agency, emphasizing in his turn budget and personnel trends, OAG procedures and covert action, collection against hard targets, advanced technology in agent gear, and the new emphasis on multi-disciplinary analysis.

3. [REDACTED] (b)(1) (b)(3)

4. [REDACTED] (b)(1) (b)(3)

(b)(3)

SECRET

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

5. Following [REDACTED] briefing I gave a series of short briefings along the general lines we had prepared. I opened with the Polish situation, noting that Soviet intervention was quite unlikely, but that there was at least a possibility that such a circumstance might arise between now and Inauguration. I then moved to the Soviet topics, speaking first on the Soviet view of the Carter administration. I put particular stress on the fact that these statements were not just guesses but were based on highly sensitive materials. The statement of Soviet interest in SALT precipitated extended discussion. He then asked me whether I thought it would be in the US interest to accept the proposal he had made during the campaign. After some hesitation, I said I thought it would, providing that the verification problem could be solved. Governor Carter said he had put the same question to Jim Schlesinger, Schlesinger had thought for two minutes before replying, and had then given the same answer. Governor Carter then asked a question to the effect that: Would the Soviets seriously be willing to buy such a proposal?

6. This gave me an opportunity to move into my next topic, the debate now underway on Soviet objectives. Here I followed quite closely the full briefing that had been prepared and ended by noting that NIE 11-4 was underway and would be available for his administration. This section of the briefing was followed with intense interest and Governor Carter said that he would very much like to see the estimate.

7. In the course of this section of the discussion, Governor Carter noted that Dobrynin had sent him a message noting the similarity between his SALT proposals and Gromyko's, and asking for any comments the President-elect might have. He said that he had not responded directly but had included a reference in one of his press conferences as a signal to the Soviets of his interest. He asked that an analysis be made of Gromyko's statement and I undertook to have this done. Also in this discussion Governor Carter said that he had received a communication from Brezhnev to the effect that statements in the US press about the Soviet civil defense program were false. He asked me whether Brezhnev was lying. I replied with a description of our work on the Soviet program and our present state of knowledge. I observed in effect that Brezhnev's answer might be technically correct but was at the least disingenuous.

8. I then moved on to the briefings on Soviet strategic forces and on SALT compliance. I hit all the major points in the strategic programs briefing except the passage on the Backfire. As time was

running out, I foreshortened the strategic section a good deal. For the same reason, I limited the compliance briefing to a statement that the Soviets were in general compliance on dismantling. I showed him the graphic prepared on this, and noted that about May 1978 at their present pace the Soviets would have to begin scrapping Y-class submarines if the interim agreement were to be extended. I said no new compliance issues had arisen. Governor Carter asked whether the Soviets had ever lied to us in the SSC on compliance matters. I said that to my knowledge they had not, but that he probably should put the question to Dr. Kissinger because of his many private exchanges with the Soviets on these topics.

9. I then made the main points of the briefings on Sino-Soviet relations, Panama and Greece-Turkey. [REDACTED] closed with a short discussion of British economic problems.

10. Following the briefing I raised with Governor Carter the question of providing the PDB to him in Plains. He expressed his interest in accepting President Ford's offer and noted that the sample copy that had been shown him by the Director looked very useful to him. Overriding David Aaron's objections, he agreed to our stationing a briefing officer in Plains. I am to make arrangements for this with Gregg Schneiders.

11. The general tone of the entire session was extremely friendly and as intense as the previous ones. There were many questions, both from the President-elect and from the others present. There was no indication of a hostile attitude toward collection operations or toward covert action. Schneiders told me today that they, too, thought it had been a successful session.

[REDACTED]
Richard Lehman

Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

EXECUTIVE
FGB-2/A

March 15, 1977

Dear Mr. Director:

Respectfully referred for the files
of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Robert D. Linder
Chief Executive Clerk

Transmitting a copy of the following:

Ltr of resignation, 1/13/77, from George Bush, Director of Central Intelligence,
eff. 1/20/77; acc. 1/18/77, eff. 1/20/77.

(Sent to ^{Adm.} ~~Hon.~~ Stansfield Turner, U.S. Navy, Dir. of Central Intelligence,
Wash., D. C. 20505)

jrh

CHAPTER 2

A PROFILE OF OSTP

BACKGROUND

A science and technology advisory body has existed in one version or another within the Executive Office of the President since World War II. By Executive Order in 1973, President Richard Nixon abolished the one then current. In May 1976, the Congress passed the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act (Public Law 94-282), establishing the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Its Director is authorized to serve as scientific and technical advisor to the President on major policies, plans, programs, and organization of the Federal Government. The Director is charged additionally with establishing and heading an Intergovernmental Science, Engineering, and Technology Advisory Panel (ISETAP), whose purpose is to identify and define State, regional, and local problems that science and technology can help solve.

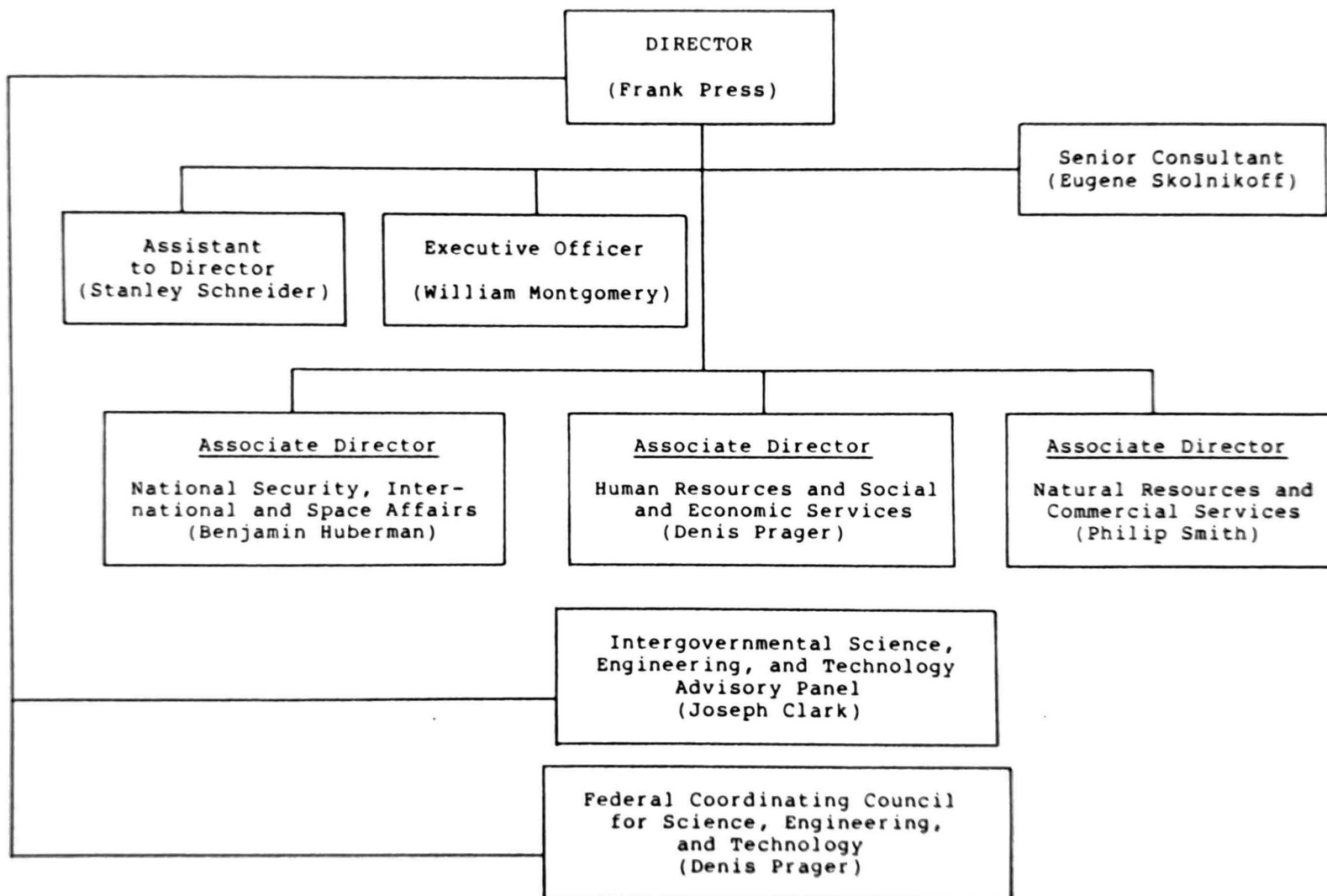
Title III of the act calls for a President's Committee on Science and Technology (PCST). Composed of qualified individuals from the industrial, scientific, and academic communities, PCST was charged with completing, within 2 years, a comprehensive survey of Federal science, engineering, and technology objectives, policies, programs, and organization. Reorganization Plan Number 1 of 1977, as implemented by Executive Order 12039, abolished PCST, transferring its reporting functions to OSTP while the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was delegated responsibility for issues of reorganization and Federal and State liaison. The Executive order required, further, that OSTP advise OMB in fulfilling its assignment. The congressionally approved reorganization plan and subsequent Executive order resulted in several other changes in the duties of OSTP and its Director.

Title IV of the act establishes a Federal Coordinating Council for Science, Engineering, and Technology (FCCSET), whose purpose is to recommend ways of effectively planning Federal scientific programs that involve more than one agency and, at the same time, to identify research areas that require additional emphasis.

ORGANIZATION

OSTP's professional staff number about fifteen, excluding individuals assigned primarily to ISETAP, and it has a budget of about \$3 million. Dr. Frank Press is the current

OSTP ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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Subject: [Disney?](#)

Date: 03/14/2000

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Does anyone remember seeing this show?

Start

Several years ago, the **Disney** company aired a major one-hour television Special, with no advance notice, on stations in only 5 US cities. Thanks to a few viewers who were able to roll their vcrs and capture it, we have a record of the startling quotes and statements it contained. In light of the current, purported 'rift' between **Disney** and NASA over the content of **Disney's** new film, "Mission To Mars", I thought it pertinent to revisit those quotes.

My thanks to my colleague Michael Lindemann of CNI News for his file containing the many arresting and downright shocking statements in that **Disney** special, which appears now, as it did then, to have been a definite probe to measure public reaction to news of the reality of visitation and interaction with various forms of non-human intelligent life. Remember, the quotes you are about to read were delivered by **Disney** CEO Michael Eisner and program narrator Robert Ulrich with straight, matter-of-fact, totally serious cadence and inflection.

All quotes were spoken by host/narrator Robert Ulrich unless otherwise noted.

INTRO sequence, over various **UFO** photos and film: "This is not swamp gas. It is not a flock of birds. This is an actual spacecraft from another world, piloted by alien intelligence, one sighting from tens of thousands made over the last fifty years on virtually every continent on the globe. Intelligent life from distant galaxies is now attempting to make open contact with the human race. And tonight, we'll show you the evidence."

Michael Eisner [standing in front of what looks like a military hangar, guarded by about a dozen heavily armed troops] "Tonight we celebrate the New Tomorrowland at Walt **Disney** World in Florida with a television special that's out of this world. Hello, I'm Michael Eisner, head of the Walt **Disney** Company. At a top secret military installation somewhere in the United States, there are those who believe that the government is hiding the remains of an alien spacecraft that mysteriously crashed to earth. With more and more scientific evidence of alien encounters and **UFO** sightings, the idea of creatures from another planet might not be as far-fetched as we once thought. In fact, one of you out there could have the next alien encounter. Enjoy tonight's special. I'm going to walk over and see if I can sneak a peak. (soldiers raise weapons) Maybe not!"

Ulrich, "Scientific verification of extraterrestrial life forms routinely arriving on earth -- top secret reports from ongoing military investigations -- compelling home videos of alien craft captured within the last few months -- world figures who have gone public with their own extraterrestrial experiences -- the shocking history of government misinformation programs designed to prevent widespread panic -- and personal accounts of those who have been abducted and studied against their will. "From beyond the boundaries of our perceptions, intelligent beings are beckoning mankind to join the galactic community. It's an invitation which is both wondrous and terrifying. This is the nature of

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alien encounters. "Now as we approach the new millennium, mankind is in the midst of the most profound event in history -- actual contact with intelligent life from other planets. For nearly years, officials have been documenting routine alien encounters here on earth, and thousands of people have seen or experienced this alien presence. Yet many others still refuse to acknowledge the obvious evidence all around them. What is it like to be confronted by a creature whose intelligence and skill is far beyond the comprehension of mankind? Would it be enlightening? Would it be an exercise in terror? Or perhaps both?

"At the Walt **Disney** World resort near Orlando, Florida, these concepts are brought to life as guests experience their own alien encounter, a sensory thriller from **Disney** and George Lukas. We'll give you a sneak preview later in the show. But first, we must prepare you for the future with some shocking insights from the recent past. "Alien ships seem to arrive in waves, and if the last few years are any indication, planet Earth is experiencing a tsunami of sightings... In the last few months of 1994 and lately in 1995, Gulf Breeze, Florida has been ground zero for alien encounters. Especially during the day, extraterrestrial craft have become common ornaments in the uneasy skies.... You would think these alien sightings would be front-page news. So why have they received almost no national attention? The answer is simple. For governments determined to maintain their authority, extraterrestrial contact is pure dynamite.

Kevin Randle: "There's beings from another planet. We don't know where they come from, we don't know what they're doing here. There's nothing we can do about it... Any time a technologically superior civilization comes in contact with a technologically inferior civilization, the technologically inferior civilization ceases to exist. Not necessarily through conquest, not necessarily through invasion, but because the technology changes the underlying social structures of that civilization, and it disintegrates."

Urich: "Those fears are reflected in a 1960 federally funded study by the Brookings Institution, which warned that public knowledge of alien life could cause civilization to collapse." "Why have aliens chosen to visit our small blue planet, hidden on the distant fringes of an insignificant star cluster? Well, we invited them here. "When we return: What is attracting alien visitors to planet earth -- Extraterrestrials take aim on America's military -- a crashed saucer becomes a top-secret bombshell -- the nation's capital becomes a cosmic cross-roads -- and later, how **Disney** imagineers have designed a way to prepare humans for their inevitable alien encounter." "There have been reports of alien encounters throughout recorded history, often buried in the obscure poetry of mystics. But since the end of World War II, alien encounters have adopted a darker, more menacing demeanor. No longer just spirited lights dancing in the sky, UFOs turned more brazen, announcing themselves with surprising ferocity." "Most alien activity on earth in this century seems to have been sparked by the single most profound technological achievement in human history. The atomic bomb did more than blow away every conventional notion of combat. It also saddled mankind with the awesome responsibility of life and death for the entire planet. But what the world didn't know in 1945 was that the atomic bomb's brilliant burst of energy would also be mankind's cosmic calling card, announcing to the universe that a technological society had evolved on a small blue planet in the backwaters of the stars... So as the world celebrated the war's end in 1945, aliens who heard man's atomic trumpet were already charting their course toward earth, responding to our open invitation.

"As early as 1947, the large alien ships began to arrive, navigated by living creatures. Their advanced physics allowed them to traverse the galaxy and pierce earth's atmosphere with amazing speed. The U.S. military immediately went on the alert against the unknown menace. Sightings were perceived as threats to the security still reeling from the edgy consciousness of war. And the sightings were taking place all across the country... "Occasionally the tables were turned. More than one alien craft crashed and was recovered for secret U.S. military research. The most famous case took place in July of 1947 just outside the community of Roswell, New Mexico -- famous, because local officials openly admitted they had retrieved an alien ship before their commanders instructed them to keep the story confidential. What you can't explain, they reasoned, you must deny. "This is the actual site where the Roswell saucer was discovered, along with the bodies of three extraterrestrial missionaries who didn't survive the collision. The debris and the dead were impounded and taken away for top secret study, while a classified investigative committee called the Majestic Twelve was organized by President Truman, and a government cover-up was initiated with a calculated disinformation campaign.... "But while the Pentagon refused to publicly admit aliens had arrived on earth, their top secret internal memos told a different story, even detailing the various ships and the creatures they had autopsied... "By the early 1960s, UFOs were having a chilling effect on our defense operations. Their tremendous speed often caused them to be misidentified as incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles, putting American air bases on red alert. There needed to be some way for the U.S. and

the Soviets to distinguish between nuclear attack and alien visitors.

[Newsreel footage about installation of Hot Line] Clifford Stone: "The Hot Line between Moscow and Washington was set up so that they could go ahead and make last-minute pleas, that 'We're not attacking you, and you're not attacking us.' The purpose of this was to insure that a nuclear war would not be touched off by a UFO appearing on the scopes and being mistaken for enemy aircraft."

Urich: "The Hot Line eased some international tensions, but it didn't halt the interreaction between the military and the aliens, which continues to this day."

Stone: "November of 1975, essentially every SAC base in the United States was visited by UFOs. We have reason to believe that the UFOs went ahead and had some effect on changing the codes within the missiles, within the launch control facility, to change where the missiles would hit. 1976, September, Iran, two F-4s try to intercept a UFO and shoot at one of the UFOs. The weapons systems of the planes go dead, the communications systems go dead. These are just two examples of cases that could like they came out of science fiction, but in reality, they're from government documentation, documents released by the State Department."

Urich: "Indications are that government, military and scientific leaders will soon release nearly a half-century of official documentation of ongoing alien encounters on earth. Perhaps they feel it would be too embarrassing NOT to reveal the truth, before the truth reveals itself. But these FBI files acquired through the Freedom of Information Act outline nearly fifty years of UFO reports investigated by federal agents all across America, overwhelming evidence that something sinister is at work."

"The fact is, everyone encounters alien lifeforms each day. We've just become accustomed to ignoring the evidence. We expect the first visitors from outer space to arrive in flying saucers. But there are new

scientific suggestions that the microbiotic organisms which routinely invade human bodies in the form of viral disease may have extraterrestrial connections. These minute alien life forms may very well be the advance invasion force, leading the way to test earth's environment for more complex and determined creatures....

"Life is plentiful in the universe, and eerily tenacious. Lately, scientists have found extraordinary numbers of unknown organisms which have gained a biological foothold where we once thought survival would be impossible. They grow in deadly ammonia gas. They are resistant to ultraviolet radiation. They thrive inside the radioactive cooling systems of nuclear power plants. And they can even survive the vacuum of space, re-animating themselves when air and water become available. Riding inside the stone cocoon of a meteor, life can travel virtually anywhere, and a good deal of it lands on planet earth. "But just as we explore the genetic package of alien life, visitors from space are routinely examining human specimens, abducting men, women and children in order to conduct disturbing biological experiments..."

[long sequence on abduction, clips of Budd Hopkins and numerous abductees.] "This particular report from October of 1969 was filled out by Jimmy Carter. He was still Governor of Georgia at the time he witnessed a luminous object suspended in the twilight sky. Later, when he assumed the office of President of the United States, his staff attempted to explore the availability of official investigations into alien contact. As this internal government memo illustrates, there are some security secrets outside the jurisdiction of the White House."

[picture focuses on a few words of a document suggesting info not available to certain officials, but not enough words are visible to determine exactly what is said.]

"Every year, NASA routinely propels about two dozen astronauts into a low earth orbit aboard the space shuttle, a loud, lumbering, somewhat primitive rocket ship. But most Americans will likely explore outer space aboard crafts of alien origin. Statistics indicate a greater probability that you will experience extraterrestrial contact in the next five years than the chances that you will win a state lottery. But how do you prepare for such an extraordinary event? "Here in the New Tomorrowland at Disney World, scientists and Disney engineers have brought to life a possible scenario that helps acclimate the public to their inevitable alien encounter. "Welcome to the new Tomorrowland Convention Center in the Magic Kingdom, where humans can enjoy their first taste of the future, as well as advanced extraterrestrial technology, and begin to understand the disturbing facets of alien intelligence..."

[conclusion] "Planet earth has always been a laboratory for alien life forms which can drop in

from space or slowly mutate into bizarre fleshy organisms at our feet. [holding a large mushroom] Understanding the nature of these strange creatures from above, and below, is the greatest challenge of our age. We now know that our future, indeed the future of earth itself, rests in the balance of the solid and the ethereal, of common sense and the irrational, in our relationship with alien life as grotesque as a fungus, or as glorious as the heavens."

End

"The absence of evidence ~Is Not~ evidence of absence"

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was not alone. Coleman, who was head of the Air Force's Project Blue Book in the early 1960s, said he actually had seen several UFOs at different times, but all except one was eventually explained as having been a natural phenomenon.

The unexplained UFO was sighted in 1954, when Coleman was flying an attack bomber to an air base in Mississippi. He saw a disk-shaped object in the sky, about 60 feet in diameter, and his entire crew saw it, too. It remained in sight for about eleven minutes while Coleman gave chase to it, flying up to 20,000 feet and down to near the treetops. When Coleman thought he was right on top of the UFO, it disappeared.

Later, when Coleman headed Project Blue Book, he looked for his report of that UFO encounter in the files, but it was not there. Air Force personnel could not explain what happened to the report.

What most baffles UFOlogists, and skeptics too, are the waves of sightings that have occurred in this country and across Europe in the last three decades. The American UFO wave extended from 1947 through 1952, starting just two years after the first atomic bombs exploded at testing grounds in New Mexico and over Japan at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Were these visitors from outer space who were watching us or trying to warn us not to blow our planet apart?

Some of farfetched imagination believe that Adolf Hitler and some of his top lieutenants in the Third Reich of Nazi Germany escaped by submarine with thousands of elite troops in the closing days of World War II. Hitler supposedly had scientists building flying saucers to help him and his best men escape to safety, so they could one day return and win the war.

Actually, some experimental flying machines were built by Nazi inventors, supposedly to be used as "secret weapons" against the Allies. American GIs who saw them after the war called them "Kraut Meteors." They were never used in the war because Hitler apparently did not have the necessary materials to build them.

America's Supreme Commander in the Pacific during World War II, General Douglas MacArthur, was fascinated by the UFO phenomenon. As more UFOs were reported sighted in the closing days of the war, MacArthur is said to have wondered if the UFOs were actually hostile invaders from outer space.

At a private meeting of military officers and scientists in New York in 1958, MacArthur said he was certain that an extraterrestrial military force was flying over our planet, observing it prior to undertaking a massive invasion from outer space. He urged that America build spaceships to combat the invasion.

While space invaders seemed farfetched in 1958, the military and government officials have stepped up America's defense program in regard to rockets and space travel and communications. The potential enemy is generally regarded as being not outer space invaders but Russia, locked with the United States in a race for supremacy in rockets and outer space technology.

Russia, however, has had its own waves of UFO sightings, most notably in the late 1950s, a few years after the UFO waves across America and Europe. An episode typical of reports of UFOs over Russia and other Communist countries such as Poland and Hungary occurred near Moscow in 1958. Many witnesses told of seeing a strange object in the shape of a disk flying swiftly across the sky. It touched ground, spun in a spiral motion, and lifted upward again, turned over, sped behind a forest, and disappeared.

Was the disk over Moscow one of Russia's "secret weapons" to be used in a future nuclear global war? UFOlogists doubt it. Neither Russia nor America can be building and testing "secret weapon" UFOs because it would be impossible to keep such projects secret for so many years. While it is presumed that governments do keep some military or space secrets from the rest of the world, it is doubtful they have any craft of the magnitude viewers have described as UFOs.

One of the most "classic" and hard to dismiss encounters of the first kind occurred on the night of July 24, 1948. Flying an Eastern

and gets used to the idea of living in outer space, the better off the present and future generations will be, if or when earthlings have to relocate. Factually speaking, human beings already are living on a space ship—Planet Earth—and have been for milleniums. We seldom think of our planet that way, however, primarily because it is such a large and comfortable “spaceship.”

Are we alone in space, or are UFOs visiting us to let us know there is other life in outer space that we might go to in the future? The Air Force’s Project Blue Book failed to explain the “Unidentified” flying objects in our skies, which UFOlogists believe could be the first real step toward learning whether there is other intelligent life in our solar system or beyond it. Now is the time, they urge, to let the scientists look into the UFO phenomenon. Maybe *they* can find the answers.

7

SKYQUAKES, BOOMS, BEEPS, AND OTHER SPACE NOISES

Unidentified Flying Objects sighted in the skies as far back as the last century have made rattling, chugging, or clanking sounds, or they have putt-putted like an old Model-T Ford on a country road.

Since World War II, however, few people have reported hearing these rather commonplace sounds when they spotted a UFO. Since 1947, UFOs sighted have, for the most part, made more highly sophisticated sounds, such as beep-beeps and other space age noises from modern computers. Some have emitted rocketlike roars, while others have created blasts. Some whine or give off almost ear-splitting high-pitched sounds that drive humans and animals nearly wild.

In 1977 new sounds were reported in the skies that have baffled us. “Mystery blasts” have been heard high in the skies over various parts of the country which seismic instruments indicate are equal to 100 tons of dynamite being detonated.

Called “skyquakes,” the blasts or booms have been heard primarily off the east coast of North America, especially over New Jersey, South Carolina, and southern Nova Scotia. People living in those areas report dishes shaking off shelves, windows rattling violently, and other disturbances.

Many people who have reported seeing UFOs also have

claimed they heard an accompanying loud blast or rumbling noise in the sky. Some call them "thunderous explosions."

Rumbling, thundering noises accompanying UFOs are not really new. Explosions or other loud noises in the sky without any apparent natural cause have been reported for many years. The earliest such aerial mystery blast that researchers have found so far dates back to 1822, on the island of Meleda in the Adriatic Sea.

In 1896, a Burton, Michigan, resident named Daniel Gray reported that he heard a loud "chugging" sound up in the sky just after a Canadian newspaper mysteriously fell out of the sky and landed at his feet. This was before the invention of the airplane, and no balloons were in the air at the time, so the newspaper's fall from the sky was a considerable mystery, which it remains.

The skyquakes have not caused any harm to people or property, but they have bewildered and even frightened many.

Sailors working on ships out in the North Atlantic over the past few hundred years have reported hearing loud booming noises in the skies. Booms also have been heard for years near Seneca Lake, New York, and are called the "Seneca Guns." No satisfactory explanation has ever been made for the boom noises over the Atlantic or Seneca Lake.

Some UFOlogists believe that the skyquakes are another calling card of UFOs. UFOs have been seen in various shapes and sizes, and they have reportedly dropped many commonplace things from the skies. So it is only natural that they also would have a variety of sounds as they appear, travel the skies, and disappear. Firm believers in UFOs assume that skyquakes are just the loudest of the audible calling cards which UFOs leave us.

Some researchers who attribute skyquakes to UFOs say they are caused by the sudden disappearance of the spacecraft, in a sort of air compression between materialization and dematerialization. For example, if a UFO suddenly appeared in our atmosphere, it would have to take up some space. It would push away some air in our atmosphere that would be equal to its own mass.

This displacement of air mass would naturally cause some

sound. And when a UFO vanishes or dematerializes, the air around it would naturally rush back into the space the UFO had occupied, causing an implosion. Some UFOlogists believe that skyquakes, therefore, are explosions and implosions caused by UFOs.

Another theory is that the blasts come from beams of light that surround or come from UFOs. Researchers have reported evidence of burns at UFO sightings. These have been seen both on the ground and sometimes on the skin or clothing of UFO witnesses. The burns may have come from ultraviolet and infrared light associated with UFOs. This light can, it is believed, make noise.

At some UFO sightings, witnesses have reported hearing a buzzing noise, such as a swarm of bees might make. They also have heard crackling noises. Some people claim they hear buzzing bees or crackling noises when they stand close to searchlight beams.

A French scientist has invented a death ray that is activated by infrasonic sound. It can kill anything living within five miles of it. Its sound is inaudible, but it can destroy everything from grass to people.

These various reports and theories about sound and light lead some UFOlogists to suspect that the mysterious skyquakes are associated with the comings and goings of UFOs. "UFO sounds," including skyquakes, may be the natural result of energy transitions caused by UFOs. Electromagnetic energy can create sound waves. Perhaps UFOs materialize or are transmitted by electromagnetic energy that creates sonic shocks.

After many reports of skyquakes in 1977, during which many people on the east coast reported violent rattling from the sky explosions, **President Carter ordered the Navy to study the mystery. It had** earlier been concluded that government agencies were not conducting any classified experiments that could have caused the sky explosions.

The Naval Research Institute investigated 183 "ground-

shaking booms" heard in the skies along the east coast during 1977. On March 3, 1978, it reported that the blasts were caused by military flights whose sonic booms then travel inland, due to unusually cold weather the east coast had been experiencing. Investigators said that the skyquakes had been caused by military jets flying as far as 200 miles out to sea off the east coast. The jets' sonic booms reportedly were bouncing off abnormally warm air masses and crashing into the ground hundreds of miles away.

Prior to the skyquake investigation, the Navy held the opinion that sonic booms occur only below supersonic aircraft. For this and other reasons, the Navy's explanation for skyquakes is not universally accepted. It is especially puzzling to UFOlogists since, while there has been no proof of a connection between the skyquakes and UFO activity, some people have reported seeing light flashes at the same time they heard the sky blasts. In some cases, the skyquakes were accompanied by brilliant white or red flashes in the sky. One possible natural theory for the skyquakes is that they represent exhalations of natural gas which are suddenly released and then explode.

As for the sky explosions over Nova Scotia, the Navy reported that the blasts were caused by the Concorde supersonic transport jet on flights between New York and Washington, D.C., and France and England.

Scientists have reached some agreement that the skyquakes could have been caused by the Concorde jet, especially over Nova Scotia. Correlations were found between the time that shock waves left the Concorde in England or France and the time it should have hit Nova Scotia.

They explain some of the New Jersey and South Carolina booms by describing another kind of boom they call a "hyper-boom." That is a boom created when the Concorde accelerates faster than the speed of sound and continues traveling at the same speed. Since the jet is climbing at the same time, a shock wave it creates is transmitted even higher, into the thermosphere 100

miles above the earth. This causes a "focused boom" to hit earth thousands of miles away.

A skyquake heard in South Carolina might actually be caused by the Concorde jet as it accelerates off the coast of England. Furthermore, the blast could be heard on the east coast more than an hour before the plane itself lands in New York. Researchers also point out that people in Florida reported hearing mysterious sky blasts several years ago, and they coincided with an Apollo space launching.

While these explanations sound logical, other scientists and UFOlogists argue that it is too easy to blame skyquakes and other sky noises on the new supersonic transport plane or jets creating deflected sonic booms. In July 1978, the United States exempted the Concorde from noise regulations applying to other jet aircraft, but said it must limit its operations in U.S. airspace to ease its noise impact. In the future the Concorde will be restricted in the times of day and the speed at which it can fly over or near the United States. UFOlogists connecting skyquakes with UFOs hope that these restrictions on the Concorde will help to clear up the mystery of skyquakes.

At the same time UFOlogists became concerned with skyquakes, unexplained radio signals were picked up from 12 stars. They were reported by a team of astronomers searching for intelligent messages from space. While the scientists themselves did not associate the radio signals with skyquakes, UFOlogists have found the sounds from space to be of equal interest.

For four years Patrick Palmer, professor of astronomy and physics at the University of Chicago, and his colleague, Benjamin Zuckerman of the University of Maryland, scanned the skies with a powerful radio telescope 300 feet in diameter at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Green Bank, West Virginia. Their project, called Ozma II, is the most ambitious of its kind in the search for extraterrestrial life. Over the years, they have

David S. Broder

The Presidential 'Power Gap'

We have had "gaps" aplenty in our contemporary history. Missile gaps, generation gaps, and even an advertising campaign to make us worry about "gaposis."

At the risk of adding to what you might call the "gap glut," it seems timely to note the significance of the difference tall right, the gap between the presumed power of the American President and his real ability to direct the course of events. Expectation exceeds reality by a factor of 3 or 4 to 1, creating unearned benefits for the holder of that office—and undesired problems, as well.

What brought this to mind was a set of developments on three different fronts with a common message for President-watchers about the inherent limitations of that office. From Capitol Hill to Cairo to Salisbury, the tom-toms are telling us to think again about the mass media magnification of the powers of the presidency.

One cannot say that Jimmy Carter has been a bystander in the 1977 battle over energy policy or the search for peace in the Middle East or the struggle for nonviolent transition to majority rule in Rhodesia. Those issues have en-

gaged as much of the President's energy and intellect as any on his agenda.

And yet, as the past two weeks have shown, when critical action-points were reached in all three areas, Jimmy Carter was not much more than a spectator. His contribution to the dialogue of decision-making was confined to expressions of good will and good luck.

"If that's what you fellows want to do," he found himself saying to Anwar Sadat, to Ian Smith and to assorted energy-confererees, "then more power to you." Sitting up in the fog at Camp David, he had about as much control over those games as any of us did over the holiday football games we were watching on our television screens.

The notion of the President as spectator, not prime mover, is so foreign to our thinking that the inclination is to reject it as outlandish. Despite Vietnam, despite Watergate, despite the warnings about the "imperial presidency," something deep in the American soul finds psychological reassurance in the thought that the man in the White House has such power that if he but chooses wise policies and able associates, he has the capacity to make things come out right.

It is the durable character of that myth that causes such problems for the all-too-mortal men who in fact inhabit the White House. Sometimes they swallow the intoxicating myth straight, as Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon did, throw out their chests and intone, "I am the President of the United States, I am the Commander in Chief, I am the leader of the Free World." When opponents and critics fail to fall prostrate at their feet, they react in strange—or dangerous—ways.

Other times, as with Jerry Ford and Jimmy Carter, they make a point of downplaying the majesty of their office and find themselves criticized for allegedly failing to meet their leadership responsibilities.

What is lacking in both the self-aggrandizing and the self-consciously modest approaches to the presidency is a public understanding that it is, in fact, but one of many power centers. And, at least in this period of history, the presidency is not the greatest of these.

In Washington, the President is challenged and sometimes overshadowed by an aggressive, assertive Congress—few of whose members feel they owe

him any political favors and all of whom have their own constituencies, commitments and careers uppermost in their minds. Carter had enough leverage to put the energy bill on Congress's agenda and keep it there; but he does not have the power to dictate its substance.

Having invested so much of his own prestige in the passage of an energy bill this year, he now finds himself in a situation where he must sign just about any energy bill Congress sends him.

In the Middle East and Rhodesia, Carter has gone further than any previous President in publicly suggesting the terms of an overall settlement. But local leaders have slipped out of his enveloping embrace and taken the initiative away from Washington.

The Carter administration can well claim that its efforts helped produce the climate in which Smith and Sadat are doing their work. That is the case.

But it's also the case that the leaders of two of the world's shakier regimes—Egypt and Rhodesia—had no difficulty wrestling that initiative from the hands of the American President.

That is a measure of the reality of presidential power today.

William Raspberry

What, Really, Is 'Court'

"People are so concerned about pornographic material in the stores," a postman in my neighborhood told me the other evening. "Well, they should pay more attention to what I bring into their homes every day."

He wasn't talking about the plain-wrapper stuff, either. "I deliver hundreds of pieces of mail, from department stores and so on, with advertisements for ladies' underclothing, and believe me, if you look at some of those pictures they're not that much different from some of the pornography people are complaining about."

I hadn't noticed it before, but he's right. Except for background and facial expression of the models, it's difficult to distinguish between the advertising circulars and, at least, soft-core pornography.

No, I'm not proposing that the Hecht Company, say, be enjoined from advertising negligees through the mails, although my postman might think that a fine idea. I mean only to suggest the difficulty of trying to arrive at a satisfactory definition of obscenity, or to determine who should do the defining.

To judge from the nonreaction to department-store ads, for instance, the Washington postman may be one of only a handful of local citizens who find the ads objectionable. Who's to know? A jury?

What jury? It certainly is not inconceivable that somewhere in America is a community capable of putting together a jury that would find the Sears catalogue obscene. If that happened, so muddled is our obscenity law, some Sears officials could wind up going to jail.

That, essentially, is what happened to Larry Flynt, the born-again publisher of Hustler magazine. Hustler is not the Sears catalogue, of course, but what led to Flynt's conviction was the fact that a Cincinnati jury found his publication obscene.

The magazine had no particular connection with Cincinnati, other than the fact that it was sold there. It was pub-

court has standards guide. It children "commu-

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The prosecu their w could ad lution.

Meg Greenfield

Our Ugly-Arab Complex

Starting with his extraordinary televised three-day visit to Israel, Anwar Sadat has transformed more than the political landscape of the Middle East. He has surely also transformed, or at least substantially altered, the American perception of the Arab and his cause. Unlike the set pieces to which we have become accustomed—the oil-rich sheik, the terrorist, the ululating crowd—Sadat was neither alarming nor strange. He was politically plausible and humanly familiar.

That any of this should have come as a revelation to anyone is a comment on two things. One is our own cultural insularity. The other is the general willingness of Arab leaders to let their purposes be defined



Many people find the "mystery," full of illogic and errors that they are unaware of, to be of a higher interest than the correct answer, of the detective work necessary to track it down. Those people who revel in the uncritical claims of pseudoscience, of the "paranormal," might properly be called the "pseudocurious" or the "paracurious." They claim to want the truth, but they really don't want it. They watch Alan Landsburg's "In Search Of" television program and believe that, because *TV Guide* and Leonard Nimoy say so, that it is a documentary. They read the tomes of Berlitz, Winer, Spencer, Jeffrey, Godwin, and Sanderson and boggle their minds, as they say. Yet all these books are chock full of examples such as the *Sandra*, confirming the complaints of the College Entrance Examination Board. Careful writing, at least in the area of the pro-paranormal, has gone out of style, and the readers are less critical. The readers claim to be seeking illumination but are, in fact, only seeking light entertainment. There will always be plenty of Barnum, Bailey, and Berlitz writers and publishers around to satiate their hunger and further erode their logic.

Pseudoscience at Science Digest

James E. Oberg and Robert Sheaffer

One popular publication recently went to press telling its readers that the Apollo 11 astronauts were followed to the moon by "a mass of intelligent energy." In the same piece it was also claimed that "telepathic contact with UFOs occurred at the Pentagon as long ago as 1959." The very next issue sported a doctored NASA photograph, with an arrow pointing to "an unidentified object" that does not appear on original NASA prints.

Is this publication *The National Enquirer*, or some other sizzling sensationalist tabloid? Guess again! It was none other than *Science Digest*, which was until recently one of the most reliable sources of science information for the layman. The wilder UFO-clubs, unscrupulous UFO authors, and many tabloid publications have long relied on such fare. But it is totally unexpected to find a respected magazine such as *Science Digest* exploiting such sensationalist material.

James Mullaney, author of the UFO story in the July *Science Digest*, suggests that "UFOs are teaching devices leading mankind into the future." His claim that UFOs were contacted "telepathically" at the Pentagon has been widely reported in UFO circles, despite the fact that no one has ever produced any documentation whatsoever to support this claim. UFO subcommittee investigations using the Freedom of Information Act and other sources suggest the "telepathic UFO contact" story to be utterly without foundation. However, neither Mullaney nor the editors of *Science Digest* seem to have made any attempt whatsoever to verify this startling assertion.

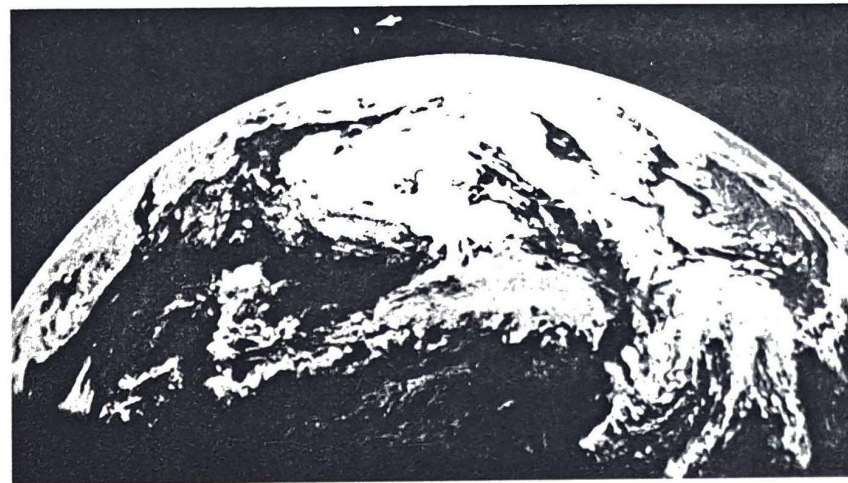
Mullaney repeats the *U.S. News & World Report* guffaw of April 18, 1977, which promises that the government—or perhaps the President himself—will release "unsettling disclosures" from the CIA files about UFOs before the year is out. This piece is generally regarded as having been triggered by Jody Powell's uninformed pledge to declassify all of the

Air Force's files on UFOs: an action that had already been taken by the Ford administration. *U.S. News*—and now *Science Digest*—have blown up the incident almost beyond recognition.

James Mullaney also uses the pages of *Science Digest* to regurgitate the squalid results of one of the most infamous space hoaxes of the decade. A Japanese UFO editor named Matsumura published a series of NASA photos in his magazine in 1974, after which Robert Barry (a far-out buff whose "Twentieth Century UFO Bureau" is intimately associated with fundamentalist preacher Carl McIntyre's organization) passed the photos to an editor of the tabloid weekly *Modern People* in 1975. They created such a sensation that they were reprinted in a special magazine *People UFO*, edited by Tony Richards, which is still being sold. (NASA is "hiding" UFO photos, claims the ad.) Some of these photos even have graduated to the hardcover UFO market. But the former NASA photos have suffered airbrushing, cropping, and "contrast enhancement" whose result is to produce counterfeit UFOs out of reflections, glares, and other ordinary spaceflight visual effects. It is to one of these Japanese forgeries that Mullaney is alluding when he claims that the Apollo 11 crewmen were followed by "a mass of intelligent energy." The assertion that the astronauts remarked on such an apparition over the radio is an out-and-out fantasy.

The August *Science Digest* contains a piece by longtime UFO buff Don Berliner, charging the Air Force with "censorship" and "coverup" of UFO data, even though all of the Air Force's UFO files have been declassified and made easily available to the public at the National Archives in Washington. How does this constitute a "coverup"? Most of the names of the UFO witnesses have been removed from the records, as required by federal law in the recently-passed Privacy Act. (Prior to the passage of this act, Berliner and many others were granted free access to the files and the names at the Air Force Archives at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.) Yet Berliner—and *Science Digest*—sneer that this is only "the official explanation," and hint at motivations far more sinister. The August issue also contains a story on how satellites can be used to track ships which might otherwise vanish in the dreaded Bermuda Triangle, and it contains a notice of the publication of a new science book: *What Your Aura Tells Me*, by alleged psychic and UFO contactee Ray Stanford.

The single photo used with the Berliner article allegedly shows an "unidentified object," which supposedly was photographed by the Apollo 11 astronauts. The original photo, before the artist got to it, does indeed



The northern hemisphere, showing the U.S. north of Cape Hatteras to San Diego; all of Canada, Greenland, Iceland, and the North Pole. Photographed from Apollo 11. Arrow points toward an unidentified object.

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Photo as published in *Science Digest*.



Original NASA photograph, with insulation fragment at right.

show an odd-shaped object which the astronauts photographed while they were taking tourist photos of the earth, soon after they had separated from their S4B rocket. The obvious fragment of torn insulation is one of hundreds which can be seen on a typical space mission.

But in the photo published in *Science Digest*, the insulation fragment was airbrushed out. Instead, a nondescript white blob appears near the center of the photo, labeled as an "unidentified object." *This object does not appear on the original NASA photograph* (see photos on page 43). Where could it have come from?

Science Digest's chief editor, Daniel Button, vehemently insists that he did not add the spurious "unidentified object" to the photograph, although he admits retouching out the insulation fragment, so as to not distract the reader from the supposedly "true" unidentified. The "mystery object" was on the photograph when he obtained it from NASA headquarters in Washington, Button says. Then why do all other copies of the NASA print, except the one at *Science Digest*, show nothing at all where Button's UFO is supposed to be? Mr. Button has an explanation: because *Science Digest* has requested the photograph, NASA has begun to "retouch" the photo so that the object no longer appears! "My suspicion is right now that NASA has changed its policy and changed its story and altered its negatives and prints," he stated. If Mr. Button is correct, NASA's massive retouching effort must have been phenomenally effective, affecting even the first transparencies made from the flight films at the photo archives of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, which one of us (JEO) has examined and found not to contain Button's UFO. NASA's chief photo archivist in Houston, Richard Underwood, has stated to us in writing that he developed the original negative himself, and that it never has contained any such object. Indeed, NASA's censorship must even extend backwards in time, altering prints which had left their office long before they were panicked by the enquiries of *Science Digest*.

While the editors of *Science Digest* are trying to pooh-pooh the significance of this UFO misinformation, their blunders have been enshrined for all time in the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature*, to lay in wait as a snare for future researchers. Perhaps the circulation crunch, which has seen four editors in the past four years desperately trying new promotional gimmicks to keep this Hearst Corporation magazine in the black, has dulled the editors' sense of journalistic responsibility. •

Do Fairies Exist?

Robert Sheaffer

Do fairies exist? At first the question seems too absurd to ask. Of course not! So deeply-ingrained is our cultural prejudice against fairies that we use the phrase "fairy tale" to refer to a story we deem to be totally unworthy of belief.

But should this be so? After all, in recent years many persons carrying the highest academic and professional credentials have publicly stated their belief in the reality of such mysterious alleged phenomena as UFOs, ESP, and metaphysical spoon-bending. Are fairies any more absurd than these?

If you say "Yes!" it is probably only because you, like so many others, are unaware of the large body of reliable eyewitness testimony, from our own *Twentieth Century*, of persons who report seeing creatures, often complete with wings, Pan's pipes, and ruffled Elizabethan collars cavorting among the flowers. We even possess *actual photographs* of tiny winged-creatures, dressed in flowing robes, dancing in the forest, and gathering hare-bells. These photos have been subjected to the most careful expert scrutiny and have been pronounced to be authentic. *The evidence for fairies is of the very same kind* as that which has persuaded so many sober and learned persons of the reality of UFOs and similar phenomena. Hence we scientific UFO researchers must take reports of fairy sightings very seriously, indeed.

Like sightings of UFOs, fairy sightings appear to occur in waves. Many waves have peaked in bygone centuries, when no accurate records of sightings were kept, and hence little further investigation is possible. But many people seem unaware that a major "flap" of fairy sightings occurred as recently as 1917-1921. Fortunately for present-day researchers, these sightings were painstakingly researched and documented by a learned man of the highest caliber: none other than the celebrated Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

the catastrophe she has foreseen. Her phone calls, letters, and morose murmurings to friends led her nowhere and probably never reached Kennedy, although one of his aides is known to have tried to stop him from going to Dallas on that November day.

Just as we found with British prime ministers, so too with American presidents: the UFO mystery has become a decided thorn in their sides.

Gerald Ford, before he ascended to high office and while he was in the Senate, determined to force the issue in 1966 after a wave of sightings in Michigan. Hundreds of people had observed weird, dancing lights, and there was quite a furor. Matters were scarcely helped when a governmental adviser announced (at a hastily arranged press conference) that the lights were probably due to "swamp gas." The media had a field day! The chances are that this explanation probably was valid in certain cases, but it was never seriously proffered as a general conclusion. Not that the local people cared about that. They were after blood, and Ford championed their cause. He did eventually force a commission, at which astronomer and media star Carl Sagan sat in deliberation and suggested a funded research project manned by several universities. In the end one university took on the job and concluded that UFOs were bunk, despite having failed to find answers for one in three of the selected cases studied.

Officially Gerald Ford seems to have been satisfied. At least, when he became president there was not a peep out of him about flying saucers. But another politician was finding time to take an interest, in between peanuts. Jimmy Carter had just seen a UFO. In fact, the flickering light that so baffled the former naval officer was almost certainly just an astronomical body twinkling through the earth's atmosphere, but it was strange enough to send him off on a mini-crusade about the reality of the phenomenon. He echoed Ford's by then forgotten words and told the American people that they had a right to know the truth about this great

after copies are finished
Jenny Very interesting -
indeed, especially in light of
concern President Eisenhower
W. W. Brown, the man
upon in power.

Ford

Carter

mystery. Indeed, he made it a focal point of his campaign when he entered the race for president in 1976.

Carter won the election, and you may be wondering what happened to his pledge. Political promises are not always kept, of course, but in fact Carter did keep this one—up to a point. That is, he asked NASA to launch an inquiry into the phenomenon. I have a copy of a letter (leaked to me by a serving American Air Force officer) that shows NASA reacting internally. A USAF colonel was advising them in September 1977 that he sincerely hoped NASA would refuse Carter's request. A few weeks later they did just that—risking potential repercussions on the already tightly squeezed space budget. It seems to me that you do not refuse a request direct from the president to use money he is offering to conduct a research project. Especially when that request concerns an election pledge and is from a president who believes he has seen a UFO himself. At least not unless some other factor intervenes.

I understand that that other factor was a private briefing Carter was given by intelligence staff. This supposedly introduced him to the political dynamite of the UFO phenomenon. The source of this information, a White House aide, says that Carter had to be stopped from pushing for public access to information. So it was explained (and proved) to him that UFOs were alien craft piloted here by a race who more or less control the planet. They had been responsible for our cultural, religious, and scientific progress. They called the shots for the future. We were mere pawns in their decision making. Even U.S. presidents were just puppets. How true this all is I do not know, but Carter also stopped talking about UFOs. When NASA said no, he accepted their refusal and quietly dropped the whole matter.

Just what was Jimmy Carter shown to make him change his mind so dramatically? Perhaps it was the same thing that two decades earlier another president, Dwight Eisenhower, is said to have confronted.

The Eisenhower tale is a legend in UFO circles but has some evidence in its favor. A week after return-

ing from holiday in February 1940, Eisenhower suddenly disappeared on another one, to Palm Springs, California, which just happens to be a couple of hours drive from Muroc Air Force Base (now the Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base). This was long reputed to house the remains of a crashed UFO captured in 1947, along with several of the dead aliens! The stories about this are surprisingly consistent. Then for several hours on February 20 Eisenhower was missing from his Palm Springs trip. The press, which had been following his every movement, realized the importance of this, and all kinds of rumors flew around, including one that suggested he had died! Later an impromptu press conference was called in which a pretty weak tale about emergency dental treatment was offered. However, the family of the dentist allegedly involved seemed rather reluctant to confirm what ought to be a proud moment in their lives—if it were true! Alongside this little mystery are reports from several sources on the base that insist the president did pay them a secret visit that day. He was allegedly shown the UFO and the aliens, possibly because he (like Carter) was trying to tell the public the truth.

Obviously this sounds fantastic and virtually unbelievable, but many statements now exist, collated by American investigators, and including sworn affidavits, confirming this incident, the original crash, and the autopsy and other work on the aliens and their UFO. It seems hard to believe that they are all unfounded.

It may be hard to swallow, but according to Beverly Gleason, wife of TV star Jackie Gleason, it is all true, because she recalls a night in 1973 when her husband arrived home late and slumped into a chair, ashen-faced. "I've seen the bodies of some aliens from outer space," he claimed. Gleason was a good friend of then President Richard Nixon and is known to have had a deep interest in UFOs. Nixon is supposed to have personally set up the visit to the air force base where the four beings were. According to Beverly, they were just over two feet tall, with bald heads and unusual

ears. This sketchy description is very similar to the one offered by all others who are said to have seen them. Jackie Gleason himself has refused to confirm or deny the story.

Are all these claims mere fabrications? If not, the proof of alien reality does exist. And yet it is being obscured by one of the tightest security operations ever mounted. That can only be happening if there is a very good, probably rather disturbing reason.

Edward VIII, the king who abdicated his throne because of his love for a divorced American woman (thus entering exile), had one of the most eventful royal lives of recent centuries. If the bow-wave effect does occur, that is just the kind of thing that would trigger it into action. Love, turmoil, sacrifice, and sadness are all great emotions that must have made their mark on the species field. We might expect many detections of the ripples leading to apparent predictions of the chain of events. Indeed, there are such reports.

The great French prophet of the sixteenth century Michel de Nostredame (or Nostradamus, as he is best known) seems to have described the loss of King Edward VIII's throne with the following words, from two separate verses: "The young one was born to rule Britain, which was offered him by his dying father. When he is long dead, this subject will be discussed. And from his son the rule will be demanded. For not wishing to consent to the divorce, which will thereafter be regarded as unworthy, the king of the isles will be forcefully driven out. And in his place will be put one who has no sign of rulership." This does seem remarkably apt, including the reference to George VI, who had to take on the task his brother was forced to leave. He had never expected to become king and had no real desire for the job.

Much closer to the time of the constitutional emergency precipitated by these events, two astrologers on each side of the Atlantic made intriguing predictions. Evangeline Adams in New York told Wallis Simpson,

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From: "Library Carter" <library@carter.nara.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Aug 2000 16:08:18 -0400
To: <squirshy@altavista.com>
Subject: Re: Steven Spielberg

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The date of the note is 8/25/1978.

We have been unable to determine whether the movies you asked about was shown at the White House during the Carter administration.

>>> <squirshy@altavista.com> 08/15 8:56 PM >>>
On Tue, 15 August 2000, "Library Carter" wrote:

Two more questions on this strange item

> The note says, "The President thought you might want this."

Could I have the date for this?

>

> A search of the master contact index in the President's Daily Diary revealed no entry for Spielbert. He did not visit the White House nor did he correspond with Jimmy Carter.

Was Spielberg's 1977 movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" ever shown in the White House to President Carter? If so what date?

Thanks

>

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QUESTION: Which would be more important, stimulating the private sector or enlarging the public sector?

CARTER: I think the private sector. But you have to remember how tightly they're interrelated. Public money can ultimately be used to stimulate the private sector. An illustrative point would be in the housing field, where Government action to encourage the building of homes can be done with a minimum expenditure of public funds, but a maximum amount of benefits.

QUESTION: Do you have plans for a major housing program?

CARTER: I think that would be a part of the immediate proposal that I would make to Congress.

QUESTION: Mostly low-cost housing?

CARTER: No, I think not mostly. There would be guarantees of loans by private and corporate agencies; construction of multifamily dwellings, as under the 202 program for senior citizens; some restoration of funds for rehabilitating existing homes. Perhaps some interest subsidy. And I'll do everything I can to hold down interest rates. Perhaps we could modify, through the Government mortgage programs, the scheduled rate of repayment, so that a family that wants to buy a home could make lower monthly payments now, and higher ones later.

QUESTION: What about welfare reform?

CARTER: Our proposals will be forthcoming in 1977. I haven't decided on the specific formula, but there would be both federal and state participation.

QUESTION: With the greater burden on the federal?

CARTER: I think so; I don't have time now to put together a comprehensive welfare or tax or health program, but it will all be done very expeditiously. I would guess all those would be forthcoming this year.

QUESTION: When would you expect the U.S. to have a national health insurance plan?

CARTER: It'll probably take at least four years to fully implement a comprehensive health program for our citizens. And it will be phased in, year by year. The first step has got to be the reorganization of the federal agencies that now handle roughly 300 different health programs.

QUESTION: What changes do you plan for the CIA and the rest of the intelligence community?

CARTER: I wouldn't make any precipitous changes in the intelligence community's functions until I know more about them. My knowledge of the intelligence community outside the CIA is very limited so far.

QUESTION: Are you leaning toward a kind of intelligence czar?

CARTER: Well, President Ford's executive order set up the Director of Central Intelligence as a kind of czar. There are several intelligence agencies, as you know, and I haven't decided whether to change the present arrangement.

QUESTION: Are you thinking about changing the structure and the responsibilities of the FBI?

CARTER: I think the FBI director has got to be more directly responsible to the Attorney General. I would like to see a top person in the Department of Justice responsible for the control of crime, maybe the Deputy Attorney General, or some other top official, coordinating the efforts of the FBI, the LEAA [Law Enforcement Assistance Administration] program, the U.S. Attorneys around the nation, and perhaps a crime division. I'd like to pursue aggressively the control of crime. I'd like to remove the FBI completely from politics, maximize its professional status.

QUESTION: That amounts to a war on crime, doesn't it?

CARTER: That's right. The control of crime now is divided up under too many different entities. I would like to bring more of a responsibility for drug control, for instance, under the FBI than there has been in the past. These responsibilities have been scattered around the Government and are not nearly so effective as they would be if they fell under a comprehensive and enlightened and aggressive leader.

QUESTION: Turning to foreign affairs: many leaders around the world have been asking what you mean by morality in foreign policy. Can you describe your feelings about your foreign policy?

CARTER: I'd like to go out of office with people being able to say that I always told the truth. I'd like to continue to play a leading role in the search for an enhancement of human rights. I'd like to do everything I can as President to ensure world peace, a reduction in the arms race. I don't mean to preach to other countries. I'm not going to try to set a standard on the type of government the other nations should have.

QUESTION: Do you expect to travel widely?

CARTER: No, not as a main thing. I hope that I can speak in such a way that the rest of the world will know that I accurately speak for the

Washington Whispers®

Chances Now for Tax Rebate . . . Official Word Coming On "UFO's" . . . If Ham Jordan Won't Answer a Call—

Odds now are better than 50-50 that President Carter's proposal for a \$50 tax rebate will be killed in Congress.

★ ★ ★

Before the year is out, the Government—perhaps the President—is expected to make what are described as "unsettling disclosures" about UFO's—unidentified flying objects. Such revelations, based on information from the CIA, would be a reversal of official policy that in the past has downgraded UFO incidents.

★ ★ ★

The serious nature of the acute dental problems that afflict Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev is underscored by this report reaching Western intelligence agents: Brezhnev walked out of a meeting in the Kremlin, yanked out his dentures and threw them on the floor.

★ ★ ★

Some White House advisers already are reconciling themselves not only to congressional action overturning Carter's decision to cut back water projects, but also to an override of any presidential veto of bills providing money for such projects.

★ ★ ★

Soviet diplomats are letting it be known that they consider the President's reported plan to name a political appointee as Ambassador to Moscow "naïve and stupid." According to these officials, the best U.S. ambassadors have been career men with a background in Russian affairs.

★ ★ ★

From one Governor after a meeting with Andrew Young, Ambassador to the U.N.: "As long as you talk Africa with him, he's with you. As far as the rest of the world is concerned, he couldn't care less."

Getting serious consideration by Republican leaders is the idea of a party

miniconvention next year as a forum for publicizing the party's candidates for Congress in 1978—and for assailing Carter's record.

★ ★ ★

No issue has drawn as much mail to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare as the Government's ban on saccharin. About 600 to 800 letters a day are pouring into the agency, nearly all in opposition to the ban.

★ ★ ★

Several key members of Congress report that, after the frustrations of trying unsuccessfully to reach top White House aide Hamilton Jordan by phone, they have called the President himself—and were put right through.

★ ★ ★

The way many diplomatic experts see it, the U.S. is likely to give Egypt's Anwar Sadat most of what he wants, including more arms, to maintain his role as the most influential Arab leader in the Middle East. Should he lose out, it is feared, extremists would take over and sabotage peace prospects.

★ ★ ★

A surprisingly harsh attack on Carter by AFL-CIO leader Lane Kirkland, in a speech to a union meeting on April 5, was a carefully calculated attempt to shake up the President. It reflects the feeling of union leaders that, though Carter listens to them, he ignores virtually all their requests.

★ ★ ★

Once bitter enemies, Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito and Albania's Enver Hoxha suddenly are developing friendly relations. Reason: Both fear Soviet plots inside their countries.

★ ★ ★

Despite avowals of openness, Carter aides are having second thoughts about discussing sensitive issues with committees of Congress. Complained one of them: "Secrets told even in closed

sessions circulate through Washington in hours."

★ ★ ★

Democratic leaders already are grooming Tom Bradley, a black who was re-elected Mayor of Los Angeles by a wide margin, to take the Senate seat of Republican S. I. Hayakawa in 1982.

★ ★ ★

The Administration's plan to make coal the nation's key fuel is causing concern among many businessmen who fear that it will vest "OPEC-like control" over the U.S. economy in the hands of a United Mine Workers union already plagued by internal dissension and inability to keep its members in line.

★ ★ ★

Canadian officials now admit that they miscalculated early this year in warning that the U.S. would get no Canadian natural gas next winter. Supplies are enough to permit the flow to continue for at least three or four years.

★ ★ ★

Among the sticky internal conflicts to be ironed out by Defense Secretary Harold Brown: sharp differences among the armed services on how much detail to make public on junkets arranged by the military for members of Congress. One branch now thinks that it tells too much, even revealing the brands of liquor stocked for trips.

★ ★ ★

Cuban officials are puzzled by Carter's interest in resuming ties with them. As one put it: "It wasn't an issue in his presidential campaign, so why is he moving so fast after the inauguration?"

★ ★ ★

One Russian official's explanation of the progress of human rights in the Soviet Union: "Under Stalin, dissident Andrei Sakharov would have been killed rather than allowed to stay alive and complain about injustice."

dential advice that media consultants Frank N. Magid Associates have been giving to TV newscasters: "Remember, the vast majority of our viewers hold blue-collar jobs. The vast majority of our viewers have never been on an airplane. The vast majority of our viewers have never seen a copy of the *New York Times* . . . in fact, many of them never read anything. . . . Ergo, keep it short, keep it simple, show them lots of pictures, make them giggle, throw in plenty of stuff about crime and flying saucers and sex fantasies." After seeing NBC-TV's misleading and sensationalist treatment of Bigfoot, ESP, UFOs, and the like (which the latest *Argosy UFO Annual* described as "outstanding, and getting better") one wonders if Magid Associates may not have also been advising NBC's programming department.

* * * * *

Columbia Pictures is leaving no stone unturned in promoting its forthcoming UFO blockbuster *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, directed by Steven Spielberg, who gave us *Jaws*. Double-page ads were run in the *Sunday New York Times* and *Washington Post* more than six months before the movie's scheduled release. Now Columbia is offering to the major planetariums across the country a 16-mm filmed lecture on UFOs by UFO proponent Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies, and

technical advisor to the film. By extreme good fortune, the release of Dr. Hynek's filmed UFO lecture coincides amazingly well with the scheduled release of the UFO movie into which Columbia has invested many millions of dollars. No word yet on how many planetariums are accepting the offer, but some astronomers are clearly annoyed, chiefly those who believe that the function of a planetarium is science education, not the promotion of commercial ventures which capitalize upon public credulity.

* * * * *

Title: *The Mystery of Pyramid Power*. "Cheops is surrounded with mystery . . . scientists are completely baffled at the mathematical ability used to design the structure. . . ." Is this article found in a supermarket tabloid, or perhaps a newsstand pulp magazine? Guess again: it is from *Read*, "The Magazine For Reading and English," published by Xerox Education Publications and used by many thousands of students at schools across the country. While the article does give the anti-"pyramid energy" viewpoint a chance to be heard, the young reader is given the clear impression that scientists' ranks are split concerning such questions as to whether "pyramids cause psychic energy to flow into your brain." Apparently concerned that Amer-

ica's youth do not obtain adequate exposure to occult theories outside the classroom, the Xerox Corporation is now bringing trendy pseudoscience into the curriculum. Students are encouraged to conduct their own experiments on the power of pyramids to preserve bananas, and to submit the results to *Read*. The Teacher's Edition concludes its pyramid discussion quoting from an unnamed scientific pyramidol-

ogist: "Call it what you will—occultism, the curse of the pharaohs, sorcery, or magic—there is some force at work in the pyramid that defies the laws of science." *Read* promises students more of such worthy pieces to follow later this year: "The Lost Continent of Atlantis": three articles on UFOs; new findings on the Loch Ness Monster. •

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From: "Elaine Douglass" <edouglass@lasal.net>
 Date: Thu, 30 Nov 2000 15:07:50 -0700
 To: "Grant Cameron" <squishy@altavista.com>
 Subject: Msg to Grant

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Hi Grant

A few years ago I questioned Jimmy Carter about UFOs on a radio call in show. You can probably get the tape of that. I was National Public Radio, the Diane Reams or Reems show. Ask to buy the tape of her show with Jimmy Carter, but ONLY if it includes the listener call-in portion.
 Elaine

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January 1, 2001

CIA
Carter.

Central Intelligence Agency
John H. Wright, Information & Privacy Coordinator
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act.

I request that a copy of the following documents be provided to me:

I would like to receive the following documents referred to
in footnotes of

Getting to Know the President: CIA Briefing of Presidential Candidates 1952--
1992 by John L. Helgerson.

The footnote I would like the documents from are
#97,101,103,107,109,110,112,118,120,122

I have enclosed the footnote page with the

In order to help to determine my status to assess fees, you should know that I am an individual
seeking information for personal use and not for commercial use.

I am willing to pay fees for this request up to a maximum of \$ 20.00. If you estimate that the
fees will exceed this limit, please inform me first.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Grant Cameron
649 Silverstone Ave
Winnipeg Manitoba
Canada R3T2V8
204-269-8940

In light of George W. Bush's promise a few months back to release the UFO information held ^{being withheld} by ~~those who control it~~ once he becomes President... I have a question for Mr. Carter who made the same promise when campaigning for President.

My question: As President what federal agencies did you contact about UFOs and what were you told - for example what did George Bush senior tell you when he was giving you the CIA briefing as President elect? The story being told ^{about UFOs} is that he told you it was a need to know item and that you as President didn't have the need to know.

Prior to being elected (President Carter) Sighting
promised to release all the UFO info held by the govt
- what ^{As President} agencies did you contact
- what did they tell you.
- particularly what did George Bush tell you in the
ask CIA briefing that was given to you as president elect.

In the past year, The Director of the Christic Institute Daniel Sheehan has gone on the record stating that in 1977 he worked on two reports on UFOs prepared by the Congressional Research Service of the Science and Technology Committee of the House of Representatives. Sheehan is stating that these two reports were requested by you as President, and were sent to you upon completion.

According to Mr. Sheehan one of the reports concludes that there are from two to six highly intelligent, highly technological developed civilizations in our own galaxy over and above our ours.

My question: you promised if elected to *release all government information concerning UFOs*. As President what agencies did you contact about UFOs and what were you told - in particular what did George Bush tell you when he was giving you the CIA briefing when you were President elect?

Center - Sheehan

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Mr. Daniel Sheehan, President

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Profile

"Christic Institute is an interfaith center for law and national policy in the public interest. We commit our resources to legal investigations carefully selected for their potential to advance human rights, social justice and personal freedom--at home and abroad."

Works to "connect religious principles to public policy."

Initiated litigation in the Karen Silkwood and Greensboro, North Carolina cases; gained a Supreme Court victory in the Silkwood case. (Karen Silkwood "died mysteriously in 1974 after threatening to expose conditions at the Kerr McGee nuclear plant in Oklahoma. The Greensboro incident "occurred during an anti-Klan protest in November, 1979 when four protesters were killed and nine injured in an attack that alleged to have been aided by police.")

Conducted litigation to "protect the public from radiation exposure in the process of the Three Mile Island reactor cleanup."

Sponsors the Nuclear Reform Project "to assist local governments in protecting citizens from radiation hazards."

Researches "theological underpinnings of public policy concerning nuclear weapons and energy and peacemaking economics."

Is conducting "a major study of the national security state, with special attention to escalating increases in military expenditures and reductions in civil liberties."

Published Cover Up, In Contempt of Congress, Inside the Shadow Government, The Killing of Karen Silkwood, La Penca on Trial, and La Penca Report.

National Director Sara Nelson has served as chair of the National Organization for Women's labor committee and director of both the Karen Silkwood Fund and the Greensboro Civil Rights Fund. She cofounded Community Access Television, Inc. of California and served as codirector of American Documentary Film New York and San Francisco.

Private Foundation Funding

1995 Corporate Funding