# **Skeptics UFO Newsletter**

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# Sci-Fi Channel Broadcasts The Woods' TV Movie, Promoting Tim Cooper's "New MJ-12 Papers," 1941 Crashed ET Craft

"The Secret," the last (and best) of three one-hour UFO programs broadcast by the U. S. Sci-Fi Channel on April 15, ALMOST convinced <u>SUN's</u> Editor that the first extraterrestrial craft was covertly recovered near Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in the spring of 1941--NOT in mid-1947 in the vicinity of Roswell, N.M,--and that many leading UFO researchers believe that ALL of the highly classified MJ-12 papers provided by <u>Timothy Cooper</u> to <u>Dr. Robert Wood</u> and son <u>Ryan</u> are authentic <u>UNTIL</u> we read the reactions on the Internet of many pro-UFOlogists who had seen the Sci-Fi broadcast. The other two April 15<sup>th</sup> programs were titled "UFO Chronicles" and "Alien Gods."

John Velez, UFO-abduction specialist, commented on the "UFO Updates" Internet: "The entire three hours of Sci-Fi's UFO programming was a complete abortion. A collection of the very worst in UFOlogy....No mention at all of any serious research or researchers." UFOlogist Terry Groff offered the following view: "Much of that pap should be aborted as it doesn't help, and often hurts, true UFOlogical studies." UFOlogist Tom King commented on the Internet: "That show on Tuesday was the worst piece of garbage ever put on TV in the history of television." Such negative reactions and the lack of favorable comments by respected senior pro-UFOlogists who often contribute to this Internet site, prompted a Sci-Fi Channel official to respond.

# Sci-Fi Channel's Explanation

Larry Landsman, who is Director of Special Projects for the Sci-Fi Channel, posted the following on the UFO Updates (Internet) on April 26: "Given the response to our broadcast of various UFO programs on April 15th, the Sci-Fi Channel would like to address two issues: Independently produced documentaries vs. Sci-Fi commissioned documentaries; and Tire Dealition for Freedom of information.

"Sci-Fi Channel is currently setting aside a block of primetime on Tuesday evenings each week to air [broadcast] series and documentaries on 'unexplained phenomena produced by independent filmmakers....Although Sci-Fi fully anticipates that these independently authored documentaries may generate discussion--pro and con--about the issues they portray, they do NOT necessarily reflect Sci-Fi's point of view. Furthermore, although Sci-Fi is first and foremost an entertainment network, broadcasting a wide array of programming, from fiction to non-friction, we are also committed to further serious public inquiry and understanding of, the 'UFO Phenomenon.' To that end. Sci-Fi is committing significant resources to commissioning its own documentaries that we hope will address some of the most important issues....Sci-Fi creatively oversees the productions that it commissions...like 'The Roswell Crash: Startling New Evidence.'" (SUN Comment: That show did NOT provide ANY "new evidence" and included an interview with Glenn Dennis telling of his alleged experience with nurse who never existed. [SUN #74/Winter 2002-03])

The original April 11 Sci-Fi announcement did not distinguish between the two types of shows: "A fascinating new series of original documentary specials that delve into the truth behind unexplained phenomena, in the spirit of 'The Roswell Crash: Startling New Evidence' will launch with four groundbreaking investigations that uncover new and explosive evidence using the forensic tools of modern science. Every Tuesday starting April 15th our new primetime block of non-fiction offers real-world investigations of such topics as UFOs, ghosts and ESP." (Emphasis added.)

#### The second issue discussed in Landsman's Internet posting follows:

"The Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI) is an entirely separate entity from Sci-Fi. (Creation of CFI was announced at the Oct 22 press conference sponsored by Sci-Fi. CFI is headed by Ed Rothschild who is employed by a public relations firm hired by Sci-Fi. [SUN #74]) "Supporting CFI's mission is part of Sci-Fi Channel's UFO public advocacy initiative, but CFI's mission is its own: to generate serious media coverage of the UFO issue; to work with members of Congress; to assist scientists in gaining credibility for the subject and increasing resources for research....CFI (with Sci-Fi's support) is working on a number of projects and initiatives, including a Freedom Of Information Act investigation with a professional team into the 1965 Kecksburg (UFO) incident." (Emphasis added.)

### Sci-Fi Channel Explanation Draws Sharp Response

Richard (Dick) Hall, who was deputy director of NICAP in the mid-1960s when it was the largest pro-UFO group in the world (and who hates <u>SUN's</u> editor), promptly responded to the Landsman/Sci-Fi posting as follows: "You speak of the 'Sci-Fi point-of-view,' but then define it as something other than what you see when you turn on the channel. What I saw in 'UFO Chronicles' in the first hour on April 15th (I was too disgusted to watch the following programs) was far and away the worst piece of garbage I have ever seen aired on the subject of UFOs.... You say your own programs will be better. That still does not excuse the airing of such trash..."

Stanton Friedman (who lives in Canada) also posted his comments on the Internet, noting that he had not seen "UFO Chronicles" or "Alien Gods" which were not broadcast in Canada. But he said he had viewed "The Secret" which he said he felt "was much too pro Tim Cooper's MJ-12 documents." Although Friedman appeared in "The Secret" (and strongly endorsed the authenticity of the three original MJ-12 documents), he claimed he was "unable to point out all the problems" with the Cooper documents that prompted his suspicions that they were bogus.

Steven Kaeser: "The third hour ["The Secret"] was self-promotion by Wood and Wood LLC, which allowed them an hour of air time to promote their theories and as a result, their publications."

SUN's Assessment: We found the first TV show ["UFO Chronicles"] very amateurish. The second show ["Alien Gods"] was very educational—particularly the lengthy interview with the head of the Raelian movement. We believe "The Secret" is one of the best, most convincing pro-UFO, procoverup TV shows we have ever seen. Thanks to clever editing, Dr. Wood and son Ryan have produced a show that misleads the viewers into believing that the diverse governments of the world—including Cuba, North Korea, Iran, China and France—can agree on one thing: keeping visits of Extraterrestrials secret.

### Woods To Sponsor Conference On MJ-12 Documents, Crashed Saucers

Robert Wood and son Ryan plan to hold a three-day conference in Las Vegas, Nov. 14-16, that will feature papers on Majestic-12 Documents and (claims of) retrieval of crashed extraterrestrial

craft. According to an announcement issued by the Woods, confirmed speakers and subjects include the following: Robert Wood: "Authenticating the SOM-101 Manual." (This was contained on 35 mm. film sent by anonymous source to UFOlogist Don Berliner and has been characterized by him and others as counterfeit because of several intrinsic flaws.) Ryan Wood: "The First Roswell—The crash-retrieval in 1941 near Cape Girardeau, Missouri." A second talk scheduled for Ryan: "Murder and MJ-12." (Wood will discuss the alleged murder of Secretary of Defense James Forrestal and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy to maintain UFO secrecy.)

Other speakers and subjects now scheduled include the following: Art Campbell: "Crash Retrieval on the Plains of St. Agustin, NM."; Jonathan Downes: "Puerto Rico UFO Crashes" (He reportedly will also discuss reports of bodies of vampire-like Chupacabras secretly recovered by the military); Stan Gorden: "UFO Crash in Kecksburg, PA. in 1965"; Linda Moulton Howe: "Alien Hardware" (reportedly retrieved from the bottom of wedge-shaped craft in 1947); Richard Miller: "Roswell-like Debris at the University of Chicago" (that Miller claims he was asked in late 1960s to examine by Army Intelligence); Nick Redfern: "Cosmic Crashes-UFO Crashes in Britain"; (He is working on a new book which will feature an alleged UFO crash in Wales in 1974.) Kenn Thomas: "UFO Crash at Maury Island, WA in 1947"; (FBI files reveal this reported "crash" was a hoax . [SUN #75/Spring 2003])

SUN recommends that you read a copy of "Alice In Wonderland" rather than waste your time and money in attending this conference.

#### Ryan Wood, Redfern Mimic Jayson Blair's (NY Times) Falsifying Skills

The Internet press release issued May 4 by Ryan Wood and his partner Nick Redfern on new documents recently posted to the Woods' Majestic Web-site suggests that their role model is Jayson Blair, recently-fired New York Times reporter, because he resorted to fiction instead of fact. For example, according to Wood and Redfern, "The FBI's papers on scientist Cail Sagan: chronologically, this is the most recent document to cite the words SECRET MAJESTIC....it links Carl Sagan with the Majestic 12 program...."



The foregoing sounds like "nonsensical gobbledygook" because this document is bogus. It did not come from FBI files on Sagan, which do contain an anonymous letter mailed to Sagan, warning of an imminent terrorist attack which allegedly would occur in San Salvador. Sagan promptly forwarded it to the FBI. The bogus document is reproduced on the next page. Note the unusual security classification: "TOP SECRET JEHOVAH," with "Jehovah" only partially obscured. The bogus document, allegedly written in November 1998, refers to the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), launched by President Reagan in 1983. But SDI was dropped by President Clinton when he took office in 1992—six years before the document was allegedly written.

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1. IN MOSCOW-S4 33 OF NOV 98, CODE NAME 'MAJ' MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY SPOKE WITH US COUNTERPART CODE NAME JOSHUA'. 2. "MAJ": " WE HAVE EXPERIENCED PARETO IN KOHTPOA AND CANNOT GO ANY FURTHER WITH TEST. WHAT ARE YOUR RESULTS? OUR GROUP REQUIRES YOUR DATA FOR COMPARISON. CAN YOU ARRANGE IT? OUR RESULTS WHERE LESS SPECTACULAR WITH VERONEZ SITE AND GENERATED DISCLOSURE TO MOD AND KGB OFFICIALS. WE HAD HOPED FOR POSITVE CONTACT BUT WAS NOT TO BE. WE COULD'T KEEP PRESS OUT OF IT. DID YOU EXPERIENCE THE SAME AT DREAMLAND?" 3. 'JOSHUA': "WE MET WITH SIMILAR RESULTS SOMEWHAT ON THE POSITIVE SIDE BUT CONTACT PROVED ELUSIVE AND WE'RE NOT SURE OUR EFFORTS ARE PAYING OFF AS WE HAD HOPED. AS YOU KNOW, AREA 54 AND 17 ARE NOT SEALED OFF FROM PUBLIC SNOOPING AND MEDIA COVERAGE IS GROWING OVER 95 LEAKS BY TELLER. SAGAN TRIED TO SWAY QUALITY CONTROL TO RELOCATE BUT WERE NOT CONVINCED IT WOULD MATTER IN LIGHT OF OUR RECENT DOWN SIZING. I'M SORRY TO HEAR THE BAD NEWS BUT THERE IS LITTLE I CAN DO ON MY END. CONTROL IS ABSOLUTE AND MJ GROUP IS SEEKING NEW FUNDING BEFORE THE CHINA PROBLEM SURFACES. I SUGGEST YOU TRY CONTACTING '33' INVESTORS AS THEY ARE OPEN TO NEW VENTURES OF OUR TYPE. IMF WOULD MAKE THE LOAN IF YELTSIN COOPERATES AND STAYS OUT OF YUGOSLAVIA" CLASSIFIED BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER, EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF E.O. 11652, CATEGORY E2. IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE DATE OF AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION. #3421

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#### Woods Post Gen. Twining Letter, Claim It Resorted To Falsehood

The Woods have finally posted on their Majestic 12 Internet site letter which should <u>debunk</u> claims that an ET craft crashed near Roswell NM in mid-1947 and led President Truman to create MJ-12. The letter was written by Lt. Gen. Nathan Twining on Sept. 23, 1947—less than three months after the alleged Roswell Incident. The letter was written to Brig. Gen. George Schulgen, a top USAF intelligence official in the Pentagon, in response to a Schulgen request for the view of the USAF's Air Materiel Command as to what UFOs might be. At the time that Twining wrote this letter he was the commander of the Air Material Command at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio, where most of the USAF's scientific laboratories were then located. If a strange craft had been recovered in New Mexico it would have been sent to Wright Field for analysis by AMC's top engineers and scientists.

The authors of three books on the Roswell Incident--Charles Berlitz/William S. Moore, Kevin Randle/Don Schmitt and Stanton Friedman/Don Berliner-all quoted a portion of this Twining letter: "The phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious." BUT EVERY AUTHOR OMITTED THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO "THE LACK OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE IN THE SHAPE OF CRASH RECOVERED EXHIBITS WHICH WOULD UNDENIABLY PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH OBJECTS."

When this notable omission was pointed out earlier, several of these authors "invented" an explanation: their explanation was that recovery of crashed ET craft would be classified "Top Secret" and Twining's letter was only classified "Secret." This presumes that Twining or Schulgen did not have a Top Secret clearance—which is ridiculous. It also ignores a briefing document of Aug. 14, 1952, prepared by CIA analysts for the Director of Central Intelligence for his Presidential briefing: "The third theory [possible explanation for UFOs] is the man from Mars—space ships—interplanetary travelers. There is not a shred of evidence to support this theory at present." This was more than five years after the Roswell Incident."

# The Woods' Internet "Version" Of The Twining Letter

Here is how the Woods summarize this critically important document: "A September 1947 Air Materiel Command (AMC) document, [titled] Opinion Concerning Flying Discs, that was prepared directly in response to the UFO wave of June and July 1947. Found at the National Archives Maryland, in Record Group 341, this three-page opinion makes an unequivocal statement for the reality of Flying Discs and UFOs: 'The phenomenon reported is something real and not visionary or fictitious.' Note that this is a Secret memo and deals with [UFO] sighting data alone and makes no direct reference to other data such as crashes. However, the opinion does refer to 'the lack of physical evidence in the shape of crash recovered exhibits would undeniably prove the existence of the objects.'

"Is this in conflict with the other memos that support crash retrievals? No, not at all. This is [only] a Secret perfunctory memo and could be an effective cover story if leaked to Soviet Intelligence. Although the memo was signed by Twining, it was coordinated with many others at AMC." [There follows the names of the directors of all the major AMC Laboratories who either were not informed of the ET craft allegedly recovered near Roswell or would know that Gen. Twining was resorting to falsehood.] (Emphasis added.)

"The net result of this memo," according to the Woods, "is that the Government has confirmed the validity of the UFO phenomenon and goes on to establish programs Sign, Grudge and Bluebook at the Secret level while at the same time developing a Top Secret Majestic to deal with the super-sensitive aspects of dead ET bodies and crash-wreckage analysis."

[SUN Comment: WHAT NONSENSE. At the time Twining wrote the memo, IF he had known of the recovery of an ET craft, he could not possibly know whether it was a forerunner of an ET attack on this planet. Schulgen and other top USAF officials would have reacted in early July by alerting the President, our allies and even our enemies, i.e., the USSR.]

#### Dr. Greer Reports Some Problems With "Free-Energy" Inventor

Dr. Steven Greer, whose Project Disclosure seeks to force the U.S. Government to reveal all its (allegedly) suppressed knowledge of ET visitors, including their (alleged) "free energy" propulsion, reports some problems in his April 15 update of his Space Energy Access Systems (SEAS) Internet Web-site. Last Sept. 30, Greer issued a press release announcing that a \$1 million prize would be awarded by SEAS "to the inventor or inventors who provide a testable prototype of an invention that can serve to either replace current internal combustion energy systems or greatly increase their efficiency." On the night of Jan. 30-31, Greer appeared on the Coast-to-Coast AM radio show, hosted by George Noory (who replaced host Art Bell), to announce he had witnessed a demonstration of a "free energy machine." Greer did not give the name of the "inventor," nor mention the million dollar prize. But he said "we have an agreement with the inventor to have a more robust version of this device built in the coming month or two. It will then go through research, development and reproducibility studies...to independently reproduce the effects. It will then be tested in at least three independent government and university laboratories..." (Emphasis added.) [SUN #75/Spring 2003]

Greer's April 15 update stated: "SEAS identified a promising over-unity technology in January, and subsequently negotiated an agreement to acquire the technology. Since then, previously undisclosed business interests of the inventor have surfaced.... For this reason, to date we have not been able to acquire the device for further testing.... We have been negotiating for six weeks to resolve the issues... a process that has involved parties in three countries. At this point we do not know if or when the inventor will fulfill his obligations to SEAS under the original agreement.... In the meanwhile we have identified several other very promising systems, one that is generating 35 kilowatts over unity, according to the inventor. Another that shows significant promise is a solid-state system with no moving parts." (Emphasis added.)

# Recent Puthoff Paper On "Zero-Point Energy" For UFO Propulsion

One of the more respected scientists who is "open minded" to the idea that some UFOs are interplanetary vehicles is Dr. Hal E. Puthoff, director of the tiny Institute for Advanced Studies in Austin (Tex.), who is a leading researcher in "Zero-Point Energy" (ZPE). Puthoff first achieved fame in the mid-1960s when he and another Stanford Research Institute scientist, Russell Targ, tested Uri Geller, who claimed he could bend spoons using "psychic power." Then Puthoff spent a decade in testing "psychics" alleged ability in "remote viewing." Since the mid-1980s, Puthoff has focused his research efforts on ZPE, reportedly funded in part by the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS) and wealthy Las Vegas businessman Robert Bigelow. NIDS recently posted a Puthoff paper on its Internet Web-site, which contains his latest thoughts on ZPE and UFO propulsion. Highlights follow: "Throughout mankind's cultural history there has existed the metaphysical concept that man and cosmos are interconnected by a ubiquitous, all-pervasive sea of energy that undergirds, and is manifest in, all phenomena....Complementary to the above metaphysical concept, contemporary physics similarly posits an all-pervasive energetic field called quantum vacuum energy, or zero-point energy, a random ambient fluctuating energy that exists even in so-called empty space....Should we further consider the possibility that such random vacuum energy might be subject to influence by consciousness or intention, then, given that it is well understood by physicists that a restructuring or 'cohering' of vacuum energy would have physical consequences for matter, animate or inanimate, such could provide a rational basis for healing or other processes that are part and parcel of the prescientific view.

Puthoff then summarized the results of his earlier ZPE studies and his most recent views: "I indicate how manipulation of the underlying-energy space-time metric opens up the possibility for efficient interstellar propulsion, a concept that is well-received both in popular writings (e.g., Arthur C. Clarke) and by the mainstream (Air Force, NASA Laboratories). [SUN Comment: Note that Puthoff avoids the use of "science fiction" and "UFO propulsion."]

"....If my goal for this research comes to full fruition, what would emerge would be an increased understanding that all of us are immersed, both as living and physical beings, in an overall interpenetrating and interdependent field in ecological balance with the cosmos as a whole, and that even the boundary lines between the physical and 'metaphysical' would dissolve into a unitary viewpoint of the universe as a fluid, changing, energetic/information cosmological unity." (Emphasis added.) [SUN Comment: And this might explain how Uri Geller is able to bend spoons with "psychic power."]

#### UFOlogy's Cloudy Crystal Ball

Twenty-six years ago the respected "U.S. News & World Report" magazine predicted in its April 18, 1977 issue that "before the year is out, the government--perhaps the President [Jimmy Carter]--is expected to make what are described as 'unsettling disclosures' about UFOs--Unidentified Flying Objects." The May 9 issue of the magazine carried my Letter to the Editor which challenged this prediction: "I offer odds of 100 to 1 this will not come true....I have often heard similar predictions. The truth is that the Government has no 'unsettling disclosures' to make on UFOs, unless President Carter is about to reveal that he really hails from Mars and not from Georgia." (No one, including the reporter who had authored the prediction, accepted my generous offer.)

## Short Shrift

- \* CUFOS Survives Financial Crisis--For Now: Mark Rodeghier, technical director of the Hynek Center for UFO Studies, has confirmed that CUFOS faced a severe financial crisis late last year that threatened its survival [SUN #74/Winter 2002-03]. But thanks to the generosity of its supporters it has survived—barely. In the latest issue of its quarterly publication-International UFO Reporter-Rodeghier confirms that the number of CUFOS "associates" (IUR subscribers), like Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) members, has declined about 40% from its peak in the mid-1990s. MUFON recently closed its "storefront" headquarters in Littleton, CO. and transferred same to the home of John F. Schuessler (MUFON's International Director), also in Littleton.
- \* Spielberg's "Taken" Mini-series Slated For Canadian Broadcast: Steven Spielberg's 20-hour television mini-series, which boosted Sci-Fi's audience when the cable network aired the series in the U.S. on 10 successive nights last December, is being broadcast by the Canadian Broadcast Company beginning in mid-June. However, CBC will broadcast the mini-series once a week over a 10-week period. The show got mixed reviews from seasoned UFOlogists [SUN #75/Spring 2003].
- \* Forecasted UFO Flap Fails To Materialize: A major increase in number of UFO sighting reports from Northern Europe, Japan and Hawaii during last March, predicted in early January by <u>Dr. Donald A. Johnson</u>-archivist for the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)-failed to materialize. (<u>SUN</u> #75, in reporting Johnson's prediction, commented "Don't be surprised if the news media focuses their attention on non-UFO events in Iraq and Korea.")

- \* Several Bogus Documents Fabricated By Roswell's Kaufmann Shown In IUR: Several of the counterfeit documents, used by pivotal Roswell Incident "witness" Frank Kaufmann to confirm his wild tale that an extraterrestrial craft was involved, appear in the most recent issue (Fall, 2002) of International UFO Reporter (IUR). One document should have aroused suspicions: a "Xerox" copy of a letter dated July 30, 1947, allegedly written by Maj. Edwin D. Easley, then the Provost Marshal at Roswell Army Air Field. The first Xerox machines were not sold until the early-1950s. Kaufmann's counterfeit documents are contained in an article by Mark Rodeghier, technical director of CUFOS, who first exposed Kaufmann last winter in a CUFOS Internet posting (SUN #75/Spring 2003). Rodeghier's article concludes: "Given all this evidence of counterfeit documents, we can have no confidence in any details of Kaufmann's testimony..." [Kaufmann's widow allowed Rodeghier and two other Roswell researchers access to her late husband's papers.]
- \* Oberg Debunks Sci-Fi Channel's New "Out Of The Blue": James Oberg has posted an Internet message on June 23 [jamesoberg@houston.rr.com] exposing some of the "experts" featured in the new Sci-Fi Channel broadcast scheduled for June 24, including Dr. Steven Greer and the late Lt. Col. Philip Corso. One incident reported by Bob Jacobs in a feature story published in the January 1989 issue of the "MUFON UFO Journal," claimed a USAF crew had filmed an extraterrestrial craft In

#### SUN-Set

Regrettably, advancing years (I am nearly 84 years old) and physical disability-despite two spinal surgeries at Johns Hopkins Medical Center-plus worsening prostate cancer, plus damage to my vocal cords by a careless anestheologist, prompt a very difficult decision: I HAVE DECIDED TO TERMINATE PUBLICATION OF "SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER" with this issue.

SUN started in late 1989, initially to debunk the Ed Walters/Gulf Breeze UFO claims. When I learned that Bruce Maccabee would visit Gulf Breeze to investigate Walters' "hokey" UFO pictures and tall tales, I expected that he would expose the case as a hoax. But he endorsed them as authentic-providing new insight as to his skill as a UFO investigator. Other very "pro-UFO" researchers, such as Willy Smith and Mr./Mrs. Rex Salisberry, also surprised me with their deep skepticism about the authenticity of the Gulf Breeze UFO photos. When I started publishing SUN, I expected that most subscribers would be "UFO skeptics." Although I never surveyed subscribers to assess their UFO views, a significant number are "pro-UFO"—judging from their positions with MUFON or CUFOS. Although both pro-UFO groups have suffered a 40% loss of membership during recent years and are in financial pain, SUN has experienced a renewal rate of better than 90%. (If you recently have sent in payment to renew your subscription, an appropriate refund is enclosed.)

My deepest thanks to <u>Dr. Gary Posner</u> (a pro-UFO researcher in his youth, turned skeptic on his own) for his assistance as <u>SUN's</u> proofreader and grammarian. I too started out as a "UFO believer" after reading John Fuller's book "Incident at Exeter." I turned skeptic after investigating claims Fuller made in his book. While I am politically "neutral," I can not imagine a successful UFO coverup by many U.S. administrations and the diverse governments of the world for more than half a century—nor that period of time without the landing or crash of a single extraterrestrial craft.