

# Cover-up

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allegedly tested nine alien spacecraft, said the technology involved in the propulsion of the craft was beyond human comprehension.

Lazar went on to say that his superiors at the test site systematically threatened all of the scientists to ensure the secrecy of the operation. In the video, Lazar claimed that a covert faction of the U.S. military is overseeing the testing.

Lazar readily admits that his story appears outlandish, but his claims have convinced many. Curious Nevada residents gather nightly near "Area 51," with hopes of sighting a UFO.

The video, which Williams currently is reproducing for members of his UFO research group, also contains interviews with nuclear physicist Stanton Friedman, who has researched UFOs for 40 years.

Williams said he met Friedman at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Calif., where Williams was studying math and physics. According to Williams, the support of respected scientists such

as Friedman gives "UFO-ology" more credibility.

"Of course, on the down-side of that, every UFO hoax undermines all the legitimate sightings," he said. "Hoaxes do a great deal of harm."

Williams and Lazar are not alone in their belief that the U.S. government is conducting business with extraterrestrials. In 1988, John Lear, a former airline pilot whose father designed the Lear jet, authored the "Crill Report," a document that alleges a government cover-up of contact with alien life forms.

Lear has flown missions for government agencies, including the CIA, and ran for Nevada's senatorial seat.

Both Knapp's investigative feature and Lear's "Crill Report" contain information about a group known as "MJ-12" -- an alleged think tank of military scientists established by former President Harry Truman to analyze a recovered flying disc that many say crashed in 1947 near Roswell, N.M. The term "MJ-12," or "Majestic-12," is present in all of the documents related to UFOs, but the CIA and the U.S. Air Force deny that it refers to any investigative task force.

Although UFO sightings continued through the next two decades, Lear said it wasn't until the late '60s that "MJ-12" made a deal with the extraterrestrials, wherein it was agreed that in return for advanced military equipment, the aliens would be permitted to abduct humans for biological experimentation.

Williams said Americans slowly are being conditioned to accept the existence of extraterrestrials through movies and television.

"They (aliens) are being established as a reality in the minds of the public," he said. "Through movies like 'Cocoon' and 'E.T.,' and TV shows like 'Alf' and 'Alien Nation,' some of the shock will be lessened when the truth is finally revealed."

John Lear talks about the "two great truths" in his "Crill Report."

"The first truth, that the sun does not revolve around the earth, got a man named Giordano Bruno burned at the stake in 1600 for daring to propose that it was real," he said.

"Now, 400 years later, we must again face the shocking facts."

# Alpine

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hoary bugger with the endless thirst and frothy beard finally bows below the table -- they wander away and wonder where the ages went -- a giggling hobo will stand alone, femine-face fatale all amok, for time is always the last to leave the table.

"WAUAGGHH!" and I fell five feet down onto the ledge of a precipice. The next step was a fall for sure. I should have paid attention to the walking, not meander about in some fugue-fantasy. British Columbia mothers fine forests with sheer-craggy peaks and 500-foot water falls, endlessly filling rock-bottom lakes with water az-

ure. Talk-to-tell as long as I might, fill the sky with alpine adjectives and volcanic verbs, weave smooth-running sentences through solid walls of paper granite, and still I paint no forest. See it, lads and lassies. Find out about the planet. The Earth is mother, and we need to nurse, not knock, the nipple-supple suckling of our lives.

I found the road on the dawn of the 12th day. Me Red-Wings, 'ner a tarnish before I took to the Stikine, hung around my feet like the skin of a thousand moths tied with worn strands of hemp. I stood the side of the road with me haunches bipedal and my back like a staff, for you'll find no one wanting to give a ride to a lad looking hunched and haggard. Haggard, was I. Aye, but

not hunched. No doubt I would find the stylin' ride southward.

Now, the notion to me is that many of you lads and lassies alike, demur from 10-day survival treks forging some of the harshest territory on the planet. A traveling fanatic, I am, and relish it in all forms; but your adventures need not promote such relaxation. But if I could cradle all the traveling want-nots in my arms and feed them simple thoughts to ease weary and wanton wilderness minds, I would say, with wry irony, 'Always strap your feet in stalwart shoes, and always, always keep a keen bloodshot-grape eye peeled for the lad who lost our fur.'

Cowan is a senior sociology and English major and a Diversions columnist.

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