

THE GEIS LETTER -----62

The Future Is Never What It's Supposed To Be!

MAY 1999

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TWA flight 800

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CUSTER GAVE
THEM A SENSE
OF POWER

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Freedom of the press:
Whoever owns the press
owns the freedom.
---Arthur Lane Terego

Freedom of speech:
Everyone can speak; only the
wealthy can make themselves
heard.
---Arthur Lane Terego



Update

From: THE POLITICAL DIGEST
tpd@callamerica.net.

Re: The unexplained loss of TWA Flight 800

FROM:

Cmdr. William S. Donaldson, III - USN,
Ret.
Aviation Mishap Analyst
P.O. Box 90, Clements, Maryland
20624

'April 5, 1999

TO:

Mr. Philip M. Condit
The Boeing Company
P.O. Box 3707, Mail Code 10-10
Seattle, WA 98124-2207

'Mr. Gerald L. Gitner
Trans World Airlines
One City Center
515 North Sixth St.
St. Louis, MO 63101

'Re: The unexplained loss of TWA Flight 800

'Gentlemen,

'Over the last four months our investigation into the loss of TWA Flight 800 has produced information far surpassing that contained in our July 20, 1998 Interim Report to Congress. We can now prove, before a jury or other independent fact-finding body, that the aircraft was shot down. We can also explain why the Administration covered it up and expose some of the methods they employed to do so.

'Your corporations are being scape-goated and defrauded by Administration officials because, had the truth about this incident been reported before November of 1996, it could have derailed the reelection of

Clinton/Gore. Exposed now, it could send guilty parties to jail for Misprision of Felony Homicide.

'We can provide your attorneys with witnesses, documents, or reference material that will support the following text:

'White House knowledge of a threat prior to the loss of TWA Flight 800

'1. The Administration knew that in 1996, surrogates from rogue states had access to MANPADS (Man Portable Air Defense Systems) or shoulder-fired missiles in mid-eastern weapons bazaars. \$5,000 would acquire the least capable model, the Russian SA-7. \$50,000 would buy the most capable, the Chinese Vanguard, a deadly new missile upgraded from US Stinger technology transferred to the Chinese in the early 90's. Superior to the Stinger, this missile has a much longer range. The Administration also knew Iran had a limited number of US Stinger missiles in inventory.

'2. The Administration was aware that, worldwide, MANPADS missiles had already claimed 26 civil transport aircraft and it was only a matter of time before a U.S. Flag carrier would be targeted and hit. They knew the Administration had dodged a bullet in 1994 when Maryland State Police found a fully armed French Mistral MANPADS missile ready to fire on its tripod directly under a busy northeastern air route.

'3. In response to sanctions unilaterally levied against Iran by Mr. Clinton in 1995, Iranian surrogate's car bombed US troops in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and later smuggled MANPADS missiles into the US from across the Canadian border. Iranian officials warned the Administration that they considered enactment of the Iran/Libya Sanctions Act tantamount to an act of war!

'4. When Mr. Clinton signed the Iran, Libya Sanctions Act of 1996, a decision was made by the Iranian Supreme Council to approve attacks on major American targets. Terrorist surrogate groups from nine countries were summoned to Tehran to meet with Iranian officials in June of 1996. Later that month, a huge truck bomb was deployed against the US Air Force barracks complex at Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia. Three weeks later, TWA Flight 800 was shot down only hours after an explicit warning of an attack was received in London and Washington that

taunted the President.

'5. The White House, the CIA and the FBI were aware of the threat and they knew preventing that attack was their primary responsibility.

'6. We can show the Administration anticipated incorrectly that, if the missiles were used, they would be targeted against Olympic air traffic landing or taking off in the Atlanta area.

'7. We can provide testimony that immediately after Flight 800 was shot down, Mr. Clinton called an FBI command post supporting the Olympics and informed them Flight 800 was downed with shoulder-fired missiles.

'8. The White House, the CIA and the FBI political leadership have waged an unrelenting disinformation campaign from the onset. This has ranged from the White House spokesman stating, "Anyone in government that says this was a missile only has half a brain", and to the CIA cartoon that libeled hundreds of eyewitnesses.



'Witnesses or "Untouchables"?

'1. The day after Flight 800 was shot down, the Justice Department, helped by 1,000 FBI agents, began the process of converting hundreds of witnesses into the first American "untouchable cast". The political leadership of the NTSB aborted its mission in one surrender of its responsibilities after another. When the Justice Department illegally ordered the NTSB crash investigators to have no contact with witnesses or their statements, and the NTSB complied, the investigation was over, the cover-up and Misprision of Felony Homicide had begun.

'2. At the NTSB Public Hearing in December of 1997, the word "witnesses" was not even mentioned. Before and since, they have been ridiculed, slandered and libeled in official videotapes and statements made by government spokesmen.

'3. On March 15, 1999 the derailment of the Spirit of New Orleans after she hit

a steel truck at a railroad crossing in Bourbonnais IL, prompted a media wide call for witnesses by NTSB officials. It seems a witness was needed to prove the truck had driven around the safety gate. Apparently, investigations are much simpler and witnesses more creditable for the NTSB when there is no White House interest.

'4. We have access to 107 witnesses on 4 aircraft, 19 boats, and 31 locations ashore. They were located in a 360° circle around the missile engagement. Their live testimony alone will prove the aircraft was shot down. This is why the Justice Department has kept air crash investigators away from witnesses for 2½ years and also one reason they are conducting a malicious show-trial prosecution of author and outside investigator James Sanders and his wife. It's hard to interview witnesses from a Federal prison. The FBI failed to identify and interview 17 of these people. Among these 17 are witnesses on a boat who may have seen the escaping shooter.

'Justice Department suppression of Missile Evidence

'1. It appears, aggressive FBI missile-team field agents eventually solved the problem as to the cause of the crash, but had no support in the FBI leadership. In fact, the FBI leadership seems to have deliberately withheld vital information from their own agents.

'2. George Gabriel, the senior FBI Agent on Long Island and personal friend of Mr. Kalstrom, was a close witness on his boat. We can provide witnesses who overheard him say he believed what he observed was a missile. FBI missile-team members did not know he was a witness until we informed them.

'3. The FBI has videotape that was shown to military experts of a missile shot from off the coast of Long Island that failed to engage a target. This first attempt was nearly coincidental to the Khobar Towers attack 3 weeks before Flight 800's loss.

'4. By late September, 1996, FBI missile-team members had established informal liaison with military missile guidance experts. By that time the FBI knew witnesses at sea on all sides were pointing to a missile launch a few miles southeast of Flight 800's explosion point. What they observed fit the

profile of a MANPADS missile engagement.

'5. In December 1996, FBI missile team members told military experts that two separate commercial fishermen dredged up and threw back a MANPADS first stage, the missile ejector-motor can. The ejector motor, about the size of a Coke can, fires in the tube, ejecting the missile, then drops in the water when the missile 2nd stage booster ignites.

'6. The fishing vessel Alpha Omega recovered one of these motor cans in early October, 1996, while trawling for scallops about 2 nautical miles from Flight 800's explosion point. The crewman, not realizing the importance of his find, noted the two distinctive ignition wires attached to the can before he threw it overboard.

'7. Despite overwhelming forensic evidence of a weapon impact in the number 2 main tank of the left wing and witness testimony of a missile attack, the Administration would not fund military missile experts or allow the FBI to trawl for missile parts until after the November 1996 elections.

'8. The Alpha Omega was one of five trawlers contracted by the Navy Supervisor of Salvage for trawler operations. When FBI agents finally came aboard in November 1996 to begin trawling and brought pictures of three objects they were looking for, it was at that point the crewman told them they were too late, he had already found and discarded an ejector can!

'9. Responding to the previous findings, Special Agents Bongardt and Otto took a live ejector motor can from a Stinger missile aboard all the trawlers under contract, showing it to captain and crew.

'10. Interrogated for hours, the Alpha Omega crewman insisted the can he found had the same features, ignition wires, etc. but was somehow different.

'11. That interrogation should have prompted the FBI leadership to suspect they may have been dealing with the longer-range Chinese Vanguard or Russian SA16/18 missiles.

'12. It is clear from the Supervisor of Salvage's operational trawling maps depicting "missile firing zones" and the FBI Trawling Operations Manual in our

possession, that the Justice Department's intent was to find and hide from "other Interested Parties", missile ejector cans, missile battery cooling units and the last Flight 800 Scavenge Pump the NTSB was trying to blame as a source of a spark.

'13. The \$ 5 million trawling operation was funded by NTSB, contracted to civilian scallop boats through the Navy Supervisor of Salvage from 4 November 1996 until it was suddenly terminated on 30 April 1997, yet the trawlers were manned 24 hours a day by teams of FBI agents. Up until 30 April 1997 the scallop boat captains had been told the operation would continue indefinitely for months or even years. FBI agents got the word via cell phone to shut down the operations. On two of the boats, when the captains refused to stop until the Navy contractor on board told them to, the agents threatened force to make the captains shut down. The first agent backed down when the captain told him he would go anywhere at gunpoint, but the agent could expect to be charged with piracy on the high seas when they got ashore. The second agent backed down when the captain informed him that he was armed also and he was the captain and they weren't going anywhere!

'14. The FBI's trawling plan was flawed in the following ways.

'a. The missile firing zones depicted on the charts were 1.75 NM and 2.7 NM radius circles. These distances are accurate for two types of MANPADS but the Chinese Vanguard exceeds those ranges.

'b. They used the last transponder response from the aircraft as the aircraft explosion point. The aircraft was travelling east over 2,900 feet between each transponder response. A two-second error would move the trawling off by ¼ mile.

'c. They failed to notice, until December 1996, a recorded surface radar contact only 2.9 NM from Flight 800 when it exploded!

'd. They failed to identify that boat!

'e. They failed to adjust the trawling lines to cover that boat's surface track while it was in range of TWA Flight 800.

'15. The FBI told military experts they had a witness who perfectly described a MANPADS engagement terminating in an impact on Flight 800's left wing

root. It includes boost; sustainer-motor burn and total missile fly-out time typical of the US Stinger and its copies.

'16. Military thermal imaging of B747-100's provided to the FBI by China Lake Naval Air Weapons Facility, indicate a MANPADS missile fired from a low forward quarter would guide toward the three air pack exhaust ports, directly under the center wing tank and not, as publicly stated for the engine nacelles.

'17. Military computer modeling of the TWA 800 engagement, using Stinger data, shows the missile's velocity would degrade to 400 meters per second as it climbed through 13,700 ft. This would cause the circular error probability (CEP) to expand to 20 ft. or more, allowing an impact almost anywhere on the aircraft.

'18. Stinger guidance technology provides a last instant steer-forward command to avoid a miss by flying through an engine exhaust plume. Such a command would explain a missile, fired from in front, steering for the air pack exhausts under the center wing, impacting forward on the left wing root leading edge.

'19. The Stinger, for example, has a two-pound warhead with three fusing options: contact, penetration and time-out.

'20. Using Stinger missile fly-out data provided to the FBI by military experts, the combined velocity of missile body and aircraft at impact would be 1950 ft/sec.

'21. If the cockpit voice recorder hasn't been tampered with, an audio laboratory should be able to discern this velocity through its analysis of recorded frequencies. This may be why the NTSB has refused to allow the Cockpit Voice Recorder group to convene and study the data generated from the Bruntingthorpe tests done in England.

'22. $E = ?$ MV2 would predict kinetic energy available at impact of over 1.2 million foot pounds.

'23. The kinetic energy from a missile body entering the number two main, ? full of fuel, at mach 1.8 would cause the tank to burst from hydraulic over-pressurization.

'24. Fused for penetration, the two-pound high explosive warhead, bursting in the fuel could impart an additional

200-PSI spike of hydraulic ram overpressure.

'25. Jet fuel is over 700 times the density of air. A MANPADS missile warhead's fragments would be stopped in a few feet of fuel, negating high velocity fragment damage to aircraft components. Mr. Kalstrom's public statements repeatedly used the lack of high velocity fragment damage as an excuse to ignore witnesses and shut down the investigation.

'26. The Navy China Lake missile impact "Quick Look Engineering Study" identified 4 criteria for expected damage if a shoulder fired missile hit a 747-100 inboard main fuel tank. All four are caused by hydraulic over pressurization of fuel tanks. All four are in evidence on the left wing. None of these criteria have ever been seen in previous air crashes.

'27. The China Lake report's first two recommendations were to detonate shoulder-fired missile warheads in fuel tanks to determine if the fragments would be trapped and to do live firing of these missiles at inboard main tanks to compare to left wing damage on Flight 800.

'28. Mr. Kalstrom ignored all seven recommendations; cherry picked statements out of the China Lake report and used them out of context in the media to argue the aircraft was not shot down.

'29. When Mr. Kalstrom was faced with having to take action on the China Lake report he chose to shut down the investigation.

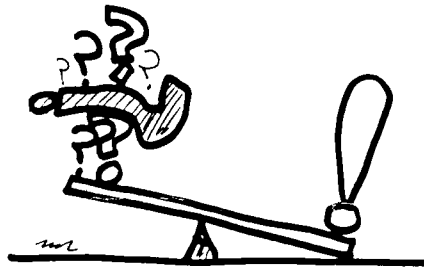
'30. At the time the FBI investigation was prematurely shut down in November of 1997, the FBI had failed to identify a fast moving boat captured on radar only 2.9 nautical miles from Flight 800 when it exploded. Mr. Schirilo, who replaced Mr. Kalstrom, admitted that fact in a letter to Congressman Traficant.

'31. After his retirement, Mr. Kalstrom was taped stating the boat captured on radar was really a helicopter. Considering the radar target was non-transponder and was tracked on the surface at speed below 36 knots for 35 minutes prior to disappearing over the horizon, even FBI agents have acknowledged Mr. Kalstrom's excuse is nonsense.

'32. Witnesses afloat and ashore observed a six second missile burn

(Stinger rocket burn is 6 ? seconds) coming from the near vicinity of the unidentified boat.

'33. Senior Justice Department officials need to be compelled to answer under oath why testing essential to determine if Flight 800 was brought down by a shoulder fired missile was not funded and why they ignored the forensic evidence, military experts, witnesses and their own FBI field agents.



The search for the Black Boxes

'1. Discovery of the plight of the Flight Data Recorder and Cockpit Voice Recorder and their two Ducane pingers, after water entry, may be the key to unlocking the cover-up. We can show a Grand Jury how Mr. Clinton personally involved himself.

'2. The NTSB is extremely sensitive to the subject of Black Boxes. They opened the boxes without any investigators from the Interested Parties present. They refused to allow TWA's investigator to listen to the voice recorder more than once.

'3. The Voice Recorder has a "sound like damaged tape" precisely seven seconds prior to its end. Seven seconds prior to missile impact would be coincidental to MANPADS booster ignition. A visually bright event that could be seen by the First Officer.

'4. Dr. Loeb has refused to release Addendum number two to the Flight Data Recorder Analysis that was written to rebut our interpretation of the last data line. The NTSB even refuses to let the Voice Recorder Analysis group reconvene!

'5. The Administration's explanation of the circumstances under which the USS Grasp divers found the Digital Flight Data Recorder and the Cockpit Voice Recorder is highly questionable.

'6. According to divers we interviewed and the Navy Supervisor of Salvage Report, Navy divers from the USS

Grasp found the recorders during Dive #2 and Dive #3 on the evening of 23 July 1996. The Administration maintains these same divers found them more than 24 hours later at 2330 hours on 24 July 1996. East coast TV news coverage ends at 23:30.

'7. The most probable motive for this deception was to ensure investigators, who are Parties to the Investigation, were not witnesses when NTSB/FBI officials were alleged to have first opened the boxes in Washington during the early morning hours of 25 July 1996.

'8. The boxes should have been found in the aircraft tail cone section, or within its debris. Instead, divers from the Grasp found each box 30 feet apart on a hard sand bottom, devoid of any attached debris and neither Ducane Pinger was operating. They appeared just as they would if dropped overboard from a boat!

'9. Somehow both Ducane Systems fixed themselves while in FBI custody. They were found to be fault-free in laboratory test days later.

'10. The small cylindrical Ducane Pingers are mounted on the narrow front face of each oblong rectangular box. They are protected from damage because they are bolted firmly to the inside angle of a short piece of angle iron. Because of their shape, the probability of either free falling box landing on the bottom with the pinger stuck in the sand, would be akin to a free falling domino landing on it's end and remaining standing in that position.

'11. The only way Ducane Pingers can be silenced under water without evidence of damage is by partly unscrewing the battery connection.

'12. The probability of both undamaged Ducane Pingers failing simultaneously in a shallow open ocean environment, on top of a hard sand bottom, approaches that of a spontaneous aviation kerosene explosion in an ignition-free Boeing 747-100 fuel tank.

'13. We consider the fact the NTSB has remained mute about these alleged Ducane failures is Prima Facie evidence of either abject incompetence on the part of the NTSB who should have opened an inquiry into the cause, or proof of a cover-up of NTSB misconduct.

'14. Weeks Marine, Inc. was verbally contracted by both the Coast Guard and FAA officials the night of the crash to position for salvage operations. They were on site the next morning with the best salvage equipment available in the Atlantic. It was superior to Navy assets, but Weeks Marine was stood down by the NTSB. It would be five more days before Navy divers would be on scene to recover recorders, bodies, etc! Why the forced wait?

'15. Holding Weeks Marine, Inc. to standby while ordering Navy assets to respond from far away points deliberately condemned victims trapped in bottom wreckage to five additional days of ravage by natural elements. This grossly compounded the grief of the families and put at risk the ability of medical examiners to identify all remains. The White House was responsible for this order.

'16. Circumstantial evidence indicates the Administration, knowing the aircraft to be shot down, may have ordered a covert recovery, laboratory examination and reinsertion of the recorders to ensure the aircrew did not describe the attack on audio tape. Scuba divers could have recovered the recorders on the afternoon of 18 July and dropped them back overboard after 10 am 22 July, before the USS Grasp and Navy divers were on scene. During that period of time NOAA research vessel Rude and the motor vessel Pirouette were simultaneously sent 5 miles off the main debris field on a "wild goose chase" by the NTSB. Both ships had been mapping that field with side scan sonar!

'17. Properly done, a scuba team equipped with a Ducane locator amplifier tube, held over the side, could position a small boat directly over active Pingers, dive and recover the boxes in a single effort. Active pingers can be detected by divers 300 yards away.

'18. We have a witness that has passed a polygraph test and has provided a sworn affidavit that a member of the NTSB leadership told him the recorders were found and examined by 20 July. The Coast Guard told both TWA maintenance and Congressman Forbes that the recorders were found on 18 July. The next day, 19 July, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence was told the aircraft was shot down by terrorists. Senators Hatch and D'Amato made

public statements to the same effect.

'19. White House, NTSB and Justice Department officials need to be compelled to explain these events and their actions under oath. We also have other individuals who have asked to remain anonymous who should be questioned under oath.

'20. Despite a steep learning curve and the best efforts of some of its most aggressive field agents, FBI leadership has demonstrated itself to be functionally illiterate in the critical areas of: military weapons and tactics, radar interpretation and air crash investigation. The fact the White House failed to immediately assign appropriate elements of the Department of Defense as lead investigators in the missile inquiry is inculpatory.

'21. Gentlemen, we have the "FBI Trawler Operations Manual" and Operations Order as well as other documents left behind aboard a contract boat by FBI agents. If found, the Justice Department intended to hide from your companies; the last fuel scavenger pump, a missile ejector can and the missile battery cooling unit!

'TWA Flight 800 was the 27th civil aircraft shot down worldwide by shoulder fired missiles. The Administration's actions have greatly increased the danger of a recurrence, not only because of the deception of this case but because administration policy deliberately fails to link any terrorist act to the government of the Sponsor State. This provides political cover for the Administration's lack of action and sanctuary to deadly enemies.

'I will point out the coincidence of the Clinton Administration's pro Arab, anti-Israeli policy shift and the arrival on our shores of a creditable anti-aircraft threat under the control of rogue states. In 1994, the Maryland State Police found a fully armed French MANPADS missile, the Mistral, ready to fire on its tripod, directly under a heavily used air corridor near Westminster Maryland.

'Our research also found U.S. Stinger technology transferred to China in the early 90's enabling them to produce the Vanguard, a quality shoulder fired Chinese missile. It was deployed first in 1996. If past history is an indicator, the China / Iran weapons transfer link bodes ill for future air commerce. In a worse case scenario, absent a respected American Commander-in-

Chief, Iran's Supreme Council, or other rogue state, could successfully shutdown or disrupt major traffic hubs worldwide by activating surrogate cells armed with Vanguard. If they can shoot down one, why not a half dozen on a single day?

'Gentlemen, the time to act is now, regardless of any arrangements you may or may not have had to accept. Once the American people understand the truth, your corporations will be indemnified against any further political extortion from this administration.

'We would ask, in the interest of long term air safety, that you take an aggressive and public pro-active stance. Challenge the Administration; educate the media and the electorate. Severance from a politicized and fraudulent Federal investigation is no penalty and maintenance of the status quo is certainly no prize.

'Sincerely,

'William S. Donaldson'

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Geis says: The contents of the above letter by William S. Donaldson, now public, is so devastating to the government, that I now more than ever doubt a civil suit by the victims' relatives against TWA and Boeing in open court will be permitted.

■ The revelation that the Chinese have developed and produced a shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missile which is superior to the Stinger tells me that such weapons are probably in the hands of the Yugoslavians, and makes even more doubtful the frequent use by NATO in Kosovo of low-level attack planes and copters such as the Apache.

News Diary

KOSOVO

■ 4-22-99 After watching the Pentagon daily briefing for the media, you'd swear the air campaign against the

Yugoslav military and its support infrastructure was a success and that their ability to fight a war has been 'degraded' to 50% of its former 'robust' strength.

BUT. The Serbs still operate with impunity in Kosovo, still are dispossessing hundreds of thousands of 'Ethnic Albanians (Muslims), and still dispersing forces and 'digging in' to resist a land invasion.

And I note that virtually all of the air attack sorties by NATO are still by way of laser-guided 'smart' bombs from the safe height of 15,000 feet, and by cruise missiles launched from ships and B-52 bombers hundreds of miles away.

There is increasing official NATO talk of planning for a 'possible' land invasion and admissions of 'backroom' planning for a land invasion from before the air campaign began.

Now I learn that Hungary, a new member of NATO, is close to giving permission for an invasion of Yugoslavia from its territory, which will permit a two-front invasion---from Hungary in the north and from Albania in the southwest ---and save enormous amounts of money and time in preparing a NATO army now in Germany.

It is becoming more and more clear that this sequence was pre-planned and is orchestrated---just like Operations Desert Shield and then Desert Storm in the Gulf War.

All this propaganda about the refugees is to prepare the American and NATO publics for a land invasion. It takes time for "public opinion" to be managed to a sufficient level of support. I expect a Serb attack on Americans somewhere which will galvanize "public opinion" to a war pitch.

■ It must be noted that the reasons given and presented for the bombing of Yugoslavia are a set-up, a fraud. The leaders of NATO and Clinton knew in advance that the must-sign agreement offered to Milosevic contained clauses he could not accept. The agreement was also a fraud because the other signatory, the Kosovo Liberation Army, did not stop fighting in Kosovo, nor did it give up its guns, as was required under the terms of the agreement which it signed. Nato 'winked' at that.

Are we bombing because of the outrageous conduct of the Yugo military in Kosovo and its creation of hundreds of thousands of refugees?

No.

Because we virtuous Americans have not been media-outraged by extensive news and pictures of Kurd refugees created in Turkey when the

Turk military destroyed 3200 Kurd [should I call them Ethnic Kurds?] villages and hamlets as the Kurds fight for independence.

We provide some humanitarian aid, but we don't bomb Istanbul. [Not yet, anyway. Maybe 20 years from now NATO, the world policeman (still the U.S. in clever "international" disguise) will be ready to take on further 'causes'.]

The reason for the contrived excuses for bombing Yugoslavia are unspoken. I believe the reason is geo-political, a wealth-power grab by the secular-capitalist New World Order from the remaining Orthodox Christian and socialist power structure in the mineral-rich Balkans and extending (by ancient racial and religious linkages) into Russia.

There are some very basic religious-economic-cultural power structures at stake here, and just as NATO and the U.S. say they cannot be permitted to lose this struggle, neither can the Serbs and their allies in Russia (and in other nearby populations) permit themselves to lose.

This war is a very dangerous adventure for Clinton, the U.S., NATO and the hidden capitalist powers at work in dictating agendas and goals.

The Muslims think they are using the secular West in this struggle, but in reality they are the used.

As I noted last issue, the powers-that-be have to get it done before the bad weather returns in the Fall. They obviously hope that a doubled air campaign by August will have so weakened and disrupted the Serbs' military that an invasion will be quick and easy, with minimal casualties.

Wait for it.

■ One more Note: Would the Serbs have dared to conduct this kind of 'Ethnic Cleansing' campaign if the Muslims had had guns in every household?

They have laws in Yugoslavia against the common citizen possessing guns. The citizenry were disarmed.

And will we let the 'Liberals' in the United States disarm us? They're trying. Little by little, law by law, they are disarming us...for our own good, you must understand. When that operation is complete we'll be as helpless and defenseless as the people of Kosovo. And by that time we'll have a dictator-in-chief serving the Owners, able to do whatever he wants to us. ■



Geis POV:

THE COLUMBINE KILLERS

4-22-99

Kids today are immersed in a sea of amoral Sex&Violence, shown that it pays and that there is no real God except money & status, and given access to the full range of human perversity and crime.

A formula for disaster? No.

An inevitable few brain-warped kids (genetic damage, hormone imbalances, etc.) who are psychotic, sociopaths and self-destructive, will find those subjects and informations and behaviors which give them ways to act out their profoundly anti-self and anti-social needs and impulses. These days their warped revenges and 'needs' use the current dark side ideas, guns and bombs. "A good day to die." translates to a good day to end their inborn emotional agonies.

Virtually all of the children of this country, offered the same behavior and info choices, do not go there. Why not?

They naturally, instinctually rebel for a period, then find themselves, and mature into mostly law-abiding citizens. More or less, within acceptable limits. There is a natural margin of error in the DNA and womb. A bell curve.

A few literally crazy babies have always been born and grown into crazy, destructive adolescents.... Even before Evil novels and movies and TV and computer games. Their warped needs chose from the weapons available and the beliefs and behaviors most disagreeable to their societies.

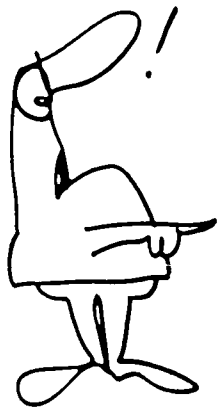
If we could brain-test every newborn and detect the warps and lesions and distortions and chemical imbalances which are the actual causes of insanity (and in lesser degrees and types of wrongness produce neuroses, character extremes and sexual disorientations), we could probably prevent these kinds of high-school horrors...if we had the proper devices, drugs, etc.

Power hungry 'Liberals' today need to believe that government can by law and 'social work' change individuals and society in ways to prevent these kinds of extreme crimes. They have a self-interest in promoting the environment (which can be controlled and manipulated) as the evil cause, and a self interest in rejecting flawed DNA and brain damage as causes, no matter what science has found.

But let's keep these 15 deaths and 25 or so wounded in perspective: they only equal one good daily Cruise missile strike in Belgrade. And one can also think of these killed kids as merely 16--year post-partum abortions. ■

BOOKS RECEIVED

I DIDN'T
KNOW HE
COULD WRITE



Some reviewed, others listed and described and sometimes unfairly dealt with.



New Releases

INHUMAN BEINGS

By Jerry Jay Carroll

ACE Books, Novel, \$13.00, 249p., Trade paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00529-2.

Goodwin Armstrong is a private detective, and, naturally he got his job by losing a better one as a cop. His ex-wife hates him, and an upstart new agency full of computer geeks is taking all of his business. Only a man in his position would have accepted Princess Dulay as a client. The Princess is a severely obese psychic who believes aliens are taking over the Earth.

Strangely, as other psychics begin to turn up in the San Francisco morgue, Armstrong begins to believe her. But, no one else will, and increasing numbers of the top officials they have to convince seem to be undergoing personality changes themselves.

Something bad---something inhuman---is happening, but the gun in his pocket and the brain in his head won't be enough to fight it.

A fine private-eye-on-the-run novel, with acute descriptions and great dialog and pacing; a gripping read...until....

The last 50-odd pages are a break-neck race to end the story, full of short-cuts and gaps and lacks. I suspect Carroll was under severe wordage-limit or time pressure. I felt cheated, both by the short-shrift writing and the plot: the aliens are never truly revealed and the formula destroy-their-base ending sucks.

FEARFUL SYMMETRIES

By S. Andrew Swann

DAW Science Fiction, novel, 1999, \$5.99, 280p., Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-88677-834-4.

Nohar Rajasthan was a second-generation moreau, descended from tiger stock which had been manipulated by human geneticists to be the perfect fighting machine, sent out to die in wars fought for their human creators.

After the wars, the surviving moreaus had to be integrated into society. And though they walked upright, could think for themselves, and could speak, they remained second-class citizens, barely tolerated in the human world.

Nohar had learned how to survive in that world. He'd even managed to make a living as a detective, his one rule being never to take a human case. And the one time he broke that rule was the time he came closest to meeting his death.

But Nohar was retired now. He'd left human and moreau "civilization" behind a long time ago, and was happy living alone in his cabin. At least until the human lawyer, Charles Royd, showed up, asking him to come out of retirement and take on one special case.

Nohar had turned Royd down flat, wouldn't even hear what the case was about. That could have been the end of it. But then a squad of assassins came after him. And suddenly Nohar didn't have a choice. He had to take on the case---if only to find out why someone was suddenly trying to kill him!

Swann, the author of six previous novels for DAW, has a good, fast-paced commercial style.

TWICE UPON A TIME

Edited By Denise Little

DAW Fantasy, Anthology, 1999, \$6.99, 309p., Mas market paperback, ISBN: 0-88677-835-2.

18 stories based on the other sides of classic fairy tales, such as the lawsuit brought against Jack---of beanstalk fame---by the giant's grieving widow.

THE RED SKY FILE

By Denise Vitola

ACE Books, Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 292p., Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00601-9.

District Marshall Ty Merrick and her partner LeRue are called in to find out who is brutally killing the crew of the Black River patrol cutter *Delora*. Who---or what. For the pollution that is an everyday fact of life in Ty's 21st century world has bred strange and dangerous monsters in the toxic waters.

This is Vitola's fourth Ty Merrick mystery, and the first I've tried to read.. She has---in this first-person novel---an eccentric choice of words which I found off-putting, such as 'A rock the size of my fist came flying over the boat's transom and banged Dacey right on the noggin.'

Noggin? A word dating back to the 1600's. And 'Having a rock slung up my nose qualified as a good reason to discharge my weapon.'

Mixing the vulgate with rule book language in the same thought sentence.

Also, Merrick shoots, with a bullet-firing sidearm, the superhumanly accurate operator of the homemade catapult at

a range of 100 yards. In her dreams!

I consequently didn't get beyond page 33. Too sloppy, too incredible.

YOUNG ADULT SCIENCE FICTION

Edited by D.W. Sullivan III

Greenwood Press, 1999, \$59.95, 264p., Hardcover, ISBN: 0-313-28940-9. Call 1-800-225-5800 to order.

These articles---wisely---limit the discussion to sf in books published for children and early-teen kids, from 1900 onward. There is a chapter devoted to comicbooks and one to sf in films, but they are put-down appraisals.

Not much of a word is provided for sf pulp magazines, the inexpensive mass-market providers of sf for kids in the 30's, 40's and 50's.

There is much discussion of Young Adult and Juveniles, but what ages are meant? It's my impression that YA novels in book form were soon abandoned by kids in favor of more exciting and imaginative pulp magazine sf. I know I dumped Tom Swift in favor of Captain Future very early on.

HEIR TO THE SHADOWS Book 2 of the Black Jewels Trilogy

By Anne Bishop

ROC Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 482p., Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45672-6.

The Blood have waited centuries for the coming of Witch, the living embodiment of magic. But Jaenele, the young girl prophesy spoke of, is haunted by the cruel battles fought over her future power.

Just from reading the first few pages of this thick novel, I know I'd like to read it all. Bishop has great talent and skill---that ability to weave provocative detail and tension and ease-of-reading into her prose which simply lures and captures the reader with chains of images and emotion.

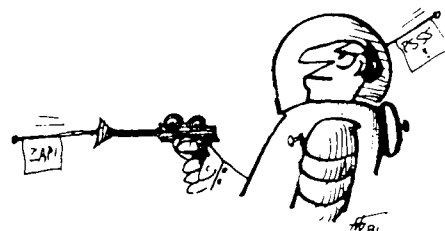
SHADOWRUN - CROSSROADS

By Stephen Kenson

ROC Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 273p., Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45740-4.

In the magical world of 2060, street mage Tommy Talon has hit the big time. He's a member of Assets, Inc., one of the best shadow-teams in the business, but now he's drawn back to his home town of Boston by secrets from his past. Secrets that lead him into conflicts with megacorporations, yakuza gangsters, and a powerful spirit that's hunting for him....

This is the latest in a series of 30-plus novels based on the *Shadowrun* world. Kenson writes very well.



A sudden influx of review books makes it impossible to detail them and/or review them this issue. I list those most of them below and will attend to them next issue.

JERLAYNE

By Lynn Abbey

DAW Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 519p., Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-88677-809-3.

THE LAST LEGION

By Chris Bunch

ROC Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 344p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45686-6.

AGAINST THE TIDE OF YEARS

By S.M. Stirling

ROC Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 454p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45743-9.

PROM NIGHT

Edited By Nancy Springer

DAW Fantasy Anthology, 1999, \$6.99, 309p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-88677-840-9.

THREADS OF AMBITION Book One of The Capellan Solution. Battletech novel.

ROC Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 276p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45744-7.

THE QUARTERED SEA

By Tanya Huff

DAW Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 406p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-88677-839-5.

CRYSTAL SAGE

By Kara Dalkey

ROC Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 266p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-451-45640-8.

THE ALLELUIA FILES

By Sharon Shinn

ACE Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 436p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00620-5.

THE FEAR OF GOD

By B.A. Chepaitis

ACE Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 274p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00622-1.

TIMBERJAK

By Don DeBrandt

ACE Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 370p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00626-4.

THE HOUSE OF BAIRN [Magelord #3]

By Thomas K. Martin

ACE Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 292p, Mass market paperback, ISBN: 0-441-00623-X.

THE BLACK SWAN

By Mercedes Lackey

DAW Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$24.95, 376p, Hardcover, ISBN: 0-88677-833-6.

Star Wars Dark Forces: REBEL AGENT

By William C. Dietz & Ezra Tucker

Boulevard Trade Paperback, 1999, \$14.95, 128p, Illustrated, ISBN: 0-425-16862-x.

Judgement Day for the Shroud of Turin

By Walter McCrone

PROMETHEUS BOOKS Nonfiction, 1999, \$34.95, 365p, Hardcover, ISBN: 1-53792-679-5.

Review



AND THEN I SAW....

NEIL SIMON'S THE ODD COUPLE II [1998 - PG-13]

Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau do the neat-freak vs. sloppy characters and it is mostly funny, but Tony Randall and Jack Klugman did it better 30 years ago.

I was mildly shocked at hearing Jack Lemmon using 'Fuck' several times. Neil Simon's comedy writing has a too-realistic edge to it, now. Or perhaps he and the producers didn't want a PG rating on the film.

FEEDBACK

DARRELL SCHWEITZER 4-23-99

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I learned a lot about editing a letter column from your SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW, which I put into practice in WEIRD TALES. One of the tricks is to print the really stupid letters, to hang the writer out to dry. I'm convinced this is what you're doing with Gene Mierzejewski's letter. It's pretty amazing. He sure wasn't paying attention in the early '60s. Other "chicks" writing SF in that period included Margaret St. Clair (who was also Idris Seabright), Katherine MacLean, Kate Wilhelm, Zenna Henderson, Carol Emshwiller, Evelyn E. Smith, Kit Reed, and, of course, many more. (This list compiled by glancing at the covers of a stack of 1961 F&SF's.) The other "chick" editor at the time, other than Judith Merril, was Cele Goldsmith, who edited AMAZING and FANTASTIC. I am sure Mierzejewski would complain that she subverted the field by introducing such writers as Le Guin, Disch, Zelazny, etc.

There have been, of course, women in the field since beginning of the pulp era (Francis Stevens, back in the 'Teens) and in the genre magazines since Gernsback. The female SF writers of the '20s and early '30s were mostly as bad as the men, and therefore equally forgotten: Sophie Wenzel Ellis, Claire Winger Harris, etc. It almost became a boy's club in the late '30s, with C.L. Moore as the only major female writer.

The '40s brought Brackett, St. Clair, & others. While you can make a

case that some of these writers had to write to male standards, there was no absence of female bylines.

But all this is probably too erudite for Mierzejewski, who seems so primitive in his prejudices that he is, frankly, a reader we can do without. Poul Anderson commented that we're competing for the reader's beer money. Maybe there are some people whose beer money we don't need THAT badly.'

Geis says: Actually, I'll print a letter, sometimes, to provoke a response such as yours which will provide the other side of the argument. Thank you.

I don't think print sf and fantasy can afford to exclude any readers on Unworthy! grounds.

While we're discussing women writers in sf and fantasy, let me praise "The Island in the Lake", a novelet by Phyllis Eisenstein which appeared in the December 1998 F&SF and which is up for an award. It's fantasy - though a case might be made for it as sf - but the magic is in her clear, smooth, grip-the-reader style. There is no clutter, no density, no overwriting. Pure, lovely storytelling.

POUL ANDERSON 4-22-99

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'You're right about the quagmire we've gotten into in Yugoslavia. However, you're always seeing vast conspiracies behind everything that goes wrong. Napoleon I, who had some practical experience with such matters, once said we should never attribute that to malice which can be explained by incompetence. Of course our dear government lies like a wet rag and covers up like a diarrhetic cat, but this is the normal state of affairs.

There remains the same kind of terrible truth about Kosovo that there was about Bosnia or even the gulags and the Holocaust. The question is what if anything can be done about it. What's the lesser evil? I have no ready answer. The only thing obvious is that Clinton is blowing it again, just as in Somalia and Iraq. Well, it's known that he likes blow jobs and discusses them with considerable creativity.

'Our actions in Yugoslavia are best epitomized by the words of Boulay de la Meurthe: "It is worse than a crime, it is a blunder."

Geis says: Okay, how about the concept of a policy of apparent blunders to mask the hidden agenda?

