

J.W.J.



John W. Johnson

## More notes from all over

as a token of my undying love. She, of course, then proceeded to permit Tom what's-his-name to walk her to school. How simple, and yet how complicated it was. And remains. \*\*\*

—Question: Why is it that among the tests for couples applying for a marriage license, a test for the HIV virus is not required? Also lost in the AIDS discussion is that this disease, while deadly, affects a relatively small number of people, less than 225,000 people in the United States having been diagnosed with full-blown AIDS. As well, and for the first time in history, we have a communicable and contagious disease which obviously presents a major and national health problem, but whose progenitors have not been quarantined. Why is that? Because the vast majority of the people with AIDS are among the most talented, creative and brightest people we have, and it's those same people who have access to the publicity machinery. Therefore we've been made to feel guilty about even considering quarantine which at another time and place, and given the deadly nature of this disease, would have been done without even thinking about it. \*\*\*

—As the new GOP Congress gears up to give us its vision of America, one of the hot button items will be to do something about illegal aliens. And the quick-fix idea that will get the most attention is a national identity card; this

could, in turn, be used as a work card by aliens. The idea sound attractive as a quick fix, but do we really want to give government—even more so that we've already done—the right to require us to carry an ID card? The most benign problem this would cause is that we would have to beg the indulgence of yet another bureaucracy; the sinister implications of such a card is that it would be yet another excuse for government to, in fact, become Orwell's Big Brother. Besides, it would take billions of dollars to administer such a program, and it would be fraught with fraud and corruption. Why not take even half of the money necessary to implement this quick fix scheme, and apply it to the real problem: lack of border enforcement laws already on the books? \*\*\*

—If O.J. cut his finger in the course of butchering his ex-wife and her friend, why isn't there a cut in the glove he was allegedly wearing while doing so. Having been part of another nationally known case (The Peter Reilly murder case) in which the police and district attorney, intent upon quick and certain resolution of a particularly brutal murder, rushed to judgement, I am predisposed to side with the defense here. And while the trial and its attendant publicity make a mockery of fairness for either the prosecution or defense, there are a multitude of unanswered questions, and inconsistencies. \*\*\*

As I was saying



Jack Hilsher

Do you believe that there are people who believe UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects, if you object to initials) really do exist, and have not only landed, but crashed on our planet? And more than once?

These people further believe our government knows all this but is keeping such knowledge from the American public in the belief that it would panic them. They also claim there are as many as 30 alien bodies being kept frozen at Dayton's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and that two major medical centers have done studies on the aliens in secret.

Now before I continue and disclose my startling conclusion, I must remind you that I have admitted to being nuts about science fiction, not entirely in my misspent youth, for if Isaac Asimov were alive today and wrote another robot classic, or anything at all about inter-galactic travel, I'd read it in a nanosecond.

So given my background, and bent, there is no one more qualified to be a true UFO believer. I want to be one. Then why am I not? Well, I'll tell you, but first, some background music.

## UFO's – unlikely at best

UFO sightings have been reported for thousands of years. Ancient manuscripts and folk tales alike are full of tantalizing references to things which sound for all the world like modern-day UFO sightings.

But what really kicked off modern interest was what Kenneth Arnold, a businessman flying his own private plane, said he observed over Mt. Ranier in Washington in 1947. He described nine silver disk-shapes and said they flew in formation - like geese - but did not seem to move as airplanes do.

Arnold further said the disks were "flying like saucers skipping over the water." That did it. Newspapers immediately hopped on the story and the term "flying saucer" was born. "UFO" came later.

The Air Force then recorded 122 similar reports in '47, although one investigator said later there were at least 850 that year, and the Air Force ignored most of them. The following year, pilot Capt. Thomas F. Mantel and three other planes chased a silvery cone-shape near Louisville, Kentucky. Three planes turned back but Mantel continued climbing. He told the tower he was closing fast and that the object looked metallic. Then a few moments later the tower lost contact. Mantel crashed near a farmhouse and died.

According to the Air Force, Mantel got up to 20,000 feet and passed out from lack of oxygen. But the incident prompted the Air Force to open an official investigation into the many UFO reports that continued to pour in. Their findings, and others over the years,

all conclude that nine of 10 sightings are either natural events - like weather balloons or like the planet Venus - or else they turned out to be hoaxes.

Books of the UFO classification have continued to pile sky high in the almost 50 years since Arnold saw the first nine mysterious objects. Panel upon panel of experts have had their say, and sighting after sighting have continued to this day.

In the fifties actual contacts with aliens from UFO's began to show up...really incredible cases where other-worldly beings "spoke" to humans, even abducted them! Betty and Barney Hill, later to become famous, said they were kidnapped and taken aboard a UFO in 1961. Both were hypnotized and stuck to the same story. Between 1970 and 1979 over 160 similar UFO kidnappings were reported! In most, physical examinations were common.

Now, comes the dawn. Some questions from a non-believer, albeit a reluctant one...Why all the secrecy? Why would aliens not want to show themselves to us out in the open? Where is the physical evidence, any evidence at all? And with the "leak mentality" in our government, how could anything like this be covered up for so long?

And finally, why should a super-race with unbelievable technology for travel between galaxies, be so dumb and crude as to examine humans (and cows!) over a 48-year period, without any overt contact, in the ways the kidnappers said?

Do you know? I sure don't!

## Letters

### Habitat says thanks for fundraising support

Editor: On behalf of the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity, I should like to thank you for helping publicize our recent Dollhouse Raffle. The event proved to be very successful, raising almost \$2,000 for our organization.

We are particularly grateful for the support of Sallie Mae, Hanover Industrial Park and the Bay Window Shop, Shavertown. Many area churches also helped by selling tickets. They were Gate of

Heaven, Dallas; First Presbyterian, St. Nicholas, St. Therese and St. Boniface, all of Wilkes-Barre and St. Jude's of Mountaintop.

The money raised will be used to further the ministry of Habitat, a Christian organization dedicated to eliminating poverty housing. Wyoming Valley Habitat completed its second major project in Ashley last year and has just started work on a house on Hazle Street, Wilkes-Barre. Volunteers

will soon be needed to work on site and to prepare lunches. Anyone who would like more information should call 820-8002 and leave a message. Habitat relies on the support of local businesses, churches and individual volunteers and hopes the many people in Wyoming Valley who have helped out in the past will continue their support.

Morag Michael  
Dollhouse Raffle Chairperson  
Dallas

## Dallas

(continued from page 1)

Red Rock; one of the largest lakes in Iowa.

Dallas, South Dakota is in the south central part of the state far from any large cities but very near the Missouri River. Dallas is just east of an Indian Reservation.

Dallas, West Virginia is seven miles S.E. of Wheeling, West Virginia. If this town had been founded one mile east, there would

be two Dallahs in Pennsylvania. The West Virginia town is by far the closest to our town.

Dallas, Wisconsin is in the N.W. part of the state about 45 miles from the Minnesota border.

Thanks to Wayne Harvey for tipping me off to more cities.

Guest Writer  
Bing Wolfe

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