

10 October 1976

Dear Harold:

Herewith a few clips, some of which may have more than usual interest for you. The Wayne Chastain piece from today's Examiner is the first we've seen in print out here on Lane, Mann et cie.

In your note of the 4th you mention what we've long been conscious of in electronic newscasts -- a definite aversion to real news, especially troublesome details, in favor of tittilation with one triviality after another. The show biz syndrome has taken over and, with no war to keep people worried, they think it works. They do not dare tackle serious questions of joblessness and inflation. The only real electronic news we get here is via KPFA, and it's in desperate financial straits and may not last long. Their conversion to a would-be revolutionary station several years ago (in a rather brutal takeover) has wound up with their sounding most of the time, (except for their news) like any other rock station. KQED-TV has a much touted newscast called News Room which has been cut to half an hour and is not much better than the commercial fare.

This brings me to something I have ^{concern}thought about for many years and which I am developing a feeling that it is going to come sooner rather than later than I had anticipated. As a matter of fact I had not thought it would occur in our lifetimes, but recent failures of statesmanship in Africa and in the complete failure to deal with the problem of nuclear proliferation now lead me to expect a shorter timetable. They add up to the fact that we face general warfare in its two worst possible forms -- motivated by racial hatreds and carried out with uncontrolled use of nuclear weapons.

Since the foo-fighters of World War II ~~E~~ have had to think we have been under surveillance, a watch by probably more than one species of superior beings who cannot fail to have caught on to what foolishnesses we are up to and do nothing to curb. If they have any interest in preserving a habitable planet, for whatever purpose, they are going to have to act. And soon. This does not mean that they will; merely that they have only so much time and can hardly fail to know it.

Buried in the last issue of the AFRO Bulletin is a most important story if the man involved is telling the truth. He's an AF sergeant stationed in the summer of 1975 at a base in New Mexico. He went out one night to watch the Perseid meteor shower and saw a UFO land nearby. The next thing he knew he was watching it take off and leave and was filled with a profound sense of sadness. Only later did he ~~discover~~ discover that more than two hours had elapsed between the time he first saw the alien craft and when he saw it leave. Only still later, with the help of hypnotic regression did he recall the details. They occupants took him aboard, performed certain physical tests on him as they have on others, showed him around the craft, including the drive mechanism, and told him they'd be back, that they were going to make their presence known to the whole world within three years, and that if world leaders would follow their advice and that of other groups in space we'd be all right, otherwise, no hope. They also told him to see a doctor right away, which he did, but they also told him he'd remember nothing for a couple of months, a prediction which apparently was altered somewhat later by hypnotism. He continues to recall further details with the passage of time, and the story is remarkably coherent. (The Lorenzens, whom he contacted fairly soon after the incident, have been working with him, but despite their admonitions for secrecy he did some talking locally and of course the AF shipped him off to some post abroad). Anyway, unless he's a planted fake (and a very good one) his is only the latest of a series of such encounters, and it looks like we may be seeing some reaction one of these days. Best, *Jaw* jaw