

RICHARD M. NEAL, JR., M.D.

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January 8, 1983

Gary P. Posner, M.D.
6219 Palma Del Mar Blvd. #210
St. Petersburg, Florida 33715

Dear Gary:

I had an opportunity to review your letter dated December 6, 1982 to Paul Smith--a member of our group in Los Angeles. I have been involved with this group, Aerial Phenomena Research Group of Los Angeles since its conception in 1975. Although it started at this time most members have done UFO research prior to forming this organization.

I have been interested in UFO's since 1947 (at age 12) to the present time, but only over the past seven years have I been into serious scientific research. Most of my earlier years were spent collecting and buying books, journals, papers, literature and photos about UFO's, it has been and still remains a hobby for me. I would like to devote more time to this research in the near future. Being in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology keeps me fairly busy, during my spare time I devote as much time as possible to the Physiological/Psychological effects suffered by allegedly victims of a UFO encounter.

Since we are both interested in the Cash/Landrum case, I first became aware of the C/L case through ABC-TV'S That's Incredible. The day after the showing I called to Houston and spoke to one of the attending physicians (can't recall his name, but he appeared on the show) and inquired about the principals health and tried to get access to medical records (which proved to be fruitless). At that point I did not pursue this matter further until it was brought up at one of our monthly meetings (many months later) by Paul Smith.

Since I am interested in P/P effects I wrote to Dr. Allen Hynek was referred to John P. Timmerman, CUFOS Chairman, he in turn referred me to Dr. Richard Niemtow, because we both had similar interest. Richard and I have corresponded periodically and recently he was a guest in my home in November 1982. We discussed the merits of the C/L case and the veil of secrecy surrounding this case; however our main concern was to try and receive and share with others what medical data had accumulated over this time frame. Richard and I will continue our quest at least here in California to pursue any medical injuries suffered secondary to UFO's, we are hoping that one day a case similar to C/L will appear in this area, I assure you it will be handle very different and in a most efficient and scientific manner.

As a physician it is very frustrating to find or get people to come in for personal interviews or physical examination shortly after an allegedly encounter.

Practically 100% of the cases I see or review had physical injuries occur anywhere from five to ten years ago, some still have scars which are readily visible. What I would like to see in the near future is some type of National Network of Physicians set up in this country, where physicians can be called in immediately for examination of victims shortly after their encounter.

My personal feelings, if it could possibly happen, would be for John Schuessler and Attorney Peter Gersten to release the medical records only to those physicians who were/or presently involved with this case. That would include:

Richard Niemtzw, M.D.
Peter Rank, M.D.
V.B. Shoney, M.D. (Initial Attending Physician)
Gary Possner, M.D.
Richard M. Neal Jr., M.D.

At a designated date, time and city, preferably Houston, Texas, we could all sit down and review the available medical data present on the C/L case including both hospitalizations (Betty Cash) as well as follow-up visits over the past two years. During this meeting Schuessler and Gersten as well as an independent physician with no affiliation to any UFO organizations should be present also. After reviewing the data available a conclusion should be reached on the Primary Diagnosis and subsequently complications secondary to this.

I recently spoke to John Schuessler regarding the C/L case. I told him I was interested in the medical records only. I advised him I had no personal interest in publishing any results or receiving any publicity from this case, only the facts. I have sent a medical release form to obtain Betty Cash records, he stated he would speak to her personally on my intentions for this information.

I feel that this is a classical case of an encounter with a UFO (either extra-terrestrial or another alternative would be an "Experimental Governmental Vehicle"), however there is no way to prove either one of these theories. Perhaps there is developing some medical-legal litigation with the government that may be preventing the release of the medical records. In any event I feel that Mr. Schuessler is doing what he feels is right as the custodian of the records not only for himself, but for Mrs. Cash as well. It has been over two years since this crisis occurred, hopefully it will be resolved to the benefit of all parties concerned soon.

I know that you have had several correspondence with Dr. Rank, your questions were well researched and thought out in advance and practical in nature. I applaud your determination, persistence, dedication and creative intuition on the questions of radiation in relationship to this case. It appears you have done your research thoroughly, scientific and methodically in bringing out some very good points on the signs and symptoms as related to the medical effects of lethal and sub-lethal doses of ionizing radiation. Have you received any additional information from Dr. Rank? Did Dr. Rank review the medical records of Betty Cash? Is he the only physician that had direct access to her medical records beside the attending physician and if so what was his final or probably diagnosis? Was a Dermatologist consulted on this case?

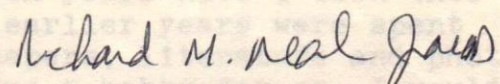
RICHARD M. NEAL, JR., M.D.

I share with you some reservations about this case also, only because I have not had the opportunity to review or receive any specific medical data, perhaps you have been privileged to receive some information. I am in the process of gaining information from UCLA Medical Center, books and articles similar to The Biological Effects of Radiation, being in Ob-Gyn my knowledge of radiation effects on humans are limited, so like you I have embarked upon reading as much as possible on the medical effects of radiation.

You mention in your letter to Paul that since 1978 you have been involved with CSICOP'S UFO Subcommittee as an associate member. What is the purpose/function of this organization? Are you employed by this group as a consultant? What is your present opinion of the C/L case?

I would like to receive more specific information relating to radiation injuries (perhaps some xerox copies of pertinent articles you have obtained during your research) and specifically what type of research you are doing with CSICOP. Please feel free to correspond with me as time permits. I am a poor typist so please forgive my errors.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Neal Jr., M.D.

I have been interested in UFO's since 1952 (to the present time, but only over the past seven years) into serious scientific research. Most of my spare time is spent collecting and buying books, journals, and articles about UFO's. It has been and still remains a hobby. I like to devote some time to this research in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology keeps me fairly busy. During my spare time I devote as much time as possible to the Psychological/Psychological effects suffered by allegedly victims of a UFO encounter.

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Since I am interested in r/g effects I spoke to Dr. Allen Hask was referred to John P. Timmerman, CUFOS Chairman, he in turn referred me to Dr. Richard Nisenzon, because we both had similar interest. Richard and I have corresponded periodically and recently he was a guest in my home in November 1982. We discussed the merits of the C/L case and the veil of secrecy surrounding this case; however our main concern was to try and receive and share with others what medical data had accumulated over this time frame. Richard and I will continue our quest at least here in California to pursue any medical injuries suffered secondary to UFO's, we are hoping that one day a case similar to C/L will appear in this area. I assure you it will be handled very different and in a most efficient and scientific manner.

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GARY P. POSNER, M.D.
6219 PALMA DEL MAR BLVD. #210
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33715

January 21, 1983

Richard M. Neal, Jr., M.D.
Beach Medical Center
4193 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.
Lawndale, California 90260

Dear Richard,

Thank you very much for your recent letter. Upon receipt of yours, I wrote again to Dr. Rank, and today received his response (both letters enclosed).

I was astounded, to say the least, by his attitude that research such as ours is merely a fruitless effort "to extract more information from a given case than is readily there", leading us to perhaps "miss the signal" as we "concentrate on the noise".

Equally astounding to me was his implication that he had divulged "confidential medical information" to me in his letters. His letter of April 10 explained his refusal to divulge such information. His other letter, dated May 28, did contain a passage that indicated his opinion as to whether or not the principals' signs and symptoms were compatible with exposure to ionizing radiation, but offered absolutely no details. And since Rank is the medical expert in this "radiation" case, one already would have taken for granted his opinion in this regard.

Apparently, Rank considers dissemination of his 'taken for granted' opinion to be tantamount to divulging "confidential medical information" without the permission of the principals. Therefore, if, in my letter of 12/6 to Paul Smith, I led anyone to believe that Dr. Rank thinks that C/L is indeed a "radiation" case as advertised, I hereby retract any such 'confidential' suggestion on my part. I am not at liberty to either confirm or deny such sensitive information.

If, however, John Schuessler should divulge to you Dr. Rank's opinion, I will feel at liberty to send you Rank's letters (per the final paragraph of Rank's latest letter to me).

As for whether or not a dermatologist was consulted, I do not know. I would assume that if the case is true as reported, one must have been consulted. But according to FATE Magazine (May '82, p. 22-23), "Dr. Steve Chandler, an optometrist...treated Mrs. Landrum for red puffy eyes." (emphasis added).

My research into the effects of ionizing radiation has not been terribly extensive. My entire bibliography so far is as follows:

- 1) T.B. Fitzpatrick, Dermatology in General Medicine, McGraw Hill, 1971.
- 2) Grosch and Hopwood, Biological Effects of Radiations, Academic Press, 1979.
- 3) E. Hall, Radiobiology for the Radiologist, Harper & Row, 1973.
- 4) Hubner and Fry (ed.), The Medical Basis for Radiation Accident Preparedness, (I forgot to note the publisher).
- 5) K. Prasad, Human Radiation Biology, Harper & Row, 1974..

So far, I simply have found no information in these sources to indicate to me that C and L's signs and symptoms are satisfactorily explained by exposure to ionizing radiation---the time frames and required dosages just don't seem to wash. I have as yet come across no information to indicate that:

- a) epilation begins less than about 17 days post-exposure.
- *b) diarrhea can persist for more than a few days following non-lethal exposure.
- *c) chronic ulceration results from a single exposure of less than fatal proportions.

If you like, I can send you what photocopies and notes I have accumulated. Or better yet, you can borrow the same sources from UCLA and double-check me. Some additional references that I intend to track down some day:

- 1) Coggle and Noakes, Biological Effects of Radiation, Crane-Russak, 1971.
- 2) Gofman, Radiation and Human Health, Sierra, 1981.
- 3) Fajardo, Pathology of Radiation Injury, Masson Pub., 1982.
- 4) Lanzl et al., Radiation Accidents and Emergencies in Medicine, (spiral photocopy), 1965, C.C. Thomas.
- 5) Loutit, Irradiation of Mice and Men, U. of Chicago, 1962.
- 6) Saenger, Medical Aspects of Radiation Accidents, Dept of Energy paperback, 1963.
- 7) Upton, Radiation Injury: Effects, Principles, and Perspectives, U. of Chicago Press, 1969.
- 8) Zirkle, Biological Effects of External X and Gamma Radiation--Part 2 (and part 1 if available) D.O.E. paperback, 1956.

Since you ask about CSICOP, I'm enclosing the current issue of its quarterly publication, The Skeptical Inquirer. Please return it as quickly as possible, as it is my only copy. As noted in the "centerfold", individual issues can be purchased from the publisher. I'm also enclosing some articles pertaining to CSICOP, which you need not return.

Although I am assisting Philip Klass and the UFO Subcommittee in the study of C/L, I am not employed by CSICOP as a consultant. The inside back cover of S.I. lists our current consultants, none of whom are "employed" in a monetary sense, but all of whom may be called upon from time to time for their expertise.

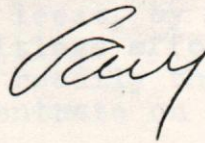
Other than C/L, my main activity in the UFO arena at present

*assuming whole body irradiation rather than finely focused beams.

is a continuing dialogue with Marcello Truzzi (if you don't know who he is, I'll explain next time) regarding my proposal for a bipartisan committee to try to reach a scientific conclusion as to whether or not any single UFO report on record constitutes a "UFO", beyond a reasonable doubt. We have re-defined "UFO" in a new, comprehensive, workable, practical manner to facilitate our effort. In the coming months we hope to offer our proposals to the leaders of Ufology for their comments, support, and participation.

I guess that's all for now. When you return the issue of S.I., I can lend you another one if one of those in the "centerfold" strikes your fancy (personally, I prefer PLAYBOY's).

Sincerely,



cc: Philip Klass
Robert Sheaffer

RICHARD M. NEAL, JR., M.D.
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March 27, 1983

Dear Mary,

Please forgive me for the delay of your
The Skeptical Inquirer. Things have been fairly
 hectic for me over the past several weeks.

I have recently received Betty Cash medical
 records - not all information that I wanted was
 included, but at least it gives me some information
 to work with. Please keep this specific information
 private and confidential. It was mailed to be 1 Feb 83
 by John Schuessler. I wish to share this information
 with you in the near future - Please once again don't
 reveal this information to anyone. I am somewhat
 worn to secrecy with John on this material - however
 I will keep in touch with you in the near future.

My practice of OB-Gyn has been so heavy
 recently that is the first time in many weeks I
 have had a chance to correspond with anyone.

Sincerely

Richard M. Neal (Jr)

GARY P. POSNER, M.D.
6219 PALMA DEL MAR BLVD. #210
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33715

April 3, 1983

Richard,

Received the S.I. safe + sound. Thanks.

You will no doubt find the enclosures to be of interest. I eagerly await the medical records, to see if they will alter my present opinion. Of course, I will keep their contents confidential, unless the two of us agree that certain limited facts can be safely revealed.

Gary

GARY P. POSNER, M.D.
6219 PALMA DEL MAR BLVD. #210
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA 33715

May 22, 1983

Dr. Richard M. Neal, Jr.
Lawndale, California

Dear Richard,

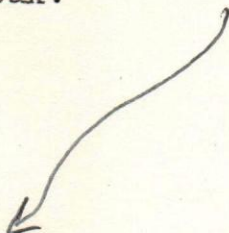
I have just completed reading Philip Klass' new book, UFOs: The Public Deceived. It is excellent, and I consider it (along with UFOs Explained, Robert Sheaffer's The UFO Verdict, and Allan Hendry's UFO Handbook) to be one of the four MUSTS for any Ufologist.

Klass devotes less than a page to the Cash/Landrum case, since he lacks the evidence necessary to attempt to render an explanation. He does, quite naturally, speculate that the case may be a hoax (the alternatives seeming infinitely less likely).

I note that it is nearly two months since your last letter, in which you indicated that you'd soon be sending me copies of some of Betty Cash's medical records. I cannot help but wonder why you have thus far not sent them. I hope it is simply because your practice has been so busy.

It is also worth noting that the MUFON UFO Journal has not seen fit to print my letter of March 13. Do you think it is possible (in light of the medical records that you have seen) that MUFON is covering-up a likely hoax?

Sincerely,



Printed in MUFON Journal
April 1983
(OVER)

Letters, Continued

each successively previous position appearing less bright.)

As Capt. Startup himself reported in his own book (p. 98): "Geoff (Causer) had been watching the curious radar images down the coast for almost half an hour. They were erratic, though, appearing and disappearing in random fashion, and *he did not consider them to be solid objects.*" (Emphasis added.) Inasmuch as Startup at no time changed course to try to avoid a possible mid-air collision with the blips reported to him, I must conclude that he shared controller Causer's opinion.

Although Maccabee has published numerous papers and articles on the New Zealand case, including several in the MUFON UFO Journal, he has not revealed what the controller told him on Jan. 14, 1979, which would indicate that the Wellington radar blips were caused either by anomalous propagation conditions, a malfunction of the radar's moving target indicator, or a combination of both. Perhaps this key omission indicates that advancing years are taking a toll of Maccabee's memory cells as well as my own.

Philip J. Klass
Washington, D.C.

Cash-Landrum Radiation

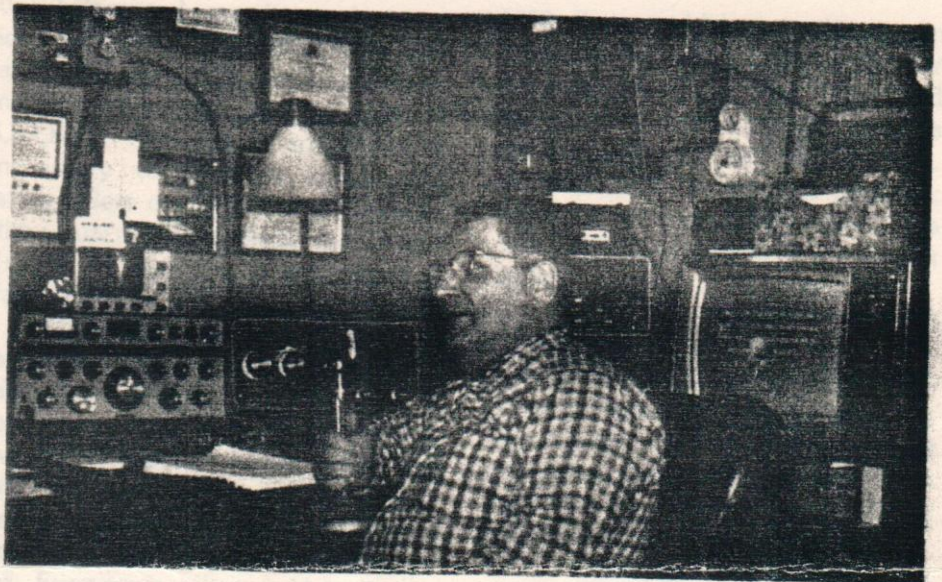
Editor,

As one who is actively studying the Cash-Landrum case, and who has corresponded with Dr. Peter Rank on numerous occasions, I must express my amusement at Paul Stowe's "Technical Review of Radiation Evidence in Cash-Landrum Case" and Dr. Rank's response. (No. 178, Dec. 1982).

Dr. Rank begins his review of the article by congratulating Mr. Stowe for "the depth of his knowledge and the thoroughness of his analysis....I would agree totally with Mr. Stowe's analysis..." He then proceeds to reject many of Stowe's assumptions and conclusions:

(1) Regarding assumption of total body exposure, "This is by no means clear."

(2) Regarding Stowe's estimate of 200-300 rem exposure, "I do not believe



Joe Santangelo, Director of MUFON Amateur Radio Nets and Eastern Regional Director of MUFON. For information about the nets, contact Mr. Santangelo at 20 Boyce St., Reading, MA 01867.

that a general dosage level can be assigned..."

(3) Regarding assumption of monoenergetic source, "It is therefore misleading to assume that monoenergetic rays of any kind are the principal determinant of the patients' symptoms."

Dr. Rank reveals that "there were no well-documented changes in the blood..." According to Table 1, which accompanied Stowe's article, this would indicate total body exposure of less than approximately 50 rem, insufficient to account for the reported diarrhea, vomiting, hair loss, and non-healing ulcer. However, if the witnesses managed to ingest additional radiation, and apply still more to their hair (while somehow avoiding total body exposure), perhaps this case would make some sense.

As it now stands, there appears to be no rational support for the speculation that Cash-Landrum represents a genuine radiation exposure case, much less a "UFO" case. I would strongly urge MUFON to encourage the witnesses to take a properly administered polygraph examination (perhaps on F. Lee Bailey's television program "Lie Detector"), to assist those of us who are searching for the truth in this case.

Gary P. Posner, M.D.
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Letters to the Editor are invited, commenting on any articles or other material published in the Journal. Please confine them to about 400 words. Articles of about 500-700 words will be considered for publication as "Comments" or "Notes." All submissions are subject to editing for length and style. Please type and double-space all articles.



UFOs as "Pop Culture"