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Subject: Background info

Ike,

So that you can appreciate the credibility of the parties that the skeptics will have to debunk/defame/slander in order to try to make the Meier case go away, here is some background info regarding the researchers, facilities and equipment:

Scientific Experts' Comments on Meier's Evidence

From Author Gary Kinder's "Open Letter to the UFO Community"

David Froning: At the time, Dr. Froning had already spent 25 years as an aeronautical engineer at McDonnell Douglas in highly classified military defense and, in 1979, became interested in Meier's accounts of Plejaren starship travel, which mentioned tachyon propulsion. Dr. Froning found Meier's account of tachyon propulsion (which was only beginning to be discussed by a very small and select group of theoretical physicists), and his calculations for above light speed travel to be amazing. In 1983, he was pursuing his Quantum Interstellar Ramjet idea (JBIS vol. 33, no. 7, July 1980; AIAA 81-1533, July 1981; IAF-85-492, October, 1985) and plugged in his Quantum Ramjet performance equations, assuming: a given starship density, vacuum energy conversion efficiency (in transforming positrons and electrons within the quantum vacuum into photons), and vacuum energy conversion scales of distance of the order of the Compton wavelength. The resulting vehicle acceleration enabled achievement of almost light speed in about 4.3 hours and deceleration from light speed in about 4.3 hours. Meier said that the elapsed time during the "hyperspace jump" took only several seconds. Thus, trip time between the Pleiades star cluster and Earth with Froning's slower-than-light Quantum Ramjet Drive plus a hypothetical tachyon drive would be 8.6 hours, which was within 20% of the Plejaren trip time reported by Meier. But, while Froning's calculations were based on many arbitrary assumptions, and in no way proved the truthfulness of Meier's account (since it was a theoretical system he was working on, only time will tell as to which are correct) Froning was somewhat startled that his arbitrary flight time computations were within 20% of the flight time mentioned by Meier. Regarding the Meier material, Dr. Froning also publicly stated that, "My colleagues and I may have made breakthroughs in our understanding of possibilities and ways for traveling faster than light from Billy Meier's accounts of his encounters with the Plejarens."

Eric Eliason: U.S. Geological Survey in Flagstaff, Arizona, created image-processing software so astrogeologists can analyze photographs of planets beamed back from space, spent two years producing the intricate radar map of cloud-covered Venus acquired by Pioneer 10: "In the photographs there were no sharp breaks where you could see it had been somehow artificially dubbed. And if that dubbing was registered in the film, the computer would have seen it. We didn't see anything."

Robert Post: JPL photo laboratory for 22 years, was the head of that lab in 1979, and oversaw the developing and printing of every photograph that came out of JPL at the time: "From a photography standpoint, you couldn't see anything that was fake about the

Meier photos. That's what struck me. They looked like legitimate photographs. I thought, 'God, if this is real, this is going to be really something.'"

Dr. Michael Malin: Principal investigator for the Mars Orbiter Camera on NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft at Malin Space Science Systems (MSSS), San Diego, CA. Analyzed Meier's photographs in 1981: "I find the photographs themselves credible, they're good photographs. They appear to represent a real phenomenon. The story that some farmer in Switzerland is on a first name basis with dozens of aliens who come to visit him ... I find that incredible. But I find the photographs more credible. They're reasonable evidence of something. What that something is I don't know." Malin also said, "If the photographs are hoaxes then I am intrigued by the quality of the hoax. How did he do it? I'm always interested in seeing a master at work."

Steve Ambrose: Sound engineer for Stevie Wonder, inventor of the Micro Monitor radio set and speaker that fits inside Wonder's ear, analyzed the Meier sound recordings of one of the UFO's as it hovered above him. Not only was he unable to duplicate the sounds with synthesizers, he found they created totally unique patterns on a spectrum analyzer and on the oscilloscope. Another sound engineer named Nils Rognerud corroborated Ambrose's findings. Think about this for just a moment, these experts, using state-of-the-art equipment, were unable to duplicate the sounds and the unique patterns they generated.

Wally Gentleman: Director of Special Effects on the Canadian Film Board for ten years, director of special photographic effects for Stanley Kubrick's film 2001, had viewed Meier's 8mm film segments of the UFO's. Showed that the manpower and costs to fake the films were clearly beyond Meier's reach: "My greatest problem is that for anybody faking this" (referring to one of the photographs) "the shadow that is thrown onto that tree is correct. Therefore, if somebody is faking it they have an expert there. And being an expert myself, I know that that expert knowledge is very hard to come by. So I say, 'Well, is that expert knowledge there or isn't it there?' Because if the expert knowledge isn't there, this has got to be real."

Nippon TV: Did their own examination and also came to the conclusion that there were no models, special effects or hoaxing involved in Meier's films.

Marcel Vogel: Research chemist for IBM for twenty-two years, held thirty-two patents, and invented the magnetic disk coating memory system still used in IBM disk memories. A specialist in the conversion of energy inside crystals, Vogel probed crystalline structures with the most complete optical microscopic equipment available in the world - a system of scanning electron microscopes costing \$250,000. Lieut. Col. Wendelle Stevens, USAF (Ret.): One of the original investigators in the Meier case. In 1979, he sent Vogel crystals and metal samples Meier had received from the Plejaren. Vogel reported, "When I touched the oxide with a stainless steel probe, red streaks appeared and the oxide coating disappeared. I just touched the metal like that, and it started to deoxidize and become a pure metal. I have never seen a phenomenon like that before." Of another metal sample containing nearly every element in the periodic table, Vogel stated, "Each pure element was bonded to each of the others, yet somehow retained its own identity." At 500 X magnification thulium was revealed. "Thulium exists only in minute amounts. It is exceedingly expensive, far beyond platinum, and rare to come by. Someone would have to have an extensive metallurgical knowledge even to be aware of a composition of this type", said Vogel. At 1600 X Vogel said, "A whole new world appears in the specimen. There are structures within structures - very unusual." At 2500 X he found that the sample was, "metal, but at the same time ... it is crystal!"

Vogel put the full weight of his expertise in these summary comments: "With any technology that I know of, we could not achieve this on this planet! ... And I think it is important that those of us who are in the scientific world sit down and do some serious study on these things instead of putting it off as people's imagination." Again, here is another top-level scientific specialist who is unable to duplicate the material presented to him by Meier.

Marcel Vogel

At the age of twelve he had synthesized the chemical compound 3-amino-phthalaz-1-4 dione. This compound, when mixed in water with potassium ferro-cyanide and hydrogen peroxide, produces a chemi-luminescence that matches the light of the firefly. He continued to try to make a set of phosphors that would produce light in a tubular form. This was before the advent of fluorescent lights, but Marcel had seen a white powder of phosphor, in a tube, that would convert the ultra-violet radiation in the tube into a visible form – visible light. This was his main area of interest and even as a grammar school student he visited the Mechanics Institute and translated, from the German, original articles on phosphor chemistry. He then set about duplicating the outlined experiments in his own amateur laboratory.

Marcel had synthesized and manufactured a set of phosphors before he was fifteen years old. His vision, at this early age, was that the proper phosphor system would be a rare earth phosphor. The cation, or positively charged ion would be composed of a rare earth compound like Europium, and the anion, or negatively charged ion would consist of a tungstate or silicate structure. These ideas came from the translated scientific papers that were published in the "Analan der Physik" and other German scientific publications of the time. His objective before going to college, based on the answer to his years of prayer from the ages of six to twelve, was to become of phosphor chemist. He was able to see the blending of chemistry and physics that would bring about the advent of solid state physics. As was the case throughout his life, Marcel wanted to be on the forefront of what, in his vision, was the science of the future.

Throughout his high school and college years Marcel systematically researched all the existing publications and papers in the field of luminescence. There were no courses available so he had to teach himself. He majored in chemistry and physics at the University of San Francisco, working at night to fund his education. Unfortunately, due to deteriorating health, he was unable to graduate with his class.

From 1940 his education was completed privately with Doctor Peter Pringsheim. The two met when Doctor Pringsheim, a German refugee professor, was attempting to find information about luminescence at the university library. The librarian referred him to a young student, Marcel Vogel, who had apparently read everything in the library on the subject and would be of more value to him than the librarian. Two years later the two men jointly published *The Luminescence of Liquids and Solids and their Practical Application* (Wiley Interscience-1943). This book has since gone through three editions and was translated into German in 1953. It is currently out of print.

After the publication of the book, Vogel Luminescence Corporation was formed. From 1944 to 1957 Marcel pioneered in the manufacture of fluorescent bulletin paints for outdoor signs and billboards. He created a complete set of artist media fluorescents including fluorescent oil colors, phosphorescent paints, fluorescent chalk, crayons, tempers (day-glo) colors, bulletin paints, invisible ink, tracing and tagging powders used with insecticides detectable with portable black lights, black lights being another Vogel creation. Black light kits were also created for the detection of cancer, rodent contamination, and milk inspection.

With Ralph Benson, Marcel then published a paper entitled Vulvar Fluorescents: The Early Detection of Pregnancy and the Advent of Carcinoma. Vogel Luminescence also patented an egg candler that combined both ultraviolet and visible light to detect the Pseudomonis fluorescence bacteria that are present in eggs laid by chickens contaminated with the bacteria.

During this time with Vogel Luminescence Marcel also did part-time consulting work for IBM. With Ralph Flores and Don Johnson he developed a magnetic coating formulation that is still in use today on IBM hard disks. It was a stable, adhesive coating of magnetic materials for a 24 inch diameter hard disk that demanded a completely new composition of matter.

It should be noted that this magnetic coating did not come about by normal linear science. For many unsuccessful weeks, formula upon formula were created with horrifying results. The coating would fly off the aluminum disk when the drive was turned on or it would bubble up like some pox ridden biological specimen. Finally, at the point of total exhaustion in his 18 to 20 hour workday, Marcel collapsed into sleep at his tiny laboratory. Later, as he groggily awoke, he was in the midst of a dream – a can of molasses floated in the space before him with the words “infinite viscosity” resounding in his ears. He knew immediately what needed to be done. Two supposedly incompatible chemical agents were brought together, the results of which we still use today.

In 1957 Vogel Luminescence was sold to Ultra Violet Products and Marcel joined IBM as a full time research scientist. He was one of the “Big Blue’s” few non-lettered scientists. Such creativity and genius could not be allowed loose on the streets, despite the lack of a diploma. He became one of the most prolific new patent inventors in IBM’s Data Products Division history. Included among the many inventions are patents in the field of magnetic recording media, liquid crystals, and the creation and development of rare earth phosphors. Marcel also was granted many patents in the field of Opto Electronics. This was for work on photo-relays for analog to digital converters, as well as work with rare earth phosphors, which resulted in the development of the red hue for color televisions. His work with liquid crystals helped realize their emergence into everyday life in the form of digital displays on everything from watches to radios. He also received patents for the degassification of liquids, Dark Field Microscopy and its use in surface analysis, organic and inorganic

photoconduction and more.

In 1969 Marcel gave a course in creativity for engineers at IBM. It was at this time that he read an article in Argosy magazine entitled "Do Plants Have Emotions?" about the work of polygraph expert Cleve Backster into the responsiveness of plants to human interaction. Despite initial rejection of the concept of human-plant communication, he decided to explore these strange claims.

And now a little bit of information on James Randi, who has claimed that the late research chemist Marcel Vogel "wasn't very smart" and who inferred that Mr. Vogel "bought" his patents:

out of a hat. Ta da. I once pulled a bunny

Equipment and experts from the following were involved in the extensive, costly testing of Meier's physical evidence:

- JPL
- USGS
- NASA
- Nippon TV
- Village Labs
- INTERREPO
- Micor Electric
- Design Technology
- McDonnell Douglas
- Excalibur Sound Studios
- Naval Undersea Sound Center
- Director of Special Effects, Canadian Film Board