

2015 09 28 Monday Nick Redfern Men in Black/Unsolved Mysteries

NICK REDFERN

AB: "From the high desert and the Great American Southwest I bid you all: 'Good Evening, Good Morning, Good Afternoon' – as the case may be around the world, each and every time zone covered like a big blanket by this program *Midnight in the Desert*. I'm Art Bell. 'Tis my pleasure to be here!"

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AB: "Coming up in a moment is Nick Redfern. He is a full-time author and journalist specializing in a wide range of unsolved mysteries for over thirty (30) years ... to include UFO sightings, alien abductions, paranormal phenomena, cryptozoology, and Men-In-Black. That'll be the topic tonight.

He writes regularly for the London Daily Express newspaper, Fortean Times, Fate, and UFO magazine. His previous books include *Strange Secrets*, *Cosmic Clashes*, and *The F.B.I. Files*. Among his many exploits, Redfern has investigated reports of lake monsters in Scotland, vampires in Puerto Rico, and werewolves in England. Aliens in Mexico, sea serpents in the U.S. ... Really?

Redfern travels and lectures extensively around the world. Originally from England, he currently lives in Dallas, Texas. And it's really going to be my first line of inquiry to find out why a Brit would decide to settle in Dallas (?) ... Wonder if he wears a ten-gallon hat with straps to the sides and all that stuff?

Hey, everybody – raging in the night, this is *Midnight In The Desert!*"

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AB: "Hi, everybody ... Let's do it, shall we? Um, I have a lot to learn about Men-In-Black. Nick Redfern welcome to *Midnight In The Desert*."

NR: "Hey, Art! Thanks for having me on!"

AB: "Well, thanks for being here!"

NR: "Sure."

AB: "I am curious, Nick. It just doesn't seem to me that most Brits would pick up and like go to Texas. (NR laughs). How did that happen?"

NR: "Um, well, you mention in my, ah, bio that I work as a writer and also a journalist. And I do a lot of, um, freelance work for other authors as well at

Hyde Research, and things like that. Uh, I actually got offered a job which went on for about three (3) years, and uh, but it required me to be over here, because the, ah, person was employed, was writin' a book and needed somebody to do the research for him. But a lot of it was based around the Dallas area. And so, um, you know, it sounded like a ... a cool gig to do.

And, um, so I came over, and um, I got the job, and uh, then applied for residency and did all the ... all the legal paperwork stuff – uh, just in case Donald Trump's listening."

AB: "Actually, you know what? ... I hear your British accent is fading a bit ... frankly ..."

NR: "Is it really?"

AB: "Yes it is."

NR: "Ah, well ... it has been fifteen (15) years, so ..."

AB: "Are you yet saying 'y'all'?"

NR: "No. (laughs). I've never actually got around to doin' that yet."

AB: (laughs).

NR: "I don't have the ten-gallon hat quite yet."

AB: (laughs).

NR: "But I like the Dallas area. You know, it's sort of a cool area and got a good social scene. And, um, not far away from Austin and San Antonio, so, um, you know, it's uh ... it's sort of central. And ah, yeah, I've been here fifteen (15) years. Did all the, uh, the legal immigration stuff and, um ..."

AB: "Isn't that fun?"

NR: "Um, well it was ... it was just, uh ... I didn't have any problems with it. I mean, it was just a case of fillin' out the paperwork, and just waiting for, you know, the return of the paperwork, and then the next document has to be signed, and so on.

But so ... but there was no ... there were no issues as such. It was just, uh, you know, a process I expected to have to go through when I interview

of course ... you know, background checks ... that kind of thing, which you know, which makes sense.

And, um ... and that was it. Everything was very smooth, cordial, and weren't really any problems at all."

AB: "Really glad it went well for you.

Um, all right ... so it's hard to get started with this kind of thing. See, you don't need ... you don't get to Men-In-Black until you get to UFOs – is that fair?"

NR: "Well, you know, for the most part it is, yes. I mean, everybody thinks of the Men-In-Black and they obviously think of UFOs. And I think for the general public, because of the success of the *Men-In-Black* movies, you know, their first thought is Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones in terms of, you know, how the Men-In-Black look and act.

But, uh, if you look at the real reports of the Men-In-Black, those are very, very different. They're sort of quite creepy and strange. And, um, they're not always tied with UFOs, although for the most part they are. But there's so many different strands and angles to the Men-In-Black mystery, that's what makes it so fascinating, you know, in terms of: 'Well, who are they? What do they want? And where are they from?'

There are so many different issues and cases and odd quirks in relation to the Men-In-Black that, uh, ... you know, I've actually written three (3) books on the subject because there's so much information and so many different theories for who or what they are."

AB: "Would you guess that their original *mission* began with, um, trying to stop UFO stories in their tracks?"

NR: "Oh, yeah. I mean, you know, the so-called modern day era of UFOs began in 1947 with Kenneth Arnold's famous sighting over Washington state ... the Cascade Mountains. However, the ... although there were one (1) or two (2) early Men-In-Black reports in forty-seven (1947) and forty-eight (1948), for the most part the whole thing didn't really kick-off until 1951.

And this revolved around a guy named Albert Bender, who lived in Bridgeport, Connecticut. And, um, Albert Bender was someone who set up an organization called the International Flying Saucer Bureau. And there were a lot of small UFO groups – regional groups – at the time around the United States, the UK, and a few other countries, such as

Australia. Um, and they may have had a circulation of forty (40) or fifty (50) here ... something like that.

But Bender's organization, the IFSB, really took off Big Time (!), uh, to the point where he literally had circulations in the low thousands, which ... which was really good, you know, for 1951-52. And the subscriptions were comin' in from all around the world, and the ... the magazine that he put out under the International Flying Saucer Bureau banner was doing really well ... you know, he was having, uh, sighting reports sent to him, he's being asked to do radio shows, and, um, even TV shows. And everything was running smoothly until suddenly the Men-In-Black intruded on this life.

And it all went down from there for Albert Bender. And it was a very sinister situation for him ..."

AB: "Can you describe, uh, what happened to him? Did he describe it?"

NR: "Oh, yeah ... yeah. Well, what happened was ... as I said, you know, the ... the image that most people have of the Men-In-Black is from the movies. You know, the idea of a ... a super-secret group within government or something like a black budget program that operates outside of government ..."

AB: "So in other words he will need ... need to understand that, uh, the movies followed the reality – not the reality following the movies?"

NR: "Well the ... certainly the movies were based upon, um, you know, the ... the real report in terms of how they dressed and the threats ..."

AB: "Right."

NR: "But if you ... you read from ... from Bender's experiences onward, the Men-In-Black in reality actually don't sound physically and, you know, in terms of what they look like, like their movie versions. For example, pretty much I would say ... 95%-96% in all the cases this begins with Bender. Um, the ... the witnesses described them as sort of only about five feet (5 ft.) tall to five feet five (5 ft. 5 in.), very strange looking, very pale skin, um, no blemishes or lines on their faces – almost as if they looked like a ... like a mannequin in some respect."

AB: "I was going to say an alien."

NR: "Well actually you know, that's one of the things ... I mean, you mention for example, uh, David Jacobs. I mean, the ... the interesting thing about the Men-In-Black mystery is there are some eerily, ah, close parallels with

some of the things that David Jacobs has written about and researched, that ties in with the Men-In-Black. In other words, very sort of human-looking entities moving amongst us. But when you have a good look at them, there are things about them that just don't seem right.

And ... that's what Albert Bender said, that, um, he would get ... not so much visitations, but he talked about how he would see these shadowy figures. And in some cases they would even sort of literally materialize in his bedroom."

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "And, uh, he described them as having, as I said, very pale skin. Um, I guess today, you know, we would talk about almost looking sort of overly botoxed, you know ... (NR laughs, AB snorts). Um, very strange looking, emotionless, no lines ... And Bender said that they essentially spoke to him in a telepathic fashion and warned him to leave the UFO subject. And, um, Bender like a ... (NR laughs), I guess like a good UFO researcher, he did as he was told. (NR laughs). He left the subject ..."

AB: "Oh, he did! He caved in! (?)"

NR: "Oh yeah ... yeah he absolutely caved in. And, um, what happened was that he closed the IFSB down – the International Flying Saucer Bureau ..."

AB: "Wow!"

NR: "... cancelled his magazine. And a lot of people who subscribed to it – as I said in the thousands – thought this was some kind of publicity stunt. You know, when you see a band and they say they're going on their 'Final Tour,' so you better come and see us now ..."

AB: "Right."

NR: "And then they come back five (5) years later ..."

That didn't happen ... That's what everybody thought though. And Bender was so petrified by these repeated encounters, and he said he saw the Men-In-Black sometimes following him in the streets late at night. He'd be coming home from the cinema and they'd have these sort of long black trench coats on and black fedoras, and these piercing eyes. And it was sort of very menacing, and almost in some respects, his story's not so much Men-In-Black – it's almost like X-Files meets H.P. Lovecraft. It's sort of like a Gothic story mixed in with UFO conspiracies ..."

AB: “Well, you ... you realize that, um, his behavior, as you described it, could be, um ... uh, described as a classic psychological symptom as well ...”

NR: “Well yeah, it could.”

AB: “... of paranoia? ... Paranoia (!)”

NR: “Yeah, I mean, there’s no doubt that Bender was paranoid. I guess the thing is though was it psychological paranoia ... or was he *driven* to paranoia? Ah ... or was it possibly both?”

And what’s interesting in terms of Bender’s story, it’s a fascinating one because he was a very, um, sort of fascinating character with a lot of, you know, facets to his character in terms of – he was deeply involved in the occult, for example. I mean, heavily ... sort of seriously dark occult things ...”

AB: “Okay.”

NR: “He actually created, for example, what he described as an altar in his attic to travel places ...”

AB: “Ohh?”

NR: “... to try and summon up supernatural entities.”

AB: “Ohh!”

NR: “And, um ... he actually wondered if he kind of opened a portal or a doorway to allow something paranormal through. That was one of the theories he looked at. But yeah, you can look at some of the aspects of Bender’s life and see that there were significant psychological issues ... by his own admission. Um, he developed OCD – Obsessive Compulsive Disorder – but he said that was due to the fact that he became so terrified by this situation. You know, he’d be repeatedly checking the front doors were locked at night and the windows are locked. Then he’d go and check again ... And that kind of overtook his life.

So, you know, it’s a case of which came first, um, and did one provoke the other? So, you know, it’s a fascinating case history of a man steeped in paranoia, and at the heart of it all, these sort of almost gothic Men-In-Black.

AB: “Well, you know ... you know, Nick, I think that it’s more than just a theory. I think if you, um, if you prep an altar as you mentioned ... If you call upon these things, uh, to be part of your life ... If you want to be involved with

them – that is a very, very strong invitation in the paranormal world for whatever’s out there to come and, at the very least, have a look. And ... yeah, you opened something ... you allow something in, and once it’s in, it doesn’t always like a good visitor leave on time.”

NR: “No, you’re right. And, I mean, I’ve done a lot of investigations and interviews with people, who sort of delved into, you know, paranormal phenomena ... think It’s all cool and exciting, and the more they get into it, they find themselves I guess surrounded by entities that they’ve called forth ... that they’re not really sure what they are, but you know, they cause havoc in people’s lives.”

AB: “Oh, they do! ... Nick Redfern is my guest. We’re going to be deep into the Men-In-Black this night. So keep that in mind if you have a UFO sighting, because I guess these guys are still out there working. I’m Art Bell.

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AB: “Hi, everybody. I’m Art Bell. My guest is Nick Redfern ... and we are discussing Men-In-Black. Um, actually a very, very serious subject – certainly it was to Albert Bender. And um, gee Nick, I don’t know what to say, ahh, except if he actually, you know, publicized – told everybody that these guys came to see him and then really threw it in and never came back ... No publicity stunt ...”

NR: “Um-hmm.”

AB: “... Then I guess, um, I guess he really met them.”

NR: “Hmm ... well what happened, um, Art, is that, um, this was ... fifty-two (1952) and fifty-three (1953) when he finally threw in the towel, so to speak. And a guy named Gray Barker, who was fascinated by Bender’s story, wrote a book about it in 1956 called *They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers*, which told *parts* of Bender’s story, but only the parts that Bender wanted to share. And he certainly didn’t go into all the bizarre paranormal stuff that, uh, Bender talked about himself.

Um, but what happened was he just very briefly resurfaced in 1962, when Barker – who was also a publisher – convinced Bender to write his own book, which he did. It was called *The Flying Saucers and the Three Men* and it was a very small book, but told the story of how these Men-In-Black, um, would sort of appear and materialize, and dematerialize. And they had more of almost like a demonic quality to them, I guess. And, um, but when he put that book out, then he said: ‘Look, I’m done with it!’ And that was now fifty-three (53) years ago, and he ... and he stayed out of the UFO subject for the rest of his entire life ... would not correspond with

anyone. He wouldn't even promote the book barely after it came out, but he just essentially wrote it because, you know, Barker asked him to. And that was it.

And, uh,, and he walked away from the subject. And, uh, that's actually not something you see very often in the UFO subject, where, you know, somebody says, you know, 'I'm quittin'. That's it. I'm done!' They typically do come back."

AB: "Here I am – proof of that ... Yes!"

NR: "Bender never did. He just stayed away and, um, and said: 'I'm done with it.' I just ... in his own words pretty much he said he just felt that he couldn't get into that sort of, um, turmoil of dealing with what he initially assumed were going to be government people, and then when ... when he got the *visit*, so to speak, they were anything but that. As I said, they were far more H.P. Lovecraft than they were X-Files."

AB: "Um-hmm. Well, it's not easy to be visited by people like that – especially ones that communicate with you ... My God!"

NR: "Um-hmm."

AB: "So, um, was that the first Men-In-Black that you're aware of ... visit?"

NR: "Well, there are one (1) or two (2) earlier ones, but that's ..."

AB: "Oh."

NR: "... but, without a doubt, the Bender case is the one that really began the entire Men-In-Black mystery. And it's actually Gray Barker's book that told the story of the Men-In-Black, that coined the term 'Men-In-Black.'

Barker in 1956 was the first person to use the term 'Men-In-Black,' as a ... you know, as a ... as a specific term to describe these entities. So in that sense it's a very important case. But it opened the doors for some people who said: 'Well, this is really interesting, because I had an experience very much like that, but *before* that date.' But in other ... so in other words, Bender did prompt some people to come forward, who claimed earlier reports with the Men-In-Black. But had Bender's story not been the first one that got so popularized ..."

AB: "No?"

NR: "... those other ones probably wouldn't have come forward."

- AB: "I wonder if the three (3) wise men were counseled that: 'No, you don't see that star?'"
- NR: "Well you know, that's interesting because as I said Bender's book was called *Flying Saucers and the Three Men*. And the reason why it was called that is because typically the Men-In-Black turn up in groups of three (3)."
- AB: "Hmm."
- NR: "Now there have been reports of one (1) or two (2), but for the most part it's three (3). So you know, that's an interesting angle."
- AB: "Heh, heh, heh ... well ... all right, so obviously since that time – not the time I mentioned, the one you mentioned – in the fifties (1950s), following forty-seven (1947), I guess, um, there have been many, many, many incidences of Men-In-Black. ... I think even Dan Aykroyd reported them, right?"
- NR: "Um-hmm. Yeah, I mean, the Men-In-Black, ah, a lot of people don't realize the sheer number of reports that surface. I mean, I mentioned at the beginning I've written three (3) books on the Men-In-Black – the most recent one which is just called, or actually the brand new one which came out last week, *The Men-In-Black*. Um, what I found is – and I think most authors get this – when you write on a particular subject, people have had their own experiences ..."
- AB: "Oh, yes."
- NR: "... and tend to contact you on, you know, that subject."
- AB: "Same exact ... same exact thing happens to talk-show hosts, of course."
- NR: (laughs). "Exactly, yeah! And, ah, you know, somebody writes a book on crop circles, people contact them about crop circles."
- AB: "That's right."
- NR: "Well, having written extensively on the Men-In-Black, I probably get I would say somewhere in the region of forty (40) or fifty (50) reports a ... a year ... something like that. Like one (1) or two (2) a week, something maybe close to.
- Um, and the reports I get, you know, sometimes they are older cases, but many of them are literally right up to the present day. I mean, the new book's got cases from 2014 and 2015."

AB: “Okay. Well if you’re still getting reports of MIB visits, then lets’ say a government entity that were dispatching these Men-In-Black ... and that’s just sort of a little set-up there – I wouldn’t be so concerned about it anymore because there are sooo [sic] many reports of flying objects now, that, uh, to send Men-In-Black it seems to me would just punctuate and enhance the ... the report of the person, uh, who made it.”

NR: “No, that’s a good point! And you’re right, and ... but I think one of the things to note in most of the people who report MIB today, they actually sound far more like what we say David Jacobs was talking about. You know, that they look semi-human but they camouflage themselves ...”

AB: “Yes.”

NR: “... with black wraparound sunglasses ...”

AB: “Yes.”

NR: “... turned-up collars, and in many respects, you know, the sort of thing David’s been talking about. You can actually make a good case that the Men-In-Black could be an aspect of that sort of an infiltration.”

AB: “Okay. All right ... now you’ve done it! You’ve brought up David Jacobs’ name, Dr. Jacobs name several times, and I’ve held myself back, uh, but I can’t do it anymore. I did ... I did a show with him, ah, the other night – I don’t know if you’re aware of that or not ...?”

NR: “Yes, I was ... yeah.”

AB: “One heluva show (!) ... if I do say so myself! And what he described, ah, was an alien invasion, Nick, and, uh, and maintains that we are in the middle of that invasion right now ... by creatures that are part-human and part-nonhuman. And that these creatures, um, have the ability to read minds (!) And that this invasion is going along quite swimmingly! I wonder if you would care to comment? I found it particularly chilling and ... and surely possible. And I wonder how you feel about it?”

NR: “Well, yeah, I mean it’s one of these situations where I actually take a lot of notice of what David Jacobs has written, particularly like in his earlier book, *The Threat*.

The main reason being, because having written about the Men-In-Black for so long, I’ve noticed a lot of deep parallels between the two (2) phenomena. And, um, I mean for example in the new book, I’ve got cases where people have said: ‘The Men-In-Black have visited them.’ As I said

earlier, they have this strange skin. Ahh, some witnesses said they lack pores. Ah, or you know, there's just not a single line on their face at all.

Um, as bizarre as it sounds, some of the Men-In-Black are described as wearing ... clearly wearing wigs. And in some cases where it looks like they've got sort of make-up on to even try and make their skin look more healthy and human-looking."

AB: "Hmpf."

NR: "So you get little really bizarre things like this you know, and, um, if there's people making it up I think that would make up something along the lines, you know, of the Will Smith-Tommy Lee Jones movie image because that's a popular culture image. They wouldn't be making up bizarre stories like this which you can find all across the planet. And, um ... so a lot of the stories I get to actually sort of eerily parallel these stories of human-alien hybrids that kind of look like us.

But if, you know, if you're walkin' down the street late at night, a person or the thing has got the collar turned-up and a hat on, you probably wouldn't notice too much. You see them in the daylight and you ... you bump into them by mistake and for a second or two, you get a good look at them, then you might think: 'Wow! Has that person got a strange genetic condition or something like that?'"

AB: "So in other words, it's not out of reason that, uh, the *creatures* that you're describing – I used that word instead of *humans* – the creatures that you're describing could be very much like what Dr. Jacobs is describing?"

NR: "Oh, yeah! I mean, you know, the ... the whole issue of ... of the camouflage, you know, the sunglasses, and movin' about in the streets ..."

AB: "Yes?"

NR: "That's what the Men-In-Black have done for a long time, so I wonder if, you know, we're actually dealing with an almost identical, or if not identical phenomenon, ahh, but has had different ways over the years of targeting us.

Now, you know, the stuff that David talks about is more along, you know, like a large-scale infiltration."

AB: "Yes."

NR: “Back in the ... back in the fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s), you know, the reports weren’t on that scale, so that in one respect you could make a case I guess that the Men-In-Black were more of like the initial frontline ...”

AB: “Yes.”

NR: “... that first went out.”

AB: “All right. Well, imagine this for a moment. Imagine this for a moment, Nick. Excuse me ...”

NR: “Sure.”

AB: “... but if their original mission, as we touched upon at the beginning, was to squash UFO reports, that’s reports of ships in our atmosphere. Um, now imagine how important to the same group it would be to squash talk of an actual ongoing invasion of our planet?”

NR: “Um-hmm.”

AB: “It seems to me that would be very high on their list.”

NR: “Well, yeah, you’re right. And I think, you know the ... the issue of these entities visiting people’s homes and, you know, the witnesses clearly realizing that these aren’t normal-looking people, um, demonstrates a couple of things ... to me at least.

One may be they’re trying to sort of test the waters as to how successfully or not they get recognized for what they are or for what they’re not.”

AB: “Um-hmm.”

NR: “You know, I mean, the witness responds – he’s usually: ‘Oh my God (!), that person was five feet (5 ft.) tall, they looked at me, weighed a hundred and twenty pounds (120 lbs.), and had bulgin’ eyes hidden behind these big sunglasses. They knew they weren’t dealing with, you know, sort of 1950s-era G-Men, as though you know, or the FBI! They ... they clearly weren’t anything along those lines.

But, um, you know the ... most of the reports had said were ‘extremely strange’ and Bender kicked it all off! And then obviously through the sixties (1960s), um, it just continued. A lot of people like, ah, Brad Steiger, you know, a very famous figure in the whole, uh, paranormal field ...”

AB: “I know ... I know Brad and Sherry [Hansen Steiger] very well.”

NR: “Oh, great! Well, um, yeah, I mean Brad ... in the new book I’ve got out – *Men-In-Black* – Brad actually very kindly wrote an entire paper about his own personal experiences with the Men-In-Black. And how they even, ah, impacted on his friends and started to threaten his friends. Um ...”

AB: “Wow!”

NR: “... essentially, you know to try to get the word back to him I guess to ... to leave it all alone, and, uh, so even Brad himself found himself, um, infected I guess ... is a, you know, not a bad term to use when you consider how these things work.”

AB: “Well you know (AB chuckles) people are funny. I mean, they say: ‘Ah, man, he gave in. ... But if somebody came to you – somebody of ‘questionable origins’ (NR snickers), let’s put it that way – and ... and, uh threatened you and, uh, even moreso threatened your family ...”

NR: “Um-hmm.”

AB: “... I think most people in this audience – especially at the threat of family – would leave it the heck alone.”

NR: “Well, I think that would ... I think I’d leave it alone, maybe, but I mean, I’m the sort ... I’m the sort of character when, you know, if somebody says ‘Don’t do this,’ it’s like a red rag to a bull as they say, you know what I mean?” (NR laughs).

AB: “I do.”

NT: “Uh, absolutely ... I don’t ...”

AB: “But, but, but when it’s family ... when it’s family, Nick ...”

NR: “Well, that’s true, yeah ... I mean it’s one thing to investigate UFOs – it’s another thing to have your family threatened. Um, so you know, I do understand that. Equally I also think, you know, that I would like to think that if they ever sort of knocked on my door, I would stand up to them.

But one of the interesting things, and again with parallel to what David Jacobs says, is that the Men-In-Black seem to have the ability to affect people’s minds, you know, not just mind-reading, but mind-control almost, to where the person essentially becomes, um, like a slave during the interrogation. And, um ...”

AB: “Ding, ding, ding!”

NR: “Yes, so you know, you imagine most people wouldn’t open ... open the door at midnight (12:00 am) or eleven o’clock (11:00 pm) to three (3) creepy lookin’ little guys with white faces, *but people do let them in*. And this suggests to me a degree of, ah ...”

AB: “Control?”

NR: “Something along the lines of mind-control, mind manipulation, that makes the person, um, lose control of their, um, sort of self-awareness and also their commonsense factors, where it’s like everything goes out the window and they just invite these people or invite these things in. And then they get threatened.

It’s almost like the person’s in a haze throughout the entire experience ...”

AB: “Yes.”

NR: “ ... and then when they’ve left, they start to come out of it as if someone’s coming out of almost-like anesthetic, you know and um, ‘Why did I let them in? Why did I listen to what they had to say?’”

AB: “This is why I’m so concerned about what Dr. Jacobs is saying, because what possible ... *what possible* defense do we have against creatures who can control our minds, our thoughts ... ? Not much, Nick.”

NR: “Well, you’re right. I mean, again most of the reports I have of when the Men-In-Black came to people’s homes – if not all of them – um, the first thing that’s weird is that, you know as I said they turn usually at night ten, nine, ten, eleven o’clock (9:00 pm – 11:00 pm) onwards, when it’s pitch black ... A person hears a knock at the door and even if they look through the spyhole, if they’ve got one, and they see these entities there, they still open the door and let them in.

And what’s weird is that the Men-In-Black rarely ever come in until they’re invited in. And that kind of fits in with the old vampire parallels ...”

AB: “That’s what I was going to say, yeah.”

NR: “Yeah ... and they kind of look like paleface vampires (!), so I do wonder if ...”

AB: “Well, you know what? You know what? Um, Nick, maybe when you look through that little peephole at them, instead of seeing three (3) little five foot (5 ft.) guys dressed eerily, uh, they see instead either a friendly neighbor or perhaps a relative, and ... and of course then they open the door and just say: ‘Come on in.’”

NR: “Well, that’s not impossible, and you know, all this makes me wonder if a lot of ancient stories of vampires may have been very, very early reports of Men-In-Black-type entities. But, uh, but when they enter the home as I said they ... they often ask the most bizarre questions and don’t seem conversant without mannerisms properly. They don’t seem to know how to handle knives and forks, or cups and, you know, and liquid and things like this. They kind of just *stare* at it as if they’re not really sure ...”

AB: “What?”

NR: “... what they should do with it even. Um, and so it all gets very strange, and as I said, there’s no doubt there’s a degree of mind-control involved with this ... with this entire phenomenon. That’s why I think they’re so elusive, because ...”

AB: “You know, Nick ...”

NR: “... [indecipherable] saw the entire thing.”

AB: “You just ... you just said something again parallels exactly what Dr. Jacobs was saying ... He was saying that many times these creatures, ah, that he described – these ‘mixes’ – um, are unable to do the simplest things and have to be taught that they can sit back ... I think he used the expression of sitting in a couch and having to actually be instructed that they could lean back because there was a backing to the couch. And that’s very close to what you’re describing now.”

NR: “Oh it is. I mean, there are a lot of reports ... There’s actually a famous case where a Man-In-Black, um, was given, uh, some jello and couldn’t figure out how to eat the jello. (AB chuckles). Tried to eat it with his fingers. (NR snickers).

Uh, I mean it sounds bizarre, but when you find as I’ve got, I mean, well now literally hundreds of reports from all across the world, um, where you know, people clearly don’t know each other, but there are certain little bits of data which fit in – like, you know, ‘they’re not too strange’ ... ‘not understanding something that would be so easy for us to understand,’ and even, you know, ‘the issue of the lack of any lines on their skin,’ and ‘not being really sure if they’re entirely human or not.’ And um, you know, there’s so many interesting parallels like that where you can clearly place these things here, there and everywhere. And that is the scary thing.

I mean, I’ve investigated cases from the U.S., from Puerto Rico, from Canada, and from the U.K., from Australia. Uh, I’ve got a couple of

Russian reports and a few from Mexico, and a few from South America. So you know, that's pretty much two-thirds of the globe."

AB: "Has anybody ever recorded a Man-In-Black?"

NR: "Um, nobody's ever audio-recorded one, but um, back in the sixties (1960s) a couple of researchers, Glenn [Timothy] Beckley and Jim Moseley, um, actually photographed one. Now ..."

AB: "Oh?"

NR: "I actually included the photograph in my second book on the Men-In-Black, which was called *The Real Men-In-Black*. And that one includes the photo. And there was this guy ... he's got a long black trenchcoat, ah, black fedora, black sunglasses, and he's just staring oddly and outwardly. He looks just sort of zombie-fied, you know, almost like a blank state."

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "And the reason why they took the photograph is because for several days for like an hour every morning, he just stood outside the Jersey City [, New Jersey] home of a UFO researcher, ah, or two (2) researchers, Jack and Mary Robinson. And, um, Mary got frightened when Jack went to work one day, and this character turned up. And Jim [Moseley] and Tim Beckley raced over and managed to get a photograph of it. They literally drove past during rush hour when he was just standing in the recess of this old building in the shadows, staring right at, um, Jack and Mary's apartment window.

You see the picture – he does look really weird. He kind of looks just totally emotionless and flat-lined almost and, uh, you know, this zombie ... like a well-dressed zombie is the best way to describe him."

AB: "Nick, ah, have you heard of any physical confrontations?"

NR: "Oh, what you mean like ... altercations? That kind of thing?"

AB: "Like that, yes."

NR: "Yeah, ah, yeah, there's a few, but not many. And that's interesting because if people are able to sort of break out of this mind-control state ... so occasionally some of them have stood up and found themselves actually, you know, their mindset returning to normal, as if they've broken a spell almost. And they threaten the Men-In-Black to leave or they threaten to call the police, et cetera.

Instead of responding with violence, the Men-In-Black quickly made their excuses and left, as if they didn't want a confrontation."

AB: "All right. Hold it right there. We're at a break point, and we'll be back. Nick Redfern and Men-In-Black ... that's what we're talking about. It sounds eerily like the interview we did the other night. This really is eerie! I'm Art Bell ... Midnight in the Desert – raging in the night."

* * *

AB: "Here I am. *Riders on the Storm*. I hope we're not riders on the invasion. I really do. I'm beginning to wonder, frankly.

Nick Redfern is my guest. We are discussing Men-In-Black. And, uh, they sound eerily like the things that were described the other day. Incredible! Nick, ah, welcome back."

NR: "Thanks, Art."

AB: "Yeah ... yeah, we were talking about the, uh, possibility of ... of, uh, there having been, uh, physical altercations."

NR: "Yeah ... this is where it gets interesting, because the Men-In-Black come across very menacing and threatening, and intimidating. But a lot of it is sort of very much psychological and it *works* as the Albert Bender case shows and as many cases show. However,, there have been a few occasions where the person has felt almost under some sort of hypnotic spell, but they've been able to break out of it."

AB: "Hmpf."

NR: "And their sort of commonsense factors have come back to them. And they tell the Men-In-Black: 'Get out of the house! I'm callin' the police!'

Now, given their sort of menacing approach and the way they look, you might imagine the MIB would ... would sort of just, you know, put on the fear factor or even worse! But that doesn't happen ...

Typically, what does happen is that the MIB quickly find a way to leave the house, you know ..."

AB: "Hmpf."

NR: "... as soon as possible. They actually don't go in for physical confrontation. They, ah, they make their excuses and leave."

AB: “So in other words, once they do not have control – or realize they don’t have control of you, they’re out of there ...?”

NR: “Yeah! And that is an interesting thing, because it suggests that ... it suggests to me the reason they place people in a mind-control state is because physically they’re quite vulnerable, because as I said, you know, they’re sort of five feet – five feet, five [5 ft. – 5 ft. 5 in.] ...”

AB: “Um-hmm.”

NR: “... one hundred and twenty pounds (120 lbs.), look sickly – you know, they don’t look well.

Um, but while they have you rendered into an altered state, they are fully in control. You break out of it, they’re the most vulnerable things in the room, you know? And I think that’s an important factor to remember – that they always ensure to find a way to be in control of the situation. And if that breaks down, they quickly know enough that it’s time to leave. So I think, you know, those patterns are very important as well.”

AB: “Is there a link, Nick, between Men-In-Black and these reports I’ve been hearing of ‘black eyed children’?”

NR: “Yes, well there actually is. I mean, again in the new book, *Men-In-Black*, um, David Weatherly (who wrote the book, ah, [*The*] *Black Eyed Children*) David wrote in a paper for me for the book, ah, discussing the parallels between the MIB and the Black Eyed Children. There’s some really interesting ones ... for example, I mean, for the first thing is of course, the clothing. Now the Men-In-Black, you know, wear black suits and black fedoras – well, the kids, you know, they wear black hoodies, so the color of the clothing’s the same and they also wear something on their heads ... to partly mask their face or their head, you know. Ahh, so the Men-In-Black ... fedoras, the Black Eyed Children ... hoodies.

Um, most of the reports of the Black Eyed Children – they try and find ways to force their way into people’s homes ... you know: ‘Can we use the telephone?’ Um, you know: ‘Can you give us some money or some food?’ Things like that. There’s always some sort of way that the Black Eyed Children try to get in the house.

Typically, they ... they look pale and also ... which is the same with the Men-In-Black ... and also they typically surface at night, which is also a classic aspect of the Men-In-Black encounters. So in other words, there are five (5) or six (6) extremely similar parallels between the MIB and the Black Eyed Children.

And again, I kind of speculate that the whole situation is based around mind-control. You know, find a way into the person's home and then when you're on their territory, um, you're sitting or standing right opposite them, then they can, you know, make the mind-control angle work. And David Weatherly makes in this paper he wrote for me, he makes a lot of very good sense in terms of demonstrating the ... the Men-In-Black mystery and the Black Eyed Children mystery. Actually sort of two (2) components of one (1) bigger issue.

And, uh, and of course this brings into other things that have surfaced the last few years ... sort of paranormal-type things like the Shadow People, the Hat Man, ...

AB: "Ugh!"

NR: "... the Grinning man. And they all ... the Hat Man, the Grinning Man, the Shadow People – they all kind of seem, uh, to come from sort of the same, um, body, if you like. Um, you know, they all have their ... their deep similarities, even though there are, you know, some differences as well."

AB: "O-kay ...well, I've had, um, a Shadow Person experience, which ... which honestly scared the tar out of me. Ah, Nick, I'm sorry but it really ... it terrorized me.

Um, in my ... in my ham shack [sic], uh, at the main house about two (2) – three (3) weeks before the show doing research for the show late at night, and, uh, there was one ... I ... I looked to my right ... I guess somethin' caught my eye. I looked to the right and here was this ... you know, now that you mention it ... probably not very tall at all – about five feet (5 ft.) tall – a human body, not arms extended ... the arms would be down, but you could tell it was a ... a humanlike or humanoid-type body, that's about as far as I can go. You can actually see through it ... partially (!)

And I startled, and I ... I started to turn around and the damn thing was behind me ... and again, I could see through it. And then I'm at this point really freaked out ... And I turn to my left which at this point is where the door would be to get the hell ... heck out of that room, and there it was to my left."

NR: "Yeah?"

AB: "It eventually just went 'pfftt' ... kinda like 'pfftt' – like that ..."

NR: "Wow!"

AB: “And it was gone! ... ah, but it was real. I’m telling you, Nick, it was a real something – I don’t know what.

But are you saying there is a relationship between these sort of Shadow People – or whatever they are – and, uh and Men-In-Black?”

NR: “Oh, yeah. I mean one of the interesting things that just stood out for me ... what you just said, uh, you know you saw this Shadow Person when you were doing research for the show, et cetera. Well, this actually ties in with this paper that Brad Steiger did for the book, where Brad was looking into things and it was as if the Men-In-Black know. In other words, in the same way that he was doing research and they seemed to know and began threatening him and also ‘fire’ [sic?] his friend.

You know, you were looking into something and they seem to know. You know in the sense that they appeared or one appeared.

And I get that so much in Men-In-Black and Hat Man and Shadow People-type reports where it’s like when you ... when you kind of think of them, they seem to have an awareness that, um, people are thinking of them. And they can lock onto people who might, if you like, be looking for the answers, and then they can target them with a potential threat.

But, um, within the Shadow People controversy, there’s ... which again I talk about in the book, there’s this sort of subcategory known as the Hat Man, which looks like a shadow person – essentially it’s shadowy – but like the Men-In-Black, it’s typically seen wearing an old-style fedora. But often it’s described as like a black silhouette, rather than having sort of a substantial form. You know, it’s sort of a cross between a ... a physical entity and a ... a spectre, if you like. But it looked ... but the outline looks like a Man-In-Black.

And then there’s another one which is often seen in a ... in a like black suit and often a fedora hat as well, known as a Grinning Man, where it has this sort of macabre grin on its face – almost sort of, um, you know just static, unmoving ... you know as if that’s its only, um, the only impression ... you know the only sort of a face it has. And, uh, they’re sort of among the creepiest, ah, stories of the Grinning Man – that people have seen these things ...

You know, they’ll wake up in the middle of the night unable to move, and there’s this very often tall and thin – you know actually the opposite of the Men-In-Black and quite small – but tall and thin wearin’ a black suit, skinny black tie, black fedora, white face, but has this really sort of malevolent grin on its face, just starin’ at the person ...”

AB: “Hmpf.”

NR: “... you know. Those reports ... I know from the people I’ve spoken to and written about it, probably I mean, are amongst some of the most chilling ones.”

AB: “All right, well would you put these – and I know it’s tough to put a label on any ... all these things, but number one (1) – you seem to think they’re related. Number two (2) would be the question: ‘Do you think it’s in the field of the paranormal? Or just some weird government agency? I mean, they’re somewhere in that range – you must have a point of view?’”

NR: “Yeah. I mean, I would put them in a paranormal, um, angle, um, push ‘em down the paranormal pathway, if you like. Now of course it all depends on what we mean by ‘paranormal’ ... you know? I mean we could place ... certainly some aspects of the UFO phenomenon have certain paranormal overtones to them. And certainly Albert Bender’s cases with, you know, with setting up supernatural altars to open portals and doorways and things like this. And, ah, I’ve got some cases where people, for example, have been visited by Men-In-Black. But there was actually no UFO component, but they’d been dabbling with Ouija boards (!) Um ... (AB grunts). I’ve got a few other cases where they experimented ... the Men-In-Black appeared. And then after the Men-In-Black left, they experienced violent poltergeist activity in the home. So there’s weird ... there’s very weird stuff like that.

So for the most part I ... I don’t dispute that government agencies might on occasion have sort of mimicked the weird Men-In-Black as a means to get information out of witnesses. In other words, so it gets really complicated, there could be more than one (1) category. Uhh, but for the most part, I think these MIB are something that is totally one hundred percent (100%) unconnected to government at all. And, I go down the path of something that has ... appears to display supernatural powers in terms of how it controls people, but which is clearly a physical thing. And which is trying its best to look as human as it can, but very often doesn’t do a very good job of doing it.”

AB: “Well, Nick, they are certainly emulating, ah, the feds in one sense. I mean, when feds ...”

NR: “Yeah ... (?)”

AB: “... when feds come to see you, they are intimidating – that’s all there is to it. I mean, generally they wear dark clothes ...”

NR: “Yeah.”

AB: “ ... they’ve got the sunglasses ... I’ve had a number of encounters with them. They’re not exactly Men-In-Black, but they’re not far off either.

So there’s a kind of an intimidation in having two (2) guys who look like this show up at your door.”

NR: “Yeah, and I think, you know, you can make a good argument that, um, a great deal of research might have gone into it on their part to find the most intimidating ... intimidating way to approach people. And what better than turn up at midnight with a black fedora, black trenchcoat, you know, and super-white skin and sunglasses even ... in a group of three (3) and just scare the living daylights out of people.”

AB: “Um-hmm.”

NR: “And, um, and it works, you know? I think that motif, that imagery of sort of the fedora and the trenchcoat. It almost ... it goes back to sort of, you know, sort of film noir-type things and Humphrey Bogart gangster movies. People have that image – sort of the chilling, menacing Man-In-Black, you know.”

AB: “Well it works.”

NR: “It does. It does. And that’s ... that’s how, uh, you know for us that’s the downside of it all is that, um, you know people find themselves in ... in really dangerous situations. I mean, I’ve seen ... spoken to people that felt that their lives was sort of psychologically scarred by these encounters. I mean, one of the reports I ... I included in the new book, um, was from someone who was told this story back in the 1930s ... you know, a very old guy now ... and he kept quiet about it for years. You know, fearful of if I say too much, are they going to come after me?”

AB: “Of course!”

NR: “... And I get so many like that where somebody will say, you know, I’m sixty-two (62) now or whatever and this happened to me when I was seventeen (17). And I don’t know what’s coming next, that they are gonna say, um, ‘Why do you want to talk about it? Because the first visit was enough and I never wanted to see ‘em again, so I stayed quiet for forty (40) years.’”

AB: “Well again, you’ve had so many reports now, Nick, that I would really have to ask: Do you notice anything in the demographics? Do you notice anything in the ... in the type of people that are contacted? Do you notice

any similarities or many similarities in the stories that people tell you, or what?”

NR: “Hmpf. Well actually, that’s a good point because yeah there are certain things you can look for, but you do see quite prevalent through a lot of these reports. One is that most of them turn up at night and I don’t think that’s coincidence, you know. If you’re trying to blend in and you’re walking around the streets, the best way to do it is when it’s more and more difficult to see, which is obviously after the sun’s gone down.

Um, now in terms of the people actually getting’ the visit, this I think it’s been one of the reasons why it’s been so difficult to predict where and when they might turn up. And that’s specifically because it really is at random. You know, if it was just UFO researchers, well, you know, we are all capable to look out for each other, but I mean I’ve gotten some reports where it’s abductees that got visited, or contactees, but then again I’ve got other cases where somebody just saw light in the sky, you know, which could have been ... it was no more spectacular than a satellite, but they happened to tell the local newspaper, you know, reading the newspaper and then they get a visit. But there was nothing substantial or sensational about the reports at all.

Um, I’ve got other cases where, for example, as I mentioned, you know, there was the Ouija board, um, connection. And that’s totally, you know, totally separate to the claimed UFO encounter. So in other words, it’s ... it’s ... even I have to grudgingly admit it’s been incredibly difficult to try and predict where and when they might turn up because their activity is so bizarre and as random as the reports are in terms of, you know, where they occur ... when and why. But, um, what I can say is that for the most part, the ... the people who get the visit have had some sort of profound UFO encounter. And, it’s typically been where I guess ... the person had more like a close encounter – possibly with entities – or you know, they’ve seen something land and, you know it hasn’t just been a light in the sky or even just, you know, a disk in the sky. It’s been something more intriguing, and, um ... but you know, these reports surface everywhere. I mean literally, you know they’re the length and breadth of the entire planet. And, um, so, we’re clearly seeing the program ongoing.

Um, and you know, the other big issue, of course, is the mode by which they ask the questions. You know, it’s all very skillfully played out.”

AB: “All right. How ... how, if I might ... how often in the reports, Nick, is it vocal versus, ah, some sort of telepathic method?”

NR: “Well, that’s a ... that’s a good question. I’ll tell ya why, Art, because the Men-In-Black often do ask questions, but they’re often asking [a] sort of

very stilted, cautious way. Um, one witness actually described it, ah, the speech is something along the lines of ... of a person who might have a bad stutter. And who has to really concentrate to, you know, have a conversate [sic]. So they ... they speak ... speak slowly and deliberately. And, um, a lot of people have said something along these lines.

Now, what's really weird is that I've probably got nine (9) or ten (10) cases where the witnesses – none of them knew each other, but they said something which was almost identical. And they felt that the Men-In-Black – when they're asking the questions – that they were saying the words in almost like parrot fashion, in the sense that they didn't understand what they were saying. But they were just programmed to say, you know, or ask certain questions.

You imagine, for example, you know if you heard, um, ten (10) ... twenty (20) second recording of somebody speaking in Russian. If you played that over, you know, more and more times, you could actually repeat exactly what they were saying, but you wouldn't have any understanding of it. You would just be, you know, you'd just be listening to it and then repeating it eventually when you'd got it. And that's what a lot of people have said.

As I said, I've got like, you know, more than a handful of reports where people said they didn't actually think the Men-In-Black ... for whatever reason, they didn't feel the Men-In-Black actually understood what they were saying. There was almost ... it was almost as if they were sort of biological robots programmed to perform a ... a specific task and go out there, and um ... you know, and interview the people or silence them.

Um, one (1) or two (2) people have described them as almost like *The Matrix* movies, where in *The Matrix* films you have these Men-In-Black that actually aren't real. They're sort of like a simulation inserted into the program to ensure that the secrets of the Matrix, you know, we don't find out we're all living in this weird dream world.

And some of the witnesses have said things along those lines, that they felt the event was almost like holographic – as if it was *staged* for them. Um, rather than like a physical thing, you know, it was almost as if they ... they were ... they were in a trance and the Men-In-Black were, you know, the program inserted onto the ... onto the hard drive, so to speak.”

AB: “Well, it is to me, uh, here comes that word again, but it is to me *terrifying* for me to imagine not having the ability to act on my own thoughts. Or for that matter, to have my own thoughts ...”

NR: “Yeah.”

AB: "... to have something intervene [and] create thoughts in my own mind that I would then act on. That's really terrifying! I mean, that's control, right?"

NR: "Well, yeah. I mean that ... that is the worst part of it ... of these events is that, you know. I'm sure most of the audience listening now would think ... well, if they come knockin' on my door right in the middle of this show, there's no way I'm gonna let 'em in. And that's what everybody says, but everybody does let 'em in.

Um, and as I said, there have been cases where people have broken the spell. And I actually think the term 'spell' is actually a quite apt one and a relevant one. You know, they feel the spell is broken, then everything goes against the Men-In-Black. But as I said, they're astute enough to know it's time to leave.

So I think they ... I think a lot of the mind control is done, because physically the Men-In-Black are quite vulnerable. You know and, uh, they clearly wouldn't win any boxing matches, put it that way. Um, but they don't need to, because they have a, you know, far more powerful skills which essentially plunge us into a state of ... like an altered consciousness state ..."

AB: "Nick, uh, have you been contacted?"

NR: "Uh, you know I've never had that sort of knock on the door from the Men-In-Black. But what I will tell you – now this ... this gets really weird – is that, um, I've had a lot of strange telephone experiences. Uh, particularly since the new book's come out. And I swear, you know, this is not some sort of odd, alternative marketing ploy, it's really not, but both myself and my, um, agent and publisher, Lisa Hagan, we've had a bunch of weird, um, sort of synchronicity-type things go on in relation to the Men-In-Black.

I mean, I'll give you one (1) classic example of actually quite a few: I was in my office about two (2) months ago, and um, I heard a band [sic] call me from one of the other rooms. I could tell it was coming from the bedroom, so I went into the bedroom and I actually got a framed painting, um, of the covers of one of my earlier Men-In-Black books. And it had, uh, it had fallen off the wall and the glass had shattered. Now I've got like eight (8) paintings on that particular wall ... and I swear that's true. (AB laughs).

Um, this one picture of the Men-In-Black fell off the wall, glass was everywhere, and it actually happened right when I was opening the WORD document of the book to put the final edit to it before it went off to

Lisa to be published. And that was ... that was just like bizarre, but I ... I found that when I'm writing and even talkin' about the Men-In-Black, it's as if they kind of know (!)

I know that sounds strange and bizarre, but it's almost that if you look into them, they have a ... almost like a radar and, um, these things seem to know when you're looking for them. You know, pop up on their radar, so to speak."

AB: "Sounds like somebody's on their way to see you right now. That's how good our audio is." (AB laughs).

NR: (laughing). "Well, I live in Dallas ... the police are always racin' around at this time of night."

AB: "Sure, uh, Men-In-Black I guess have been known to affect telephone communication and, as you pointed out earlier, even poltergeist activity, right?"

NR: "Yeah, yeah, I mean, again it's interesting you bring that up, because again, in the new book I've got a ... a section from a woman named Claudia Cunningham, who's had a lot of run-ins with MIB-types. But one (1) of the things Claudia talks about in the paper that she submitted for the book was that the tremendous amount of weird telephone interference she's had whenever she gets involved with the Men-In-Black. And this has ranged from hearing weird electronic noises, bleeps on the phone ... to actually outright threats from anonymous sources. Um, and again, they often have weird tones in their voices, and yeah, they just don't sound normal.

And, um, you know, so for that reason telephone interference has become a staple part of the Men-In-Black mystery. And, um, to the point where, you know, we ... I won't say we have as many people who have had telephone experiences as have had visitations, but you know, I would say for every five (5) or six (6) reports I get of just the Men-In-Black reports, there's probably one (1) or two (2) where the people have said they had other things going on like, um, like telephone interference or in a couple of cases like I say, where furniture would suddenly slide across the room – that kind of thing.

You know, so it gets into ... what starts off like an X-Files thing, like I said actually turns into something really, really weird and, you know, almost supernatural-based."

AB: “Wow! All right, so they also apparently always drive old fifties (1950s), sixties (1960s) vintage cars, except for perhaps back in the beginning with Albert Bender.”

NR: “Yeah, that’s right. Um, you know the interesting thing about the Men-In-Black is that you would imagine for the most part that they would wanta, you know, go under the radar ... you know, stay out of people’s minds and eyes, but uh, everything about them does the opposite – it stands out! You know, and it is memorable – everything from the fedora hats and the black suit, and the skinny black tie. Obviously it wouldn’t have looked out of place in the forties (1940s), fifties (1950s), and sixties (1960s) ... probably even the early seventies (1970s), but today people would look twice. But that hasn’t stopped the Men-In-Black dressing like that.

And you’re right they drive for the most part sort of old gangster-era Cadillacs ... cars like that, you know. And, um ... but again what’s weird is I’ve got a few reports where these people have said they came out of this sort of weird stupor and rushed to the window and saw the Men-In-Black going down the drive and both the Men-In-Black and the car just sort of faded away into nothing as if it never ... as if it was never really there (!)

And these are the people who felt that or actually wondered with hindsight if the event had been sort of almost holographic as if some sort of alien entity had taken control of their mind and rendered them into a state where they’re in ... it almost seemed like a waking dream. You know, the Men-In-Black is a real phenomenon to them and the threat was real, but it was almost like a holographic dream rather than a physical thing and they ...”

AB: “Well, if they ... if they suddenly, uh, snap out of it as it were, Nick, and they go to the window and they see the car leaving ... an older car leaving – that would indicate to me that they were, you know, completely under the influence of these, uh, MIBs. And then suddenly that influence waned as the vehicle took off.”

NR: “Yeah, yeah, that’s quite plausible ... yeah.”

AB: “Okay, all right ... hold it right there. I’m Art Bell – this is *Midnight in the Desert*.”

* * *

AB: “Well, okay, we’re about to open the phone lines everybody, so why don’t you join us? I’m sure you have questions about Men-In-Black. I know I do.

I'm noticing similarities between, um, what Nick is saying and what was said the other night by Dr. Jacobs, and I'm sure you are as well.

Creepy stuff ... I mean, this really is creepy stuff. Not human ... maybe not. Part human ... possibly. And, you know, I'm ... (AB breaks off).

* * *

AB: "Nick, is there any, um, suggestion that these could be time travelers? I mean, they are using old vehicles – fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s) cars.

NR: "Um-hmm. Well, that's actually one of the interesting theories that, uh, you know, within the UFO field, ah, there is this sort of sub-culture that takes the view: 'What if it's time travelers, not extraterrestrials?'

And, uh, I mean there are some interesting things when it comes to that theory. One being, of course ... um, the obviously out-of-date clothing and the cars. You know, they're trying to fit in, not realizing, perhaps if they're from the distant future – hypothetically, of course – how quickly our fashions change. And, um ..."

AB: "Hmpf."

NR: "... so you imagine if that were true ... if that story was true ... well, that scenario was true – that they would have realized by now at least that they're not fitting in very well.

But, I mean, there are also interesting cases ... John Keel, for example, who wrote *The Mothman Prophecies*, as well as a number of ... a lot of good books – um, he noted that in many, um, 1960s-era Men-In-Black cases, the Men-In-Black would ask the witnesses what the time was. And they thought, you know, they're just askin': 'What time is it?' ... you know, as in 'What era? What year?' ... that kind of thing.

And, ah, so you do have a few strange stories like that where you could push it down, you know, a ... a time-travel pathway. And, of course, this is all dependent or not on whether time travel is actually feasible.

But, um, you know, the, um, whole ... the whole scenario, I mean, you can actually make a case for it. You know, that's one of the interesting things is that, 'Why fascinated?' Because they're so many different facets and theories, ah, you know, in relation to the Men-In-Black."

AB: "Sure. All right, let's, ah, let's go to the phone[s] ..."

* * *

Aud: "I've never seen Men-In-Black, but it occurs to me that if there is an alien force that wishes to try to shape, ah, human life – one of the ways to gain entry would be with simulated humans, ah, that would appear much less frightening in black suits. So maybe that would be a way to, ah, affect human behavior directly, but without causing a whole, huge amount of 'little green men' being seen?"

NR: "Yeah, that's actually a good point. ... I mean, if you look at, for example, you know, sci-fi movies – typically when an invasion occurs, it's sort of *Independence Day*-style, you know, with craft in the skys or *War of the Worlds* or *The Day the Earth Stood Still* – um, in many respects, you know, to really have a successful invasion, perhaps the way to do it would be to really do it slowly, carefully, subtly, to where we don't even know until it's a case of 'Game Over' and there's no need for huge two hundred foot (200 ft.), three hundred foot (300 ft.) wide craft hovering over every city. You know, it could actually be something that we don't realize is going on under our very eyes, so to speak, because it is so, um, unrecognizable to most people, because they're not seeing it for what is actually happening."

Aud: "It occurs to me that the idea that everybody who sees a UFO is crazy and all of that kind of, uh, nonsense ... it's, ah ... it seems to me it's time for everyone just to say: 'Okay, ah, space aliens are real.' Let's stop denigrating people, uh, and ... celebrate them for being honest.

My question is: Do you think the seeming, ah, increase in the number of UFO-type TV shows and movies ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

Aud: "... do you think that's an act – a conscious act of preparing, ah, human beings?"

NR: "Um, well I know for sure that there have been rumors over the years of sort of, um, you know, government agencies subtly suggesting to filmmakers and production companies that: 'Hey, you know, why don't you do this ...?' and, um, you know, there are actually more than a few.

We do know also, for example, in the 1950s when the CIA created the Robertson Panel to look into the UFO issue, one of the things that they recommended was using the Disney corporation to create cartoons to, um, you know, inform the general public ... regardless of which way they wanted to go with, you know, informing them. Ah, but you know, having Disney onboard to, um, to assist the ... the government program – so that sort of thing isn't out of the question at all."

AB: “Okay.”

* * *

Aud: “Several years ago I had a series of dreams about aliens. And, um, some of ... there was one that particularly stood out in my mind where I, uh, some aliens were gonna take my kids, and I started, um, shape-shifting, you know, into all kinds of fearsome creatures, and I scared them and they went away.”

AB: “Hmpf. Well that’s a new one ... um, I think that some of these experiences, Nick, occur to people when they are in or near the sleep state and more suggestible, I would think.”

NR: “Yeah, I mean virtually are some of the weirder Men-In-Black cases where I actually do think there’s a good chance that they could almost invade the dream state. You know, they can literally manipulate people’s dreams.

And, uh, that might sound far out to a lot of people, but on the other hand, you know, there are more than a few reports like that. You know, where somebody goes to bed and they wake up in the middle of the night, and they see this weird Shadow-type Person or the Hat Man in their bedroom. But it gets worse than that as they actually feel these entities can intrude upon and actually manipulate the nature of what they’re actually dreaming. So in other words, you can get a strange visitation in a physical sense, but also these things could possibly visit us, uh, malevolently while we’re sleeping and actually have the same effect on us – this sort of chilling threat. But it’s not done physically, it’s done by literally getting into your mind while you’re sleepin’.”

AB: “Okay.”

* * *

Aud: “Is it crazy to ask if the Black Eyed Children just might grow up to be the Men-In-Black?”

NR: “Well, you know, I’ve heard that more than a few times. And as I said in the new book, David Weatherly – who wrote the book *Black Eyed Children* – has done an entire paper on this very issue of the parallels. And um, you know, whether they are the child equivalents of, you know, the Men-In-Black ... I don’t know. But I mean, what I can say is that ... if they are, everything about them makes sense. As I said earlier, you know, the hat ... the Men-In-Black have the black jackets and the black hat, the kids have the black hoodie with ... you know, obviously has a hat component to it as well. The skin color, you know, the comin’ out late at night, um, needing to find a way into the home. It’s almost like both of them – the Men-In-Black and the Black Eyed Children are working to a set program.

And I mean, you know, there's also the theory: 'Are they actually really children?' You know, this gets into sort of creepy areas. What if they're sort of biologically-altered? You know, you talk about the grays – which are sort of three (3 ft.) to four feet (4 ft.) tall, but they're actually not children. We think of them as children, 'cause they're small, you know, but what if they're skillfully altered extraterrestrials? You know, they're designed to look like children. That would be even sort of more disturbin'."

AB: "The whole thing is disturbing."

* * *

Aud: "Have you ... are you aware of any cases of uh ... um, the Men-In-Black like physically assaulting anyone or anything like that?"

AB: "Right. I asked ... asked that earlier, but ..."

NR: "As far as I know personally ... I personally don't have any cases where they've been physically assaulted, but you know, they ... they sort of infer sometimes that a person might end up dead, or you know, they should be very, very careful about what they say ... to who, et cetera, et cetera. But it often ... it's that, you know, that threat is enough to where they don't need, you know, to actually resort to physical attacks.

But I mean ... look, as I said, look at the size of them and the build of them – physically they're not really up to taking us on. And I think that's why they rely on the mind control, because that keeps them, you know, in control of the whole situation which physically they ... they could not do. So I've been ... you know, that's interesting that we don't actually really see what we might expect, you know? We might expect old Men-In-Black ... oh, they're gonna, you know, they're gonna out the, ah ... you know, turn the screws and really be bad for us. But physically, they don't do that. They just, uh, you know, they rely on sort of inference and threats and things like that."

AB: "Well, if they can control us with their minds, then the biggest linebacker is stopped cold. I mean, they don't need physical force."

NR: "No!"

* * *

AB: "Um, that ... that really ... that part of it really bothers me – that they can control our thoughts and it sound so eerily similar ... Have you thought of sitting down with Dr. Jacobs and, uh, comparing notes – the two (2) of you?"

NR: “Well, it’d be a good idea. I mean, there’s no doubt that, you know, there’s um, this sort of an area – I won’t say it’s completely sort of, you know, not unstudied ... it isn’t, but I mean, you know, I think it’s a matter of puttin’ all the threads together.

I mean, along with the Black Eyed Children angle and the Men-In-Black, that sort of perfect analogy that we’ve got these two (2) phenomena that in many respects are extremely similar, and yet most people treat them as different and unconnected. And I think that’s the danger in a lot of the Men-In-Black, um, cases is not seeing the bigger picture. You know, people often view these events as random, one-of encounters, rather than looking at the bigger picture of: How many have occurred? Where they’ve occurred? What’s the nature of them? You know, what was going on in the person’s life? And I think these are all important factors that, um, that come into play.

And you know, it might ... we might see a lot more parallels between the MIB and the Black Eyed Children the more we look into it. And, um, you know, I think this ... from our perspective the more we know, you know, it’s to our benefit ...”

AB: “Sure.”

NR: “But whether we’re going to like what we know or not, that’s a completely different question.”

* * *

Aud: “‘Believe these Men-In-Black are demons, spreading fear for Satan.’ This kind of statement was inevitable and I, you know, I can’t rule it out. The one that came to you was to show you ... to scare you (meaning me) and to make you talk more about them so the fear spreads.”

AB: “Well ... interesting thought. Uh, Nick?”

NR: “Well, yeah, I mean, there are actually some people who do, you know, um, adhere to the idea that the UFO phenomenon is demonic. I mean, one of them is a guy named, uh, Ray Boeche [pronounced “bow-shay”], who I interviewed about the Men-In-Black and the UFO phenomenon a few years ago.

Ray has an interesting background. He’s a ... an Anglican priest and he’s also a former state director of MUFON, the Mutual UFO Network.”

AB: “Right.”

NR: “He lives in Nebraska. And, uh, Ray came around to the idea that, um, you know, the phenomenon is sort of more demonic than it is extraterrestrial, or literally demonic rather than extraterrestrial. And um, you know there are a lot of people who actually do believe that theory.

I think ... from my perspective, I think we’re seeing a phenomenon that ... you know, it could be extraterrestrial, but it also has the ability to interact with what we might call the supernatural, even if we’re not really sure what the world of the supernatural is, you know in terms of actually being able to control our minds.

This whole issue of people invoking them – like Albert Bender did – and so opening portals, that has far more of a paranormal aspect to it. But maybe it’s something that can be explained one day by science, and so in that sense, I think it’s possible that the ... sort of the world of what people call demons and science may one day sort of cross paths.

And, you know, it’s um, things like the djinn people talk about which is sort of like a Middle Eastern, you know, version of our demon. Not that much difference.

Um, you know some people like Rosemary Ellen Guiley, who wrote several ... has written several good books on the djinn has pointed out that even though they’re placed in the paranormal category, that you can actually also demonstrate that, um, you know they could well be distorted tales of entities that live in other realms of existence that could be explained by science. So I think, yeah, we could see sort of a merging one day of, uh, paranormal phenomena and science, if we could understand how the two (2) come together.”

AB: “Wel, I’m not blind of the fact that, for example, when I saw what I saw ... which, you know, I call a Shadow Person – I don’t know what it was ...”

NR: “Um-hmm.”

AB: “... I was doing research for this program. You know, somebody reminded me of that. That’s what I was doing at that moment ...”

NR: “Um-hmm.”

AB: “... research for this program, which means I was thinking about things of this sort. And I just wonder if I didn’t invite whatever it was on in?”

NR: “No, you may have well done. I mean, people get quite disturbed when I ... I’ve actually pointed this out to people a lot of times. It’s um, it’s a paraphrase actually from the movie version of, ah, John Keel’s *The*

Mothman Prophecies. There's a character in there that's based on Keel – his name's Alexander Leek – and 'Leek' is Keel backwards. And he actually ... I'm not quotin' him exactly here ... somebody asks him, one of the characters asks him, you know: 'What's goin' on?' And he said: 'Well, when you notice these things, they notice that you notice them.'

AB: "Ah!"

NR: "And that sort of gets to the heart of it.

The idea that when we think about these things, it's as if they know we're thinking about them. And then they start taking an interest in manipulating us. And I have so many cases like that where it's almost as if we create reality as we go along, in the sense when we think about these things, it starts to happen to us. ...

AB: "Yes. Or ... you know, thinking about it. I was doing research on the paranormal ..."

NR: "Yeah?"

AB: "... and maybe that's like an invitation to come through the door? I don't know ..."

* * *

Aud: "I was just wondering ... I know that a lot of people think about the Men-In-Black as the cigarette-smoking man from *The X-Files*. You know, the guys behind all the conspiracies ...?"

NR: "Um-hmm."

AB: "Yes, yes."

Aud: "But ... is it possible that they're the Mulder and Scully part of the show, you know, the guys that just investigate things that ... the government doesn't want to make official?"

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "Well, yeah, I mean as I said I think most of the Men-In-Black reports are sort of ... have really weird origins, but there is a small percentage where I think the government ... well, not necessarily the government, but maybe some sort of shadow agency has used the ... the mystery of these really weird Men-In-Black to cover their own, ah, tracks.

And so, in other words some of the agency personnel may well have mimicked the legends, you know, that have been associated with the weird ones. So in that sense, you know, there could be real government MIB, but actually based on the weird ones.”

AB: “All right.”

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AB: “*If You Could Read My Mind* [by Gordon Lightfoot] – such a romantic song really, right? But really – if you could read my mind – I wouldn’t like it at all! And, you know that’s what we’re talking about here ... Things or beings, or part-humans that can read our minds or ... and/or *control* our minds.

And the possibility of an actual invasion – there’s no getting away from it ... if you heard what Dr. Jacobs said. And you’re listening carefully to what Nick said, you can mix and match ... and frankly you can come up with something pretty serious.”

* * *

Aud: “I just want to put in me two (2) cents about what the Men-In-Black might be. Uh, I’m thinking ... I don’t know if this is true or not, but it’s just a speculation – but, um, what I think it might be is that, ah, when we get tired our brain runs low on something that’s called neurotransmitters, which is something that enables us to actually think. And I think it’s, uh ... uh, the body generates a[n] apparition of some sort – whether it be a Men-In-Black or Dark [sic] Eyed Children in order to scare us. And, uh, so what the scaring does is, uh, enables adrenalin to be released, uh, which also is a neurotransmitter. And, uh, so the brain can continue to function.

Um. so that the whole idea of them not wanting us to talk about UFOs doesn’t seem to work anyway ... and, but something that’s in common with all the cases is [the] fear factor ... So that’s ... that’s it – that’s the idea.”

NR: “Oh, that’s actually interesting! I mean, there are some cases where, you know ... I mean, I don’t personally think it’s all totally internal, but you know, I do think when ... you know, you talk about, um, you know, the brain can create this and can create that. Um, you know, I don’t dispute that. I think sort of some cases of sleep paralysis can fall into ... definitely fall into that category.

But I do wonder if like with the Men-In-Black, uh, some of the Men-In-Black cases – and granted, you know, this requires like a bit of a leap of faith – if something external can actually invade the dream state?”

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "Now, of course, that requires us to try and find evidence for that. But I do believe, you know, that the ... the human mind, you know, can do weird things ... you know? There's no doubt about that. I mean, um, but I do sometimes wonder if ... if even in the dream state if, you know, if something can be present and manipulated, you know ... ?"

Aud: "Yeah, well I'm not sure, but ... (laughs)."

AB: "All right ..."

NR: "No ... no, but it's good that we have that debate (!), you know, to look at it from both angles. I mean, we need that because we're dealing with sort of definitive unknowns, so we need, you know, the down-to-earth approach and we need the other angle to try to bounce them off each other to see where it all leads, you know? So that's actually good!"

Aud: "Yeah, well I've had a few paranormal experiences, but sometimes these things ... one of the things I've noticed is that the distinct lack of detail in, ah ... in, ah, the entities, if you like? Um, and also the fact that they don't seem to hang around, ah, too long, which sort of seems to be they're limited by something.

Uh, and it could be if they're generated by the brain, it may be all the brain can do is to generate this illusion ..."

AB: "Well, you know we ... we don't *think* they hang around long, but if they have control of our minds, I'm not sure we know."

Aud: "Oh I see, yes. Yeah, we really don't have a good idea of time, do we if it's ... if they've got control of [our] minds."

AB: "Right. It's kind of like waking up and looking at the clock, you know?"

Aud: "Yes."

AB: "Then you know what time it is, right? Otherwise it could have been five (5) minutes ago."

Aud: "Okay, yep ... I understand."

* * *

Aud: "I remember back in the, uh, early seventies (1970s) reading *The Silencers* by John Keel [JS note: actually *Mystery of the Men In Black: The UFO Silencers* by Timothy Green Beckley; Introduction by John A. Keel],

And in one of the, uh, the cases he was talking about, uh, in West Virginia 1942 [dic?] that an object had gone down in the woods to the north and the sheriff got together with a reporter and a posse. And they went out through all of this long hiking, and they found a clearing, ah, a large clearing. And in the clearing was what appeared to be like the fuselage of an aircraft of that time without any wings, a tail, propeller, no windows or anything like that.

And standing near the wreckage of this, uh, object were five (5), uh, human-type people and two (2) of them were dressed in some kind of jump-suits – maybe the pilots or whatever ... ? But the other three (3) were dressed in business-suit type apparel. And, uh, they went on to talk about how the ... you know, their shoes of these people were always brand new like they had just left the haberdashers. And you know their clothes seemed not to fit quite right. And they were, you know, awkward. One of them was offered a cigar – he tried to eat it. And then the jello incident ... ah, the guy tried to *drink* it.

And, uh, this is way back in the seventies (1970s), okay, when I read this book and I was very interested in it. And I wonder if you ... you know, recollect these encounters ... ?

You know, there was a couple of other incidents on a mountain where they were gonna ... they had arranged to meet with this guy that was researching UFOs and had some incriminating photographs, or something like that. And they wanted to meet with him up on this hill or mountain, or whatever. And it was a winding road and they seemed to drive a vehicle that seemed to be the make and model of several different type of older vehicles like you were describing.

And when they got up on the, ah ... on the road, they noticed one of those vehicles like that – with two figures ... silhouettes in the front – and they kept winding around and then it came to a dead end. And the vehicle had just mysteriously vanished (!) And so he thought he was being, you know, the victim of a ... they were trying to intimidate him or something like that. But it's a very real thing going way back to the forties (1940s) and, uh ...”

NR: “Ah ... may right and, uh, I mean, Keel chronicled like a lot of those Men-In-Black reports and he was sort of astute enough to realize that it wasn't just a mundane phenomenon. He sort of looked back into history and folklore and found, you know, a lot of centuries-old stories that pushed the barriers back in further where he felt that, you know, like I said some of the old vampire stories and legends he felt could have been born out of things like Men-In-Black encounters three, four hundred (300-400) years ago.

Uh, but I actually have a few ... not so much in direct connection with Men-In-Black reports, but I've got a few stories of people claiming to have seen like people in business suits coming out of UFOs. And, uh, you know, very strange stories. Um, but again we see ... sort of see the development of a pattern. And, um, and Keel recognized that and, you know, he recognized it was sort of an age-old phenomena – he even felt it was brand new.

But, um, you know, I mean it's ... it's interesting that, you know ... we sort of see in these parallels of pushing the barriers back as to when the Men-In-Black really sort of began, so to speak.”

AB: “All right.”

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Aud: “Are all Men-In-Black ... or have there been any women? That might explain the Black Eyed Children.”

NR: “Hah! ... Well funnily enough, believe it or not, early next year I've got a new book comin' out called *Women-In-Black* and it's actually like a full-length study of ... of the Women-In-Black. Um, the book's sort of pretty much all finished now – I've got about another ten thousand (10,000) words to do, and that's it.

But I've actually got, um, an incredible amount of reports of ...”

AB: “Really?”

NR: “Women-In-Black. And, um, they're actually not as exciting as they sound like they should be. Heh-heh-heh! In the sense that, uh, they ... they actually come across just like the Men-In-Black. They're way pale, ah, typically wear like a woman's black business suit ... ah, very emotionless. Um, again, they have this really tight, um, skin – you know, looks like as if they've just again overdone it with botox.

Um, but they also, you know, they turn up in UFO incidents. And what's interestin' is that whereas the Men-In-Black, you know, just present themselves as they are ... very often the Women-In-Black present themselves, for example, as 'census-takers,' or you know, they're doin' a survey in the area ...”

AB: “Right.”

NR: “... and can they come in and ask a few questions. So in other words, the Women-In-Black, what the big difference is they also have a cover story. And, um, but they're very much like the ... the Men-In-Black where they're

voices sometimes sound stilted. There have been a lot of reports of Women-In-Black where they ... they look quite like, you know, the aliens that ... like the Greys. And they've been seen wearing long ... you know, long wigs. Like a woman's wig, you know., sort of down to her shoulders and beyond. And again, sunglasses and, uh, sometimes a beret or something like that on the head."

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "So again they're clearly tryin' to camouflage themselves. But, uh, yeah the Women-In-Black mystery is sort of a really underappreciated one, and that's why I wanted to do this book, because there are so many fascinating stories that fall into that category."

AB: "All right."

* * *

Aud: "What is the most common thing that will draw the Men-In-Black to a person? Is it more of something they saw? Or a specific sensitive topic they don't like you talking about to multiple people? Is there one thing that sticks out more than anything else?"

NR: "Well, um, for the most part when it comes to these weirder Men-In-Black, it's because of when they've had an encounter, you know, like an abduction or a contact case, or they've been in the wrong place at the wrong time and they've seen a UFO land. These are the ones that seem to get visited more, um, you know, by the weirder Men-In-Black.

But, I do have more than a few reports where guys in black suits, which I think are actually sort of government people ... have visited the homes of people when perhaps they've ... you know, they've been hiking in the desert or something like that and they've come across, you know, a fence that says 'Keep Out' ... that sort of thing, or they ... they may have seen something like a classified aircraft being test flown. And they've been visited, but it's clearly by a different sort of, you know, category of MIB.

As I said, most of them are the weirder types. And the people that typically get those visits are when they've had a UFO encounter that's a fairly significant one. But there are some reports which I think are more down-to-earth. Not as many, you know, and it's just somebody from an agency coming along and saying, 'Hey, you know about that thing you saw in the sky, don't talk about it.' ... But there are also kind of crossovers between some of those stories as well."

* * *

Aud: "... Something you said earlier about maybe they appear as friends, family, that sort of thing ... I started having these experiences back in the late eighties (1980s), early nineties (1990s) and actually led me to learn to ... to lucid dream because I was having waking experiences like Shadow People and like in the black (?) ... You hear some people say they hear whispering and murmuring, and voices they can't quite make out ... things of that nature.

And I started dreaming about these physical beings – and it was not like a normal dream – it was almost like a battle of wills, and there's ... they led me to personally believe the, um, vampire parallels are there. And a lot of times it would appear as family or friends, and it was like the Black Eyed Children when they would try to get you to let them in or let them close to you ..."

AB: "Um-hmm."

Aud: "And it's almost like there's a hypnotic suggestion there. And if ... if you didn't succumb to it, or for some reason it didn't work, they became belligerent, angry ... the façade would start to slip and they would start to change, and their eyes would turn black. And it was almost like their teeth became pointed and fang-looking, and they got more gaunt and violent-looking.

And this led me to start doing some research ... friends, family – I found out some of them had been seeing the same things, drawing the same things, even seeing things in waking hours ... and, uh, it kind of culminated in a waking experience with my brother, where we were out one night past dark. We were standing under a street light kind of hanging out – we hadn't gone inside yet – and I heard, uh boot steps coming down the sidewalk. And this man comes out from under this tree, and I knew there was a friend down the road that was having a party – I thought at first maybe it was somebody coming from that. And as he got closer, he started coming across the lot towards us. And I started to get frightened at this point – I didn't know why ... it didn't really make any sense.

And, I'd done my own research. I went out looking for things before and there wasn't a lot that really scared me in that regard, but as it got closer, it got worse! And I couldn't really understand what it was at first – it didn't really register.

And as he walked under the streetlight towards us, it finally hit me that even though he was under the light, you couldn't see his face – it was covered in shadow."

AB: "Hmpf."

Aud: “You couldn’t see any of his face. He started running towards us and I just gave in to complete fear at that point, and I pushed my brother and I told him to run. And he chased us a full block. And of course he runs in, he slams the door in my face, and I had to try to get the door open, and as I looked back, he was reaching for my shoulder. And I got the door open, I slammed it behind me, and I turned and looked through the blinds – and there was nothing there ... !”

AB: “Heh ...”

Aud: “And I went back outside. We lived on the corner of a main highway – a crossroad. I looked all around, there was nobody to be seen anywhere. And to this day, that was probably one of the most frightening experiences I’ve ever had And then shortly thereafter in the late nineties (1990s) I started seeing these stories of the Black Eyed Kids, um, you know, coming out on the internet and people seeing them in ... in waking hours. And I wondered if Nick had ever run across any sort of similar reports to that?”

AB: “Okay.”

NR: “Well, yeah, I mean ... experiences where, you know, you have experiences in the real world and then you start having dreams, and you feel, you know, that there’s something invading the dream and they’re trying to, you know, sort of pull the wool over your eyes, so to speak.

I’ve got a lot of stories like that. You know, these phenomenon – whatever they are – I don’t think they’re just able to manifest physically. I literally do think they can sort of get into the dream state. And, you know, what gets dangerous for us is that they can sort of take on the guise of various different things, you know? And if we fall for it then, you know, it just gets worse. And the ... the camouflage that they use – it becomes more and more sort of acceptable to us.

But I mean it’s interestin’ that you talk about, you know, that you managed to just get back as he put his arm out to grab you and, you know, you shut the door. Well that kind of ... you know is sort of symbolic in terms of when the Men-In-Black wait to be invited in. You know, you slammed the door, and he was gone. In other words, you’d taken away its power. Um, it needed you to allow it to enter through the door. And when you, you know, you broke free of the spell, so to speak, and slammed the door in it ... in its face, you essentially took its control away. All right, well you took away the fear because, you know, you became the one controlling the situation and, uh, you know, I think that’s their vulnerability is when they realize its ... their ruse has been ‘rumbled,’ so to speak.”

AB: "Um-hmm."

NR: "You know, that's the important thing to try and do ... is to – if you are suspicious of what they are, what they seem to be ... try and focus, and look through them and see if there is a ruse ... if there's something else going on. And that often is something that makes them back away, because, you know, without that image that they use to project their strength, you know, they've ... they've got nothing other than that. And if you see through it, physically they're not really able to really, you know, they're no match for us."

AB: "Apparently."

* * *

Aud: "I was just, um, coinciding (?) this so-called invasion as, um, not necessarily a bad thing. I mean, look at this perspective ..."

AB: "Yes."

Aud: "... along the history since ancient times, there's been lots of invasions which have formed new nations. What we have today is almost countless invasions ... along the history, so ..."

AB: "But, but, but ... it depends on their intentions! If their intentions are good, well maybe ... I still don't like losing control of my own mind. But maybe ... I admit – we're a mess!

Ahh, you're suggesting their intentions are good."

Aud: "Ah, could be ... We ... we have no ... no way of knowing that. But maybe it's the next evolutionary step in our development."

AB: "Hmpf. Nick, any comment on that?"

NR: "Well, yeah, I think it's always, you know we need to be very, very careful when some other force or country, or whatever promises, you know, we're going to do this ... we're going to help you with this, et cetera, et cetera."

AB: "That's right."

NR: "It's very often, usually a self-serving approach even if we don't necessarily see it. I'm always suspicious of entities like these that don't openly show themselves, but work in the shadows and sort of worm their way into society, you know? And I think *infiltration* is a good term to use."

And I think when we use that term infiltration, I find it difficult to see that there's sort of anything positive about an infiltration, you know, to me it smacks of – like I said – a self-serving agenda, which, you know involves us! But certainly not ... I don't think it's from the perspective of benefitting us."

AB: "I do ... I do agree, Nick. (to Aud) Do you have any evidence to suggest it's positive?"

Aud: "I don't ... I don't think that will be welcoming thing, uh, if they come at our doorstep and say: 'You know, I'm ... I'm willing to takeover and share my, ah, mental activities with your own.' (AB and NR laugh). I ... I don't think we better say ... we will say: 'Yes, you're welcome. Come in.' No, we don't do that. We are [a] warlike race."

AB: "Well, ... unless they have control of your mind, and then you'll say: 'Come on in.'"

* * *

Aud: "I was always wondering if there's any kind of report of Men-In-Black being contacted by law enforcement, or what would happen there?"

AB: "Oh, good question!"

NR: "Hmpf. Yeah, that is a good question. Um, that's a kind of an answer (?) Um, through the Freedom of Information Act both the FBI and the Air Force have released files showing that back in the fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s), both the Air Force and the FBI received reports of MIB from members of the U.S. public, you know. People were writing letters to J. Edgar Hoover and the Air Force saying, 'I've been visited by this guy, who threatened me, and I want some action taken.'

And the FBI and the Air Force both looked into this to a degree – for a while *together* – and you can actually read the memos where, you know, people say: 'Well, is this the government?' And then you've got the Air Force and the FBI saying to each other: 'Who on Earth are the Men-In-Black? We need to try and find out.'

So in other words, what this tells us is that law enforcement clearly in the fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s) knew about the MIB phenomena because the files have surfaced through the Freedom of Information Act. But the big irony is when so many people in UFOlogy were thinking the Men-In-Black were from the government, the government internally was saying: 'Well who are they?' (NR laughs). You know, so it's like the exact opposite thing of what we would expect. We would think they would have the answers ... or it was them. But that's not the case at all (!)

They were actually more baffled ... law enforcement was more baffled by the entire MIB phenomenon in the fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s) than the UFO research community was. They were ... you know, because they didn't necessarily understand the complexities of having sort of tumbled over into UFOs and the Paranormal. They were just looking for guys who were using fake identities to go into people's homes, you know, to commit a criminal act or whatever"

Aud: "Well, you know, yeah nowadays with all this, you know, uh, identification tips stuff, you know, I was thinking that there would be some kind of protocol for, you know, uh, law enforcement contacting people like that. With contacting entities like that, you know."

AB: "Okay."

NR: "Well that's actually interesting what you bring up. I mean, if there was a way to figure it out, you know, if we could somehow, you know, access databases. You know, if the relevant agencies released files, we might actually see far more reports that fall into the, you know, the MIB category than we realize."

You know you might get a report ..."

AB: "That's true."

NR: "... where somebody contacted their local police department, said: 'This weird, creepy guy came round,' and ... but then the police visited them. The police said: 'Well, you know, he didn't steal anything. You ... you know, there's no proof he's been here.' And they just close the case down.

If we had access to those, we might find well ... that sounds just like a Man-In-Black. But the police, you know, dismissed it because there was no evidence, and the case didn't go any further, you know."

AB: "Wow! Okay."

* * *

Aud: "I'm a pretty tangible person. I've been interested in UFO phenomenon – not as much as paranormal – but as a nuts and bolts ... you know, a physical reality. Um, in the last four (4) or five (5) years, especially when Art came back on the air on satellite, and then with some of the programs that are coming out now on digital, um, I've gotten much more involved. And I guess with the Men-In-Black, what I'm curious about ... I have not myself seen a UFO that I know of or seen anything strange. But I live

through people like you and people that I met at the Contact [in the Desert?] who I believe – you know, Travis Walton and such – that really these things have happened to them on a physical level.

My question is now that I'm running my mouth so much, uh, I've lived the last couple years listening to programs ... talking to people about it – I've had people approach me with their experiences. People that, like even at work, that you never think would talk about it, 'cause I preach the fact that I listen to Art Bell and other programs – they open up to me.

So my question is two things: How you have been over thirty (30) years, have you ever been threatened? And you've talked to some of that. And I wanted to more specifically – the second part – wonder if you think that the government or law agency at least here in the United States is trying to, um, to work in cahoots with this? Because since I've been involved with all this stuff, I received, uh, strange phone calls for marketing late at night when you don't usually get them."

NR: "Okay."

Aud: "I've also received a survey from the government in the mail recently that was [sic] kept bugging me – 'Oh, it's part of the census, you've gotta fill it out and blah, blah, blah ...' And I'm wondering if that's a way to harass people like me that run their mouth and talk to people everywhere I go, you know?"

NR: "Hmpf. Well that's a good question, because I actually have got a lot of accounts from people who have been sort of threatened and, you know, this whole ... like I mentioned earlier, the Women-In-Black turnin' up claiming to be census-takers and that kind of thing.

Um, when this sort of what seems to be a government component to some of these cases ... my personal view is I – where I differ from a lot of UFO researchers – I actually don't think, you know, the ... the Air Force or the government, or whoever, are the bad guys in this at all. What I actually think is that the real deep and dark secrets that are hidden by some agency or officialdom ... I actually think we are dealing with the so-called 'black budget' agencies or rogue agencies that operate outside of, you know, the confines of official government. You know, that Congress isn't even aware of them. They got their budgets through, you know, alternative means. In other words, you know, it's like a *secret government* within the real government.

And I think that this sort of stuff ... this really weird stuff that goes on I think is done, you know, by some sort of ... like a shadow agency, rather than by, um, you know, like I said the government itself."

AB: “And Nick I ... I kind of think that if marketing calls are part of the overall strategy, then I’m absolutely doomed! Because I ... I just all the time – I mean, marketing this, marketing that. So I’m not sure that that would be an indicator of anything, except that your phone number’s on a bunch of lists.

From the high desert, I’m Art Bell with *Midnight In The Desert.*”

* * *

AB: “All right, welcome back everybody! Nick Redfern is here and we’re talking about MIBs – Men-In-Black. A lot of what he said resonates back to what Dr. Jacobs said the other night ... It really is kind of eerie, frankly.

* * *

Aud: “This is weird tonight, mate.”

AB: “Ah, is it now?”

Aud: “Oh, ya. It’s quite different. ...

Okay, Nick, you have a lot ... you have a lot of stories you’re telling, but I’m just curious – are these Men-In-Black, I mean, the reports you get – are they really real? What ... what did they wear? What did they look like? There must be more to these stories with what they have ... what they come from.”

AB: “All right, well, I’ve had ... thank you very much for the call ... very similar questions coming through on the computer, Nick, that these are just stories that you’ve heard ... you’re not relating first-person stuff and they’re just stories – ah, what do you say?”

NR: “Well, no ... well, no I mean every ... well like for the new book it was like thirty (30), um, chapters. Everybody apart from two (2) cases is named and with their real names – with their websites or their Facebook pages listed.”

AB: “Are people reluctant to allow that?”

NR: “No, most ... I mean, um, with the new book, um, I think there are only two (2) people who didn’t want their names used. Um, other than that, you know, um, I never use anonymous sources unless, you know, the person specifically asks for it. But, um ...”

AB: “Got ’cha.”

NR: "... you know, for people to say that, um, they're just stories ... you know, *they're not*, because I mean anybody ... because anybody can pick up the new book and see, for example, like I mention Claudia Cunningham – the woman who had the telephone interference. Um, everybody's named, the ... you know, the ... as I say in some cases they don't allow me to use their websites and blogs. So they're not anonymous people or anything like that. I never do that."

AB: "Okay. All right, I understand. I'm just telling you that people do ..."

NR: "Oh, no, no, no, I understand that! I mean, I understand people's concerns that, you know, I always try and get people to speak on the record. And I think that's the important thing!"

I think sometimes that the problem we have with the Men-In-Black mystery is that people are so frightened by these experiences, that that can make them reluctant to speak out publicly. And ... and I do totally understand that. But I ... I always try where possible to encourage people to go public ... if they want. And if they don't, obviously I don't push them ... you know, I'm not in the business of forcing people ..."

AB: "Understood."

NR: "... at all."

AB: "All right, all right ... understood."

* * *

Aud: "Your episode with Jim Keith from the nineties (1990s) ..."

AB: "Yes?"

Aud: "Uh, that's one of my favorite Coast-to-Coast's and he ... he talked about the Men-In-Black. Do you think the Men-In-Black had something to do with him passing away?"

AB: "How can I answer that? (AB laughs). I don't know."

Aud: "Well, I ..."

AB: "That's the very best I can do, I'm sorry ... I don't know."

Aud: "All right. Well, thanks a lot!"

AB: "You're very welcome. And take care – no way I can know that."

* * *

Aud: "I was just curious – if these things have to have permission to ... or seemingly have to have permission to access our minds?"

AB: "Good question!"

NR: "That is a good question. I mean, I'll be honest with you, I ... I don't honestly know the answer to that question. Because you would imagine, you know, if they take control of the person's mind when they're in the house, why they're not able to do it when they're at the front door ..."

AB: "That's right."

NR: "... You know, why is it they have to have that invite?"

Um, you know, I wish I could offer an answer, because, you know, it doesn't make sense – I mean, I'll be the first to admit that. Um, you imagine if they have that mind power, they can use it anywhere – when you're in the car, when you're in ... in bed, you know, watching TV, or, you know ... cutting the grass outside.

Um, but that, um, that is what people see, you know. What's ... what's kind of weird – I probably didn't go into that too deeply, but what usually happens is that when the person opens the door, the Men-In-Black don't even say: 'Can we come in?' It's like they patiently stand there, and then the person ... feels compelled to invite them in.

One of the things I do wonder is if possibly the mind control is somehow, um, derived from eye contact. Now that's to say that the reason you know, they ... they're not able to force the person to open the door from the outside, you know, while they're outside I should say is because to a degree at least they need to make eye contact with the person. And then when the door's opened, then they feel, you know, the person ... that they have the ability then to sort of takeover the person's mind. They're not able to do it from outside the door, so to speak."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

AB: "Hello."

Aud: "Is this Art Bell?"

AB: "It is."

Aud: "Art ... Art, what a pleasure! I've been listening to you for years and I just ... you're always been the Kind of Late Nite Talk Radio! ... I am truly honored, thank you!"

AB: "Right, thank you."

Aud: "... Art, I've been listening to you for God (!) I don't know how long ... Thank you so much for what you've done, so ..."

AB: "Ah, you're very welcome. And, uh, and take care."

* * *

Aud: "I wanted to ask two (2) things. I wanted to ask if there's a reference that were ... to any report of how dogs, particularly, or cats act to these? And also, years ago I heard something about Howard Hughes ... that he became terrified of something like this, and it caused him to be such a recluse."

NR: "Yeah, actually that's an interesting question"

AB: "Really!"

NR: "I'm not personally ... I'm not personally aware of, um, any responses from cats, but I do know that dogs have responded, um, either with sort of terror or quite violently towards Men-In-Black. There's a couple of cases where you know they sort of very aggressively bartered as if the ... the dogs were sort of not under control of the Men-In-Black when the door was opened."

AB: "Hmpf."

NR: "And there are other cases ... and there's also a famous Black Eyed Children case where, um, the dogs acted in a very frightened fashion and just ... when the door was opened and they saw them, and they just charged under the bed, you know, and just wouldn't come out! Um, so animals definitely have a reaction, um, to the Men-In-Black – there's no doubt about that at all – and to the Black Eyed Children.

Now, um, what was the other part of the question again?"

Aud: "Ah, Howard Hughes ... I had heard years ..."

NR: "Oh, yeah!"

Aud: "... ago that Howard Hughes became a recluse because of confrontations with, uh, what he thought was aliens and possibly I wondered if you had heard of anything like this?"

NR: "I hadn't actually heard that one, but what I can tell you is that Howard Hughes was, um, was, ah, good friends with one of the early famous contactees of the 1950s – a man named George Van Tassel. And he built something called the Integratron out at Landers, California."

AB: "Oh, yes!"

NR: "Yeah, well actually Van Tassel and Howard Hughes were good friends, and, um ... and so he clearly was fully aware of the UFO phenomenon. But I hadn't personally heard that, you know, that thing about made him become reclusive."

Aud: "Oh, thank you so much!"

* * *

Aud: "I was in agreement with you when you said this was, uh, kind of eerily similar to Dr. Jacobs' ..."

AB: "Ho, ho ..."

Aud: "... accounts."

AB: "... so close, yes!"

Aud: "So close. And I agree ... it's insidious, it's sneaky, it's cowardly. And I'm thinking for whatever entities they are to behave like this, there must be a witness."

AB: "I also think very successful! You know, aside from the fact that we might be onto it, it's just the most successful way I can even imagine to take something over slowly but surely ... and ... and do so with minimal violence or anything else. It just works!"

Aud: "Yes. And I ... I will also say that Nick gives me hope, and ... and this is what made me very curious. And this is what was kind of gnawing at me when Dr. Jacobs was on your show was there must be a way to beat this thing, because I know that when I'm afraid or if I'm fearful – at times I will get angry. Now, stupidly I may get angry ... Do these people who are able to shake out of this, Nick, of this mind control or whatever it is they ... they have – and the human spirit or a human being can break it – what causes them to break this? Because obviously these entities are not infallible, are not omnipotent, there is a weakness to them."

AB: "Yes."

NR: “Now that’s actually a good question. For the most part when people have actually been able to break out of this sort of mind control to mind-manipulated state they’re in, it’s generally due to, uh, like a surge of anger ... like fear ... combined. You know, that sort of, you know, that whole scenario flight or fight, you know, do you run or do you, you know, stand and fight?”

And, um, it is very often the case that the person is so terrified ... you know, very often people are terrified and they fall into this state where they’re completely controlled. But when it’s terror mixed with anger, you know, something has forced its way into their home and they’re fearful for their family, and they get angry, et cetera, et cetera. Then it’s like the anger can break the spell.

Or it may just be it’s like a high state of emotion – that sort of creates a glitch, you know, that’s a possibility as well. It may not be just due to anger, it just may be that they want us in a really calm state, you know, so we’re non-threatening. And anything that’s sort of suddenly different – threatening or anger, you know, et cetera, et cetera – that may be the glitch that they’re unable to control perhaps.”

AB: “All right.”

* * *

Aud: “I was wondering has children had ... have children had any contact with the Men-In-Black and what was the response to that?”

NR: “Hmpf. Yeah, there are actually a few cases like that. Um, most of the ones that I’ve got where children have been involved, it’s involved sort of more of the Shadow People-type ones – this one known as the Hat Man, which looks like a shadowy silhouette, but wearing an old-style fedora.

And I’ve got, um, probably, I would say somewhere in the region of twenty (20) cases from adults, but who had experiences with that type of ... like a silhouetted MIB when they were children sort of back in the fifties (1950s) and sixties (1960s). Uh, I’ve got a few cases, um, from you know, people in their late teens and twenties, who had experiences like this when they were five (5) or six (6). Um, but they weren’t sort of with, you know, the case that were, you know, home on their own ... when the parents were out – they knocked on the door.

It was always it was sort of like the weird dream-like state where the Hat Man/Shadow Person sort of manifested in the bedroom. Um, so all the children ones – the ones I’ve got at least fall into that category.”

Aud: “Thank you so much.”

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Aud: “Anybody who perpetuates, ahh, the Black Eyed Children is purely a ... an urban myth. And anybody who perpetuates that is losing credibility ...”

AB: “Why do you think ...”

Aud: “... in my opinion. Good night.”

AB: “Well, why do you ... yeah, ... Good night. Um, you hear that?”

NR: “Yeah. Well, I mean the reason ... I wouldn’t say it’s a case of perpetuating it. What is it ... it’s a case of the fact that people speaking on the record come to us and tell us their experiences. ...”

AB: “Right.”

NR: “... So we investigate them and then we share them, because that’s the right thing to do if they’re having [undecipherable] doing it. And nobody’s perpetuating anything for the sake of it. You know, we wouldn’t ... people wouldn’t be writing about the Black Eyed Children if there weren’t witnesses out there ...”

AB: “And there are! I’ve heard them, Nick. I’ve heard the people call in and talk about them. So I know it is so. I’ve had emails about them. People see these things! So that part of it is *not* a myth.

Now, maybe people are somehow perpetuating something. I ... I don’t know. But Shadow People and all the rest of it, this is real stuff. It really is happening!”

NR: “This is really weird genuine stuff that’s very serious, very sinister, and there’s some sort of agenda going on which we need to resolve quickly.”

* * *

AB: “From the high desert – Good Night, all.”

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