In This Issue

The Legend of the Silver Gunslinger  
Our first entry in the Criminals Theme Issue Spectacular: A Blast from the past of last issue's SupersPunk universe.

Innsmouth Home for the Criminally Insane  
The second entry for the theme issue, looking at the famous facility and a few of its infamous residents, again from the SupersPunk universe.

alt.ufo.reports Fodder  
We had so much fun with last issue's alt.conspiracy stuff, we've plundered a new section of Usenet!
The Legend of the Silver Gunslinger

by Ernst Hoffman, Ph.D.

The Old West story of the infamous Silver Gunslinger is as well-known today as the legends of Wyatt Earp, Wild Bill Hickok or Jesse James. For a nearly four-year period from 1872 – 1876 the Silver Gunslinger terrorized the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska, singularly pulling off daring heists of banks, stagecoaches and trains.

The Silver Gunslinger, whose exploits have been popularized in multiple media, including Jack Jakeman's 1932 historical novel On the Trail of the Silver Gunslinger and most recently Clint Eastwood's highly successful revisionist western film Silver, may have been the world's first Supers villain. Wearing a mask and jumpsuit woven from a silvery fabric, the Silver Gunslinger would appear out of seeming nowhere in broad daylight. According to legend, he was such a good shot that he could pick a man out of a crowd and shoot around walls. The Gunslinger was tracked throughout much of his career by an obsessed bounty hunter, Gareth Marks. Though the Gunslinger was never caught, he committed his last robbery in 1876 and was never heard from or encountered again.

Over the past century speculation has abounded as to the true nature of the Gunslinger, ranging from attributions of Supers powers to claims of extraterrestrial origin to chalk-upping the whole episode to flights of fancy and a few overambitious newspaper men. But recently new evidence has surfaced that would appear to put an end to the speculation and at long last put a name and explanation to one of the greatest mysteries of the West.

I speak of course of the recently discovered Langman Diaries, purportedly written by Douglas Langman, a mid-century Harvard educated mining engineer who operated chiefly in the same areas and during the same time as the Silver Gunslinger. Langman claims in his diaries to be the Silver Gunslinger, and to date all the historical evidence unearthed about Langman and the Gunslinger does not dispute this claim.

Langman was the only son of Daniel and Martha Langman, successful merchants who capitalized on the gold rushes in California, Colorado and Nevada. In his diaries, Langman describes himself as an “unusually bright child” who has trouble fitting in, and his parents as law-abiding and strict disciplinarians. In 1866, Langman’s parents sent him out east for education at Harvard. It was during Langman’s final month of schooling that his parents were accused of a variety of crimes involving everything from fraud to murder in an elaborate scheme that left numerous ranchers, banks and town governments in the region dead broke, charges which Langman claims were all fabrications. By the time Langman arrived back in Nevada his parents had been tried, convicted and hung. It is this incident, more than any other, which undoubtedly led to Langman’s lifelong hatred of what today would be referred to as “The System”.

Langman found employ with a mining company where he helped to scout locations and design mines. It was in Nebraska in 1871 that Langman discovered what he called The Cylinder, a silver metallic container approximately six-and-a-half feet long and four feet in diameter that housed the body of a man. Recently deceased, the body was wearing a silver jumpsuit and goggles and carrying what at first appeared to be a standard Smith & Wesson Russian Model .44. Langman took the gun and outfit from the body. While he was burying the body, the cave
where The Cylinder was collapsed in an explosion.

Through experimentation, Langman discovered that the items he took from The Cylinder had several unique properties. (Langman lacked the proper terminology to adequately describe what he called “items like from a Jules Verne fantasy.”) The jumpsuit, which was impervious to bullets, had micro-controls in the gloves which when activated rendered the wearer invisible. When wearing the goggles, Langman could see a red dot appear wherever he pointed the gun; pressing a button on the handle ‘locked-in’ the target on which the red dot rested, and when fired the bullet would ‘magically’ weave its way around to strike the target. (The gun apparently used regular bullets; recent examination of a few of Langman’s bullets that have been preserved from the time show that these bullets have been modified at the molecular level, possibly including nano-technology.)

It was soon after discovering the items in The Cylinder that Langman began his second, secret career as the Silver Gunslinger. Reading his diaries, it appears that Langman was drawn to this career not through greed or megalomania, but rather through a desire to punish a society and system that allowed his parents to be framed, persecuted and killed. Langman claims to have not kept any of the money he stole, but is obtuse when it comes to describing what he did do with it (one conjecture is that he used it to fund the criminal activities of other outlaws, thereby spreading the chaos further than he himself could personally reach).

Langman was aware of Gareth Marks’ tracking of his alter ego and delighted in reading of Marks’ exploits to catch him. Langman (as himself) encountered Marks on three separate occasions, and his journals are filled with obvious delight as he describes how he cannily threw Marks off the track. Interestingly, Marks’ own memoirs only make passing mention of Langman, describing him as “a well-educated and well-cultured man who on occasion would try to sell me some cock-and-bull story about the Gunslinger, apparently in an attempt to cash in on a degree of notoriety that he himself could not accomplish.”

The entries in Langman’s diaries end in May 1876, just one week before the Silver Gunslinger’s last caper in Gizzard Gulch, Nebraska, the town where Langman’s parents were hanged. The diaries speak little of Langman’s feelings for the town, but if one assumes that Langman’s writings are genuine and true, it would seem that the unparalleled destruction of the town was the result of Langman’s rage towards the perceived injustices against his family.

Unfortunately, the diaries do little to shed light on the final fate of the Silver Gunslinger. Both Langman and the Gunslinger disappeared after the events at Gizzard Gulch, and if he survived there is no indication in the diaries of what his future plans were. So while many questions can be answered by the Langman Diaries, the myth of the Silver Gunslinger still carries on.

[Ernst Hoffman is a Professor of History at the University of Arizona, where he enjoys a joint appointment with that school’s prestigious School of Super-human Studies. Besides being the author of many scholarly publications, Dr. Hoffman is the author of the recent popular best-seller The Pre-history of the Supers, which will appear in paperback this spring from Ballentine.]
The institution that was to become the Innsmouth Home for the Criminally Insane (commonly referred to as simply Innsmouth) was founded in Massachusetts in 1912 by Dr. Freidrich Pohl, a prominent psychiatrist. Known then as the Innsmouth Sanitarium, the three story structure was designed to house as many as seventy-five persons, but never held more than thirty at any given time. Although the Sanitarium was rather successful at treating its patients, financial pressures caused it to close in 1925. Unable to cope with the failure, Pohl hung himself in Sanitarium's cellar.

The structure fell into disarray. In the following decades the building attained the status of a haunted castle (stories of which were probably just the product of overactive imaginations). In 1963 ownership of the building passed to Pohl's nephew, Cyril Lupoff. Lupoff was a businessman, not a psychiatrist, but he knew that the climate was right and founded the Innsmouth Home for the Criminally Insane in his uncle's former Sanitarium. Innsmouth became renowned for its housing and treatment of the segment of society that was dangerous due to mental imbalance.

In the early 1980s, the growing number of Supers villains caused an incarceration crisis for the United States. As a solution, the US government funded the modification of several internment facilities for holding Supers criminals. As part
of this program, Innsmouth was modified as a facility for the incarceration of criminally insane Supers. Many infamous villains and psychopaths found residence in Innsmouth, the most famous of which was The Juggler. Besides his numerous crimes, The Juggler was also famous as the only resident of Innsmouth to escape more than once.

During its time as an internment facility for Supers, Innsmouth employed a battery of psychologists and psychiatrists, medical doctors, Supers physiologists, and a number of Psis. The deputy director of Innsmouth, Dr. Harold Bester, was a Psi with the ability to temporarily halt the voluntary motor skills of any human being, an ability quite useful in controlling the facility’s population when it got out of control.

Despite the fact that it lived in the shadow of one of the Hives, Innsmouth was untouched by The Aliens during their occupation. When The Aliens left, Innsmouth’s location and inmate population made it a juicy tidbit for the megacorps. The ensuing bidding war was won by FutureTech, a corporation secretly controlled by the aging Cyril Lupoff.

Born 1970, 5' 9”, long blonde hair, blue eyes, caucasian.
ST 12, DX 14, IQ 16, HT 16.
Speed 7.5, Move 7.
Dodge 7.


Disadvantages: Megalomania, Fanaticism: Self, Delusion: Christ Complex.

Super Advantages: Flight (5 ft ceiling - 25%).
Powers: Control Animal Power 5; Healing Power 5; Create Liquid Power 10.

Quirks: Wears Robes.

Skills: Control Animal-18; Healing-18; Create Liquid-14; Flight-14; Performance-18; Savior-Faire-18; Sex Appeal-18; Carpentry-16; Detect Lies-17; Escape-15; Hypnotism-16; Theology-18; Leadership-20; Naturalist-15; Bard-18.

Margaret led a perfectly normal life in southern California until the age of 17 she died, then came back to life three days after dying in a car accident. A local televangelist took advantage of the situation, taking her under his wing and portraying her as the second coming. It was at this time that Margaret’s other powers began to manifest themselves. After a falling out, the televangelist labeled Margaret as the Anti-Christ, further proof that the apocalypse was nigh. Margaret formed her own cult; two actually; one which still believed her to be the Second Coming, the other which worshiped her as the Anti-Christ. Margaret used her considerable influence to invoke her cults to demonstrate and occasionally riot. When her actions crossed the line separating civil disobedience and public endangerment, the Freedom Squad stepped in and took Margaret into custody. After her trial, Margaret was remanded to Innsmouth.

Margaret found herself in the employ of a megacorp as a Hive-Netrunner. She has used her position in the Hive-Net to start-up yet another religion, casting herself as the person who will bring humanity together with the Hive-Godhead.

The Anti-Christ is a 600 point character.
The following passages are all culled from postings on the Usenet groups alt.alien.visitors & alt.ufo.reports. The only changes we’ve made are formatting. Enjoy.

Yes, I also have reason to believe that NASA withholds data, and my reason is based on the fact that reliable NASA employees have told me the following: 1. All space missions are followed by unidentified objects (radar-trackable) —This person did stress “all” 2. The Apollo mission discovered that there are structures on the moon indicating previous visitations. 3. Many arms of our government are not forthcoming on this subject. The true scope and nature of this phenomena is not being made public. This phenomena is so well documented by gov records as to be regarded not as a phenomena, but as a presence. (This last paragraph is not verbatim testimony, but my own summary of random bits of data.) I find it interesting that those who told me the above regard UFOs as a worrisome presence in our airspace, and not some cute fantasy concocted by sci-fi writers. My impression is that some are treating this whole subject as some amusing hobby. I don’t want to sound too serious or grave, but after witnessing four “events”, I no longer have a desire for the contact that some seek. Some would eagerly search the skies for these objects—but what if they come searching for you? My advice to anyone: don’t let yourself be singled out. • I think my wife may be “one of them”. She claims the leafblower is in the garage next to the wall. I refuse to buy into this because I know the very minute I go and take a look it will disappear and my wife will think I am crazy. She has said though it is leaking oil. Aha! My leafblower would never leak oil so they slipped up again with their holographic imaging. She also said that I don’t go and put it away she will throw out all my Hunter S. Thompson trading cards. Oh. BTW. It is “supposedly” leaning against the wall that is directly behind the headboard to the bedroom. I lay awake last nite with a loaded 12 gauge with 1 aught buckshot pretending to be asleep knowing “they” would appear and try to abduct me or drink all of my Wild Turkey. The truth is out there. But my leafblower ain’t! • Dr. Herman Oberth, the father of modern rocketry, is quoted as saying in 1954, “UFOs are conceived and directed by intelligent beings. They probably do not originate in our solar system.” Years later he was quoted as saying, “We cannot take the credit for our record advancement in certain scientific fields alone. We have been helped.” When asked by whom, he replyed, “The people of other worlds.” Dr. Wernher Von Braun, reflecting on the deflection of the US Juno 2 rocket from orbit in 1959, stated “We find ourselves faced by powers which are far stronger than we had hitherto assumed, and whose base is at present unknown to us. More I cannot say at present. We are now engaged in entering into closer contact with those powers, and in six or nine months time it may be possible to speak with some precision on the matter.” In addition to those statements, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in a speech given to the United States Military Academy on May 12, 1962 stated, “You know face a new world, a world of change. We speak in strange terms, of harnessing the cosmic energy, of ultimate conflict between a united human race and the sinister forces of some other planetary galaxy.” Pretty amazing remarks, all of them true and well documented. • I think that UFOs are only time travelers from the future Earth. As UFOs only started appearing after the first atom bomb was dropped, I think that in the future an atom bomb is dropped in a war and does something bad to Earth, so the people in the future are coming back in time to try and stop atom bombs from being dropped. • Mu was a civilization that existed at the time of Atlantis. There were heavy traffic from other planets at that time, before the People at that time were too highly advanced destroying the Continents. Mu was first to be destroyed, the people then Migrated to what is call Mt. Shasta, California and live under the Ground. • In my experience, there are at least one race of shape shifters. Their rest shape is a light body that essentially acts as a door to a different dimension. These people come in the form of the people they visit, and they are benevolent, but very dangerous. They don’t care to pick up karma so anything anyone tries to dump on them is repaid in full, immediately. Someone who tries to kill them is immediately dead. They don’t wait for future life times to settle up, because usually they have no intention of coming back. Neither do they accept acts of kindness, for the same reason. They are old race from Lyra and work hand in hand with the founders, a sort of intelligence arm. In a way they are even more advanced than the founders in that they really never accepted human form. They mimic it, but really belong to the dimension from which humans devolved. Because of the nature of their bodies you really can’t say they have a lifespan, but the are the same spiritual path as the founders who have a life span of about 20 thousand years. Souls from the same plane migrate into either body. Those souls choose the type of body, solid or light, depending on the mission they undertake in that particular life time as do all of us to a lesser extent. I started a piece of fiction about them once but I have trouble staying here, on this planet in this body when I associate myself psychically with such far out forms. Doing 3D type aliens is about as much as my circuits can handle, and even they throw me for a loop. However most aliens appear in the form they are in a physical existence somewhere. There are thousands of different forms. • What is so “friendly” about a group of intradimensional terrorists who kidnap innocent, unwilling victims in the middle of the night, shove probes up their asses, shove long needles in their bellies, place mind-control devices in their brains, impregnate them with cross-bred, genetically altered embryos then rip out the 1st-trimester fetus for their own devious purposes? They are unconscionable little parasitic terrorists and there is absolutely nothing whatsoever even remotely “friendly” about them. • Since mankind first “landed” on Earth over 10 million years ago from the Pleiades, there have been at least 25 ET races on Earth. The most common and significant ones include the Orions, who conquered the Pleiadean race over 500,000 years ago; the Sirians who were the gods of mythology (including Jehovah and the Hebrew gods, the Greek gods and others, the Zetas (who are physical fourth dimensional beings that lots of folks know about), the Arcturians (a higher-dimensional group), the Antareans (on Earth as the Nordic peoples), the Vegans (not to be confused with non-meat eating humans), and many, many more. Most of the groups are benevolent, peaceful and highly evolved. Their ships are normally invisible because they vibrate in a dimensional time continuum that is invisible to most humans. The only races that are down-to-earth (pardon the pun) and visible are the Zeta Reticulins, the Orions, and a few others, including the hybrids (Essassani, etc)... By the year 2000, most everyone on Earth will know of the existence of ETs because those in high positions are preparing to reveal the hidden information (for their own purposes, of course). • An alien similar to the one on the autopsy film burst through my backdoor. I threw roundhouse punches at him, he was fighting Kung Foo style, and got me down.
on my back. This creature had his six finger hands around my neck and tried to choke me. What he didn’t know was, that I had a .357 magnum under my Lazy-boy I was laying next to. I pulled this cannon out and placed the barrel between his eyes, they got big, then I pulled the trigger. His head disappeared into a purple haze, just like popping a water balloon. Now you may ask, what happened to the body? Well the woman and me debated the issue, but we decided to gut him, and cook him up for supper. Well he tasted like chicken. No autopsy here, just chicken fried alien. • A few months ago I was talking some friends while visiting Detroit. I was jokingly goofing on my geeky hobby of learning all I can about the UFO phenomenon. One of them sobered the conversation up by saying that her father worked for the CIA and one day her father mentioned that he had stumbled across some documents that indirectly mentioned UFOs and aliens. Her father told her, “yes” there are aliens, he believes that the government knows about it. Well, I did not talk to her much further about it because the conversation she with her father was long ago. But, last night I found out yet another lead that carries much more weight...! Again I was speaking about my peculiar UFO obsession to a new friend. She was fascinated by it because, like most people, she thought that the UFO phenomenon is nothing more than drunk farmers seeing funny lights at night. Well, she said she was going to ask her father. She grew up an airforce brat. Her father was an air force Colonel and a base commander in New Mexico. I gave her a few of the best essays that I have downloaded from alt.alien.visitors and related home pages. Well, last night I got a call from my friend, very confused and nervous. She said she just got off the phone with her dad and got the impression from the conversation that much the what the essays said were true. No, he did not come out and assert the whole story, but he wasn’t denying what she told him. When she mentioned all the facts about Roswell and recovered alien craft his initial reply was “WHAT? Who told you that? Where did you read this? How do you know this?” Her dad later went on to say that he knew of the “tests” and “experiments” that were going on. My friend felt betrayed, she says that she and her father have very deep conversations about philosophical stuff and never had he mentioned anything about UFOs. The interesting part I learned was that wives of the high-ups in the AF get briefed on this. They are the liaisons for the other wives when the troops go out on their missions. My friend talked to her mom about as well. She asked her mother why the government keeps all of this a secret. The reply (imagine this coming from your loving mother) was “well, they can’t, there would be mass chaos • Hello. My name is Zachary Warmbrodt. I hope no one from the secret service reads this. I was part of the secret service. I “was”. But now I am not and I must tell what I know and saw. First, Roswell autopsy was real, but it was never filmed at Roswell or anywhere close. It was done in a secret military base in Nevada which you all probably know is in Rachel, Nevada. One lived for a while and that is how we got our U.F.O information. We have built U.F.Os. Half the ones you see are OURS. Not THEIRS. E.T.s are kind gentle creatures who are responsible for us living on this planet. They said they will come out sometime but they don’t know when. I must stop or I could have said too much. • Reports of black helicopters harassing and following UFOlogists and contactees and associated with mutilations are so frequent and numerous as to be considered a given, even by skeptics. Everyone expects them to be an arm of the government, and would be shocked to learn that their ownership and activities are NOT under government control. Private members of the establishment have funded and run this enterprise, with the goal of maintaining the status quo. Consider how the activities of the black helicopters and MJ12 differ. Where MJ12 wants the world to become aware of its past and presence, as part of the Awakening process, it has NEVER flagrantly displayed physical evidence of its existence. Why would they have done that over the past years when a prime concern was to deny their existence? Clearly by being noisy, flashy, and lingering about in public view, they are not the arm of a government group concerned with secrecy. Mutilations, NOT EVER an activity of MJ12, have an association with black helicopters, which are frequently seen in the vicinity during and after a mutilation. Again, as mutilations are by design NOTICEABLE, leaving large carcasses mangled in ways impossible for anyone to ignore, this would NOT be something a secret government arm would engage in. The black helicopters consistently harass contactees who are engaged in communication roles, giving the message that they should fall silent. Where this was the stance that MJ12 assumed in the past, the past few years have found them encouraging awareness of the alien presence. It is an open secret that the movie ET was initiated by MJ12. Why would MJ12 work at cross purposes to itself? The black helicopters are housed at private facilities, the perfect cover. A barn, a warehouse, or a hollow dirt mound work as well as a vacant hangar at a private landing strip. Helicopters, of course, need only a spot to land upon, and can be draped with camouflage cloth or have collapsible walls of a shack or garage erected around it once landed. In a sheltered and isolated spot, such activity goes unnoticed, with the exit and return of the chopper accomplished in minutes. How does this enterprise learn who the contactees or UFOlogists are, and of their scheduled and routes? Consider for a moment the number of ex-government agents, of all flavors, who are EXPERT at tapping phones and effective surveillance and, in particular, infiltrating groups such as contactee support groups. Establishment groups who can afford fleets of sleek choppers can certainly lure ex-CIA members into their employ. And the new employer is not asking them to do anything they haven’t already been doing - just a new pair of shoes. • The Hale-Bopp comet does not exist. It is a fraud, perpetrated by those who do. The results published and seared into the memory of the populace before the data can be examined or questioned. Science such as this would not make it into scientific journals, but has made the press, and this is not by accident. The press was directed to do so. The perpetrators, the establishment and wealthy, are on the top of the heap at present and do not wish the heap to start moving about under them. They would have the rest of mankind become aware of the 12th Planet’s approach only when it is too late to react. They, however, have already reacted. As time passes, just as with the Roswell autopsy tapes, the foundation of these claims will be eroded. By 1996 or 1997, the supposed arrival time of Hale-Bopp, the truth will be well known. What will not be well known is that the real danger is still on its way. The 12th Planet, a true messenger of death, will not even get the attention the fraudulent Hale-Bopp is getting today. That’s because it’s a real threat, not a diversion. Don’t look to Sagittarius, look to the left of Betelgeuse in late 2001, and keep looking! •