

30 April 1968

Memo to: Files

From: E. U. Condon *E. U. Condon*

Yesterday, a little before 3 p.m., I received a phone call from Larry Datson of Radio Station KBTR in Denver who wanted to ask about the article in Look. I gave him the text of the telegram to Gardner Cowles and said that was all there was to say at this time.

He then told me that he and KBTR had been approached by a resident of Boulder, not connected with the University, who told them that there was much more to the UFO project story than is told in the Look article and that he would supply all of the material, "including documents" for \$250. This happened some time toward the end of last week, I believe.

He said the station management considered the offer but decided not to accept it. I asked whether the man who made the offer might be Roger Harkins and without hesitation he replied that it was. He asked me not to reveal the source of the information and I told him I would not do so publicly, but would have to pass it on to the University administration.

He went on to tell me further that it was Harkins who provided the material to Look magazine for which he received "several" thousand dollars, after which John Fuller wrote the article, for doing which he received \$5000 from Look.

He did not know how Harkins and Fuller got together on the deal, but he did say that he knew that Fuller was disappointed because he had failed to ferret out a story when he himself came to Boulder about March 4. This was the occasion when he came unannounced to Bob Low's office and tried to pump him, and telephoned to me at my home from there because it was during the period when I was home sick.

On this occasion Fuller told Low and myself personally that he was not working on UFOs any more but had just dropped in for a friendly visit on his way to Arizona where he was going to work on a popular book on some topic in Indian archeology.

I asked whether Harkins' offer did not have an element of double-crossing Look Magazine. Having sold the material to Look for the basis of Fuller's article, it seemed as if he was offering to sell the same material to KBTR in time for them to break the story ahead of Look. I was told that it seemed that way to them too, but they were assured that Harkins would give them more material than he had given to Look, so they could not only scoop Look but have a fuller story. All this for \$250 instead of the several thousand paid by Look.

I asked whether Datson knew anything about the circumstances of Harkins being no longer on the editorial staff of the Boulder Daily Camera. He did not except to say that they felt he was devoting too much of his time to "researching" the UFO project.

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In this connection it is important to recall that I have long known of a close personal association between Harkins and Saunders and Levine. For example, Harkins accompanied Saunders and Levine when they came into the offices in 202 Woodbury the evening of February 8 and found their dismissal letters on their desks. You will recall that Saunders and Levine, although full time members of the project, had gone off skiing that day.

End of Memo

cc - Dean T. E. Manning

John Holloway