



The Alpha Control Reference Manual

into attending by a promise from Aunt Maude that whoever graduated first would inherit her fortune. Within six weeks of their arrival at the school, Jeremiah was expelled for gambling and he returned to Marietta, where, a few months later, the aunt died under mysterious circumstances. Not long after, the cousin also disappeared, and despite considerable searching, investigators were never able to determine his whereabouts. A local rumor tied Jeremiah to his aunt's death, and his disappearance seemed to verify this suspicion.

With one Smith out of school and Aunt Maude dead, the conditions of her will were revised so that the last surviving Smith cousin would receive her fortune, be it Zachary or Jeremiah. Zachary, now without the comfortable income to which he was accustomed, dropped out of school during his second year and travelled throughout Europe for about two years as a common drifter. Sometime during this period, he is believed to have been contacted by a member of the KGB who offered him the position of being a "plant" within the USAF. Smith, well known to his former classmates as a thief, a cheat, and a totally lazy sort, probably found this relatively work-free method of receiving substantial sums of money very attractive. In 1977 Smith turned up again in the United States with an Oxford degree in hand. (We know now that it was forged.) His intelligence contacts made sure that his references were in order, and he was accepted into Harvard to finish a doctorate in psychology.

In 1979 Smith received his degree, joined the USAF, and twelve weeks later finished Officers Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. We believe that Smith used his position as military psychologist over the next sixteen years to pry secrets - using hypnosis and other means - from unsuspecting patients. His cover was obviously a good one, for while Smith never made many friends with his caustic personality, he did develop an excellent reputation as a doctor and no one ever suspected his true purpose within the military.

Over the years that Smith spent in the service, his tastes became more expensive and he pressed his intelligence contacts for a different position that might net him a greater income. As it turned out, they had a need for other operatives within the USSC, and Smith would be relatively easy to get into the organization. In 1995 the

doctor transferred to the Space Corps, where he received appropriate training and became heavily involved in the project.

By this time, several other operatives had been planted in the USSC. The destruction of the Jupiter 1 in 1993 - officially ruled an accident caused by a fuel system malfunction - was almost certainly due to sabotage by an enemy agent. Smith had not been involved in this disaster for Alpha Control. However, there is every reason to believe that the same people who destroyed the Jupiter 1 and killed her crew also assisted Smith in the attempted destruction of the second colonization ship.

AFTER THE LAUNCH

The first reliable verification that Smith was on board the Jupiter 2 at the time of launch came from the Jupiter 2 logs left at the fuel barge by John Robinson. He not only verified Smith's part in sabotaging the ship, but also listed many other accounts of Smith's attempts to kill - on purpose or through carelessness - the crew members of the ship. Also, as could be predicted, the use of 100% of engine power when leaving the Earth's atmosphere affected the unshielded doctor's mind. Within two or three weeks the behavior of the colonel grew more and more bizarre, and within a year, his exposure to the magnetic fields which propelled the interstellar ship would leave the man a shell of his former self. In Smith's defense, while he certainly was a murderer, spy, and saboteur, it is also equally true that he was a brilliant, if eccentric, man. Many grateful former patients would have never believed his true purpose for being in the military.

Now that the investigation into Col. Smith's background has been concluded, we are leaving the decision up to the President as to whether Smith should be tried in absentia for murder, attempted murder, espionage, etc. Considering the negative publicity such a trial would receive, the current mental condition of the man, and the simple fact that Smith will probably never return to Earth to have whatever sentence he receives carried out, we can only recommend that the man not be brought to trial unless he returns to his home planet.