



## REPORT FROM THE FRONT

Tracking the News of the Coming Energy Revolution

### When the Political Frontier Is in the Stars

BY JEANE MANNING

**F**or drama, this life story matches those in best-selling books and films:

Through his own efforts, idealistic young lawyer rises to prominence in New York city, stirs up action in the Carter administration White House, runs smack into the wall of military secrecy, survives directed-energy attacks, and points our attention toward the stars—toward Universe Society.

However, that lawyer, Alfred Webre III, isn't writing his memoirs yet. Middle-aged now, he remains an idealistic scholar and would prefer that you focus on his concepts. His new book *Exopolitics: Politics, Government and Law in the Universe* is a treatise rather than a thriller, although quite readable. In terms of significance, its concepts top those of any bestseller. It seems that harmonious technology for non-polluting abundant energy is merely one of the stunning gifts waiting for humankind when and if our leaders openly and benevolently interact with representatives of spiritually and technologically advanced civilizations.

Exopolitics is the study of how we can bridge from our current human politics out into Universe society. Why would someone who has taught Economics at Yale and strode in Washington, D.C. corridors of power risk his career for such far-out ideals?

To get some answers, I convinced Alfred Lambremont Webre, III, to describe some—not all—of his life's turning points. He said his first influence was his Cuban-American mother who drummed a message into her nine children: "We're here on earth to do good and leave the planet a better place."

Alfred began his career with academic honors from the preparatory schools and universities that produce our political leaders. A Fulbright Scholar, he graduated from Yale University and earned a doctorate from Yale Law School, where he was a National Scholar.

In New York city, Webre joined the Environmental Protection Administration in 1970 as General Counsel. He rubbed shoulders with ecological scientists and other intellectual stars in closed thinktanks, pushed through landmark legislation for the city and was quoted in the media as a spokesperson for Gaia (earth as a living entity).

Having made a name in Mayor John Lindsey's city, Webre was promoted to further challenges when Lindsey ran for president. Webre became a consultant to the Ford Foundation and helped launch major environmental fundings.



Alfred Webre III

At the same time, he was becoming aware of Gaia's need to join a larger Universe society. Webre won't tell how he encountered such paradigm-shattering information, but if you talk with him long enough you know intuitively that this straightforward soul couldn't ignore a call that involves huge potential benefits for humankind.

His response was in character—as a scholar. By 1975, with the help of colleagues he had published a theory of how off-planet cultures from advanced societies would communicate with a lower-order society. His "Context Communication Theory" interprets ET actions and messages almost as if they were dreams.

The timing seemed perfect for opening up such topics. Then-governor James Earl (Jimmy) Carter had had a personal UFO experience in 1969 while waiting for a Lions' Club meeting. As he headed toward the White House in the mid-1970s, Carter reportedly vowed to make the issue public. Meanwhile, Webre's writings and accomplishments earned him a prestigious job; he was chosen to be one of six futurists at the Center for the Study of Social Policy at Stanford Research Institute (SRI). During his job interview, Webre asked to do a study based on the theory he had published in the early 1970s, the Context Communication Theory. When he was hired as a SRI senior policy analyst, Webre thought, "This is it! SRI does research for the federal government..."

He began spending four days a week in Washington, D.C. and the rest of the week in Palo Alto, California, with his family. He was doing research with the National Sci-

ence Foundation and other agencies, but at the same time reminding SRI officials why he came there to work—he wanted to head an extraterrestrial communication study.

Previously such studies had always been under the aegis of the military, but he wanted to do the first civilian scientific extraterrestrial study in the history of the U.S. government. It would be sponsored by the White House instead of the Pentagon, with NASA, National Science Foundation and panels of outside experts coming in. He gathered support and advice from scientists in the SRI community and they put together a proposal.

Meanwhile he was travelling coast to coast for various meetings. For instance, he was on a Senate panel regarding future national security needs. He sat at tables across from people such as the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency. (Webre told me he was outspoken and had been known to verbally blast the DIA chairman for what Webre saw as ecological blasphemy.) On that panel, a powerful senator sat on his right and an admiral—the founder of the Center for Defense Information—was also at the table. The admiral and Webre had co-authored a book proposal titled *Armageddon—The Chilling Prospect of Nuclear War*. With such influential connections, Webre felt somewhat like a knight in shining armor. It looked as if he had a perfect opportunity to do as mother had advised—make a difference on earth.

He asked around and was given the names of Carter White House domestic policy staff who were interested in the extraterrestrial issue. During his frequent visits to Washington, he contacted those staff members and presented the audacious proposal for the study. There were to be no secret findings; it would all be made public. "And we went forward."

Stanford Research Institute approved the project in May of 1977. Webre viewed it as a Rolls-Royce of projects, and rejoiced that he had everyone on board. But that fall the project was abruptly terminated, under the threat of SRI having all its contracts with the Department of Defense (DoD) cancelled.

Who made the threat? Webre replies that it was issued verbally from the DoD to the liaison between SRI and the DoD. The liaison then traveled to California, to SRI. Webre was called into the office of the SRI vice-president and told to "desist."

I prod Webre's memory of that scene. He

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