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John D. Hay
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Dear John:

I'm glad to have your comments and Larry's. In my preface, I said I welcomed corrections, amplifications and comments to strengthen future editions of my booklet and I mean that.

To begin my response, I would like to make a general comment that should pervade all our thinking. Whether or not any of the people involved with the Urantia Papers were inherently special, we should not forget that the papers themselves were quite extraordinary. This kind of epochal event has happened only once in Urantia's million years of human history. I've quite recently learned beyond question that the superhuman revelators told the Contact Commission that they don't have any other experience of this kind in the entire local universe of Nebadon - currently about 4,000,000 worlds. With a major planetary episode this unique, let's face it, some pretty unusual things are bound to happen. Those people involved are bound to have some unique experiences whether they are otherwise ordinary or not. And this transaction deserves to be recorded in history to the extent such a thing is possible. The contact people may have been fairly ordinary, but their commitment was unusual and distinguished them beyond the common herd.

I will now address Larry's points. Concerning Sadler having a vision of the Mansion Worlds and other events on Earth, this information appears to be widely held among long-time Urantians who were around at the time. It is at least as reliable an item for inclusion as any.

Concerning the Sherman Rebellion, Sadler apparently told different people different things. He was trying to hold a movement of diverse people together. What he said in 1962 to my family is reflected in my booklet and would include his getting special information from Midwayers.

I misquoted the sentence about the baptism of joys and sorrows and it needs to be corrected. Meredith Sprunger also brought this to my attention. I could not locate that particular sentence in my papers and was going to press and relied on the memory of myself and one other person. It will be corrected in the second edition. No one did any tampering with so-called mandates.

It was not my purpose to provide an exhaustive account of all surviving instructions and material from the superhumans. I selected certain paragraphs for inclusion. I intend to add the paragraphs which Larry had in bold face. Meredith Sprunger had previously made this suggestion. Perhaps I will add still others rather than create the impression that there are or were omissions.

The only changes in so-called mandates deliberately made in the past were done so that they would appear as human ideas and not superhuman guidance. The leaders of an earlier time were more guarded about this. Also, over time, just like myself, people excerpted portions rather than use an entire passage and thus there may appear to be different versions. You will find all fragments still add up to the same version.

I have never used the word mandate to describe these writings. Nor are they useless. To me they should be referred to as guidance and they seem mainly provided to inspire and encourage us. In essence, all they are saying is "times will be tough, but hang in there and you'll come through." To use them as directives would be quite impossible. They are not sufficiently detailed. Any individual must perforce think for himself or herself in the situations encountered. I think the same goes for The Urantia Book. It is not a mandate either. You cannot use it as a directive in the absence of thought. It is useful to inspire and encourage. To me, there is no mandate apart from the functioning of the human will in partial liaison with the God fragment dwelling within. And thus, each person's mandate is different. To me, the most important message of the Book is that each one of us has the power of God within; each of us is a contact personality and needs no interpreter or middle man; each of us has a will to architect our own destiny; we can listen to others if we choose and we can accept what we like, but we are not bound to anyone for our inner linkup with God himself. No human being or writing has authority unless we personally choose to grant it authority in our minds.

Now John, as to your points, you are concerned that I included some speculation mixed with truth and error. That is exactly what I have done and said in the preface I was doing of necessity. However, to date, I have only two or three minor corrections to make (minor to me at least). My next edition will expand certain areas further, but the initial account has been seen by many people who know of these things and it has proven to be an essentially sound account.

With regard to what I said about the Contact Commission, I stated fact and truth as I know it. The Reserve Corps is a human body - not superhuman. Members of the Reserve Corps are seldom emblazoned on the pages of human history - thus they are usually ordinary people. Association with a form of revelation that has never before been tried on this planet, nor in this local universe, would

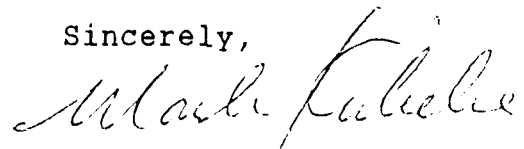
seem to present you with some unusual situations and events. The people are ordinary - The Urantia Book is not. Let us not pretend it was. Some very unusual things took place to bring it about. The booklet is my synthesized account of what took place. If it doesn't stand the test of scrutiny and of time, it will be forgotten.

A lid cannot be put on these historical facts or apparent facts. Harold Sherman's version is out there. Martin Gardner's version is out there. It seems appropriate to have a friend of the revelation's version in circulation as well. Since publication, I have learned more about the plans of several other people who I believe may do the revelation a disservice. With all the misinformation abounding as a result of the Foundation/Brotherhood rift, it seems appropriate to get some fundamental points established to provide edification and perspective to many who are bewildered and confused.

This project is completely separate from the Fellowship's plans for a history.

Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Kulieke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Mark Kulieke

cc: Executive Committee