

PETER DAVID BETER – AUDIO LETTER No. 72

FEBRUARY 28, 1982 | TOPIC 1

NUCLEAR-WAR FEVER AND THE ALLEGED SECRET WAR

Beter opened with a television war drama, warning that entertainment could make nuclear conflict seem familiar.



He linked Central American conflict, Middle East tensions and stalled arms talks to mounting war fever.



He criticized civil-defense assurances, arguing that they understated the devastation of nuclear war.



Beter claimed that infrared detection guided a laser attack on a cosmosphere on January 12.

BETER'S ALLEGATION



He attributed later aviation accidents to Soviet retaliation. This alleged connection is not established.



He also alleged that a torpedo and a cosmosphere sank Ocean Ranger as pressure over the Siberian pipeline.

BETER'S ALLEGATION



HISTORICAL RECORD: The inquiry traced Ocean Ranger's loss to a storm, flooding, design weaknesses and inadequate training.



Dramatized paraphrase of Beter's warning; his secret-war allegations remain unverified.

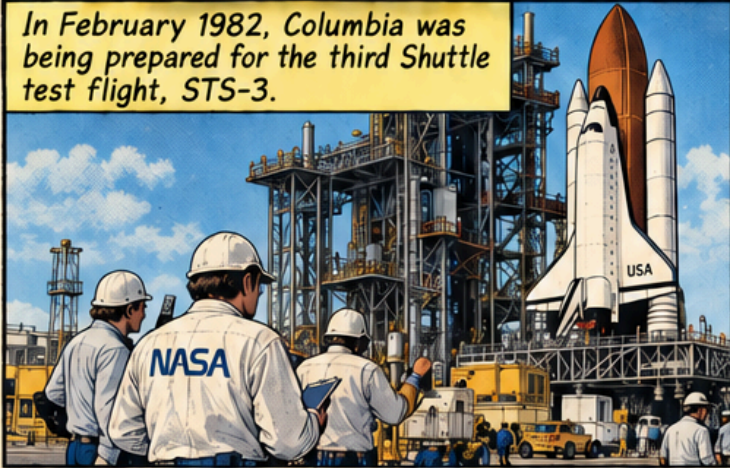


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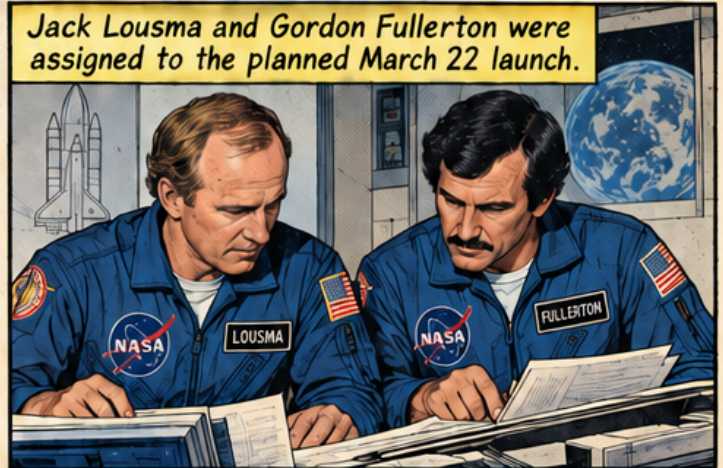
FEBRUARY 28, 1982 | TOPIC 2

THE SHUTTLE'S ALLEGED THIRD CHALLENGE TO RUSSIA

In February 1982, Columbia was being prepared for the third Shuttle test flight, STS-3.

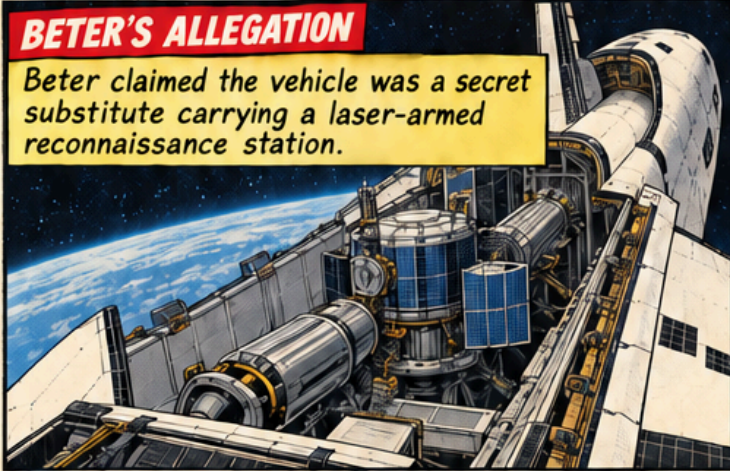


Jack Lousma and Gordon Fullerton were assigned to the planned March 22 launch.



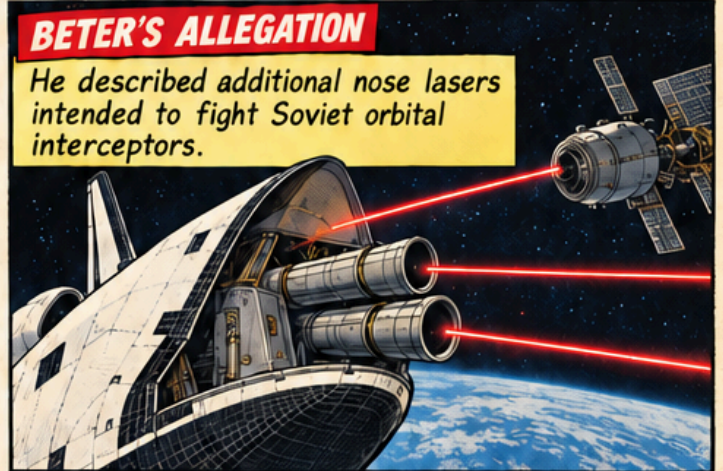
BETER'S ALLEGATION

Beter claimed the vehicle was a secret substitute carrying a laser-armed reconnaissance station.



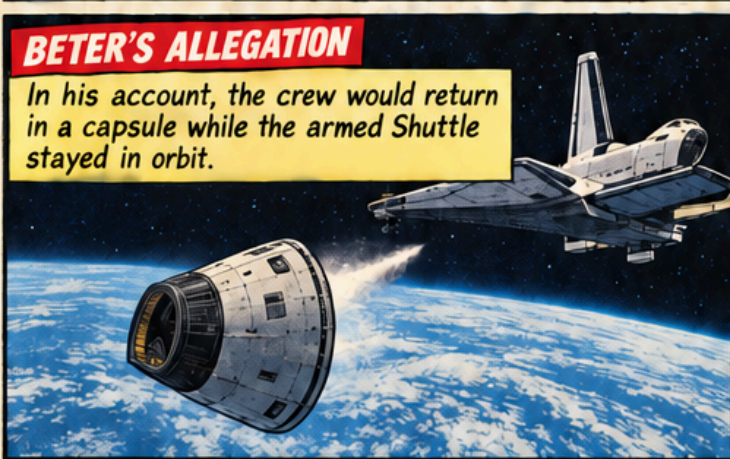
BETER'S ALLEGATION

He described additional nose lasers intended to fight Soviet orbital interceptors.



BETER'S ALLEGATION

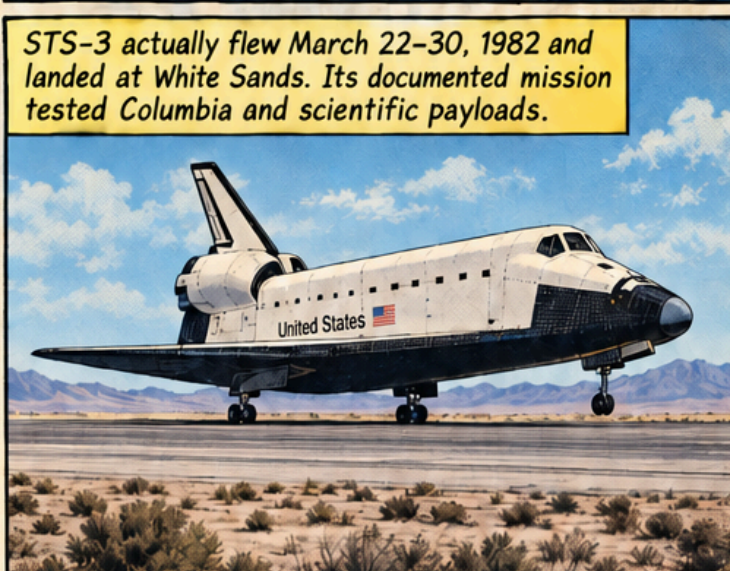
In his account, the crew would return in a capsule while the armed Shuttle stayed in orbit.



HISTORICAL RECORD: Venera 13 and 14 were robotic Venus missions, despite Beter's claim that they carried cosmonauts.



STS-3 actually flew March 22–30, 1982 and landed at White Sands. Its documented mission tested Columbia and scientific payloads.



His replacement-orbiter and space-battle story is not supported by the documented mission record.



I BELIEVE
THE THIRD SHUTTLE
MISSION IS A MILITARY
CHALLENGE.

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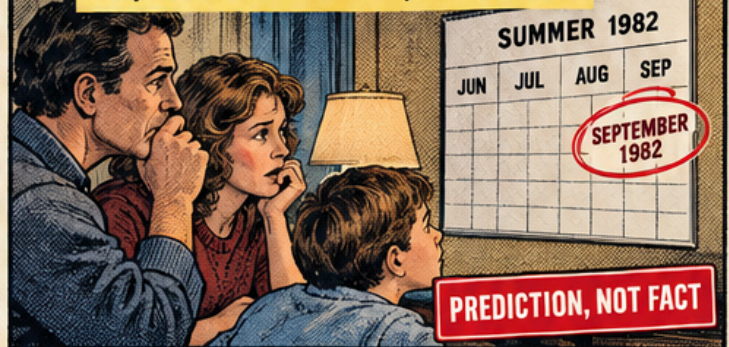
FEBRUARY 28, 1982 | TOPIC 3

THE SHORTENING TIMETABLE FOR BETER'S PREDICTED NUCLEAR WAR

- 1** Beter saw simultaneous regional crises as stages in a plan to draw the superpowers into war.



- 2** He moved his forecast for an American surprise attack to mid-September 1982.



- 3** He alleged that two secretly extracted Soviet generals supplied information that accelerated the timetable.



- 4** He interpreted disagreements between Haig and Weinberger as a struggle between hidden power factions.



- 5** Beter claimed Haig was preparing a military counter-coup to prevent the planned nuclear attack.



- 6** He said Reagan's sudden death by the end of summer would signal that this alleged coup had occurred.



- 7** HISTORICAL RECORD: The predicted 1982 nuclear war and coup did not occur. Reagan remained president until January 1989.



- 8** Beter qualified his forecast, but the hidden plot was unsubstantiated and the predicted outcome failed.

