Name	Date	Period	

THE FLAT-OUT TRUTH

Earth Orbits? Moon Landings? A Fraud! Says This Prophet

The idea of a spinning globe is only a conspiracy of error that Moses, Columbus, and FDR all fought...

Robert J. Schadewald Excerpts from *Science Digest*, July 1980

"Nobody knows anything about the true shape of the world," Charles Johnson contends. "The known, inhabited world is flat. Just as a guess, I'd say that the dome of heaven is about 4,000 miles away, and the stars are about as far as San Francisco is from Boston."

As shown in a map published by Johnson, the known world is as circular and as flat as a phonograph record. The North Pole is at the center. At the outer edge lies the southern ice, reputed to be a wall 150 feet high; no one has ever crossed it, and therefore what lies beyond is unknown.

The sun and moon, in the Johnson version, are only about 32 miles in diameter. They circle above the earth in the vicinity of the equator, and their apparent rising and setting are tricks of perspective, like railroad tracks that appear to meet in the distance. The moon shines by its own light and is *not* eclipsed by the earth. Rather, lunar eclipses are caused by an unseen dark body occasionally passing in front of the moon.

He performed experiments to determine the earth's shape. If it is a sphere, the surface of a large body of water must be curved. Johnson has checked the surfaces of Lake Tahoe and the Salton Sea (a shallow salt lake in southern California near the Mexican border) without detecting any curvature.



"Uncle Joe (Stalin), Churchill, and Roosevelt laid the master plan to bring in the New Age under the United Nations," Johnson discloses with confidence. "The world ruling power was to be right here in this country. After the war, the world would be declared flat and Roosevelt would be elected first president of the world. When the UN Charter was drafted in San Francisco, they took the flat-earth map as their symbol."

What did happen, according to conventional historians, was that Russia and the U.S. began space programs. After the Russians sent up Sputnik in 1957, the space race was on in earnest. The high point came in 1969, when the U.S. landed men on the moon.

That, according to Johnson, is nonsense, because the moon landings were faked by Hollywood studios. He even names the man who wrote the scripts: the science-fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke. But he acknowledges that the moon landings were at least partly successful. "Until then," he says, "almost no one seriously considered the world a ball. The landings converted a few of them, but many are coming back now and getting off of it."

- 1. According to Johnson, where is the South Pole?
- 2. How does Johnson explain the setting of the sun and moon?
- 3. Mr. Johnson performed experiments to test the curvature of large bodies of water. Can you describe a common observation of sailing ships that demonstrates curvature?
- 4. According to Mr. Johnson, how did most people describe the shape of the Earth in the 1950's?
- 5. Are Mr. Johnson's observations and experiments accurate? Give at least two examples.