

MUFON UFO JOURNAL

NUMBER 252

APRIL 1989

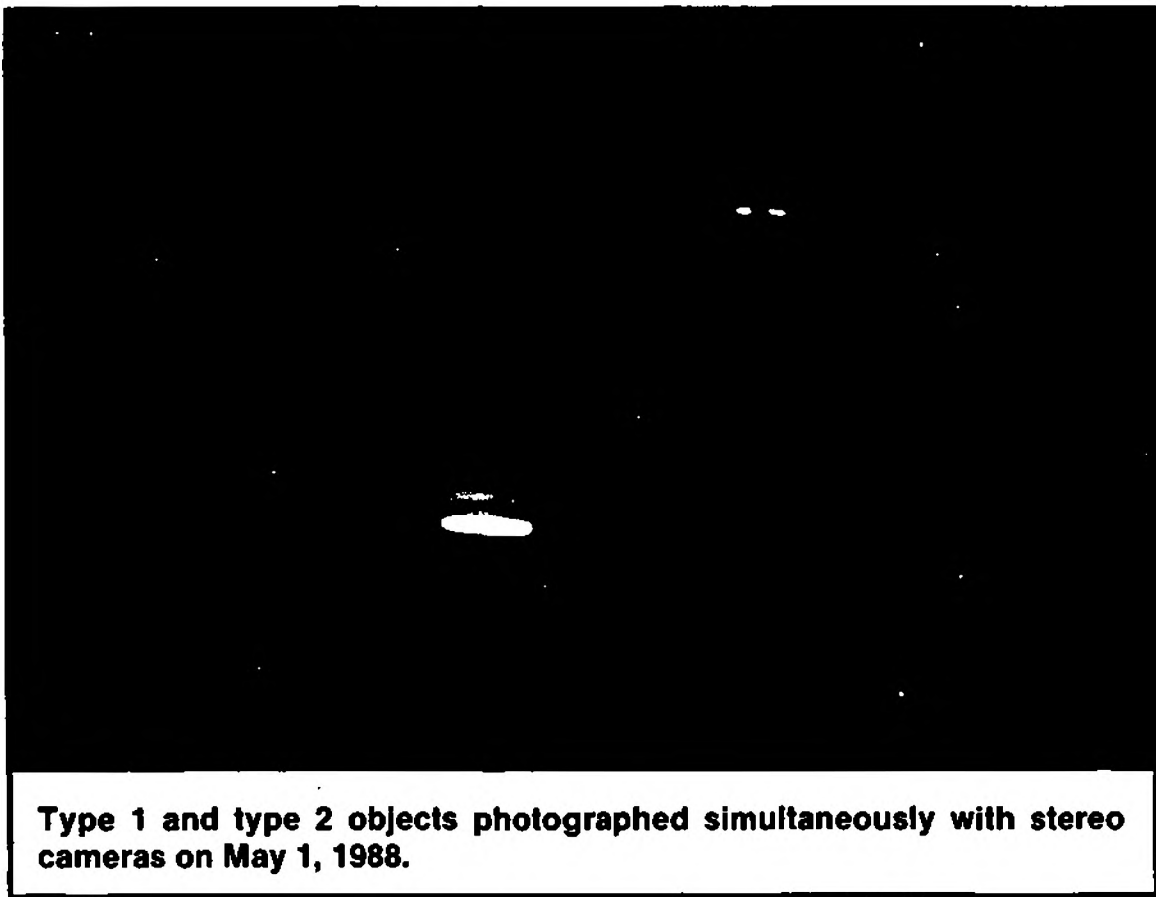
Founded 1967

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF



MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.

\$3.00



Type 1 and type 2 objects photographed simultaneously with stereo cameras on May 1, 1988.

"The Scale Remains Unbalanced"

SPECIAL GULF BREEZE ISSUE

MUFON UFO JOURNAL
 (USPS 002-970)
 (ISSN 0270-6822)
 103 Oldtowne Rd.
 Seguin, Texas 78155-4099 U.S.A.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Heft this 32-page issue of the Journal in your hands. The additional weight, for the most part, comes from Dr. Bruce Maccabee's thorough, thoughtful analysis of the controversy surrounding the Gulf Breeze case, particularly the charge that the primary witness, "Mr. Ed," may have hoaxed the resulting Polaroid, 35mm and video pictures that support his remarkable series of repeat sightings, including alleged abduction(s).

While we doubt Dr. Maccabee's article will dispel every lingering doubt in the minds of many, or heal all the rifts between individual researchers (tempers, apparently, have flared too much for that), we do hope it will aid and allow our other members and subscribers to reach their own unbiased conclusions about this extremely intriguing episode in contemporary ufology.

In addition, we've managed to cram in our other regular departments, plus a few extras, like Dr. Richard Haines's suggested technique for the analysis of UFO-associated sounds. We hope it doesn't get overlooked in the Gulf Breeze crunch.

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The Scale Remains Unbalanced

By Bruce Maccabee

A recent article by Richard Hall and Willy Smith (H&S) concerning the Gulf Breeze UFO sightings, *Balancing the Scale* (reference 1), was written to "balance the picture by presenting a skeptical view, focusing on unanswered questions and investigation that remains to be done before a hoax hypothesis can be ruled out." The article discusses a number of specific issues and makes several general points. The general points are (1) both favorable and unfavorable conclusions about the sightings reported by Mr. Ed were publicized prematurely, i.e., before the analysis of the sightings was completed, (2) there has been insufficient publication of the results of the various investigations carried out, not only of Ed's sightings and photographs, but also of the sightings of the other Gulf Breeze witnesses, (3) there is "negative evidence" which reduces the credibility of Ed's reports and suggests that Ed and his wife (and also children and a friend and perhaps others in Gulf Breeze) have contrived a UFO hoax and (4) "the 'positive' evidence has been reported in great detail," but legitimate skeptical questions and issues have received far less attention. It is my considered attempt to demonstrate.

The numerous incidents and photos referred to in this paper have been described in considerable detail in reference 2, *A History of the Gulf Breeze, Florida Sightings* which was first published in the MUFON 1988 International UFO Symposium Proceedings. A corrected and updated version is available from the Fund for UFO Research. The updated version includes an analysis of the stereo photos of February 26 and May 1, and also copies of the viewgraphs presented at the Symposium. Many of the incidents and photos referred to here have been published in several issues of the *MUFON UFO Journal*, references 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 *MUFON UFO Journal*, No. 252, April 1989

and 9 (March through September, 1988).

Not Primarily A Photographic Case

Before beginning my responses to specific questions I would like to make general comments regarding the numerous photographs which comprise a very important part of the Gulf Breeze sightings. My initial impression (and that of other investigators) was that Ed's sightings constituted a primarily photographic case. In fact most investigators (myself included) initially felt that they could rely upon the photographic evidence alone to make or break the case. Therefore I, and others, diligently searched for irregularities and oddities which would clearly prove that hoax techniques were used in creating the pictures. I could find no convincing proof. As I searched, however, I recalled something that I had learned years ago while studying previous photographic UFO sightings (e.g., Trent, 1950; Mariana film, 1950; Gemini 11, 1966; New Zealand, 1978), namely, that *the validity or invalidity of photographic reports cannot be based solely upon a study of the photos* because photographic evidence is "unfairly biased" for the hoax hypothesis. This bias comes about because a single UFO photo could contain evidence that, by itself, *proves the sighting is phony*. (For example, there might be a vertical linear image above the image of a "UFO" indicating that it was suspended by a string or thread; there might be an image below the UFO image suggesting that the UFO was supported from below; there might be a discontinuous variation in brightness or color between the edge of the UFO image and the background indicating a photo montage; or there might be overlapping images indicating a double exposure.) However, it is my present opinion that no single photo

could contain evidence which would, *by itself, prove a sighting report to be valid* ("a photo does not a UFO make") because the failure to find evidence of a hoax could mean that the hoaxing was done well enough to be undetectable. A corollary of this conclusion is that the truth or falsity of a photo which contains no clear evidence of a hoax *must be proven using some other information*.

If by some other means the photo is proven to be a hoax then the fact that the hoax was not detected in the photo means that *the hoaxer was either very lucky or had access to sophisticated photographic equipment and had developed an excellent photo hoaxing technique*.

It seems to me that, given enough equipment and capability any photo could be hoaxed. Therefore it appears a UFO photo which contains no clear evidence of hoaxing has no "value" other than to provide a reasonably accurate depiction of what the witness(es) saw, assuming that the other information obtained from the sighting investigation is sufficient to prove that the witness(es) actually did see a UFO.

There is another very important corollary to this argument: the "better" a photo is (the more convincing it is) the more difficult it is to fake. Therefore one can properly ask whether or not *the level of technical ability and the quality of the equipment needed to produce the photo would be available to the witness*. In order to answer this question the investigator must (a) study methods by which photos can be hoaxed and determine whether or not the witness was familiar with any of these methods and (b) determine whether or not the witness would have access to the necessary equipment. It may be possible to show that the witness does, indeed, understand the methods of hoax photography and has access to the equipment necessary. If this is true then

the hoax hypothesis is supported. Alternatively it may be impossible to show that the witness has neither the knowledge of hoax photograph techniques nor the access to the required equipment. In this case the hoax hypothesis is not supported. In this case one could state that the photo was probably not hoaxed. (Of course, if it were possible to prove that the witness had neither knowledge nor the necessary equipment, and if it could be proven that no one hoaxed the witness, then the hoax hypothesis would be disproved.)

Proper Perspective

I have presented this general discussion to set Ed's photos into the proper perspective. Ed has been accused of hoaxing the photos (or having an accomplice hoax them) and this raises the question *could he (or an accomplice) have done it?* A detailed study of his photos shows that they could only be hoaxed using rather complicated techniques, for example, by using models in combination with matted double exposures, in combination with reflections in glass or in combination with photomontages and rephotography (paste a photo of a model on a much larger print of the background scenery and photograph the combination). I and other investigators have searched for any conclusive evidence that Ed has any more than a rudimentary knowledge of photography. We have found no such conclusive evidence. Furthermore, there is no testimonial evidence or physical evidence that Ed has had a camera more complicated than his old Polaroid (until February, 1988, when the MUFON investigators gave him a camera to use). This lack of even slightly sophisticated camera equipment, such as a 35mm variable focus, variable f/stop, variable shutter time camera, "bodes ill" for the hoax hypothesis since it would be likely that he would have one or more sophisticated cameras if he were familiar with photographic techniques.

One of Ed's acquaintances ("Patrick Hanks," who is also a witness to one of Ed's sightings when a photo was not taken; Dec. 27, 1987) works in a video rental store which also accepts

film for developing. Some investigators advanced the idea that perhaps Ed's photos were created by this person using equipment at the store. However, it was subsequently determined that the store sends out the film for processing and has no equipment of its own. Thus it appears that Ed had neither the knowledge nor the access to the equipment necessary to make his supposed hoax photos. Of course, the failure to find evidence of photographic knowledge and capability is *not* sufficient evidence to prove that the photos *weren't* hoaxed. If they were, Ed would naturally attempt to conceal any information which could suggest he was capable of hoaxing them. But, on the other hand, this line of investigation has provided *no support* for the hoax hypothesis even though one would expect it to provide some support for that hypothesis if the photos were, in fact, hoaxes by Ed or someone else.

Besides Ed's photos there are two other sets of photos which show the same type of UFO: "Believer Bill's" photos that were delivered to the Gulf Breeze *Sentinel* office during the evening of Dec. 22, 1987 and "Jane's" photos that were delivered to the newspaper in late November, 1987. These photos were made with different types of cameras (110 format and 35mm format). The photographers have not revealed their complete identities, and therefore have not been interviewed. It should be possible to establish that these photographers were in collusion with Ed (or that Ed actually took these photos) if *all* of the Gulf Breeze photos are hoaxes.

I have studied Ed's photos and have found *no clear evidence of hoaxing* (no strings, no supports, etc.) Yet, there are odd features of the UFO images. The operative question is, *do any of these odd features prove that the photos are hoaxes*, or might any of these oddities be *inherent properties of the UFOs themselves?* Many of these features certainly bear discussion (and will be discussed), but none of these, in my opinion, *proves* that they are hoax photos.

Thus I feel that this is *not primarily a photographic case* because the

truth or falsity of Ed's reports must be based on non-photographic information.

No Lack of Skepticism

Hall and Smith have complained that there has not been enough skepticism about Ed's reports on the part of the "pro" investigators. However, to the contrary, the investigators were skeptical from the beginning (Walter Andrus' initial thought was "shades of Billy Meier," reference 3, page 15). My initial response in hearing about the case, in early January (1988), was similar. A few weeks later I first saw (poor) copies of the first five photos and I wasn't impressed. I presumed that they were hoaxes and I wasn't interested in studying them. In late January I saw better copies (black and white, 8" x 10" prints made by Robert Nathan) and I was impressed by the *lack of image overlap in the first photo* (more on this later). "Tough double exposure," I thought. However, I still considered them to be hoaxes. It wasn't until I got a call from Budd Hopkins, near the middle of February, 1988, that I became more interested. Budd had visited Ed and had gained the impression that neither Ed nor his wife were lying about their encounters (evidently the same impression that the local investigators had gained in January) and he told me that Ed's sightings could be of considerable importance and suggested that I study the photographic evidence to see if there was evidence of a hoax. I was still skeptical and thought that the local investigators were probably being a bit soft-headed in even thinking that these photos might be valid.

Budd also told me that the Gulf Breeze sightings (not just Ed's sightings) had received a lot of press attention and that there was going to be a TV documentary on Ed's sightings. This worried me a lot. I felt that it was premature to be publicizing so "shaky" a case. I was afraid that after all the publicity was over the case would be proven to be a hoax and then, once again, UFO investigators would be the butt of jokes from the press and skeptics. Although I was reluctant to get involved because I

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figured it would be a waste of time investigating a photographic hoax case, I decided to go to Florida before the major publicity got started. I hoped to be able to resolve the controversy (by demonstrating that the photos had been a hoax) before the TV documentary was completed so that the expose would not occur after the media blitz.

My own investigation began on Feb. 19 when I flew to Florida and met the local investigators and Ed. As I carried out my investigation over the next few days I felt the "weight" of the impending press attention and I didn't like it. The press is always pushing for answers or at least for quotable statements and this pressure hinders the investigation. As I worked with the local investigators and with Ed I found more and more questions were being raised and few answers of the type I sought (proving a hoax) were forthcoming. I wasn't able to find immediate proof of a hoax, but neither could I prove that the sightings were real. My response to a press query about my opinion of the case was that it was "impressive." I knew that this was certainly true: it was impressive whether real or a hoax. Because I could arrive at no conclusion I felt even more strongly that publicity was premature. (The documentary was shown on March 4.)

Skeptical of the Skeptics

I remained skeptical through the springtime as I worked on the MUFON symposium paper (ref. 2) and as I communicated with Ed and the local investigators. However, my skepticism was "tempered by reality" as Ed continually responded to my requests for technical information, some of which could have damaged his case by helping me prove a fraud. I carefully listened to what Ed was saying and I checked and cross-checked. Of course, my investigation was not perfect. "Loose ends" have cropped up since my report at the MUFON symposium. Nevertheless, I could find no "smoking gun," although several skeptics claimed that they had found several reasons, both photographic and non-photographic, to doubt the case. MUFON UFO Journal, No. 252, April 1989

I felt that many of their arguments were weak or just plain wrong and so I became *skeptical of the skeptics*.

Nevertheless I remained skeptical of Ed's case until the middle of May, after I had analyzed Ed's last photos. These were "SRS" camera stereo photos taken at about 1:15 AM, May 1, 1988, just before Ed had a "missing time" experience (which he reported to me about twelve hours after its occurrence). These stereo photos contain images of two UFOs of different types and sizes and at different distances. The more distant UFO ("Type 1", about 475 feet away) was calculated to be quite large (e.g. estimated at over twenty feet across the center section and 14 feet high). It was of the same general type as he had photographed numerous times in December, 1987. The closer, smaller UFO ("Type 3," 132 feet away) was different: it strongly resembled the UFO he had photographed on February 26 with the Nimslo stereo camera. My calculations showed that the size of this type of UFO as determined from the SRS camera photographs of May 1 was about 2.5 feet. Independent calculations for the Nimslo camera photos yielded a range of possible sizes from 2.5 to 4 feet (the Nimslo camera could not resolve distances as well as the SRS camera). In other words, the calculations for the two cameras agreed upon a size of about 2.5 feet *even though the distances were very different* (about 132 feet away on May 1, about 40 to 70 feet on Feb. 26) *and the cameras were totally different* (the Nimslo uses 35mm film, the outer stereo lenses are separated by about 2.5 inches and the focal length is about 31mm; the SRS camera is made up of two Polaroid Model 600 cameras separated by two feet and the focal length of each camera is about 110mm). I was struck by this agreement in size as I realized the difficulty anyone would have in creating hoax photos with one type of stereo camera, to say nothing of two different types. I was also impressed with the May 1 photos themselves because the sighting lines to the UFOs, as determined by identifiable ground lights (lights on a bridge), *placed them more than a hundred feet from the*

beach, over the water of Santa Rosa sound.

This information was presented at the MUFON symposium although it was not published in the symposium proceedings paper because the analysis of the May 1 photos and the Nimslo photos occurred after the paper was completed. However, this information is included in ref. 2.

Limits of Disbelief

By May 1 my skepticism of Ed's story was reaching its limit for many reasons including, *but not limited to*, the following: (a) Ed's previous SRS camera stereo photos of March 17 and 20 (references 2 and 6) that stretched the photographic hoax hypothesis to its limits, (b) the fact that he passed two lie detector tests given by a skeptical examiner (references 2 and 5), (c) the failure of the local investigators to find any proof of a hoax despite having Ed "under a microscope" for several months, (d) the discovery of an unexplained circular area of dead grass, about 14 feet in diameter, in the field behind his house (references 2, 5 and 6), (e) the testimony of his wife (ref. 2), (f) the December 28 videotape which contains no evidence of a hanging model (ref. 2), (g) the reports of numerous sightings, including some with photographs, by other people in the area; several of these occurred on some of the same days that Ed reported sightings (references 2, 3 and 4), (h) the sighting flap which occurred in March and April in Gulf Breeze (ref. 2), (i) Ed's obvious distress as he described to me, only twelve hours after the event, his May 1 sighting and missing time experience of the night before, (j) my failure to find any reason in Ed's background or present social status for him to want to create a UFO hoax and (k) his continual cooperation in carrying out my requests for information, measurements and camera tests, even though many of these requests could have resulted in the discovery of discrepancies that would be indicative of a hoax.

Yet, in spite of all of these reasons I remained skeptical until I completed the calculations that established the identity between the small ("Type 3")

UFO in May 1 photos and the UFO in the Nimslo photos, as described above. The result of these calculations surprised me. I spent some time trying to figure out how this result could have been hoaxed. I did discover how to hoax this result, but then I realized that it would require much more technical capability than even "normally sophisticated" hoax techniques require (because these are stereo pictures). I subsequently rejected the idea that Ed or an accomplice could have done it.

This was the "last straw." The limits of my skepticism had now been surpassed. To be honest with myself I had to admit that I had not been able to find proof of a hoax and, instead, had found evidence that would be extremely difficult to hoax, assuming that a hypothetical hoaxer would *even think of trying to hoax stereo photos*. To be honest with myself I had to accept the idea that Ed was telling the truth (along with his wife, family and other members of the Gulf Breeze community). In other words, I concluded that *his sightings were real*.

At the MUFON symposium I presented arguments which tended to support Ed's claims so that, as I stated in the symposium proceedings, *his sightings would not be rejected prematurely* (i.e., before conclusive proof of a hoax was discovered). However, I did not state my conclusion because *I was still allowing for the possibility that someone might turn up conclusive proof that would "break" the case*. (However, no one did come forward with conclusive proof of a hoax.)

Subsequent to the MUFON symposium I learned of the results of personality tests administered by a clinical psychologist, Dr. Dan C. Overlade, who has publicly stated that Ed is normal by conventional standards (see the article following ref. 1 in the December *MUFON Journal*). I also learned that, after many hours of hypnotic regression by Dr. Overlade, Ed had described the abduction of May 1 and *five previous abduction experiences* (including one on Dec. 17, 1987). Thus Ed has turned out to be a "classic" abductee. Dr. Overlade told me that, in his

opinion, *Ed believes what he is saying is true*.

I also had a long discussion with Harvey McLaughlin, the polygraphist. He told me that, in his opinion, Ed was not a sociopath (a type of person who is capable of passing a polygraph [lie detector] test even though lying) and that Ed was not on drugs when he took the tests. McLaughlin seconded Overlade's opinion that *Ed thoroughly believes that he is telling the truth*. In order to get an independent opinion of the polygraph results I asked a lawyer friend of mine who is familiar with the use of the polygraph to try to determine whether or not McLaughlin's test was conclusive. After he interviewed Mr. McLaughlin he told me that the test was probably as conclusive as any such test could be considering that Mr. McLaughlin had no previous experience in dealing with UFO matters. (Mr. McLaughlin had contacted Don Ware and Charles Flannigan to ask them for questions to use during the examination.) The lawyer agreed with McLaughlin's conclusion that the test results show that *Ed believes he is telling the truth*.

I also learned that Ed has passed a psychological stress evaluator test (PSE) carried out by Michael Kradz of Dektor Counterintelligence and Security, Inc. The test was carried out on several taped conversations in which Ed was discussing his experiences. The PSE machine picked up some stress when Ed discussed his initial story about being an intermediary for a "Mr. X" who, Ed originally claimed, took the photos. Since this story was, in fact, a lie (Ed took the photos, not "Mr. X") it is not surprising that some stress should be detected here. The rest of the interview produced no reactions that caused the examiner to doubt Ed's answers.

The same PSE examiner studied the taped interview of "Patrick Hanks." He found noticeable stress at only two points: when Patrick discussed his feeling that the reason that the UFO disappeared when Ed saw him (Patrick) is that the craft can sense things through Ed (see ref. 2), and when Patrick discussed the withholding of his real name and signed his pseudonym. In the first instance any

communication by the craft would have to be pure speculation on Patrick's part, and such speculation might well produce some stress in his voice. In the second instance he was intentionally "lying" by signing an unreal name to the sighting form. The rest of the interview, including Mr. Hanks' discussion of the sighting and of the UFO, produced no evident stress, indicating that Patrick believed what he was saying.

Now, over a year after the sightings began, what appears to be the most important evidence against the sightings has been compiled and published by H&S. The rest of this paper will discuss in detail the questions raised by H&S. I will show why, in my opinion, this "evidence" is insufficient to contradict the mass of evidence which supports Ed's claims. I will show why "the scale remains unbalanced" in Ed's favor.

Premature Publicity

I agree with the criticism by Hall and Smith that there was a "rush to judgement" by both sides. I have already recounted my distress at learning in February, 1988, that a TV documentary had been planned on Ed's sightings even before the photos were analyzed. This "pro" publicity was clearly premature.

Also premature was the public release, in the latter half of April, of a statement that Ed's reports were "most probably" a hoax. This statement was made while I was still compiling my report for the MUFON symposium. The investigators who made the statement (e.g., Robert Boyd, Ray Stanford) had not read my analyses of the stereo photos, which tended to rule out a hoax, nor did they have any of the other volume of testimonial evidence that I had compiled and, of most importance, they had no good photographic analysis to support their statements. Nevertheless they announced to the local Pensacola press and TV that Ed's sightings constituted a hoax ("News Release" dated April 18, 1988, ref. 10). Ray even wrote two long papers, based on his analysis of weather conditions and upon his analysis of the direction of motion of the clouds in Ed's first three photos, that purported to prove

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that the first five photos could not have been taken in the order Ed reported (*A Strange Breeze in Gulf Breeze and A Strange Breeze in Gulf Breeze, Part Two*, ref. 11). On April 20, WEAR, the Pensacola TV station, ran a short news story in which Stanford's paper and the CUFOS press release were discussed. A phone conversation with Ray was shown on TV in which he explained how the weather reports and the images of clouds contradicted Ed's report. Also in that news story the Mayor, Ed Grey, stated his opinion that Ed's sightings were hoaxes. The fact that the mayor was given the opportunity to state his opinion on TV was a direct result of the CUFOS press release and Stanford's paper. Mr. Grey indicated that he was dismayed that Gulf Breeze was being made the butt of jokes and getting a "bad image" because of the UFO sightings. He further stated "I believe (that) with us going on record that we believe it is a hoax that image will be turned around and we will get back to the image of it (Gulf Breeze) being a good quality place to live." Evidently Mr. Grey attached more importance to the "image" of Gulf Breeze than to the necessity of establishing the truth or falsehood of the many UFO sightings in his fair city.

It is "amusing" (actually depressing to one who believes that, to have any value in UFO investigation, UFO skepticism should be credible) to note that, on the very same TV show which presented Ray's claims his argument was refuted by Don Ware who showed that Ray had used the *wrong sighting direction in his analysis*. In the April 21 issue of the Pensacola News Journal an article based on an interview with Ray on April 20 quoted Ray as saying "If I'm wrong, I will completely resign from the field." However, Ray did not resign. Instead he admitted on WEAR TV that his analysis was wrong because it was based on incorrect sighting direction information and upon partially incorrect weather information. (Ray repeated his opinion that the sightings were a hoax, however. Ray's retraction was a result of investigation and analysis of weather data by Ware and Robert Oechsler. Subsequent analyses by MUFON UFO Journal, No. 252, April 1989

Boyd and myself confirmed the Ware-Oechsler conclusion that the cloud motion is not inconsistent with what is shown in the photos.)

General Basis For Skepticism

H&S have pointed out that the answers to certain fundamental questions have never been published. The first question they raise is *what did Ed know about UFOs before Nov. 1987? What books had he read? Had he read Communion?*

Ed says that he has read no UFO books and has had no more than a passing interest in the subject such as one might get from seeing *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *ET*, and such movies. The investigators asked him this during the initial interviews. When I visited his house in February, 1988, I looked at the books in his library. I saw nothing that remotely resembled a UFO book. Ed did attend the MUFON symposium in June 1988 and has taken more of an interest in the subject, as might be expected. However, the local investigators asked Ed, in January, 1988, to not read any UFO books and Ed has complied with this request. He states that he has not read *Communion* (nor *Intruders*) nor any of the other books presently on the market. He has never given to me any indication that he has any background in the field of UFO studies and instead has repeatedly asked questions which almost any UFO researcher could answer "at the drop of a hat" (I would hope).

What is Ed's background and character, including his reputation as revealed by investigations? The simple answer to this is, highly favorable. It is unfortunate from the point view of the investigators that Ed has requested anonymity for himself and his family. This means that the MUFON investigators have had to withhold his name from publication, although Ed is known to all the investigators who have been involved, including Smith and Hall. Because Ed is a well known personality in his community his request for anonymity has also prevented the MUFON investigators from discussing his business. (Although Dr. Smith broke this confidence and publicized Ed's name

and business at a late summer UFO conference, MUFON continues to honor this confidence.) In order to maintain this confidence, despite the difficulty this places me in, I will simply say that Ed's business consists of performing a certain type of personal service for his customers. This service is quite expensive and success in his business depends upon him being able to gain the complete confidence of his customers and to convince them of his capability to perform the service to the customer's satisfaction for the price agreed upon. *Any suggestion that he might be unreliable or incompetent to perform the service would be sufficient to cause a potential customer to request the service from one of Ed's competitors.* This is one reason that Ed has requested anonymity. The main reason, however, is to avoid the impact of publicity on his family.) Ed's customers have been appreciative of his services. That is, he has been very successful because he has done his job well. Because his services have been in demand he has become wealthy, by normal standards, from his work. His success in this business attests to his truthful personality (he would not get far in his business by making grandiose promises and then failing to meet those promises). From the point of view of UFO investigation his business success provides a prime reason why Ed *would not* want to be in any way involved with UFOs.

Although Dr. Smith has suggested otherwise, the fact is that Ed is a prominent personality in his community. He is active in city affairs and in fund raising for worthy projects, most notably projects oriented toward the youth of his community. He has personally donated thousands of dollars or time and money to the community and has been personally thanked by the Mayor several times for his generosity.

H&S state that "*Little indication has been given of a rigorous study of Ed ... from a skeptical viewpoint.*" Whereas it is true that not much has been published which is skeptical of Ed, the fact is that the investigators did investigate Ed. Furthermore, although the "negative evidence" referred to by H&S was not published, it was

known to the investigators and it was analyzed.

Ed refused to participate in a background check, but he *made no effort to prevent one*. Furthermore, he did provide background information which was checkable. Intensive character checking was done by Donald Ware, Charles Flannigan, Robert Reid and Gary Watson in the early spring of 1988. Don Ware even had a "spy" at Ed's house numerous times starting in late November, 1987, because he suspected as early as late November that the first five photos were taken by Ed and not "Mr. X." This "spy" was a friend of Ed's son. He attended many of the parties for teenagers which Ed has on a monthly basis. At various times he was in every room of Ed's house and was a witness to many party activities. He reported back to Dan Ware that he found nothing unusual in the house and no unusual activities at the parties, and certainly nothing remotely related to a UFO hoax. Robert Boyd and Willy Smith were informed of the failure of the "spy" to find any evidence of UFO hoaxing on the same day that they visited their "secret witness" (Mr. NM, a teenager). However, they chose to ignore the findings of the "spy."

Another intensive character check was done in late December, 1988, by Robert Oechsler on behalf of the Fund for UFO Research. Bob talked to several people who had employed Ed. They were fully satisfied. He also talked to others in the community who knew Ed, as have I. Everyone has given Ed a positive character reference.

Ed's character has been severely tested four times by skeptical professionals: twice by Mr. McLaughlin using the polygraph, once by Mr. Kradz using a PSE device and once by Dr. Overlade using a battery of psychological tests. He has been found to be entirely normal. These tests have found no evidence that would suggest that Ed had perpetrated a UFO hoax, or any hoax, either for profit or for fun.

Ed attended college where he learned the basics required to perform the service he provides. He has stated that he did not complete the course work

(leaving after three years) because of a "joyriding incident." That was twenty years ago. Since then he has been a successful business man who has a wife and two children.

Ed will eventually come forward publicly and then each person can make up his own mind as to Ed's character and credibility.

MUFON Investigation

How thorough and objective has the MUFON investigation been? H&S suggest that the MUFON investigation was not sufficiently thorough, although ref. 2 (based on the investigations by the local investigators and myself) was "admirable." (I agree!) They point out that in a complex case like this with its potentially great significance, "additional analysis and replication is essential." I agree completely. It is certainly true that not all of the questions were answered by the initial MUFON investigations.

Yet, things are not as "bad" as H&S portray them. The investigation by the local MUFON members and by myself has been supplemented by the investigations of numerous others who are residents of the area or who have traveled to Gulf Breeze to try to discover "the truth." Most notable of the latter are Walter Andrus (who has visited Gulf Breeze three times), Budd Hopkins (who has visited three times), James Falvo, George Filer, James Moseley and Robert Oechsler. Mr. Andrus' reports on the case have been published in the *MUFON Journal* (references 3-9). Budd Hopkins has communicated his findings privately. Mr. Falvo talked to a number of people in the area and found nothing to contradict the results of the MUFON investigation. His findings were reported in a letter (ref. 12). Mr. Filer, an ex-Army intelligence officer and a State Section Director for MUFON in New Jersey, traveled to Gulf Breeze where he talked to numerous "people on the street" as well as to Ed. Not only did he find no reason to disbelieve Ed's claims, he further found out that virtually everyone in Gulf Breeze either has seen a UFO such as Ed reported or knows someone who has (ref. 13). Mr. Moseley spent 16 hours interviewing

Ed on Dec. 16 and 17, 1988. Although he had been very skeptical of Ed's reports (and had publicly called the sightings a probable hoax), he found no proof that Ed had perpetrated a hoax and he even began to question the accuracy of Ed's critics (ref. 14). The results of Mr. Oechsler's investigation were similar to those of Andrus, Hopkins, Falvo, Filer and Moseley. He found strong evidence of Ed's good character and good standing in the community (ref. 14).

The local TV and Pensacola newspaper reporters were on the scene continually. Mark Curtis of WEAR TV conducted numerous interviews with the witnesses, including Ed, with the local investigators and with Ray Stanford and Robert Boyd. Curtis investigated various aspects of the sightings and did a rather extensive photographic evaluation which included several attempts, using several photographers, to duplicate Ed's photos. (He failed.) Reporters David Richardson and Mike Burke investigated the sightings for the *Pensacola News Journal*. They confronted Ed with one of Dr. Smith's calculations which purportedly showed that Ed had been "lying" about the distances to the UFOs in one photo. When Ed protested that Smith's calculated distance was wrong the reporters measured it and found that it was, indeed, wrong. (This made them skeptical of Dr. Smith's calculations.) They, too, found no evidence that proved that Ed's sightings were a hoax.

Several "documentarians" have traveled to Gulf Breeze. Most notable of these are the "Unsolved Mysteries" TV crew (Kris Palmer and Associates), and the "UFO Cover-Up Live" TV crew (headed by Tracy Torme). These people interviewed Ed and numerous other witnesses. They were impressed with Ed and discovered, as had many investigators before them, that Ed is far from alone in reporting sightings. Consistent with what I reported in ref. 2 (that there were many witnesses in the area), the *Unsolved Mysteries* filmed about 30 people who admitted to having seen a UFO. They featured two of the most prominent Gulf Breeze civilians, Dr. Fenner McConnell (the dis-

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trict coroner) and his wife as they described their sighting of July, 1988. They found no evidence that Ed's sightings were a hoax.

Tracy Torme talked with many witnesses, including Ed. He became thoroughly convinced of the reality of the sightings. During the *UFO Cover-Up Live TV* show there were several dozen witnesses present in the auditorium where the Gulf Breeze segment was filmed.

A TV station from Miami also investigated Ed's reports in the fall of 1988. This TV station presented a show that was completely from the skeptical viewpoint. Featured on the show was a photo which, it was claimed, indicated that Ed knew how to make double exposure photos with his Polaroid camera. I will discuss this photo later on. However, for the present suffice it to say that the picture does not prove that Ed knew how to make a double exposure. The reporters who put this show together were not able to find any convincing proof that any of the Gulf Breeze sightings were a hoax.

The point of this discussion is that, although the local MUFON investigation was definitely weak (because of a lack of manpower in the face of an extremely large number of reports), it was supplemented by many other investigators from various professional backgrounds. In a sense Ed, and the whole of Gulf Breeze, has been under a "microscope" for over a year now. One would suspect that if a hoax were involved **someone would have found some conclusive proof somewhere**. The fact is that, after a year of investigation by numerous people, no one (and this includes the skeptical investigators) has yet stepped forward to say "I can prove that the photos and sightings are a hoax."

How do the Gulf Breeze incidents fit in with UFO history? Here H&S argue that "basically they don't fit very well," i.e., the incidents reported in Gulf Breeze fall outside the norm of the historical phenomenon. In particular they suggest that Ed's sightings and photos are so inconsistent with UFO history that they probably constitute a hoax.

Actually this argument is a double edged sword: it "cuts both ways." MUFON UFO Journal, No. 252, April 1989

One could just as well argue that a hoaxer would attempt to make his reports consistent with UFO history in order to be believed. Therefore one could argue with equal force that **because Ed's sighting reports are so unusual they are probably real**.

There is no doubt that H&S are partially right: certain aspects of the sightings do fall outside the norm, particularly the number of photos taken by one person. However, certain major aspects of the Gulf Breeze sightings are consistent with UFO history even though they are unusual:

- The occurrence of a large number of sightings in a short period of time in a small region is called a concentration. Excluding Ed's sightings, the sightings of the other Gulf Breeze residents are unusual only in regard to the duration of this concentration which ran basically from November (1987) through the middle of April (1988).

- It is true that the number of sightings by Ed himself (and his family) is anomalous from the historical point of view and, in fact, would have been considered grounds for dismissing them ten or more years ago. (Repeaters are not "welcome" in UFO history.) However, in recent years we have learned from abduction experience reports that *repetition is the rule rather than the exception*. Historically, i.e., ten, twenty, thirty, etc. years ago such an idea would have been considered heresy. However, the work of Budd Hopkins and Dave Jacobs, as well as of numerous other abduction researchers (and abductees such as Whitley Streiber) has shown that, not only might a person have an abduction experience several times in a lifetime, but even *several times in a year*. As I have already pointed out, Dr. Overlade's work with Ed has shown that he has had several abduction experiences in his lifetime, including the experience on May 1, and a (recently revealed) experience on December 17, 1987. Thus, as an abductee, Ed's multiple sightings are less "outside the norm."

- Where the Gulf Breeze sightings clearly fall outside the norm of accepted sightings is in the number of photographs. Previously, investigations of people who have taken a large

number of UFO photos have turned up highly suspicious photographic and non-photographic evidence that strongly points toward a hoax. Thus Ed's case immediately came under suspicion. However, Ed's reports *actually fall outside the norm for hoaxing*. Previously large numbers of photos have been produced by UFO "contactees" who have had some pseudo-religious message to give to mankind (from the "Space Brothers," of course). If Ed had made any effort to promote his sightings, to reveal "new and important information from the Space Brothers" or if he had done any of the other things that have been done by "contactees" in the past (report on trips to other planets or accept donations from "followers," for example) the local investigators would have dismissed Ed's sightings early in the spring of 1988. However, there are no contactee aspects to Ed's reports. Since Ed's reports are *not consistent with the history of UFO photo hoaxes* one cannot argue that his sightings must be a hoax because he took lots of pictures. (Ed is clearly not a contactee.)

Besides the fact of the unusually large number of photos by one person, there is also the fact that the depicted UFOs are highly unusual and do not "fit in with UFO history." As H&S have pointed out, the depicted UFOs have even been called "hokey," but this description could apply to many UFOs which are conventionally accepted (e.g., the Trent photos — McMinnville, Oregon, 1950 — in which the UFO has a "pole" on the top which is off center and tilted). But is this a reason to reject their reality in favor of a hoax? I think not. A hoaxer, it would seem to me (as I stated above) would be more likely to make his UFOs fit in with *mainstream ufology* rather than be unique. Certainly many "acceptable designs" would be available in the literature.

I conclude that the fact that Ed's sightings fall outside the norms of UFO history is not convincing proof that they constitute a hoax.

The Photographs

Besides referring to "hokiness" as a reason for questioning Ed's photos, H&S

have also pointed out that several seem "stagey," as if constructed for the benefit of the viewers. However, these photos are consistent with the verbal reports which accompany them and the verbal reports do not suggest "staginess."

At any rate, although, as H&S have said, experience certainly "does count for something," "hokiness" and "staginess" are subjective impressions. As H&S point out, "intuitive impressions of UFO photographs do not, alone, constitute science; objective analysis must be done." The first photos which they discuss analytically are #22 and #23 which were, according to Ed, his wife and his daughter, taken by Ed's wife. Number 23, in particular could not have been taken by Ed inasmuch as Ed appears in the photo (in a towel). The story behind these photos is summarized in references 2 and 5. H&S quote Zan Overall as claiming that "the picture contains convincing evidence to him that the object was flashlit and model sized." Mr. Overall and I have had a running discussion of these pictures since he first asked me about them at the MUFON symposium. I had, indeed, considered the possibility that a model had been used to make these photos, just as I had considered the possibility for all of the photos. In these photos, as in the others, I also had considered the possibility, favorable to Ed, that *the illumination was from the object itself*. If one could prove that the main body of the UFO in photos 22 and 23 (and in the others) was *not* luminous (i.e., not a source of light) then it must have been illuminated by an external source. (Note: no one questions the idea that the brightest parts of the depicted UFOs, i.e., the "top light" and the "bottom ring" must be sources of light; this argument only applies to the dimmer central body parts.) The most likely external source for photos 22 and 23 would be the camera flash itself which illuminated foreground features that appear in the pictures. I asked Ed to carry out a series of tests to determine just what the range of the flash was. Experiments with his old Polaroid showed that it was about 40 feet at the most. (I carried out similar tests and found results consistent

with what Ed reported.) Based on these experiments it appears that, to get an image of the main body of the UFO as bright as it appears on the photos using flash illumination only, it would require that the UFO be *within 20 feet or so of the camera*. In this case the UFO would be small, i.e. model-sized.

The preceding discussion says that *if the main body of the UFO were not luminous then it was probably a nearby model*. Therefore the key question is *could the main body have been luminous and therefore beyond the range of the flash?* H&S pointed out in a footnote that I have discovered evidence that the UFOs which Ed photographed are self-luminous. This evidence comes from two sources: first, the December 28 videotape, and second, the March 17 stereo photographs (references 2, 3 and 6). The videotape clearly proves that the central body of the "Type 1" craft that Ed photographed could be but *did not have to be* luminous. In the first half of the videotape the central body is easily seen between the "top light" and the very bright "bottom ring" lights. In the second half of the videotape the central body is *invisible* even though the top light and bottom ring are clearly visible.

The second element of proof that the central body of the UFO can be luminous is contained in the March 17 stereo photos. The distance to the object, as calculated from the stereo effect, is estimated to be *well over 130 feet* and probably even greater than 180 feet. Yet, in spite of this great distance, which is *far beyond the distance at which the flash could have any observable effect on the film image*, the central portion is (barely) visible.

Admittedly this second element of proof assumes that the March 17 photos were not, themselves, somehow hoaxed. However, I have investigated the circumstances under which they were taken and have concluded that under the conditions pertaining at the time, to *fake* stereo photos of a hoax object almost in the presence of several people and to have these photos *develop as these people watched* would require photographic capabilities far beyond those of most profes-

sional photographers and certainly far beyond any capability that Ed has demonstrated.

The "discovery" that the UFOs photographed by Ed can have luminous bodies is not a major discovery about UFOs themselves. For years luminous shapes have been reported during nighttime sightings. Thus "Ed's UFOs," although shaped differently from previous UFOs, have this as one of several characteristics in common with other UFOs, with silence, maneuverability and high speed travel being other common characteristics.

H&S have pointed out that the first nine photos deserve particular attention because they "established" the photographic context of Ed's sightings. Several of these photographs have been subjected to computer-aided analysis, as H&S have suggested (the computer analysis was done late last spring, long before the H&S suggestion). They have also been analyzed extensively using conventional photo enhancement techniques. H&S have claimed to find "several problems with the early photographs." In particular, they say that "Nos. 1 and 7 show UFO images closely adjacent to and possibly overlapping a foreground tree. An overlapping image would suggest a *double exposure*." (my emphasis) Computer analysis done by Dr. Mark Carlatto of The Analytical Sciences Corporation (Boston) failed to find any indication that the images of the UFOs overlapped the tree images in either of these photos. This finding is consistent with what I determined from conventional analysis and it was confirmed again by Robert Oechsler who has done an extensive photo analysis using conventional techniques. Dr. Robert Nathan at JPL also failed to find evidence of image overlap (see Appendix 1).

The fact that the UFO images do not overlap the tree images does not rule out a hoax, but it does *make the hoax much more difficult*. To use a double exposure technique to create one image "behind" another would require a matted double exposure in which an opaque object of the same outline shape as the UFO (a "cutout") is used to block the portion of the

background where the UFO would appear while the exposure of the background scene is made. This is quite difficult to do well even under "laboratory" conditions such as in a professional studio.

The "double exposure" was one photographic technique investigated experimentally by Mark Curtis of WEAR in Pensacola and by several other photographers who helped him. They found that to produce a double exposure hoax of a UFO silhouetted against the clear sky was quite easy. But to make the UFO appear to be behind the tree using the double exposure method was beyond their capability. (Curtis also investigated the "reflection on a windowpane" technique and found that even more difficult.)

H&S have stated that "Photos 1-3 show a surprisingly invariant background for allegedly having been taken hurriedly with a Polaroid camera by someone who had to lower and raise the camera between exposures. Contrary to the witness's story, this suggests the use of a tripod or other stabilizing surface." This is a not-well-thought-out criticism because it is easily explained. Furthermore, the statement is wrong in its basic claim that the background is "invariant." By examining the parallax effect (position shift) between the image of the left edge of the nearby (ca. 4 feet) tree and the image of the distant (ca. 70 feet) light pole one can easily see that the second picture was taken from a position that was a few inches (at least) ahead (i.e., west) of the first picture, and that the third picture was taken from a location slightly behind the second. Thus the horizontal position was not invariant. The vertical position was, however, quite constant. But this does not mean that the camera was on a tripod. Since Ed sighted through the camera before each shot he obviously placed the viewfinder to his eye. He did not report bending over or stretching upward to take a picture. It is therefore reasonable to theorize that his eye, and thus the camera, was always the same height to within a fraction of an inch, even if he did raise and lower the camera. The obvious corollary of this is that the camera was

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always at the same height when the picture was taken. Consequently the claim that the camera must have been mounted on a tripod is not supported by the pictures nor by the "theory" that Ed's eyeball would have been at the same height for the first three pictures.

(When I suggested this theory as an explanation for the constancy of the position of the camera to Robert Oechsler he was skeptical. He tested this "constant eyeball height" theory during his December investigation. He asked Ed to take three pictures from the same location on his front doorstep from a point very close to where his UFO pictures had been taken. Ed did not move between the pictures. One can see from the parallax between the nearby tree and the distant light pole and wires that the altitude and position of the camera were constant to within an inch even though Ed raised and lowered the camera between pictures.)

H&S have claimed that there are "vertical line markings suggestive of supports for a UFO model" that appear in some early photos (in particular, photo #5). These lines have been analyzed extensively using conventional and computer-aided techniques and have been found to be flaws in the development mechanism and chemical process. They are found in non-UFO pictures as well as at various locations in some of Ed's UFO pictures. The lines usually do not intersect the UFO images, but in some pictures they do. The line in photo #5 in particular runs from the top of the picture to the bottom and passes *right through the image of the UFO*. As H&S pointed out in a footnote, computer aided analysis has made it clear that this is a film flaw and not a supporting thread for the UFO (see Appendix 1). (Robert Nathan at JPL told me that he, too, was unable to find evidence of supports for the UFOs.)

H&S have claimed that non-symmetries in the images of the first UFOs, in particular the irregularly spaced "windows," could "easily" be "interpreted as evidence of a distorted image due to photographic trickery or a crude model." The "distortion" they refer to is the irregular "window"

spacing in some of the UFO images. This irregular spacing is not likely a result of photographic trickery since any optical effect which could produce that magnitude of distortion of the "window" position would produce large, easily noticed distortions of the whole UFO image. The irregularities could be attributed to a poorly made model, although from what I know of Ed it seems unlikely to me that if Ed were to make a model it would be poorly made. The irregularity could also be an actual feature of the UFO as viewed from different angles, or perhaps these rectangular dark patches which have been loosely referred to as "windows" do not have fixed locations on the craft, i.e., they might move left or right from nominal positions. (They might not be "windows" as we think of windows as being part of the physical structure of a craft and therefore fixed in position relative to the structure of the craft.)

I reiterate what I stated in ref. 2: we don't know what UFOs are supposed to look like. No one can say that a UFO cannot have irregularities or non-symmetries, just as our own transportation devices have non-symmetries, (as well as symmetries). From the point of view of establishing or "disestablishing" Ed's photos as real the operative question is, *are the non-symmetries sufficient ground to prove that the photos are hoaxes?* In the absence of any information that would strongly support Ed's case and if there were other substantial evidence, photographic and non-photographic that pointed toward a hoax, these non-symmetries could be a deciding factor in calling the photos a hoax. But, in view of the voluminous other positive evidence that supports Ed's claims and the lack of convincing contrary evidence, I think not.

H&S quote Robert Boyd as saying that Photo 6 contains "strong evidence of double exposure." I presume that he has based his statement on my claim in ref. 2 that "Photo 6 appears to provide pictorial evidence that argues for such a hoax." I made this statement because in photo 6 the images of the distant power wires and streetlight are somewhat smeared in the vertical direction whereas the image of the UFO does not appear to

be vertically smeared by image motion, although it is a bit fuzzy around the edges. The different amounts of motion smear in this picture could have been created in only two ways: (a) (the real picture hypothesis) the camera panned with the UFO as it moved (downward) while a *single* exposure was made, or (b), (the double exposure hoax hypothesis) the camera moved upward (or downward) slightly as the first (or second) exposure was made of the background but was steady as the second (or first) exposure of the UFO model was made. If there were no other photographic evidence in this case then the double exposure hypothesis would be preferred and the photo might well be thrown out on this account. However, there are equally impressive "smeared image data" which argue *against* a hoax. In photo 1 the motion smear of the image of the UFO is *in the same direction and has the same magnitude* as the smear of the background (as determined mainly by the smear of the streetlight image) as nearly as can be determined. This is easy to explain if the picture were a *single* exposure. If the picture were a double exposure it would mean that the camera was vibrated in *exactly the same way* (by hand motion or for whatever reason) during both exposures; not an impossibility, but highly unlikely for a hand-held camera. Photo 4 also is smeared with the smear of the UFO image and the smear of the image of the light being identical. Thus in my opinion the image smear data are a wash: one photo (#6) has differential smears indicative of a double exposure and two photos (#1, #4) have identical smears indicative of a single exposure. Since the differential smear in a single picture can be explained *without resort to the hoax hypothesis*, i.e., it can be explained as a result of panning of the camera as the UFO moved, it is not possible to use photo 6 to prove that the photos are hoaxes.

"Road Shot" & Other Photos

On January 13, Ed reported to Charles Flannigan that he had been confronted by a UFO and aliens while driving along route 191-B the

evening before. The events are summarized in references 2 and 3. In ref. 2, I erroneously claimed that the photo was taken from a location to the right of the center of the cab. Ed did not remember it that way (he recalled being just to the right of the steering wheel), but I disputed his recollection basing my conclusion on my experiments at the site. However, an extensive analysis of reflections in the hood of the truck, done after the MUFON Symposium, has proved that Ed was correct: the photo was taken from a location to the left of the center and it shows the left hand windshield wiper.

H&S stated that, after the white illumination came through the windshield and caused Ed to swerve the truck off to the left side of the road, he "reached for his shotgun behind the seat, then *changed his mind* and took the photograph (my emphasis)." Actually he didn't "change his mind." As stated in ref. 2, he pulled the seat forward, grasped the shotgun and placed it on the seat beside him. After he had the shotgun he reached for the camera and took the picture.

Although Ed didn't report any rain or effects of rain during his encounter on the road, Walter Andrus (ref. 3) conjectured the bright spots in the photo might have been caused by rain drops on the windshield reflecting light from the bottom of the UFO. This suggestion seemed reasonable considering that the clouds in the sky might have been rainclouds. In ref. 2 I also suggested that there had been rain and that the road was wet. (In the original symposium report I, too, suggested that the bright spots in the picture might be reflections from raindrops on the windshield. I subsequently discovered that the spots are actually tiny holes in the emulsion. The suggestion of reflections from raindrops was removed from the revised version of the symposium paper as presented in ref. 2.) The assumption that there had been rain and that consequently the road was wet is now known to be wrong. Had the local investigators obtained the weather report for that day soon after the event they would have found, as Robert Oechsler did many months later (in December, 1988),

that there had been no measureable precipitation for several days preceding January 12, 1988.

H&S have, unfortunately, built an argument against the reality of the photo on their exaggeration of my error regarding the rain: they claimed that the "environment was dripping with moisture." They protest that because of the wetness there should be reflections of light from the nearby vegetation as well as from the road and that Ed should have mentioned encountering the effects of wet ground. Ed didn't mention being wet and muddy as a result of crawling under his truck. (Now we know why Ed didn't mention being wet — there was no rain. He wouldn't have been muddy from crawling on the ground anyway because the ground at that location, like most of coastal Florida, is sand, a fact that should have been known to Willy Smith, if not to Richard Hall. The sand does not hold water and is not as sticky as mud.)

Although the suggestion that there should have been numerous "environmental reflections" because of the presumed wetness is wrong, their suggestion that there should be a reflection from the hood of the truck is still worthy of consideration since the hood, being a smooth surface, would reflect light whether it was wet or not. The problem of the lack of a reflection in the hood was researched in the late summer of 1988. By holding a flashlight at various heights above the road and about 200 feet away it was determined that no reflection in the hood appeared until the light was seven or more feet above the road. This is because the front of the hood was bent by a collision in the fall of 1986. The effect of the bend is visible in the "road shot" itself: the front edge of the hood is "outlined" by a relatively bright reflection of the sky. If the hood hadn't been bent the dark ground ahead of the truck would appear reflected by the front of the hood rather than the sky. Since the bright bottom of the UFO was less than 4 feet above the road (see ref. 2) it was below the minimum height that would reflect into the camera from the bent hood.

H&S have protested that Ed's behavior, "after being semiparalyzed

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by a manifestly alien apparition ... is not what you would typically expect." That may be true, but then, H&S weren't there to actually experience what Ed experienced. H&S go on to suggest that instead of firing the gun at the UFO Ed "casually" took a picture. The use of the word "casually" is highly inappropriate. Ed has said that nothing he did during that time was "casual." He did manage to get a picture, but he did so as quickly as he could, before the UFO moved back toward the truck (where it zapped him a second time as he crawled underneath).

H&S point out that the videotape requires extensive analysis with the full application of "checks and balances of the scientific method." They are correct and I am surprised that Dr. Smith did not do some of this "extensive analysis" of the videotape himself. Most of it has been available to researchers ever since it was shown on the WEAR TV documentary in March, 1988. Furthermore, Ed has made numerous copies for people to work on. Much of what I have done could have been done by anyone with a good stop-frame Video Cassette Recorder and a copy of the TV documentary. (However, I worked from a first generation VHS copy of Ed's 8mm video original.) By carefully measuring frame by frame the motion of the UFO relative to fixed distant street and building lights I determined that the UFO did not exhibit any of the characteristics of a simple hanging model (such as appears in one of Billy Meier's movie segments). Robert Oechsler and Edward Weibe (a Goddard Space Flight Center employee) used some very sophisticated video equipment to study the motion. Comparing the UFO video with a daylight reconstruction by Ed they determined that the UFO went on the other side of a tree that lies behind Ed's house, outside his fenced yard, at a distance of about 50 feet from the camera position. I made a schematic reconstruction (diagram) of Ed's back yard and, with the aid of an excellent stop-frame VHS machine (which I purchased just for this analysis!) I confirmed that the UFO went behind a tree. I also found that, at the very beginning of the videotape, it went on

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the far side of a windscreen board that was about 20 feet from the camera and that is adjacent to Ed's pool. This suggested that the UFO was quite far away over the field in back of Ed's house, consistent with what Ed said had happened.

I tried to imagine how the motion of the UFO on the videotape could have been created by a model. I concluded that the model would have to move along a rigid track that would be more than thirty feet away, more than 60 feet long and ten or so feet above the ground. This track would have to be built outside Ed's yard and sloped downward (i.e., not level). Whereas it would be possible to build such a track, it is likely that it would have been seen by someone in Ed's neighborhood.

I studied the variations in brightness from frame-to-frame of the top and bottom UFO lights. I found that the fluctuations in brightness of the lights on the UFO are basically random as opposed to periodic. I found this by using the stop-frame VCR in combination with a "frame grabber" and associated computer analysis equipment to measure the peak frame-by-frame (voltage) of the UFO lights as recorded on the videotape. I asked Ed to carry out some experiments with his video camera. These involved filming known lights (incandescent flashlight bulbs, a fluorescent light) at known distances. The tests showed that random brightness fluctuations comparable to those of the UFO lights also occur in a videotape of a very small steady light source (a flashlight bulb) if it is filmed from a distance of several hundred feet or more. Considering this result from the point of the hoax hypothesis this would require a random amplitude modulation at a high rate of speed (1/30 sec) of a light on a nearby model. If the model used battery powered steady lights it would have to be hundreds of feet away and therefore quite large. At such a distance the rigid track framework referred to in the above paragraph would have to be several hundred feet long, twenty or so feet above the ground and quite close to the school buildings on the far side of the field behind Ed's house.

My study of the UFO dynamics, the flight track and the brightness fluctuations has led me to conclude that it would have been somewhere between extremely difficult and virtually impossible for Ed to have faked the video.

H&S have also referred to the Nimslo camera photos. The Nimslo camera photographic data indicated that the UFO was between 40 and 70 feet away (see ref. 2). Since the actual length of the UFO was calculated from the image size and from the calculated distance (actual size = image size times distance divided by focal length), the result is a size range 2.5 to 4 feet, rather than a specific size. H&S point out that "A supposed alien spacecraft of that size could only accommodate very tiny beings." This is a "cute" but unneeded statement. If they were sufficiently astute they would have noticed that in the May 1 photos, in which the Type 3 UFO was found to be 2.5 feet long and about 130 feet away, there was also a much larger craft estimated to be more than twenty feet at its maximum diameter and 14 feet high at a distance of about 475 feet. As I reported at the MUFON symposium this larger craft moved very quickly (in a few seconds) over Ed where he saw it above him just before he "whited out" (and was abducted). Presumably it was this larger craft, and not the small one, which was involved in the abduction. (Perhaps the smaller craft is a "scout ship.")

Other Witnesses

H&S state that, despite the "hordes of investigators, newsmen and townspeople that were staked out in Gulf Breeze at the height of Ed's encounters, not one ever witnessed Ed taking a photograph or separately witnessed a UFO that coincided with one of Ed's reports, while he took some 40 pictures over a six-month period."

How H&S could make this statement in a supposedly scientific article, I don't know. Perhaps they didn't really read the available literature. Or perhaps they are saying indirectly that *they don't believe there are any other valid sightings in Gulf Breeze.* If

the latter is true, they should offer explanations for the other of the sightings rather than simply assert, in an indirect way, that there were no other sightings.

First of all, the premise of this statement is false: *there were no "hordes" of any type "staked out."* Most of the townspeople didn't know who the photographer was and Ed's sightings were late at night when people were in their houses and not outside looking for UFOs. The four local MUFON investigators (Ware, Flannigan, Reid and Watson) did the best they could and even had a hotline to Ed starting in January, 1988. For a couple of weeks they maintained a late night vigil, but eventually it was too much for them (after working all day) so they gave up. During one of these "stakeouts" (Jan. 21) Ed did have a brief sighting, but the MUFON investigator (Reid) and Ed were separated by several hundred feet when it occurred. Ed tried to describe the location of the UFO as seen against the background sky using the walkie-talkie communicators they used to maintain contact. However, not knowing the names of constellations he could not tell Bob Reid where to look and Bob looked in the wrong direction. Ed ran to him, but the UFO was gone by the time Ed reached him to point it out.

The H&S claim that "not one ever ... seperately witnessed a UFO that coincided with one of Ed's reports" is at least misleading, if not just plain wrong, depending upon what is meant by "coincided with one of Ed's reports." At the MUFON symposium I presented a graph of the sighting reports as a function of the day from Nov. 11 through May 1. I showed that on Nov. 11 there were 7 reports other than Ed's. (Since then I have learned that there was another sighting, by Art Hufford and his wife, which was during the second week of November and could well have been on Nov. 11. See Appendix 2 for a listing of sightings.) The sightings by Charlie Somerby and his wife occurred only minutes before Ed's sightings. They claimed that the photos showed what they saw. When the Somerby's last saw the UFO it was headed in the direction of Ed's house. Mrs. Billie Zammit

reported to the newspaper that she saw a UFO at about 2:30 AM that same day, i.e., about twelve hours before Ed's sighting (see references 2 and 4).

There were other sightings that have been reported (ref. 2) including the one by Jeff Thompson. However, I would like to single out this sighting for a special discussion because of the way the public skepticism impacted on Mr. Thompson's decision to come forward publicly with his story.

According to Mr. Thompson, at 8:10 AM on Nov. 11 he saw the same type of UFO that Ed photographed. He reported his sighting to the *Sentinel* on Nov. 20 (the day after Ed's pictures were published; see ref. 2 for a brief summary of his description). Unfortunately he left no address or phone number where he could be reached (he had no phone of his own) so the local investigators weren't able to contact him for a direct interview. Furthermore, he did not respond to a public appeal for witnesses to come forward. However, on June 24, 1988, Mr. Thompson walked into the WEAR TV studio and said that he was upset over the public skepticism about Ed's photos. He said that he had watched a recent (June 23?) TV special "follow up" story on the photos in which reporter Mark Curtis investigated some possible ways that Ed might have hoaxed his photos (Mark Curtis tested several methods for hoaxing but failed to produce convincing photos!). On the same show Robert Boyd claimed that Ed's sightings were "most probably a hoax." Mr. Thompson told Mr. Curtis that he decided to tell his story publicly because he knew what he had seen. He said that he was "tired of one man taking all the heat."

Several weeks later Jeff was interviewed by Charles Flannigan. He repeated in greater detail the sighting information which was presented in the Nov. 25, 1987 issue of the *Sentinel*. He also provided a sketch of an object similar to Ed's "Type 1" UFO. In August Jeff agreed to be on NBC TV's "Unsolved Mysteries" show about the Gulf Breeze sightings (which was shown on Oct. 5). During the pre-show interview (in August) he stated "They were saying that the pictures

were fakes. And I was maintaining a low profile for a while. But then it started kind of ticking me off because the man that took the pictures ... (and the other witnesses are) ... all upstanding people of the community. (So) I came forward then, you know, letting them know that I did see it that day." The interviewer asked him, "Did it make you kind of angry that people were saying this was a hoax?" Jeff responded, "Yeah, it did. But I can understand, maybe, them saying that, you know. Something that supposedly doesn't exist, you have to see it to actually believe it." It is amusing to realize that this very important witness came forward because of the public skepticism.

Two more witnesses who reacted to the skepticism in the same way are chemist Arthur Hufford and his wife. They saw a UFO in Pensacola during the second week of November, 1987. (Nov. 11 was in the middle of that week.)

Mr. Hufford was also on the "Unsolved Mysteries" show. He told the interviewer that he had not read of the sightings in the Gulf Breeze *Sentinel* (because he lives in Pensacola) and that it wasn't until late February, 1988, when the *Sentinel* published a four-page special section on Ed's sightings and photos, that he "realized something bigger had happened. It wasn't just a one time affair in November. That there was something strange going on." He then went on to say that he became aware of the controversy but he knew that it wasn't a hoax because "I had seen it in the sky, and nobody was playing with mirrors on my windshield on my car ... if there was a hoax involved, it wasn't the photographer pulling the hoax." At that point Mr. Hufford started to "come out of the closet." He informed some of his friends that the sightings were serious. He went on to say "I was bothered when I read particularly one of the debunkers that was quoted in the paper, said it was obviously a hoax, and he wasn't even going to look at the photographs. And I just ... I just laughed because this is crazy, because it is real." (Note: Philip Klass is quoted in the May 21 issue of the Pensacola *News Journal* as saying that there is MUFON UFO Journal, No. 252, April 1989

only a "one in a jillion chance" that the Gulf Breeze photos are authentic, and "I have not personally investigated. I wouldn't waste the time. I only investigate those (sightings) that might be genuinely impressive to the public." Assuming that "jillion" is a very large number, it would appear that Believer Phil was up to his old tricks, calling a sighting a hoax before investigating it.) The relevance of Hufford's testimony to Ed's photos is clear from a statement made during that same interview: "I'm convinced that what I saw was the same thing that was photographed on November 11th and published in the *Sentinel*. There's just no doubt in my mind that this photographer took pictures of whatever it was that we saw" (my emphasis).

Other dates of "coincidental" sightings reported by people not related to Ed are Dec. 2, (2 others), Feb. 26 (2), Mar. 17 (3), and Mar. 20 (4) (see Appendix 2). On Dec. 27, "Patrick Hanks" (pseudonym), a friend of Ed's family, saw the UFO at the same time that Ed and his family saw it. No picture was taken, however (see ref. 2). On Jan. 24 Duane Cook, the editor of the *Sentinel*, filmed Ed with a video camera as Ed took a picture of a UFO. (Compare this fact with the H&S statement that "no one [person] ever witnessed Ed taking a photograph.") However, Duane did not see the UFO himself. He was looking at Ed, in the opposite direction to the UFO, which appeared so briefly that Ed didn't have time to point it out (he just barely had time to take a picture). Duane did watch the UFO photo develop only minutes after Ed had taken the picture with his old Polaroid.

On March 17 several witnesses saw Ed set up and load the SRS (stereo) camera in Shoreline Park (see ref. 2). They watched as he took test photos. Subsequently they left Ed's vicinity for a short time but they did not leave the park. They saw the SRS camera flashes and returned quickly and saw the newly taken stereo pictures of a UFO develop as they watched. On the same night, City Councilwoman Brenda Pollack reported a glowing object moved in the sky over Gulf Breeze. She saw it only

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minutes before Ed took his SRS photos. When she last saw it, it was moving in a direction toward the area where Ed's camera was pointed when he took the SRS pictures.

H&S have stated that the "more than 130 other cases claimed are — as of this writing — either weak and not supportive of Ed's sightings or not yet even investigated." This statement is wrong on several counts. First, I know of no one who has claimed that there are 130 other cases. In ref. 2 I stated that I had found 55 "non-Ed" reports and that many of these were multiple witness sightings. This led me to claim that there were probably well over a hundred witnesses. I gathered these reports from the *Sentinel* newspaper stories. At the time that I wrote ref. 2 most of those sightings had not been investigated, and that condition is still true. However, well over a dozen of the most significant reports have been investigated (see Appendix 2). These reports are certainly not "weak" and they do support Ed's sightings. Robert Oechsler, during his December investigation, learned that there were more witnesses than had been reported to the paper. The results of his investigation will be reported elsewhere.

H&S have claimed that most of the photographs show the UFO in "exactly the same orientation toward the camera." In particular, the "bottom is tilted slightly toward the camera." The significance of this fact for the hoax hypothesis is not clear. Ed stated that the UFO rocked back and forth and sideways slightly and that he intentionally took the photos when the UFO was brightest. Since the bottom was the brightest part this meant that he took the photos, whenever possible, when the bottom was tilted toward him.

Character Issue

As I have already pointed out, it is difficult to present a clear description of the character of a person who wishes public anonymity. However, he is known to many people in Gulf Breeze, including many who don't know that he has taken photos. People who have worked with him, including businessmen, community leaders, teachers, etc. judge him to

be a man of good character and not a man who would create harmful pranks or hoaxes.

H&S have pointed out that Ed uses two different last names. My response to this is a big "So What?" He has never tried to hide his identity from any investigator (including Smith, Hall, Boyd and Stanford). He uses the names of both his father and his stepfather alternately. By either name he is well known in the community.

H&S have accused the local investigators of not following up leads that they have supplied but rather of asking Ed for the answers to skeptical questions. (Actually the leads have been followed up over the many months that this investigation has proceeded, although not totally by the local investigators.) Their chief complaint is that the investigators did not follow up on "reports" (note the plural) "that Ed had produced deliberate double exposure photographs" (note the word "deliberate" and use of the plural of photograph) "of 'ghosts' for party purposes and had bragged to local teenagers" (note the plural of teenager) "that he was going to pull off the 'ultimate' prank which they would recognize when they saw it."

The claim that Ed took "ghost photos" and that he planned an "ultimate prank" has been attributed to one local teenager (NM) who has had a grudge against Ed and Ed's son ever since Ed barred him from coming to parties because the young man brought some of his friends who were known to be "into drugs." (Ed has been very adamant that there be no liquor nor drugs at the parties at his house for local teenagers.) Apparently this young man also was quite angry that a certain girl was a close friend of Ed's son. In late 1987 he began to write nasty, demeaning letters to Ed's son (I have seen some of these). He also "keyed" (scratched) the son's car and put sugar in the gas tank. He ended the harassment when Ed threatened to call the police. As H&S have pointed out, Don Ware and the local investigators have dismissed the "ghost photo" and "ultimate prank" as a "false issue." However, according to H&S "the objective facts suggest otherwise."

What objective facts? H&S claim

that there are reports that Ed bragged about an "ultimate prank." From whom do we have these reports? We have only the testimony of a teenager who, himself, is far from being above suspicion. David Richardson of the *Pensacola News Journal* tried to check up on this NM's story by interviewing several of the teenagers that NM had claimed could support his story. However, Richardson learned nothing to support NM's claim that Ed was involved with an "ultimate hoax." Don Schmitt of the Center for UFO Studies also called several of the children mentioned by NM. Schmitt was surprised to learn that they hadn't been to Ed's house for a long time (months) and that they had no knowledge of Ed being involved in a hoax. Finally, Don Ware's "spy" attended numerous parties at Ed's house and found no evidence of a UFO hoax (or any other type of hoax, which is why Ware rejected the Boyd-Smith hoax theory as a false issue.)

The relevance of the suggestion that Ed might have intentionally taken double exposure photographs at parties that occurred about two years before his UFO photos is clear: *if it could be proven that he knew how to take double exposure photos then this would provide support for the claim that the photos were hoaxed*, although it would not prove they were hoaxed. Thus the important question raised by H&S (following Boyd and Smith in earlier private publications) is this: *is there proof that Ed deliberately took double exposure photographs?*

When this was first brought up in the spring of 1988, Ed stated that he could recall only one photo, out of hundreds (?) that he may have taken of children who have come to his monthly parties (for teenagers), had an unexpected image. The unexpected image appeared in the photo of a girl who was at a Halloween party in 1985. Ed was as puzzled as the children as to how the image came about but, in keeping with the occasion, suggested that the image was that of a ghost. This suggestion was evidently heard by several children at the party.

In the fall of 1988 a Miami TV sta-

tion decided to do an "expose" of the Gulf Breeze sightings. With the aid of the teenager who had accused Ed, the station managed to acquire two original photos of the girl. The two photos were taken, one after the other. The first photo shows the girl and some background features of the room. The second picture, which was *taken from a slightly different location*, shows the girl, the background features and some bright spots in a random array, the "ghost."

Until the original photos were obtained no investigator had actually seen the "ghost" photo. Ed, trying to recall the photo taken over two years before, remembered only an indistinct blob or blobs of light that made an indistinct "image." He did not recall a clearly defined "ghost" shape. Yet *Robert Boyd and Dr. Smith and the other investigators (myself included) had discussed it as if it showed a definite image of a "ghost" or a "devil."* Smith and Boyd had therefore argued that it *could only have been produced intentionally by a double exposure technique or some trickery using mirrors* (my emphasis)." The story of this photo grew in the skeptical retelling to the point that Ed was "accused" of deliberately taking numerous double exposure photos at parties.

When I saw the actual photo (on TV) I had to laugh. It shows that Ed's recollection was correct. The "ghost image" is just a number of bright blobs of light in a random arrangement at the left of the image of the girl. *There is no definite image.*

Robert Boyd tried to find a face-like image in the arrangement of bright spots and, in so doing, proved that he can pass a "Rohrshach Test." He found that if you look carefully you can find two roundish spots that are side-by-side (the "eyes"?) and a larger roundish spot (the "mouth," or is it a fat nose?). These spots form a tilted "face." Of course, you have to ignore all the other "non-facelike" blobs of light.

In Ed's recreation room there is a large mirror on a wall. Opposite that is a plate glass wall that separates the living room from the recreation room. *One can easily imagine these glass surfaces catching the flash and bouncing it off other reflective surfaces that*

are within the field of view of the picture thus creating unexpected images in the picture. An accidental combination of reflections from the mirror or from the glass wall with reflections off reflective objects could easily create unexpected images. For example, Ed may have taken the picture while looking at an angle (not 90 degrees) toward the plate glass wall. The girl might have been on the same side of the glass as Ed or on the opposite side (in which case the picture would have been taken through the glass wall.) Under these conditions some reflective objects (pictures, drinking glasses, white shirts, wall lamps, etc.) *on the same side of the glass wall as Ed*, could have been illuminated by the flash either directly by the flash cube or indirectly by a reflection of the flash off the glass wall. At certain angles of the camera relative to the glass wall, light from these objects could return to the camera so that they would be photographed *indirectly, by reflection off the glass wall.* On the other hand, objects on the far side of the wall would be photographed directly, as through a window. If the objects photographed by reflection from the wall were much farther away from Ed (the "optical distance") than the girl, then, since the camera was well focused on her, their reflections would be unfocused, diffuse blobs. These reflections could create images that would be *superimposed* on the images of objects on the opposite of the wall (the background images). This general arrangement as I have described (photographing a person who stands next to the glass wall) has been tested by Ed at my request. He has demonstrated that it is difficult to avoid getting images of reflective objects on the same side of the wall as he stands because the flash is so bright. Thus it has been demonstrated that a "ghost" image similar to the one in the picture of the girl could have been created *accidentally* in Ed's recreation room.

The collection of randomly placed blobs appears only in the second photo, which was taken *from a slightly different location* than the first. It seems quite possible to me that specular reflections of the camera

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Demon's Delight? Mrs. Ed with "ghost" image.

Ed's personality? Ed is well known for inventing creative games for teenagers (to give them something to do and keep them out of trouble). He was personally thanked by the Mayor for creating a citywide game to help celebrate an anniversary. But is this comparable to creating a UFO hoax which could have a considerable unfavorable impact on many people in Gulf Breeze? I think not. Furthermore, neither Dr. Overlade nor Harvey McLaughlin, who studied Ed in ways which could detect a malicious personality, found anything in Ed's character that would suggest he might attempt a UFO hoax.

Mr. Grey's implied suggestion that there is little difference between Ed's creative games and a large scale UFO hoax reminds me of Philip Klass' suggested explanation of the Val Johnson, police-car-damage case of August 1979. In *UFOs, the Public Deceived* (Prometheus Books, Buffalo, NY, 1983) Klass essentially tried to deceive the public by suggesting that Johnson hoaxed the sighting and damaged his police car to provide hard evidence of the event. As evidence that Johnson might have hoaxed the sighting Klass suggested that Johnson was a practical joker. He based this suggestion on the statement by another police officer that, as a joke, Johnson might *hide your cup of coffee*. Evidently "Believer Phil" Klass hoped that the average reader could not tell the difference "scale" between hiding a cup of coffee and damaging a police car.

H&S have protested that the investigators were lax in checking into Ed's claims and background. They complain specifically about the decision of the local investigators to refrain from questioning the 8-10 "teenagers whose names and phone numbers had been provided as witnesses to the allegations against Ed in support of the teenager who had been involved in disagreements with Ed's son." Don Ware has said that the local investigators decided not to call the children since to do so and ask specific questions about Ed would reveal his identity as "Mr. Ed" and Ware and the others had promised not to reveal his identity. Moreover, as I have already pointed out, Don

flash, being highly direction dependent, could cause odd reflection spots in a picture taken from one location and not in a picture taken from a slightly different location.

In order to demonstrate how the so-called "ghost photographs" were accidentally made by Ed, the following experiment was conducted. The first photo shows Bob Reid next to the "ghost" and the second photo illustrated shows "Mrs. Ed" next to a different "ghost." These pictures were taken by the method described in this report.

Both Bob and Frances were standing next to the glass doorway between Ed's (former) living room and the recreation room. They were on the same side of the doorway as Ed when he took the picture. The "ghost" in each case is a reflection in the glass. The "ghost" in the picture with Bob consists of reflections of Bob's face and also some objects on a ladder. The "ghost" with Francis consists of jars and balloons. Ed mentioned that balloons were present at most parties. Bob Reid stood next to the door in such a way that the wall adjoining the door is visible. Francis stood in such a manner that none of the framework of the door was visible. Unfortunately there is no furniture in Ed's old house to make images of things seen *through* the glass door as there are in the original "ghost" photo.

The importance of the pictures, especially the picture of Frances, is that they show how the original ghost

photos could have happened quite by accident if the girl had happened to be standing by the glass door when Ed took her picture. These pictures prove that the original "ghost" photo could have been an accident and did not have to be taken by double exposure as has been claimed. The reason for publishing both and not just Frances is that the photo with Bob Reid establishes that these were controlled tests, carried out at my request, and that Bob can verify that the "ghosts" were, indeed, produced by reflection in a glass. If the photo of Bob was not published, the skeptic's immediate response would be that Ed simply duplicated his double exposure technique to create a picture of Frances. The photo of Bob, however, with the edge of the glass door showing and the ghost in the glass proves how the photo was taken. The Boyd-Smith argument, as summarized by H&S, now loses its importance.

H&S have used the testimony of Mayor Grey to bolster their case that "Ed's reputation as a prankster is not without prior foundation." Mr. Grey is quoted as saying "Ed's a heck of a nice guy, very charming, but it is totally consistent with his personality to pull off a stunt like this." The reader will remember that Grey went on record in late April as claiming that the sightings were a hoax because he was afraid that Gulf Breeze was getting a bad "image" (see the section entitled *Premature Publicity*). Mr. Grey may be an expert on the "image" of Gulf Breeze, but is he an expert on



Bob Reid and a second, duplicate "ghost" image.

Ware had a "spy" who would have been privy to the same information as the other teenagers, having been at Ed's house many times. However, the "oath of confidentiality" did not prevent others from questioning the children. I have already discussed the results of the investigations by David Richardson and Don Schmitt who independently questioned several of the children. They learned nothing of significance.

Summary And Conclusions

In concluding their article H&S claim that skepticism about the Gulf Breeze episode is "entirely justified until independent photoanalysis work is completed and reported, the supposedly supporting evidence systematically analyzed and the central questions answered." They criticized me and several others (Ware and Hopkins in particular) because our minds "appear to be made up." (Naturally they did not criticize Dr. Smith who made up his mind at least by last April, when he wrote a paper entitled "Gulf Breeze, The End," and perhaps even as early as last March when, according to Robert Reid, he tried to pressure Reid into convincing the other local investigators that Ed's sightings were a hoax ... and this was only after being in Gulf Breeze for a few hours! Nor do they criticize Robert Boyd and Mark Rhodighier who, in April, published the CUFOS statement that the case was a hoax, ref. 10.)

I cannot speak for Ware and Hop-

kins, but I have described how I made up my mind at the beginning of this paper. Although I was aware of all the "negative evidence," I was more impressed by the positive evidence, in particular the videotape and the stereo photos. Only very strong direct evidence to the contrary would convince me that Ed knew how to fake the SRS camera photos. (Just because I was able to figure out how to defeat the SRS camera *after* the March 17 and 20 photos were taken does not mean that Ed had figured it out *before* they were taken.) It is quite probable that a professional illusionist with plenty of support from associates could have hoaxed something like Ed's sighting reports and photos *if it had occurred to him to do so*. But this statement regarding the capabilities of a professional illusionist is merely an observation with no relevance to the sightings since there is no evidence that a professional illusionist was involved.

If Ed were the only person to have reported sightings, i.e., *if his family members had not reported seeing the UFO and if there were no other sightings by the Gulf Breeze residents*, I would still be very skeptical. However, I accept the idea that other people in Gulf Breeze have had sightings. I was, of course, aware of this fact during the spring and it played no small role in convincing me that Ed's sightings were real. As I said in ref. 2, "It would, indeed, be strange if Ed's photos and sightings were written off as hoaxes while other sight-

ings were accepted as true!"

At the beginning of this article I stated that I agree with general criticism #1 (premature publicity), #2 (insufficient publication) and #4 (uneven reporting of "positive" and "negative" evidence) made by H&S. I also stated that I disagree with point #3 (there is "negative evidence"). It is my opinion that there *never* was convincing "negative evidence" of the sort that was publicized by Smith and Boyd. (Note that Ed's photos themselves would not be considered "negative evidence" unless one could find strong evidence within the photos themselves that trick methods must have been used. I could find no such conclusive proof.)

The only *potentially* important "negative evidence" was based on unreliable testimony which was exaggerated by Boyd and Smith into a de-facto indictment of Ed's character. Specifically, they used a claim by a teenager that Ed had taken numerous "ghost photos" at parties for children to suggest that the "ghost images" were made by double exposures or by other means for trick photography. To them this indicated that, at the very least, *Ed knew something about trick photography*. Even before they had the "proof" in hand, i.e., even before they had a "ghost photo" to prove Ed's knowledge of trick photography, they proclaimed the UFO photos to be hoaxes. However, now that (the) one "ghost" photo is available, they no longer have proof that Ed knew about trick photography. The "negative evidence" has evaporated.

There *would* be important negative evidence if *credible* witnesses testified that they had seen Ed (and his family) involved in creating UFO pictures. Such testimony of *direct observation of hoaxing* would be very conclusive, as opposed to the evidence that H&S have cited which is, at best, indirect. Considering the number of photos that Ed took, the number of different UFOs represented, the number of locations at which he took photos and the videotape one would think that, if a hoax were being perpetrated, *someone* would have seen something related to the hoax. Quoting James Moseley (ref. 14), "Where are Ed's models? Where is a neighbor

or enemy who will come forward to saw he saw Ed setting things up for a hoax photo?"

One reason that the H&S article exists is because several skeptics became convinced early in the investigation that the sightings were a hoax. They complained loudly that the questions they raised were not being treated "fairly" by the local investigators. They were so certain that they were correct that they were willing to publicize their claims with a consequent negative impact on the Gulf Breeze witnesses. I have no problem with their skepticism of last spring, and I have no problem with the fact that they publicized it. What bothers me is that they have been unreasonable in continuing their adamant skepticism beyond the reasonable time for it to end, i.e., beyond last summer when Ed completed many hours of personality tests and hypnotic regressions. These tests and regressions show that Ed is, without a doubt, a classic abductee. This explains why he is "different" from other people who have reported one or two sightings.

By the end of the summer of 1988 the small community of researchers who worked directly on the case knew of Ed's regressions and his abduction reports (although the content of these reports has been kept secret to avoid contamination of other cases; note that a number of items Ed has reported during regressions have turned up in other unpublished abduction accounts). At that point the skeptics within the UFO community should have admitted that, at the very least, they had little evidence to support their position.

I hope that this article has answered the questions raised by H&S. I hope the reader will now understand why I arrived at that conclusion and I hope that the arguments presented here will help the reader make a more informed decision of his own as to whether or not he accepts this case. As for myself, I agree with Jim Moseley that, until some universally convincing proof of fraud is uncovered, "Ed deserves benefit of the doubt."

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Acknowledgements

I could not have compiled this article without the help of the local Gulf Breeze investigators (Donald Ware, Charles Flannigan and Robert Reid). I also acknowledge communications and/or written communications with the following people in alphabetical order: Walter Andrus, Jr. (MUFON), Mike Burke (Pensacola News Journal), Dr. Mark Carlatto (photoanalyst), Duane Cook (editor, the Gulf Breeze Sentinel), Mark Curtis (WEAR TV reporter), Thomas Deuley (Nimslo camera and film analyst), George Filer (investigator), James Falvo (investigator), Dr. Richard Haines (investigator/psychologist), Bruce Haupt (lawyer), Budd Hopkins (investigator), Arthur Hufford (UFO witness), Michael Kradz (voice stress analyst), Dr. Rima Laibow (psychiatrist), Harvey McLaughlin (polygraphist), James Moseley (investigator), Dr. Robert Nathan (photo analyst), Robert Oechsler (investigator, photo analyst), Dr. Dan C. Overlade (clinical psychologist), Kris Palmer (Unsolved Mysteries TV show), Brenda Pollack (UFO witness) and Tracy Torme (UFO Cover Up Live TV show/Gulf Breeze segment producer). I also thank Mr. Ed and his wife for their help in supp-

lying information I have needed for carrying out my technical analysis.

APPENDIX 1 Computer Analyzed Photos

Two of these photos have been studied to determine if there is evidence of hoaxing. These are #1 and #5. Photo #1 (see Figure 1) shows the UFO apparently behind the tree. If this photo were a superposition by double exposure the very dark image of the tree branch would be overlaid by the brighter image of the main body of the craft. Photo 5 (see Figure 3) has a line running from the top of the picture to the bottom. It has been suggested that this line is a suspending device for a model. This suggestion raises the question of whether or not this line crosses over the image of the UFO and therefore could be a film flaw.

To study the possibility of a double exposure, photo #1 was "tricolor scanned" (red, blue, and green color separation filters were used) with an Optronics image digitizer operated in the reflection mode. The scanning was done with 255 grey levels (plus zero) and at 100 micron resolution. The data tape was sent to Dr. Mark Carlatto of The Analytical Sciences Corp (Boston). He used image processing equipment to produce Figure 2. Figure 2 is a reconstruction of a portion of the "blue image" (the digitized image obtained when the blue color filter was used) of photo 1. (Blue was used to reconstruct the image since the picture has an overall bluish cast, a property of the Polaroid Type 108 film when used at low light levels.) It is a blowup of the UFO image and the adjoining tree image. In this enhanced picture it is clear that the tree overlaps the main body of the UFO image because the tree image is "perfectly black" even where it cuts into main body of the image. The tree image does not overlap image of the bright bottom because the UFO was tilted.

For comparison with the results of the computer-aided analysis, note that Figure 1 is a high contrast copy of photo 1 that was made for Robert Nathan at JPL. This high contrast copy also shows that the tree image

completely blocked the image of the left side of the main body of the UFO.

The area within the small box drawn on the picture in Figure 2 was analyzed further to try to determine whether or not the UFO could have been a photo of a model which was cutout and pasted onto a photo of the background and the combination rephotographed. However this analysis was inconclusive because the images in photo 1 were clearly smeared a small amount by camera motion as proven by the elongation of the images of both the UFO top light and the streetlight at the right side of the full frame photo (see Figure 1; these images are smeared in a downward-to-the-right direction).

Figure 3 is a high contrast copy of Photo 5 that was made at JPL. Barely visible, running from the top of

the picture to the bottom and over the UFO image just to the left of the third "window" from the left, is a faint white line. The line is quite, though not perfectly, straight on the average, but on close inspection is seen to have small wiggles in it. Figure 4 is a high contrast digitized blowup of the UFO image and the surrounding area. Ignore the bright spots and blotches which are film defects, dust, etc. which were picked up and amplified by the digitizing-enhancing process. Clearly evident, just to the left of the center of the UFO image is the wiggly line that runs from the top of the picture to the bottom. The line clearly passes "over" or *through* the image of the UFO. Thus this is a film flaw. This type of flaw has been seen in a number of the Type 108 Polaroid pictures, including non-UFO pictures, as pointed out in reference 2.



FIG. 1

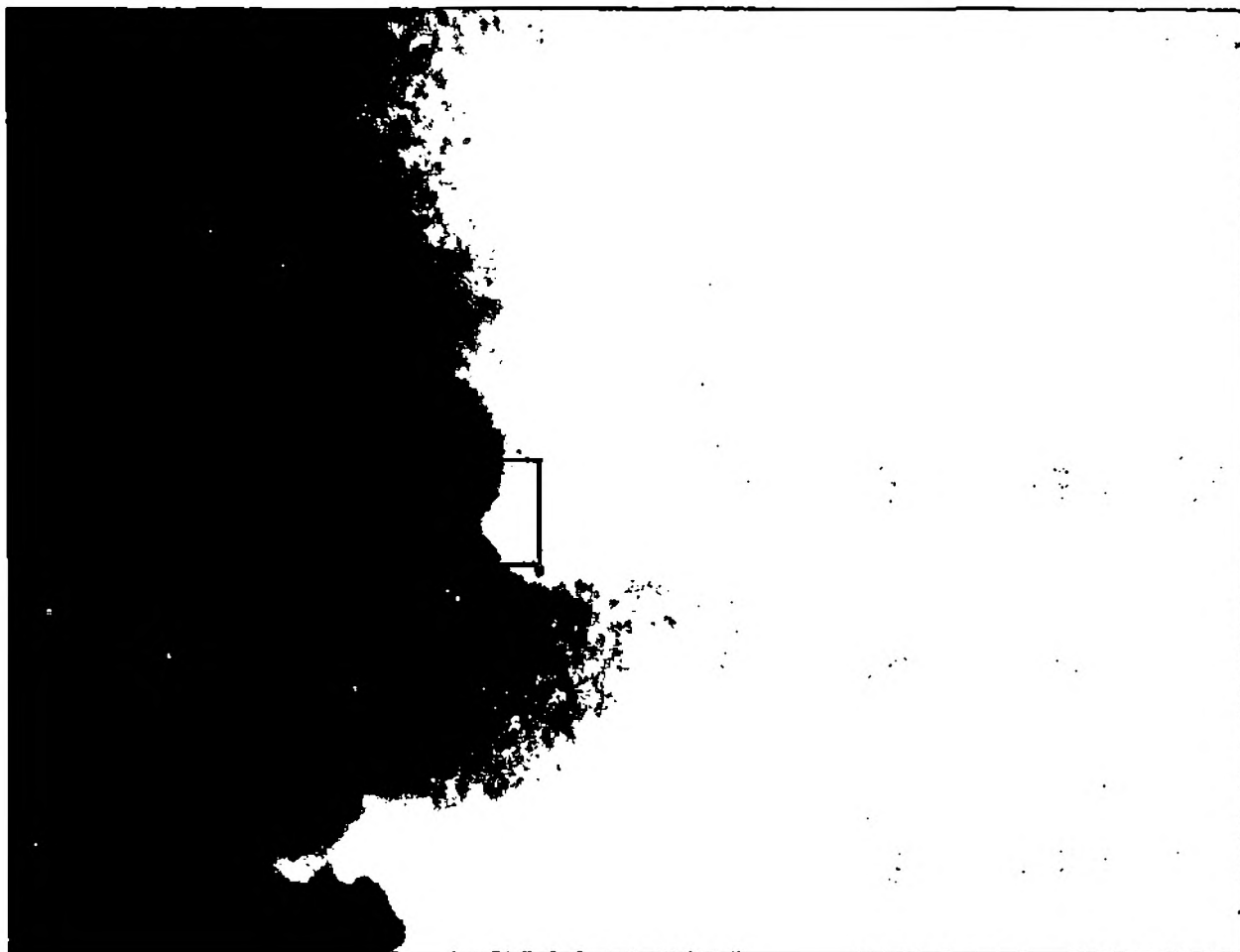


FIG. 2

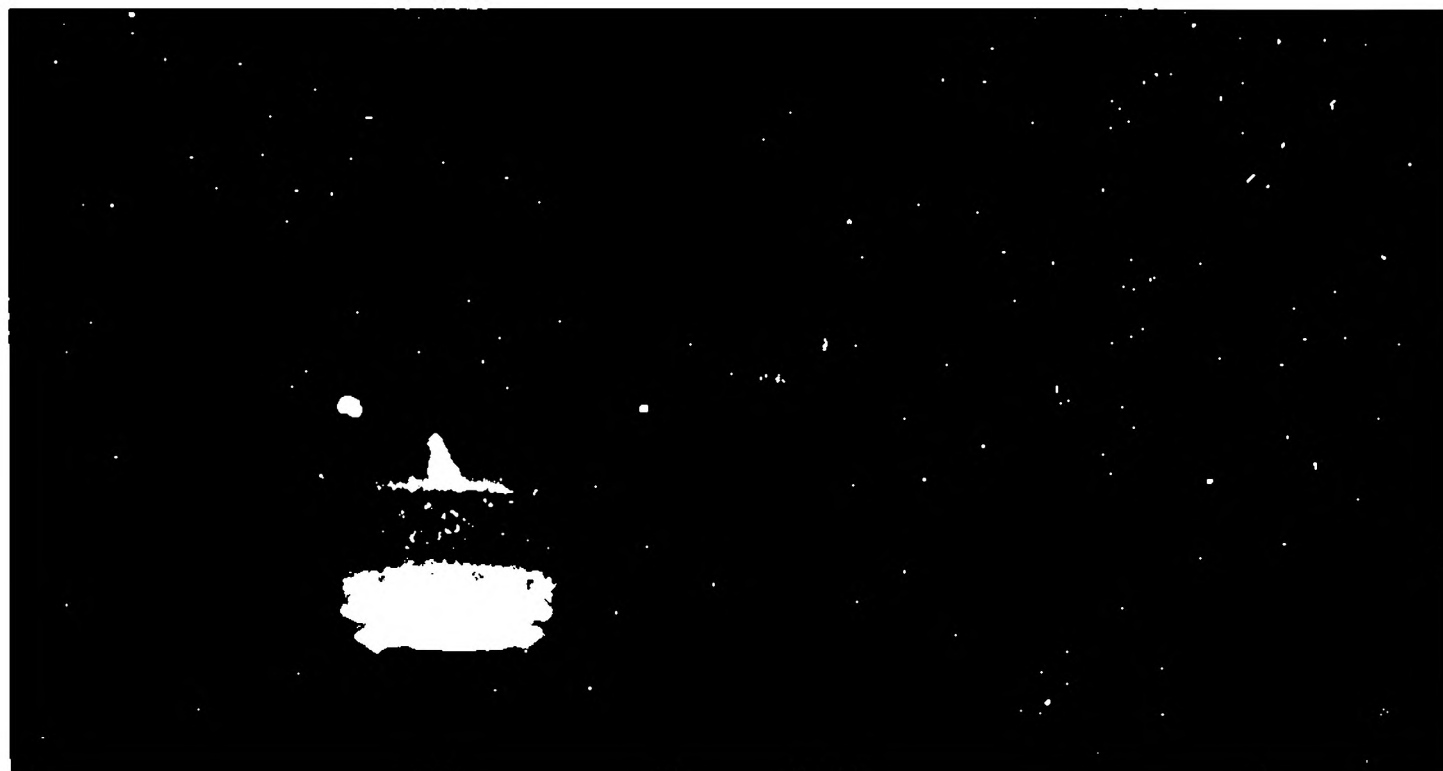


FIG. 3



PHOTO 22



PHOTO 23



FIG. 4

APPENDIX 2

List of Gulf Breeze UFO Witnesses
Compiled by Bruce Maccabee

NOTE: Listed names were published in the *Sentinel*. Use of initials of witnesses indicates confidentiality requested.

Name/ # of witnesses/ Reported to (S = Sentinel, P = Pensacola News-Journal, M = MUFON, O = Other)	Date//time	Features	Investigated by MUFON?
Anonymous/1/S	06/--/86//----	photos of Ed-type UFO	No
SB/1/M	11/09/87//0100	entities, abduction	Yes
Zammit/1/S,M	11/11/87//0230	glowing object, blue beam	Yes
Thompson/1/S,M	//0815	Ed-type UFO, jets chased	Yes
Somerby/2/S,M	//1700	Ed-type UFO, moving toward Ed	Yes
ED/1/S,M	//1705	photos 1-5, blue beam, hum, voice	Yes
Anonymous/2/S	//1800	no noise, bob up and down	No
Lube/1/S	//1830	slowly moving strange light	No
Hanson/1/S	//1930	7 yr. old, colored lights fall	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2130	light arcing downward	No
Hufford/2/M,O	11/11/87//eve	Ed-type UFO near Pensacola	Yes
"Cathy"/4/S	11/13/87//dusk	stationary object, 4 lights	No
Anonymous/2/S	11/19/87//eve	hovering object, light beam	No
ED/1/M	11/20/87//1700	photos 6-9, hum, voice	Yes
McL...../2/S	12/02/87//0017	large, bright, no wings, slow	Yes
ED/2/M	//0300/0330	photos 10, 11, entity, beam, object over field behind house	Yes
Anonymous/2/S	//1845	ball of light, pop up, hover	No
ED/1/M	12/05/87//0545	photo 12, over field behind house	Yes
Newman/2/S	12/14/87//0500	white or yellow sphere, 10 sec.	No
ED/2M	12/17/87//0100	photos 13-17a + 17b, abduction	Yes
ED/1/M	12/22/87//1715	Ed heard hum only; no sighting	Yes
"B. Bill"/1/S	//1730	took nine photos; over field	No
ED/1/S,M	12/23/87//0600	photo 18, 3 UFOs behind house	Yes
ED/3/M	12/27/87//2015	"P. Hanks," Ed, Wife; UFO behind house	Yes
ED/4/M	12/28/87//2030	Whole Ed family; videotape	Yes

(Jan. 7, 1988: Ed interviewed on all the preceding events by Don Ware and Charles Flannigan. Ed admitted to being "Mr. X." At this time Ed did not recall the abduction on Dec. 17. That was recalled only through hypnosis in December, 1988.)

Name/ # of witnesses/	Date//time	Features	Investigated by MUFON?
ED/1/M	01/10/88//1800	Ed heard hum only, no sighting	Yes
ED/1/M	01/12/88//1745	photo 19 (Road Shot), white beam, UFO over road, entities, blue beam	Yes
(ED/1/S,M)	01/14/88//2045	"government agents" attempt to obtain Ed's original photos	Yes
ED/1/M	01/16/88//0200	photo 20, hum, 2 UFOs (Type 1, 2)	Yes
ED/1/M	01/21/88//2230	Bob Reid on "stakeout" with Ed; didn't see UFO Ed saw briefly	Yes
Zepp/4/S,M,O	01/22/88//2000	bright oval, shined light down	No
(Same date: while Bob Reid was with Ed at night a helicopter circled over Ed's house six times and was videotaped by Ed at about 9:30.)			
ED/1 + 1/S,M	01/24/88//1730	photo 21, D. Cook videotape of Ed	Yes
ED/3/M	01/26/88//2130	photo 22, 23, Type 2 UFO, "towel"	Yes
S.B./2/M	02/06/88//0830	bright ring shaped, in Alabama	Yes
ED/3/M	02/07/88//2030	photo 24, blue beam "close up"	Yes
(On Feb. 8 Budd Hopkins visited Gulf Breeze and Ed. During the same week a circle of dead grass was discovered in the field behind Ed's house. On Feb. 10 Ed was given the Nimslo camera to use during his next sighting.)			
J...../2/M	02/12/88//2300	boomerang shape with light, noise	Yes
(On Feb. 20 B. Maccabee, C. Flannigan and R. Reid interviewed Ed for 14 hours.)			
G...../1/M	02/26/88//2030	long dark object with two lights	Yes
ED/2/M	//2130	Photos 25-34, Ed used the Nimslo 3-D camera, Type 3 UFO, calculated to have been 40-70 ft. away, beyond a treetop and 2.5-4 ft. long	Yes
---/4?/S	//night	strange lights hovering over GB	No
Poole/7?/S	02/27/88//2030	large yellow light hovering	No
Fletcher/1/S	02/28/88//2145	amber lights in a rotating circle	No
Kneff/1/S	03/01/88//2200	yellowish light moved over the bay	No
Anonymous/2/S	03/03/88//night	two oblong crafts, bright lights	No
Fuchek/4/S	03/04/88//1845	oval orange light in sky, moving	No
Anonymous/2/S	//2145	ED-type UFO, photos didn't come out	No

(On March 4, the Nimslo camera was opened and the photos developed in public. Also on March 4, Ed informed the MUFON investigators that he had passed polygraph (lie detector) tests taken on Feb. 18 and 23. During the evening of March 4 the WEAR TV special on the GB photos was shown.)

(On March 7 Ed bought a Model 600 Polaroid camera because his old Polaroid had been "discredited" by Maccabee's demonstration that it could be used to create double exposures.)

Name/ # of witnesses/	Date//time	Features	Investigated by MUFON?
ED/1/M	03/07/88//1800	Ed heard hum, no sighting	Yes
ED/1/M	03/08/88//1745	photo 35 (used Model 600), hum	Yes

(Maccabee suggested Ed make a stereo camera using Polaroid cameras. He built a "self referencing stereo camera," the "SRS" camera, with a two foot camera separation.)

Sp..../2/M	03/10/88//0030	object dove into Gulf of Mexico	No
Sominski/1/S	03/11/88//1830	bright bottom, top light, spin	No
Carter/1/S	//1830	fast bright light, no sound	Yes
DG/2/S	//1845	blinking lights, circle, noiseless	No
Warren/2/S	03/13/88//2215	two bright lights, erratic motion	No
WB/1/M (in Alabama)	//2310	row of four lights, noiseless	Yes
AG/2/M (in Alabama)	//2305	row of four lights	Yes
BSW/3/S,M	03/14/88//2200	bright orange ring, voice heard	Yes
Hurd/1/S	//2000	four bright lights hovering	No
"Team"/many/S	//2000	lights all around it, hovering	No
"Teacher"/1/S	//2045	moving light in sky, vanished	No
RO/2/S,M	//2145	square orange lights rotating	Yes
BP/1/M	//night	pictures taken (didn't come out), heard hum bright light in west	Yes

(On March 15 Maccabee received test photos made with the SRS. They showed that the double camera provided stereo distance measurements, but it underestimated the distances.)

Anonymous/3/S	03/16/88// "eve"	flashing white light hovering	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2030	bright, bluish, windows, small	No
Reese/2/S	//2200	yellow lights and dark spaces	No
Andrews/2/S	//2200?	large "sausage shaped" light	No

Anonymous/1/S	03/17/88// "eve"	bright, bluish, planes made it go	No
BP/3/S,M	//2045	bright pulsating light moving	Yes
Pollack/1/S,M,O	//2200	orange, bright moving light	Yes
ED/2/S,M	//2205	photos 36L and 36R, the first SRS camera photos of a UFO, calculated to be over 180 ft. away. Operation of the camera and developing of the pictures was witnessed by five people besides Ed. Only Ed and his wife saw the UFO.	Yes

Hamilton/2/S	03/20/88//1500	moving shiny object, vanished	No
Register/1/S	//1924	white bottom ring, top light	No
McCanry/6/S,M	//2010	flashing colored lights, blue beams	Yes
Anonymous/2?/S	//2030	very bright, bluish, windows	No
ED/1/M	//2245	photos 37L and 37R, SRS photos the object was beyond a tree 60 feet away	Yes
Anonymous/2/S	03/21/88//1500	big, oblong, dark, hovering	No

Name/ # of witnesses/	Date//time	Features	Investigated by MUFON?
Anonymous/2/S	03/23/88//2230	3 bright lights, erratic motions	No
Gibson/1/S	03/25/88//1945	cluster of white lights moving	No
Brown/2/S	03/30/88//2000	spinning, red, yellow, blue lights	No
Anonymous/2/S	//2230	almost diamond shaped, white "bulbs"	No
Anonymous/?/S	03/31/88//2045	elongated bright, hovering craft	No
"Ann"/2/S,M	04/03/88//0245	bright glowing UFO, pulsated, heard sound. Note: lived across street from Ed!	Yes
Cunningham/1/S	04/04/88//2045	bright white lights, red lights	No
Carter/3/S	04/05/88//1915	bright light, moved back and forth	No
Wheeler/3/S	04/06/88//2100	big white ring over trees, moved	No
Anonymous/2/S	04/07/88//2000	big lights, hover, move fast	No
Anonymous/2/S	//2030	circular light, blue beams	No
Anonymous/1/S	//night	swirling red lights, move fast	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2100	almost diamond shaped, white "bulbs"	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2130	triangular, white light, red, green	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2200	3 lights in row, one below, noiseless	No
Anonymous/1/S	//2300	red, white, blue lights, hovering	No
McNutt/2/S	04/09/88//2200	big orange light, move fast	No
Anonymous/2?/S	04/11/88//2330	orange lights in row, rotating	No
Anonymous/2/S	04/14/88//2102	red and white blinking, odd turn	No
ED/2/M	04/21/88//2230	Type 3 UFO, passed nearby	Yes
Anonymous/1/S	//2230	round, flat, orange lights, photos(?)	No
Holcomb/1/S,M	04/28/88//2200	bright orange, circular light, ED type 1 UFO, no noise, saw blue beam come out	Yes
ED/1/M	05/01/88//0115	photos 38L, 38R, SRS photos, two UFOs, type 1 (475 ft. away, 14 ft. high), type 2 (130 ft. away, 2.5 ft. long), missing time period, abduction experience, marks on head. This was Ed's last sighting.	Yes
McConnell/2/S,M	07/08/88//0454	Ed type 1 UFO over water, beam	Yes

(There were a few sightings in the late summer, fall and winter of 1988.)

BASIC STATISTICS

Total number of reports: 96 (ED reports: 23, non-Ed: 73)

Number of non-ED witnesses was more than 132.

Number of investigated sightings: 43 (Ed: 23, non-Ed: 20)

Days with more than 2 reports: Nov. 11 (9), Feb. 26 (3), Mar. 13 (3), Mar. 14 (3), Mar. 16 (4),
Mar. 17 (4), Mar. 20 (5), Apr. 7 (7)

Days with sightings coincident with Ed: Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Feb. 26, Mar.

UFO Sound Recognition Technique

By Richard F. Haines, Ph.D.

Dr. Haines is the author of *Observing UFOS (1980)* and *Melbourne Incident: Case Study of a Missing Pilot (1987)*.

Abstract

A simple technique is proposed for permitting UFO witnesses to recognize digitally produced reproductions of the sounds that were heard during a UFO encounter. Using a modern digitally controlled electronic keyboard (also called "music synthesizer," "digital tone generator," etc.), a trained field investigator can plan, develop, and present a wide variety of sounds, find one or two that matches what was heard originally, and then record the settings to permit later characterization of the frequencies and even comparison with recollections of other witnesses. Considering the very large number of different sounds possible, if two (or more witnesses) choose the same sound characteristic(s) independently while using the present UFOSRT, there is stronger reason to believe both actually heard the sound selected rather than selecting it merely on the basis of chance. The present UFOSRT might also be helpful in developing insights concerning the nature of the phenomenon itself.

Introduction

The general subject of sounds associated with UFO sightings has been treated elsewhere and will not be reviewed here in depth (Gillmor, 1968; Hall, 1964; McCampbell, 1973; Vallee, 1969). It is unfortunate that Hall's (1964, pg. 98) statement still is true that "To date, the descriptions of the sounds have been sketchy." This line of questioning has not been pursued by investigators in as much detail as it might have been, probably because of the "silent UFO stereotype." Hopefully the present paper will not only encourage investigators

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to take more notice of any such sounds but also provide a potentially powerful method for doing so.

A rather wide range of sounds have been experienced before, during, and/or after sighting aerial phenomena. McCampbell (1973, pg. 43) has categorized these sounds into five basic groups (violent; low pitch; rush of air; high pitch; signals). Despite the differences one would expect between the subjective descriptions given by different witnesses and changes that occur over time there is a remarkable commonality of terms, so much so that one would expect that auditory memory should be able to "recognize" the basic features of the sound. The author has developed a similar approach to visual recognition memory for UFO outline shapes (Haines, 1970). Indeed, the present UFOSRT represents a continuing attempt to help upgrade the quality of UFO evidence.

Method/Apparatus

Even though the normal human auditory perception range is from 20 to 20,000 Hz (Guyton, 1961), a sound generator used for present purposes need not necessarily be able to present this wide a range of frequencies. What is far more important is the

ability to generate a rich variety of complex tones with harmonic components, timbers, reverberation, onset and offset features, intensities, special effects, etc.

The human auditory system's ability to perceive whether or not a given tone is present depends, among other things, on its intensity. Thus, for a sound intensity as low as -60 db a frequency range only from 500 to 5,000 Hz can be detected. When intensity is increased to -20 db, the frequency range expands to from about 70 to 15,000 Hz (*Ibid.*). The point is that a witness can only recognize sounds that were heard; a sound generator must be capable of controlling both frequency and intensity. And in old age, one typically can only detect frequencies from 50 to 8,000 Hz or less (Hirsh, 1952). Therefore, the sound generating device that is capable of being used for young people with good hearing will be useful with the elderly.

A large number of electronic keyboards are now available in an almost equally wide price range. Even the less expensive models can produce most of the sound characteristics discussed above. In addition, there are other features which should be sought for this application. Table 1 lists these features.

Sound Generation and Other Characteristics
of Value to UFO Field Studies

Wide frequency range (from 10 Hz to 25 KHz)
High Dynamic Sound Pressure
Playback/record capability
Registration Memory capability (to repeat tone sequences)
Orchestra settings: (organ, strings, brass, clarinet, calliope, piano, harpsichord, vibes, guitar, bass)
Solo settings: (flute, piccolo, violin, trumpet, horn, trombone, saxophone, oboe)
Percussion settings: (snare drum, bass drum, cymbol)
Special effects: (hiss, steam, hand clap, bells, chimes, others)

Table 1

The witness should stand exactly where he or she stood at the time of the original event, facing the same direction. The field investigator should be located at a position that approximates the UFO's location. The witness should close his or her eyes and recall the original event in as much detail as possible.

Procedure

The basic technique which should be followed in performing a sound recognition test involves a visit by the witness and investigator to the original site if possible. The importance of returning to the original site cannot be overemphasized. Not only will the sights and sounds present there tend to stimulate more accurate recall for original memories but the acoustical characteristics of the environment will also be the same (or similar) as they were originally; such sound reflection-absorption-scattering characteristics can play a vitally important role in sound formation.

The witness should stand exactly where he or she stood at the time of the original event, facing the same direction. The field investigator (with the equipment) should be located at a position that approximates the UFO's location (but not distance). The witness should close his or her eyes and recall the original event in as much detail as possible. The investigator already should have pre-selected a sub-set of sounds in advance (based upon the verbal interview). If a large number of candidate sounds are to be played to the witness, then it is important that playing one does not unduly influence his perception of the next. Each sound should be played to the witness for from five-ten seconds at the most with about a 20 second silent period (or longer) between them. It is wise to not concentrate upon one particular sound characteristic with the witness until a complete combination is found that contains as many different features of the original sound as possible. Once the sound is found which comes closest to the original UFO's sound only then should

its intensity be concentrated on. For example, did the sound stop suddenly or fade away as the UFO departed? If a tonal shift was remembered (similar to the doppler shift effect), this too can be generated at this time. Finally, temporally recurring patterns of on — off — on — off can be duplicated. This trial and error process may take minutes or hours. When completed the field investigator should digitally record the sound(s) or at least the exact keyboard and other settings of the sound generating device for later analysis.

It also is a good idea to tape record the entire process above for later replay in case the witness changes his or her mind and feels an earlier sound was correct. These tape recordings are also useful in understanding the sound characteristics components that contributed to the original sound that was heard.

Discussion

This paper has outlined an effective and convenient means for generating a wide variety of repeatable sounds to a UFO witness in order to identify one which matches that heard during the original event. The overall accuracy of such a method based upon recognition (auditory memory) will be greater than if an original "sound-generation" technique is used. The major objective of the present UFOSRT approach is to obtain repeatable measures of UFO-related sounds under conditions as close to the original conditions as possible.

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Looking Back

By Bob Gribble

FORTY YEARS AGO — April 1949: On the 24th Charles B. Moore, a graduate mechanical engineer, aerologist, and balloonist, and four Navy enlisted men, observed a rapidly moving UFO at 10:20 a.m. near White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico. "It didn't appear to be large," one of the scientists said, "but it was plainly visible. It was easy to see that it was elliptical in shape and had a whitish-silver color." After taking a split second to realize what they were looking at, one of the men swung a theodolite around to pick up the object and the timer reset his stop watch. For sixty seconds they tracked the UFO as it moved toward the east. In about 55 seconds it had dropped from an angle of elevation of 45 degrees to 25 degrees, then it zoomed upward and in a few seconds it was out of sight. They estimated the size of the UFO to be 40 feet wide and 100 feet long and at an altitude of 56 miles. It was traveling about 25,200 miles per hour.

★★★

THIRTY FIVE YEARS AGO — April 1954: Elbert E. Edwards, superintendent of schools in Boulder, Colorado, his teenage son, Arthur, and the internationally known explorer, John Goddard, sighted an enormous, cigar-shaped object, brilliantly lighted by five or six large porthole-like openings, while camping in the Grand Canyon in Arizona on the 16th. The UFO passed from north to southwest at 10:20 p.m. at an altitude estimated at 6,000 feet above the canyon rim. Edwards said the object was between 300 and 400 feet in length. Two other witnesses camped in the same area reported seeing a "flying monster with many lights" the same night.

On the 23rd, a Pan American airliner, piloted by Captain Jack Adriance, was flying at 20,000 feet between Puerto Rico and New York. Suddenly MUFON UFO Journal, No. 252, April 1989

a call came from another Pan American plane more than 200 miles behind. A strange flying object, the other captain reported, had just streaked past. "It's headed straight toward you," said the pilot. It's round and pulsating with an orange-greenish light." A few moments later Captain Adriance was amazed to see the object, or an identical one, flash past his airliner. Cutting in his microphone, he called Captain Ned Mullen, piloting another Pan American flight ahead. In a few minutes Mullen radioed back that the mysterious UFO had just passed him, disappearing in seconds.

★★★

THIRTY YEARS AGO — April 1959: About 8:30 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. Bill Loomis were driving near Tenino, Washington, 30 miles southwest of McChord Air Force Base, when they spotted a brilliant UFO to the east moving north at a high rate of speed. "It really traveled at a high rate of speed," Loomis said, "and I mean it was fast. It was just over the tree tops." The object appeared to be moving down the valley east of McChord. About the same time the pilot of an Air Force C-118 transport, on a routine training flight out of McChord, radioed that "We have hit something, or something has hit us." The message was followed by the crash of the C-118 five miles southeast of the city of Sumner. The four man crew was killed. Following the crash, Col. Robert E. Booth, commander of the 1705th Air Transport Group to which the plane was attached, made the following statement: "It would appear there was a kind of mid-air collision prior to the crash." Confirming Booth's statement, Bill Loomis said the UFO appeared to have been traveling in the direction where the big transport was crippled in mid-air.

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TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO — April 1964: Mr. and Mrs. Allen Lund, who live near Missoula, Montana, said a "ship definitely not of this world" visited their ranch several times in April. They described the object as a large "top-shaped ship with a row of lights around its circumference." A strong beam of light projected from the shape late one night as Mrs. Lund and her daughter, Mrs. Connie Savage, slept in the front of the house. They both awakened to see the beam of light, about three inches in diameter, pointing at their feet at the end of the bed. They both rose and, according to Mrs. Lund, the beam followed them around the room. She reported each appearance of the craft "scared the dogs and spooked the horses." The dogs rushed to get into the house and horses stampeded to the far side of the property.

In addition to the strange reaction of the animals, each time the ship was in the area the oil furnace in the house would "light itself." Mrs. Savage's son, 3½-year-old Kyle, told his mother and grandparents of a man with whom he talks in the barn. He told them the man's name, but Mrs. Lund said it's almost unpronounceable. The child "disappeared for several hours at a time and then suddenly shows up from nowhere," Mrs. Lund said. He claims he has been talking with the man but won't take her to him because, "We don't want you — and that man doesn't like you." Mrs. Lund is convinced the ship is "not of this world," thinks the occupants of the ship are probably friendly and "we have nothing to be frightened of."

Gary Wilcox, well known and substantial farmer near Newark Valley, New York, said he carried on a conversation with two persons from another planet after their spaceship landed on his farm on the 24th. He said he discovered the ship about 10:30 a.m. When he reached the object, which was on landing gear about four feet above the ground, two beings came out from under the craft. They were dressed from head to foot in uniforms the same aluminum color as their ship. The two occupants immediately engaged him

in conversation. "They spoke as good English as I do," Wilcox said. He said the conversation was pretty one-sided, with the visitors doing most of the talking. Wilcox said they made no effort to attack him or harm him but seemed greatly interested in the soil, grass, shrubs, twigs and dirt, and gathered up several samples. He described the ship as being about 20 feet high, 16 feet wide, and between 4 and 5 feet thick. Wilcox said the vehicle took off at 12:30 p.m., "so fast I could hardly see it."

Shortly before 6 p.m. of the same day, Officer Lonnie Zamora spotted a four-legged, egg-shaped craft in a gully a mile south of the courthouse in Socorro, New Mexico. He first saw it from about 200 yards and thought it was an overturned car. He said he saw what appeared to be a pair of white coveralls, but whether anything was in them he did not know. He eventually got to within about 100 feet before he noticed it was something out of the ordinary. The craft, about the height of a car but larger, appeared to be made of shiny, aluminum-like metal. When he got to within 50 feet of the craft the vehicle ascended and slowly moved away until it faded from sight. Zamora said the craft was on the ground, supported by four girder-like legs. At the site, four five-to-six inch depressions were found as well as a couple of round tracks about four inches in diameter which officers theorized might have been made by occupants of the vehicle. They even went so far as to estimate by the depression that the tracks were made by a being of approximately 120-160 pounds.

About 12:30 a.m. on the 26th, Orlando Gallegos sighted a large UFO sitting on the ground near La Madera, New Mexico. He said he was about 200 feet away and was afraid to approach closer. He described the craft as being of bright metal without windows, as long as a utility pole, about 14 feet in circumference and resembling a large butane tank. The following day Capt. Martin Vigil, state police district commander, and officer David Kingsbury, went to the landing site. "The ground was still smoldering 20 hours after the sighting," Vigil said. "It was charred over a

large area." He added that what looked like paw prints were found at the scene, along with depressions similar to those found at Socorro. The charred area was a peculiar shape, like two overlapping circles, about 20 feet across. Large rocks within the area showed evidence of extreme heat, while others within a few feet weren't damaged at all. A soft drink bottle had melted while another five feet away was intact. Capt. Vigil said evidence indicates an extreme heat of short duration rather than a smoldering fire over a period of days. He said it is his belief that "something was there."

While driving about 30 miles east of Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the 28th, Don Adams fired twelve .22-calibre pistol shots at an "oblong thing" at about 1 a.m. He said he hit the craft six times and heard the bullets bounce from it after his car stalled while driving under the vehicle. As he paused to reload, the craft moved silently northward. He was unable to determine whether shots 7 to 12 struck the object. He described it as being a light green color, about 25 or 30 feet long and silent. He said it hovered about 100 feet directly over his head. Later the same day, Sharon Stull, 10, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, observed a UFO for five or 10 minutes. Thirty minutes later, while in class, she noticed burning sensations about the eyes and face. Sharon's doctor said "The sun exposure she had would usually be considered insufficient to cause the burns and inflammation. It appears to be the type caused by longer exposure to the sun."

★★★

TWENTY YEARS AGO — April 1969: It was 2 a.m. on the 23rd when Mrs. Virginia A. Guinn and a boarder were awakened by violent reactions from dogs and cats at her farm in Silver Springs, Maryland. Most of the dogs were "barking and howling," but the boarder's German Shepherd "was barking in a peculiar manner — a series of short barks." Outside, Mrs. Guinn's four cats were climbing up the screen door, yowling and fighting, "something they had never done

before." Going outside, the witnesses saw a round, bluish white craft "as large as two rooms." Then the observers heard a humming noise and the craft suddenly vanished. When the craft disappeared the animals quieted down. Mrs. Guinn discovered later that morning that the horses in the barn "had broken free of their tie stalls, and had knocked harnesses, etc., off the walls." She also said that a neighbor's barn had been "torn up" by horses during the sighting.

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FIFTEEN YEARS AGO — April 1974: Newton Grove, North Carolina police officer John Hayes said he was notified by radio (date unknown) that a UFO was headed toward that Sampson County town, around midnight. Shortly afterward a circular craft hovered above his police car. He turned on the patrol car spotlight and the craft produced a light in response. He said the UFO "answered his flashes" for a period of time before moving away. The same month (date unknown), Duplin County, North Carolina school bus driver Gail Stroud said a bright orange UFO dove at her school bus, terrifying her and the children. She said it then backed off and flew in front of her bus for approximately two miles. She said each time she would stop the bus and turn on the flashing red stop lights, the object would also turn on red lights. It finally sped away at high speed after turning in the sky, revealing a frying-pan shape.

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**EVERY SATURDAY
MORNING
AT 0800 EST (OR DST)
ON 7237 KHz S.S.B.**

In Other's Words

By Lucius Farish

Comparisons between UFO activity and fairy lore are featured in the December 20 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER. Quotes from Brad Steiger and Hayden Hewes are featured. Ahem! An airline pilot's report of a huge UFO off the east coast of Africa is the subject of an article in the January 17 ENQUIRER. Many ground observers in Mozambique saw the object at the same time the pilot was attempting to chase it.

A summary of the Frederick Valentich disappearance case from Australia is presented in the "Anti-Matter/UFO Update" section of January OMNI. Richard Haines' book on the incident, MELBOURNE EPISODE, is briefly reviewed. This same column in the February issue has Patrick Huyghe's article on Canadian neuropsychologist Michael Persinger's theory that UFOs are caused by intense natural electromagnetic fields and that exposure to these fields can be hazardous to the health of both UFO witnesses and field investigators. This issue of OMNI also has a preliminary report on responses to the UFO abduction questionnaire which appeared in the December 1987 issue of OMNI.

The latest booklet in Loren Gross' UFOs: A HISTORY series is 1953: January-February. In addition to a summary of UFO events during the first two months of 1953, Gross has reproduced the Report of the Robertson Panel which met during January 1953. As stated in previous columns, all the booklets in Gross' series are highly recommended. This latest one, like the previous efforts, is approximately 100 pages in length, plus an index and reproductions of newspaper clippings from 1953. The price is \$6.00 and orders should be sent to Gross at 690 Gable Drive — Fremont, CA 94538.

A correction: in a previous column, I stated that Barkley Books would be publishing a revised edition of TUJUN-MUFON UFO Journal, No. 242, April 1989

GA CANYON CONTACTS by Ann Druffel and D. Scott Rogo. Not true; this will be brought out by New American Library (Signet Books) and is scheduled for May release. The price is \$4.50.

Avon Books has recently published the U.S. paperback edition of PHENOMENON: FORTY YEARS OF FLYING SAUCERS edited by John Spencer & Hilary Evans (\$4.50). This is a large book (413 pages), featuring contributions by many UFO researchers from all parts of the world. In all of this, you might even find a few things you can agree with!

Forthcoming books include REPORT ON 'COMMUNION' by Ed Conroy (William Morrow; July; \$15.45), ENCOUNTERS by Edith Fiore (Doubleday; August; \$17.95), THE CHALLENGE OF CYDONIA: THE MONUMENTS SPEAK by Richard Hoagland (North Atlantic Books; June; \$12.95) and a book on UFOs and government secrecy by Howard Blum (title unknown at this writing), to be published by Simon & Schuster.

Beam Zaps Earth

"The Earth is being zapped by a beam from outer space and scientists tell us they don't know what it is. The beam comes from a star system far, far away — 14,000 light years away. The beam is aimed directly at us and what is spooky about it is that scientists don't know what it is, but they say it carries a million billion electron volts of energy. For two years scientists have been gathering data. The beam comes from what scientists call a neutron star. It is nearly the size of our own moon but this star is extremely dense, and has a mass nearly double that of the sun. The star is described as a large spinning magnet, generates electromagnetic fields and gives off powerful radiation.

"It was first detected by the Los Alamos National Laboratory in July of 1986. Scientists say the finding is both interesting and puzzling. It could mean the presence of a new kind of particle. The discovery could give us new insights about sources of energy in the universe and about the elementary structure of matter. Therefore it could be extremely relevant to our understanding of the universe, but so far scientists know very little about this mysterious beam. Scientists have been checking and rechecking their research and trying to come up with explanations. But so far conventional theories just don't explain it.

"Now, some people, when they encounter the unexplainable, try to forget about it or brush it off as a bad dream. But scientists have been trying to make this unexplainable thing go away, trying to prove that the beam doesn't really exist, trying to say in some cases that it's a mistake. But so far they have not been able to prove that, because it's there. The beam will not go away. Nobody knows what it is, and yet it could have a major impact on our society one day. Who knows, it could change our lives. We can only guess right now. We're like little children staring up at the sky and wondering. We think we know so much and yet the more we know the more we find how little we know. Emerson put it this way: "We think our civilization is near its meridian but we are yet only at the cock crowing and the morning star."

— Charles Osgood
"The Osgood File"
CBS Radio
(Submitted by Bob Gribble)

MUFON AWARD BALLOT

A ballot will be enclosed in the May 1989 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal so all members and subscribers may vote for their choice to receive the Annual MUFON Award plaque for the most outstanding contribution to ufology for 1988-1989.

NEWS FLASH

Donald B. Ratsch, MUFON member in Baltimore, Maryland, has been monitoring the radio broadcasts from the space shuttle *Discovery* through WA3NAN, the club station of the Goddard Amateur Radio Club in Greenbelt, MD, transmitting on 147.450 MHz. At 6:35 a.m. EST on March 14, 1989, he heard this statement, "we have a problem — we have a fire." (This might have been the first clue to the resultant electrical problem that was subsequently repaired.)

The most interesting transmission occurred seven minutes later at 6:42 a.m. EST, when one of the astronauts made this statement "Houston (from) *Discovery*, we still have the alien spacecraft under observance." Don Ratsch called Walt Andrus and played the tape recording over the telephone on the morning of March 14, 1989. Further analysis of the tape is now being conducted by qualified personnel in Maryland as of Sunday, March 19th. Preliminary analysis of the voice by comparison methods indicates that the astronaut making the second transmission was probably either Michael L. Coats, Commander of *Discovery* or John E. Blaha, the pilot. We hope to provide more details in the May issue of the *Journal* on this exciting event.

MUFON
20th
ANNIVERSARY
May 31, 1989

The Night Sky

By Walter N. Webb

April 1989

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mars continues to separate from Jupiter in Taurus, the pair being about 16° apart in mid-April. Mars is to the upper left of the more brilliant giant (25 times brighter) which dominates the western sky at dusk. In midmonth Jupiter (-2.0 magnitude) sets just before 11 PM daylight time; Mars (1.5), about an hour later. The crescent Moon passes the two planets on April 9 and 10. Toward the end of the month, look for an orange dot about 10° to the lower right of Jupiter. It is Mercury at its best appearance of the year.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

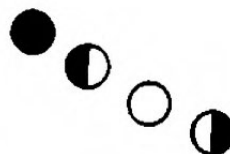
Saturn (0.4 magnitude), in Sagittarius, rises about 1:30 AM daylight time and is positioned low in the SSE at dawn in mid-April. The ringed planet begins retrograding (moving westward) on the 22nd.

Meteor Shower:

The bright gibbous Moon hampers the April 22 peak of the annual Lyrid meteors. Ordinarily about 15 of the bright white streaks would have been visible toward dawn darting out of the constellation Lyra the Harp. The shower actually lasts from about the 19th to the 24th but in smaller numbers.

Moon Phases:

New moon — April 5
First quarter — April 12
Full moon — April 20
Last quarter — April 28



The Stars:

That celestial symbol of spring, Leo the Lion, is due south at 10 PM daylight time. Look for a backward question mark of six stars, with Regulus marking the dot. This sickle-shaped pattern represents the lion's head and mane. A triangle of stars to the left is the beast's rear haunches and tail.

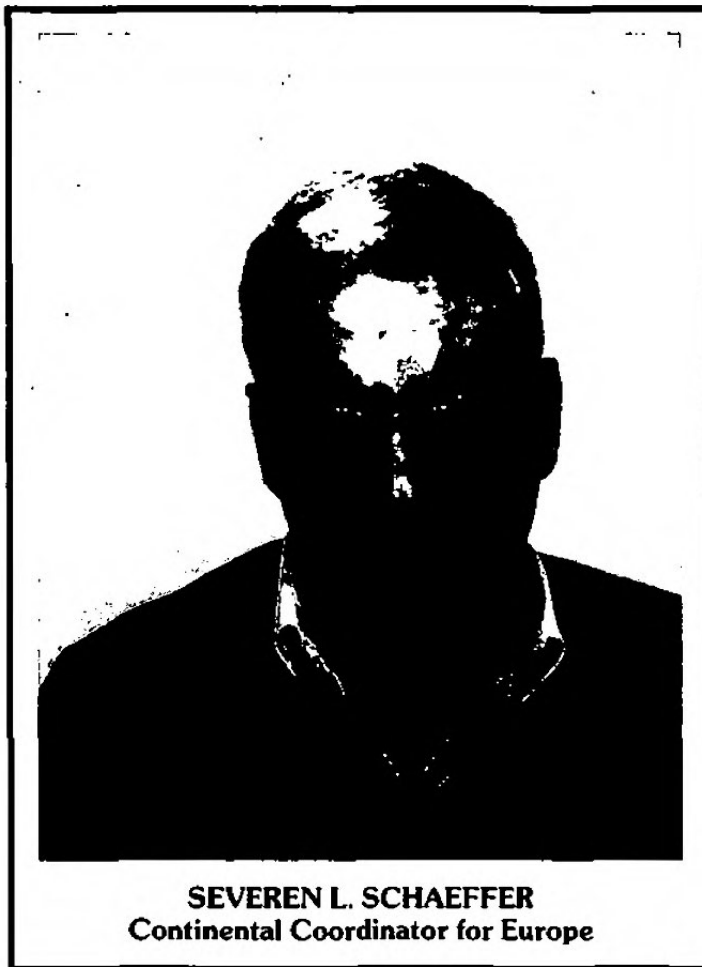
The Big Dipper once again lies high in the north in its best evening position of the year. Use its various pointer stars to find other springtime star patterns. Besides the two stars on the end of the bowl pointing the way to Polaris the North Star, the curve of the dipper's handle "arcs to Arcturus and spikes to Spica." Arcturus is the bright orange star in Bootes the Herdsman, while Spica is the brightest luminary in Virgo the Maiden. Reversing the bowl pointers brings you back to Leo.

This month the Moon covers (occults) two groups of stars for observers in the Northeastern States. On the evening of the 8th, some of the Pleiades will be hidden by the lunar crescent. Nearby Jupiter enhances the show. On April 13 the quarter Moon crosses the Beehive in Cancer, the little star cluster introduced in the March "Night Sky."

MESSAGE, continued

available starting Thursday, June 29 and extending through July 3 for people arriving early or departing after the symposium at the same prices. Only a limited number of rooms in this category are available, so early reservations are recommended. 150 rooms have been allocated for Friday, June 30 and Saturday, July 1st for the majority of the attendees. The hotel will hold the block of sleeping rooms until May 30, 1989. The Aladdin Hotel will continue to accept reservations after this date based on room and rate availability. Early reservations are highly recommended. An advance deposit for one night is required to hold your hotel reservation of \$48.00 plus hotel tax, totaling \$51.36. The deposit must be mailed to the Aladdin Hotel, P.O. Box 93958, Las Vegas, NV 89193-3958. The State Directors Meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 30th (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and the Board of Directors Meeting for Sunday Morning, July 2, 1989 (9 a.m. to 12 noon).

The formal speaking program will consist of four sessions at \$10.00 each, totaling \$40.00 at the door. A special advance registration package for all sessions is \$35.00 per person. There will be three sessions on Saturday, July 1 and one session on Sunday afternoon, July 2nd. Advance registration should be mailed to John Lear, 1414 Hollywood Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89110 with a check or money order made payable to: MUFON 1989 Symposium. Your tickets and registration packet may be picked up at the symposium registration table upon your arrival in Las Vegas, starting June 30th.



THE SCALE REMAINS UNBALANCED

The Director's Message is reduced in length intentionally to allow maximum space for our featured article by Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee on the Gulf Breeze Case, titled "The Scale Remains Unbalanced." This is a definitive response to the article by **Richard H. Hall** and **Willy Smith** in the December 1988 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal*. We are confident that

all readers will appreciate this expanded issue of the *Journal*.

Missouri MUFON and the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis are pleased to announce THE SHOW-ME UFO CONFERENCE to be held on October 21, 1989 at the Harley Hotel in Earth City, MO. (Just west of St. Louis off IH 70 and IH 270.)

MUFON

Calendar of UFO Conferences for 1989

- April 14, 15 & 16 — Ozark UFO Conference, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, Arkansas
- April 29, 30 & May 1 — The Third European "Rencontres de Lyon - 1989" Congress, Lyon Conference Center, Lyon, France
- June 29 & 30, July 1 — 10th Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.
- June 30, July 1 & 2 — MUFON International UFO Symposium, Aladdin Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada
- July 14, 15 & 16 — Fifth London International UFO Congress, London Business School, Regents Park, London, England
- September 15, 16 & 17 — 26th Annual National UFO Conference, Phoenix Arizona (location to be announced)
- November 11 & 12 — The UFO Experience, Ramada Inn, North Haven, Connecticut

Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

NEW OFFICERS

It is a distinct pleasure to announce that **Severn L. Schaeffer, M.A.**, has accepted the position of Continental Coordinator for Europe. Mr. Schaeffer, a U.S. citizen residing in Paris, France, is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Medicine at the University of Paris. One of his attributes for this prestigious position is his fluency in French, English, and Spanish and also the ability to speak passable Portuguese and Italian. Mr. Schaeffer was earlier classified as a Research Specialist in Medical Epistemology and holds a B.S. in physics. He plans to attend the various European UFO Congresses where he will meet our Foreign Representatives.

Burtus "Jeff" Ballard has been promoted from State Section Director in Northern Alabama to State Director for Alabama at the recommendation of **Scott Caldwell**. Mr. Ballard has appointed **William B. Howard, Jr.** of Huntsville to become the State Section Director for Madison, Jackson, Limestone, Marshall and Morgan Counties. **Karen L. Ballard** (Jeff's wife) has become the Investigative Coordinator for Alabama, both residing in Arab. Their team of investigators has been very involved in the recent Fyffe, Alabama UFO sightings.

Kenneth R. McLean, State Director for Wyoming, is endeavoring to activate the investigative team in Wyoming and is seeking volunteers to serve as State Section Directors. Please write to P.O. Box 911, Laramie, WY 82070. **Myron W. Carlson**, State Director for Colorado, has appointed **Ethan A. Rich**, presently a State Section Director living in Englewood, to be the Assistant State Director. Mr. Carlson has approved the selection of **Robert F. Steele, Jr.**, living in Pueblo, to be the State Section Director for Pueblo County. **Francis L. Ridge**, State Director for

Indiana, appointed **Norma J. Croda** as State Section Director for Marion County and added La Porte County to the responsibility of **Michael J. Rigg**. **Margaret L. "Peggy" Tillman** of South Charleston, Ohio has been made Co-State Section Director with her husband **Larry J. Tillman** for Clark, Madison, Union and Fayette Counties.

Scott A. Colborn, State Director for Nebraska, has identified **Stephen P. Johnson** as the new Assistant State Director for Nebraska.

Allan A. Seiler, a semi-retired newspaper publisher and editor in Pittsfield, Illinois, has volunteered to be the State Section Director, for Pike and Calhoun Counties. **John Carpenter**, State Section Director, for Greene, Webster, Polk and Christian Counties in Missouri, appointed **Gary Boone** of Springfield to be his assistant. **Shirley A. Coyne**, State Director for Michigan, selected **David C. Reinhart** for the post of State Section Director for Shiawasee and Saginaw Counties after he passed the Field Investigator's examination.

Four new Consultants have volunteered their expertise to help resolve the UFO phenomenon. **Marcello Truzzi, Ph.D.**, a professor of Sociology at Eastern Michigan University, is also the Director of the Center for Scientific Anomalies Research and Editor of *Zetetic Scholar*. Dr. **Ron Westrum**, a long-time MUFON member and consultant is the Associate Director of CSAR. **John E. Brandenburg, Ph.D.** of Alexandria, Virginia is a new Consultant in Plasma Physics and a principle in MARS Research. Dr. Brandenburg will be a featured speaker at the Las Vegas symposium on the subject "The Cydonian hypothesis: Was Mars Once A Living Planet?" **C.B. Scott Jones, Ph.D.**, Consultant in International Relations, serves on the Senate Staff of Senator **Clayborn Pell** from Rhode Island and is a former U.S. Navy carrier

pilot and intelligence officer. Dr. Jones has organized the Center for Applied Anomalous Phenomena. **Michael W. Hanson, M.D.**, residing in Pueblo, Colorado, joined as a Consultant in Anesthesiology and Field Investigator Trainee.

The following Research Specialists joined MUFON during the past month: **Paul A. Jurek, M.A.**, living in Austin, Texas, for Clinical Psychology; **Ann H. Wilson, Ed.M.**, residing in Greenfield, Massachusetts; and **Peter A. Jordan, M.A.** of Elizabeth, New Jersey for Psychology. Mr. Jordan was a speaker at the MUFON 1983 Symposium in Pasadena, CA.

MUFON 1989 SYMPOSIUM

The theme for the MUFON 1989 International UFO Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Aladdin Hotel and Casino on June 30, July 1 and 2, will be "The UFO Cover-Up: A Government Conspiracy?" Speakers committed are **Jacques F. Vallee, Ph.D.**, **William L. "Bill" Moore**, **Donald A. Johnson, Ph.D.**, **John F. Brandenburg, Ph.D.** (MARS Research), **Stanton T. Friedman**, **Timothy Good**, **Linda Moulton Howe**, and **Jennie Zeidman**. Five of these speakers will relate intriguing new information involved in the U.S. Government's conspiracy to hide the real evidence behind the UFO phenomena.

John Lear, State Director for Nevada, will serve as the host chairman with **Hal Starr**, State Director for Arizona, Co-Host Committee. Reservations for rooms may be made by writing or calling the Aladdin Hotel and Casino, 3667 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 or telephone (702) 736-0111 or (800) 634-3424. The price per night is \$48.00 for a single and \$48.00 for double occupancy.

Guest room accommodations will be

Continued on page 31

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