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**CANADIAN CUT-UPS & CROP CIRCLES**

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103 Oldtowne Rd.  
Seguin, TX 78155-4099  
Tel: (210) 379-9216

#### EDITOR

Dennis Stacy

#### ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Walter H. Andrus, Jr.

#### COLUMNISTS

Walter N. Webb  
John S. Carpenter

#### ART DIRECTOR

Vince Johnson

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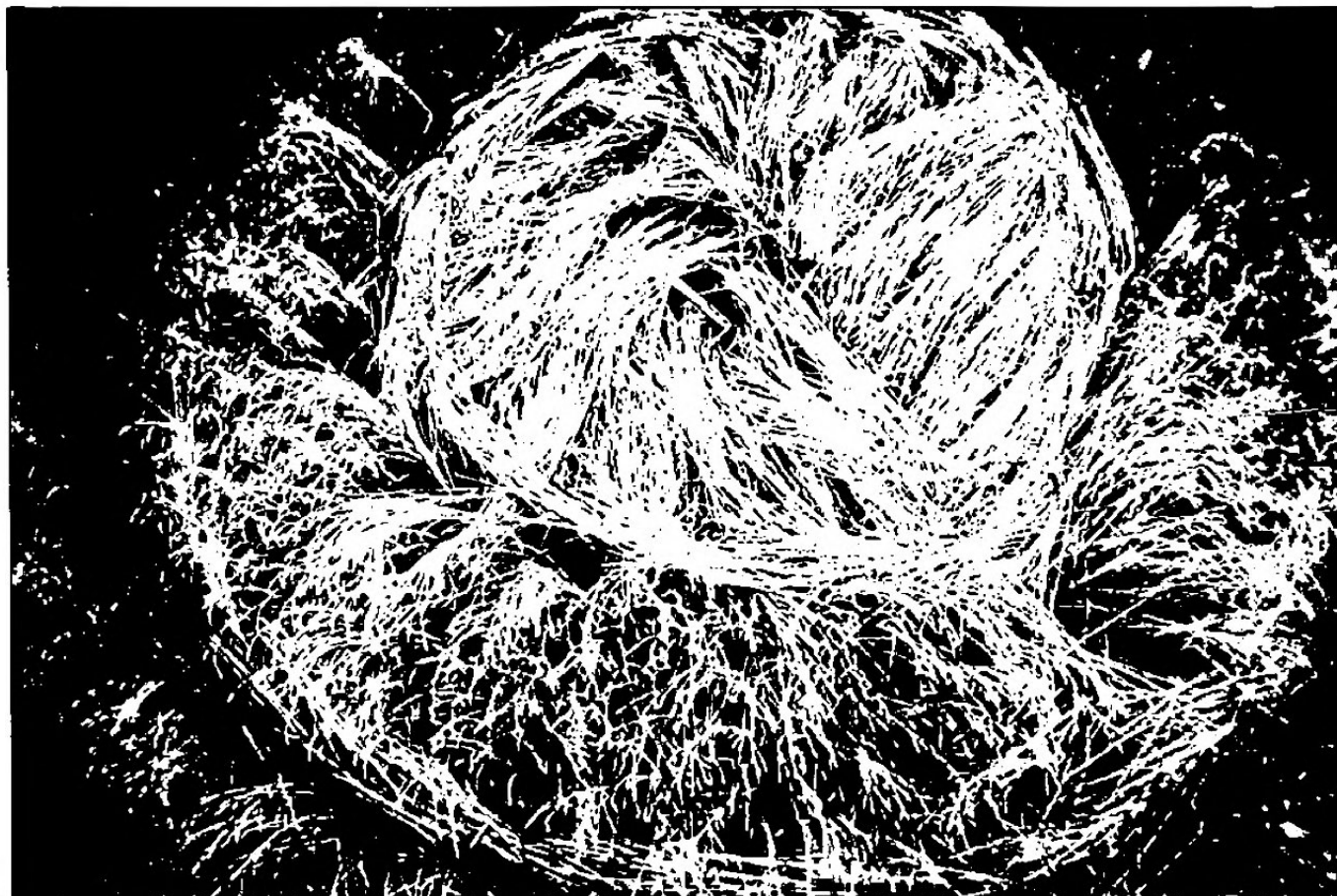
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## CANADIAN CUT-UPS & CROP CIRCLES

*A series of slain animals, UFOs and crop circles make for a queasy year north of the border.*

By Michael Strainic



"Easter bonnet" crop circle, Saskatchewan, Canada, September 1992/Photo & investigation by Chad Deetken.

**T**his article was intended to be a simple year-end round-up of Canadian crop circle reports. However, it seems that nothing is ever truly simple, and it soon became painfully clear that if anything at all had been rounded up in Canada in 1992, it was various creatures, both great and small, all of whom had met their ends long before the year had reached its.

It's not that Canada did not have crop circles in 1992. We most certainly did, and they were quite different from those we've hosted in previous years. And, it was one crop circle event in particular that suggested this possibly odd — and definitely tenuous — juxtapositioning of events.

Overall, the year 1992 was a bull market for things paranormal here in the Great White North. Several good videos were taken, both in New Brunswick and in Newfoundland, of what appear to be genuine UFOs.

Some excellent still photos came out of Ontario later in the year. Abduction claims are (still) coming in at an alarming rate. Ogopogo, British Columbia's resident lake beast, surfaced once again. Sasquatch reports came in from areas where the elusive gent hadn't been spotted in decades. Even those dapper MIBs—painfully shy of late—made a rare appearance. Oh yes, and a Gray got his hand stuck in a window . . .

But it was a milestone, of sorts, in Milestone, Saskatchewan that caused the most interest in the ufo-logical and cerealogical communities.

### CRYPTOTHANATOLOGY

Not everyone agrees as to whether there is a direct UFO/crop circle connection, although the evidence is becoming quite overwhelming. On the other hand, the relationship between animal mutilations and UFOs can ac-

tually seem stronger, if one lends any credence whatsoever to credible witness testimony, something we certainly tend to do in the field of ufology. Still there are many holdouts to a UFO/mutilation connection. When an abductee relates having witnessed a cattle mutilation, their testimony regarding the abduction is accepted without question, but the rest of their story is either ignored, overlooked, or simply not mentioned. Cognitive dissonance, perhaps?

Further still, there is an even smaller group of stalwarts who believe the mutilation problem is a non-phenomenon, or even constitute non-events. The most vocal of this non-phenomenon group is Jerome Clark of CU-FOS. Whenever Mr. Clark addresses this topic, he quotes the Kagan and Summers book *Mute Evidence* as the definitive information source for his convictions. Many investigators who have worked on mutilation cases would like to present counterarguments based on the specific information contained in this book, but unfortunately, copies of this work are harder to find than a Gray willing to go on the Donahue Show. In addition, there is some real question as to how valuable and credible this book is as an information source at all. Still, the bottom line remains that there are many researchers and investigators with hands-on experience in the field — quite literally — who simply do not agree that the mutilation cases constitute a non-phenomenon, and that there are many elements involved therein which still lack acceptable explanations.

The term "cattle mutilation" is, for one thing, a misnomer. It is also misleading. It is misleading in that many animals not categorized as cattle are affected. It is also misleading in that the animals who have become victims are only "mutilated" in the sense that they have been dismembered, disemboweled, and dis-several-other-things in ways that we can't readily explain, or in ways that we ourselves do not do. When humans do similar things to cattle in an organized fashion, we say they were "butchered," not mutilated. Since the techniques used imply technology, expertise, and even purpose, "mutilation" seems to be a gross overstatement, and one laden with our biases. In addition to these radical surgical-type events, animals of all types are expiring, sometimes *en masse*, in a variety of other, perhaps less obvious ways that Science cannot currently explain.

Language being what it is, we are stuck with the term "cattle mutilation" much in the way we were saddled with the term "flying saucer." But, like "UFO," while it may not be perfect, it's not too terribly inaccurate, either, and it is at least equatable with a certain loosely-delineated set of events. From a lexicographic standpoint, however, I believe "mysterious death" is a more accurate and a more inclusive descriptor for these various events, and I would strongly urge the use of the term "cryptothanatology" when referring to this study.

## CROP MUTILATIONS

Being a lifetime subscriber to Aime Michel's philosophy of "Consider everything, believe nothing," the similarities between crop circles and animal mutilations have always impressed me. Since we misuse and misapply the term "mutilation" to animals, we could just as inaccurately refer to crop fields as having been mutilated, since they suffer a similar type of "rearrangement" as cattle — precise, exact, almost sterile, and seemingly purposeful. Both crop circles and mutilations are usually discovered in somewhat remote areas, out away from large numbers of people, traffic and lights. Both are often accompanied by reports of strange lights in the sky. Hoaxes and cult activity notwithstanding, there is a healthy residuum in both occurrences that we are hard pressed to explain. People discover a crop circle, and they wander into the field and stand in awe at the beauty. People discover a mutilation, and they wander into the field and stand in revulsion at the horror.

Two sides of a coin are never very far apart.

In extremely simplistic terms, since 1947, the UFO phenomenon has evolved altered, mutated, or simply changed thus: In the 1940s and 50s, we watched — from the ground and on our radar screens — as silvery disks flew merrily along at high altitude, often eluding our pursuit planes. In the 1960s, the disks and their variants came down to treetop level, and occasionally landed and did other annoying things, like stop cars or debark a humanoid or two. In the 1970s, not only did they land, but they often took an unwilling passenger with them. Now, in the 80s and 90s, the occupants are walking right into our homes, even in such remote and sparsely-populated areas as New York City, to perform their rituals. The UFO phenomenon no longer avoids crowds and large cities. Whatever is happening, it is getting ever closer to home — very literally.

Both crop circles and mutilations seem to be following this pattern. Crop circles are found near large urban areas, and if the crop-canvas permits, even in cities! Mutilations, whatever their individual causes, are now happening in large cities as well, as we shall see.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSE SIX

Rumors abound. Much of what we deal with in this field is rumor, and never progresses beyond that state. However, occasionally a rumor does get traced back to an original source, but subsequent investigation of the story simply yields more questions than it answers. And we should never forget that there are strange, bizarre, and sometimes grisly events which have a "normal" explanation: human beings. Even so, cases of urban mutilation, mysterious deaths, and the like should be studied much in the way we (should) study IFO cases and crop circle hoaxes. If they do a good imitation of cases which we cannot explain, we have to learn how, if at all possible, to distinguish between them.

Early in 1992, a rumor reached us that some hogs had died under mysterious circumstances on a farm outside of Vancouver, Canada. When we tracked the rumor to a reliable source, we found that everything we had heard had been accurately reported. Individual hogs, i.e., one at a time over a span of time, had been found dead on an indoor hogfarm. The hogs had all been electrocuted, yet they were all discovered quite a distance from the nearest electrical outlet, implying that a very long extension cord had been used to do the nefarious deed. Other damage was also inflicted on the animals. And, as our informant told us, "someone was having sex with them." This information was related to us by a person working for the security company which was hired to install some very sophisticated and very costly detection devices of various types. As far as we know, no culprit was ever apprehended.

The southeastern corner of Saskatchewan produced more reports of cattle mutilations in 1992. We spoke with a young woman whose parents have a farm there, and who have been living with this disturbing situation for many years. This year proved to be no different. Cows were discovered with their tongues removed, severed very far down in the throat. Esophagi were missing, as were other body parts. Predators, scavengers and insects all took an extended holiday. And — echoing a report discovered by Daniel Clairmont a year previously — there was one case of "porridge guts," aka in the USA, "oatmeal innards." A cow had been found, recently mutilated, but otherwise in good condition. Yet, when it was cut open, it was found that the internal organs had turned to the consistency of oatmeal.

Meanwhile, hundreds of miles to the northeast, other fairly typical cattle mutilations were occurring near Edmonton, in the province of Alberta.<sup>2</sup> To further confuse the issue, some incidents were reported which could be attributed to cult activity, a sick sense of humor, an intense dislike of the Canada Post Corporation, or a combination of these. Cow parts — both flesh and organs — were being deposited in mailboxes, mail slots, automobiles and similar places.

Earlier in the year, several cows were found dead near Seattle, Washington, under unusual circumstances, and later two horses were mentioned in a similar context. Reports of other mysterious animal deaths, e.g., goats and sheep, etc., were coming in from the area of Bellingham, also in Washington state, but just across the U.S. border. Possibly relating to the events to be described next, more than a dozen cats had been found half-buried in a schoolyard in a Vancouver, B.C. suburb. A few weeks after the following events transpired, reports of cat dismemberments came out of Issaquah, near Seattle — bringing to mind the much-publicized cat disappearances in Plano, Texas.



*Vancouver half-cat, August 6, 1992. Clean, almost totally eviscerated. Photo by Graham Conway/UFO\*BC*

#### HALF-CAT CONUNDRUM

On 04 June 1992, one of our members brought to our attention an article in a local Vancouver newspaper: "Mystery Killer Rips Cats." We contacted the Vancouver city pound, and learned that the newspaper account was fairly accurate as far as it went. Between May 15 and June 4, five half-cats had been found in the Kerrisdale section of the city of Vancouver. All were cleanly severed in half, and eviscerated; not a single trace of blood was found anywhere on or around the cat. In no case had the missing half of the cat been found. Some of the half-cat remains were the front half, and some were the hindquarters. All five were discovered on the front lawns of homes other than their own.

The first cat to be discovered was a purebred Russian Blue, and the rest — unstated in the article — we assumed were domestic shorthairs. No necropsy had been done on any of the cats, since it was assumed that a predator, a coyote in particular — as unlikely as that seemed based on the available evidence — had been the cause of the cats' demise. We asked to be notified if any other half-cats were found or if any other mysterious animal deaths were reported.

Sadly, it was not a long wait.

**All were cleanly severed in half and eviscerated. Not a single trace of blood was found anywhere on or around the cats. Nor were the missing halves ever found.**

On August 5 we received a call from Mr. Jim Cousins at the Vancouver city pound. Another half-cat had been found, this time a Manx, remains to be seen. He said he would keep the half-cat until the end of the week if we wanted to examine it. The next day, myself, accompanied by Paul Anderson, Vancouver area Section Director and UFO\*BC Director of Investigations, and Graham Conway, *Flying Saucer Review* consultant and UFO\*BC Director of Special Investigations, went to view the half-cat.

On arriving, we checked the pound records and learned that a total of six half-cats had been found — the missing halves had never been found. One front half had been found, three hindquarters, and two were unrecorded. This latest case was slightly different in several ways. It was more separated in time and location than the previous five. Whereas the first five had all been discovered on front lawns, this one was discovered in an alleyway, on concrete. Also, there was an additional excision area that had not been done — or perhaps had not been noticed — in the other cases.

**FELIS NOVADEAD**

We then went to view the remains, which were unceremoniously brought in, wrapped in a previously used plastic garbage bag which had been used to cover the half-cat when it was first discovered. Lamentably, it was exactly as had been advertised, with one minor exception. We had been told that this half-cat was a Manx, but in fact it was not. Rather, it was a domestic longhair that had, due to accident or other misfortune, lost a portion of its tail, thereby giving it the look of a "stumpy" Manx.<sup>4</sup> That it was not a true Manx cat was important, as it shot holes in the theory that the perpetrator was someone with a dislike for purebred cats. What was to prove extremely important, however, was the fact that the hapless half-cat was a domestic longhair.

**L**onghaired cats, whether purebred or domestic, have much more fur per square centimeter than do shorthaired cats. A longhair has just as many regular hairs as a shorthair, but the longhair has four or five extra *guard hairs* surrounding each individual strand of hair. This is of significance, because these guard hairs are very fine in texture and extremely porous. Because of this they would literally suck up blood or bodily fluids like a sponge. But in this case, they most definitely did not. While there was some very minor clotting at the major excision area — where the cat had been severed in two — the other excision area was completely clean.

This other excision area was most interesting. When the half-cat was being shown to us, the excision was not noticed until it was pointed out to us — by parting the long fur on the side near the rear leg. In truth, this excision was so clean and so perfect, and the fur surrounding it was so long, that it was completely undetectable from the outside. When viewed from the inside, however, it was quite obvious, as was the difficulty that must have been encountered when making it. The excision was, visually at least, a perfect oval. There were no apparent jagged edges as would be expected when attempting to cut a curve with a straightedge of some sort. It looked, like so many crop circles, as if it had been punched out with a cookie-cutter. Whatever the method of cutting was it would have been particularly difficult to achieve, since the innermost edge of the excision was right up against some bone or cartilage. And, as mentioned, the fur in this area was completely clean.

The condition of the half-cat was quite good. There was no evidence of long decay, and it was not unlike handling your average supermarket chicken, i.e., no blood, no strong odor of decay, no rigor mortis, etc. I examined the hind area and could detect no evidence of puncture marks or rope marks or anything that would indicate that the animal had been suspended in order to drain the blood and fluids. Tissue samples were taken from both the major and oval excision areas and were sent immediately via courier to Dr. Altshuler. We still have not received the results of the tissue analysis.

When the half-cat was returned to its final resting place in the garbage bag, we noticed that two maggots were left on the examining table. (We immediately named them Doug and Dave.) One of them was quite frisky, and the other was very literally a shell of its former self. It is most likely that these two were former residents of the garbage bag, which had been used previously, and did not come from the half-cat.

**WAR OF THE WHIRLS**

Maybe the circle artists, who — or whatever they are, were tired. Perhaps the *ennui* of 1992 English cerealogy in the post-Doug and Dave and pre-Schnabel era had spread to Canada in some undefinable way. Whatever the case, until August, crop circles were few and far between, dubious for the most part, and simply put, sloppy. The interest in the phenomenon was there, to be sure. During the year, both Colin Andrews and George Wingfield had given lectures to very enthusiastic audiences in Vancouver. People were quite eager to report what they believed to be genuine crop circles, but what was being reported was highly unimpressive. Cases of obvious wind damage, lodging, seed spills, even a sky-diving target were all reported to investigators as crop circles. The few circles which were somewhat difficult to explain — at least where there was no patently obvious explanation — were equally bland. So far, there just weren't any of those good old fashioned cookie-cut-

ter circles, and an agriglyph seemed just too much to hope for. Chad Deetken, the Christopher Columbus of Canadian cerealogy ("find it, then go land on it") was spending an inordinate amount of time at home looking wistful. After the incredible circle events the previous year in Lethbridge, Alberta,<sup>5</sup> things looked pretty grim.

The earliest 1992 UGM<sup>6</sup> of any real interest was discovered near Edmonton, Alberta, in May. Christened a "space cookie" by certain researchers who shall (and should) remain nameless,<sup>7</sup> this was a depression in the ground, a perfect six meter circle, with a depth ranging from five to thirty-one centimeters. Reminiscent of the reports of "holes" which have mysteriously appeared in both Switzerland and Florida in 1991, and most recently in Belgium in 1993, this UGM seemed to be a rather odd hybrid crop circle/hole. The most curious feature of this formation is the fact that grass is growing straight up both inside and outside the circle. The possibility of this being a simple sinkhole has been ruled out by investigators.

The next interesting formation—or complex—occurred in the towns of Strathclair and Ipswich, Manitoba, between August 1 and August 15.<sup>8</sup> The discovery of these formations coincided with a spate of UFO reports in the immediate area.

The first event of this complex was discovered on August 1, southwest of Strathclair, Manitoba. This was a classic crop circle in which the grain was swirled in an anticlockwise direction. One week later, another formation was discovered directly opposite. This took the shape of the symbol for Mars, i.e., a circle with an arrow pointing away from the circle. This was the first of three similar formations to be discovered in the immediate area. In all three cases, the grain in the circle was swirled anticlockwise, the grain in the arrow "shaft" was flattened away from the circle, and the grain in the "arms" of the arrow was flattened back towards and away from the circle.

On the evening of August 14, the night before the discovery of one of the Mars-symbol circles, at least two reports of UFOs were logged. One report involved a brilliant green flash of light which illuminated the countryside for a few seconds, and the other was a multiple-witness CEI case which occurred directly over the very field in which one of the Mars-symbol circles was found.

#### MILESTONE AND TOMBSTONE

Just about the time things got shaking in Manitoba, the province of Saskatchewan re-entered the scene. Saskatchewan has a long and important history of UFO, crop circle, and related incidents, and it was about to be again the scene of some truly remarkable events.

It began in the far north of the province, in late September, near Prince Albert. One of the farmers who had had circles in his field back in 1990 phoned Chad

### Saskatchewan has a long and important history of UFO, crop circle and related events, and was about to again be the scene of some truly remarkable events.

Deetken in Vancouver with the news. They were back — a ringed circle had been discovered in a field nearby. Chad was on his way. While Chad was in transit, a second circle with a ring was also discovered, and it was there to greet him when he arrived. Although these circles had been described as simple circles with rings, they actually bear a remarkable resemblance to holiday *chapeaux*.

While Chad Deetken was doing his usual Mexican Hat Dance in, around and through the "easter bonnet" crop circles up in the Prince Albert area, something far more interesting and much more unpleasant was being uncovered to the south.

The other side of the coin had turned up on the farm of Joe Rennick, in Milestone, Saskatchewan.

Ruth Walde, our Provincial Director for Saskatchewan, telephoned to say they had learned of a crop circle formation with an odd new, ahem, twist—a dead animal inside the circle. An ex-porcupine, to be exact, and it was squashed flat, apparently by whatever force had formed the circles. Daniel Clairmont, ace investigator of UFO reports, crop circles, mutilations, and assorted other weird happenings and our Section Director for the area was already on the way; further details as they are available, film at eleven . . .

At this point, I knew of only two other crop circle cases which involved an animal being inside a circle just prior to, or during, the formation of a crop circle, so this report was of real interest. One report that had circulated, quite dubious, claimed that a desiccated frog was discovered in the exact center of a crop circle near Atlanta, Georgia. The other incident, reliable beyond question, was related to me by Greg Kennedy, a physicist from Montreal who does our radiation analyses. While inspecting a crop circle in England during the Argus project, Greg discovered a mouse—and the house of the mouse—inside the formation. The lay of the grain, intertwined with the mouse-house, indicated that the circle had formed around the aforementioned rodent and its domicile. The mouse appeared to be completely unharmed, and quite oblivious to what had taken place around him.

Whatever was awaiting Danny Clairmont in Milestone, it promised to be interesting.

#### PORCUPINE FLATS

As often happens, originally reported information doesn't always exactly match that which is learned later, and that certainly proved to be the case here. However, these differences are very minor, and we are left with a

report both bizarre and baffling. We originally heard that the porcupine had been found *between undamaged layers* of wheat. This was not the case, however, and the animal was actually found on top of the flattened (yet still undamaged) wheat. At any rate, this incident of laminatory porcupinage leaves many questions to be answered, as we do know that the grain beneath the animal was not damaged to any noticeable degree, and that the poor porcupine was flattened — *in situ* — to approximately a *one-inch thickness*. To appreciate the full impact of this situation, it should be noted here that the cute, cartoonish conception of a porcupine can be quite different from the reality: in addition to the obvious problems posed when encountering porcupine quills, a porcupine is a very sturdy and often very hefty animal, sometimes weighing in at from 22 to 27 kilograms (50 to 60 pounds). Flattening one would not be an easy proposition under any circumstances.

In keeping with the lax design standards the circle makers had set for themselves this year, the Milestone formation was, in a word, a mess (although "slovenly" pops to mind as well). Rather than the precise cookie-cutter effect of classic circles and agriglyphs, this one appeared to have been designed with the precision and subtlety of a sledgehammer. However, on close inspection, it did have many of the traits one would expect to find in a genuine formation. For lack of a better description, this formation would have to be categorized as a triplet of joined circles, although "circles" is far from accurate — irregular rectangles would be a far better description. The total affected area was 63 feet by 22 feet, and the grain in each rectangle was swirled anticlockwise. Each rectangle had an irregular center of standing wheat. And it was in this odd formation that our porcupine met his end.

#### STUCK IN MUD

When Danny arrived on the scene in Milestone, he learned that the porcupine in question would not be available for an interview — or anything else. By the time Mr. Rennick discovered the formation — and corpse — the porcupine was already badly decomposed. Not suspecting that anyone would be interested in actually examining it, he simply phoned the local newspaper, took some photos, and then disposed of the carcass.

However, some four weeks after the event, evidence testifying to the passing of the porcupine was still quite visible. The trace marks which were left on the ground suggest the following sequence of events: the animal, while attending to typical porcupine affairs, was suddenly, and without any warning, caught up in whatever force or mechanism is responsible for the creation of the circles. At what point the porcupine actually shuffled off his mortal coil is impossible to say. But it is apparent that it was dragged — or pushed, or maneuvered, or perhaps had even dragged itself — through the mud and wheat from one corner of the formation, a total of somewhere

on the order of 40+ feet, to its final resting place, where it was ultimately found.

The porcupine was discovered lying on top of the flattened grain. The quills on the porcupine were arranged in such a way as to suggest that they had been swirled by the same force that had affected the wheat. Quills and wheat were intertwined. As well, the porcupine had been pushed right down into the mud — there was mud on the animal, and there were quills and wheat left in the mud. The mud, including that with porcupine parts, was highly compressed and completely dried out. The mud was so dry and so compacted that pieces of it could not be broken by hand.

It was during the extensive investigation of this bizarre event that Danny learned that this was not the first time a local porcupine had checked out in an odd way. It had happened before, not too long ago, and not too far away, and the incident had been thoroughly investigated by none other than the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

#### THE QUILL MEMORANDUM

In 1989, when the remains of a porcupine were discovered in a grain field near Estevan, Saskatchewan, the circumstances involved were sufficiently unusual that the RCMP<sup>9</sup> were called in to investigate.

The remains of this porcupine were found in what appeared to be a charred, or perhaps oily, circular blackened patch of wheat. All that remained of the porcupine was the skeleton — or most of the skeleton: the jawbone and parts of the spine were missing. The blackened patch of ground was connected by a pathway of sorts to what was evidently a crop circle formation, suitably sloppy, and similar- and odd-looking enough to have been an older sibling of this year's Milestone formation.

The RCMP investigation was carried out because the circumstances — the charred wheat, the dead porcupine and missing porcupine-parts — suggested that some sort of ritual sacrifice had taken place. That old perennial favorite "cult activity" had been receiving its usual media hype, so the RCMP were focusing on finding proof of this. Specifically, they wanted to know if burning had been involved in the termination of the porcupine. For some reason, the crop circle formation itself seems to have been overlooked completely, perhaps written off as a curious byproduct of the assumed ritual.

**A**s the photos of this site clearly *imply*, the porcupine remains had indeed been burned in some way. When the samples were sent to the forensic laboratory for analysis, the only thing that was being sought was verification (and if the results were positive, perhaps the nature) of the assumed burning process. This in itself raises a few questions — why was this the only thing being checked? The laboratory report clearly indicates

that no other tests were carried out, at least not at that particular facility.<sup>10</sup>

In a classic example of "the more you learn, the less you know," when the analysis was completed, it was learned that there was no evidence of burning.

So, if no burning was involved in this incident, just what exactly did strip the flesh so cleanly and thoroughly from the skeleton, a la Snippy? It was stated that there was no evidence of burning. Did this also include the possibility of chemical burning? We do not know. Or radiation burning? We do not know. What caused the charred appearance? If we assume that this one laboratory analysis is indeed the only one which was ever done, we don't know that either, and most likely we never will. It was a great analysis though, just incomplete, aimed at the wrong target, and it answered nothing. And that, of course, brings to mind what Jacques Vallee has pointed out so appropriately concerning laboratory tests: since we don't know what we are looking for, testing becomes virtually impossible. The type and number of possible tests is, in a practical sense, limitless. And most importantly, we don't know if the truly valuable evidence would be something which is there to be found, or something which should be and is not.

All in all, we had a rather peculiar case, or cases, on our hands. Not only an odd and interesting crop circle, but a dead and flattened porcupine as well, apparently a victim of the circle makers. No porcupine bits remained for analysis, so whatever pathological evidence might have existed was lost. A near duplicate case had occurred two years previously, and that case yielded absolutely nothing as well. If this type of report, a crop circle with casualties, is a precursor of things to come, we have no substantial evidence to guide us in the future.

#### QUITE CONTRARY

It is too late to reexamine and reanalyze the 1989 porcupine remnants. The analysis done back then is inconclusive and leaves major questions unanswered. We don't have any 1992 porcupine fragments, either. However, we did gather plenty of grain samples suitable for analysis, and this was done immediately.

Four separate grain samples (wheat heads with seeds) from the affected areas were collected, and control samples were gathered 200 feet to the south of the formation. The samples, along with a preliminary report of the investigation, were sent by Mr. Clairmont to Dr. W.C. Levensgood of the Pinelandia Biophysical Laboratory in Michigan. Dr. Levensgood's analysis<sup>11</sup> provides some very interesting reading.

Excerpting and paraphrasing Dr. Levensgood's report, we have the following information: both the circle samples and the controls were identical in external appearance. However, the seeds from the circle samples were well below normal in weight and development. Three of the four circle samples showed a significant de-

crease in the cell wall pit diameters. Yet the most surprising data came from the germination tests. Extreme variations in seedling growth were discovered in the sample groups. Whereas samples #1-3 were significantly suppressed in development, sample #4 exhibited a marked increase in growth and development, a condition that sample #4 maintained over the controls throughout the entire 10 days of testing.

Circle samples #2, #3 and #4 showed a significant decrease in pit size. This is an indication of probable exposure to high heat, and it would be expected that these samples would exhibit a definite lack of vigor in germination and growth. However, not only is this not the case, it is quite the opposite. Sample #4 exhibited a growth rate far exceeding the control samples. Still, it was not a direct (inverse) correlation (i.e., degree of pit size change as compared to the rate of growth increase). Dr. Levensgood posits that this lack of a correlation might be explained if the process involved in circle-making is a recurrent kinetic process of a sort that never *exactly* repeats itself.

#### ABSENCE OF PREDICTABILITY

I do not believe it is unfair to suggest that Dr. Levensgood is of the opinion that crop circles are the product of some sort of natural process which we currently do not understand. And logically, if it is natural, it should be predictable. So, when searching for candidates for this process, he asks, "What could account for this absence of predictability?"

Indeed. It is this very lack of predictability that has been the bane of phenomenologists since time and/or phenomena began. Most "natural" phenomena are eventually caught in the act of being phenomenal. As in chaos theory, their seemingly random behavior is governed by certain not-yet-understood physical laws, and the patterns involved are too complex to be perceived by us. Predictability may remain out of reach, but the patterns repeat, and sooner or later, the jig is up. Well, this has not happened with the UFO phenomenon, much to the consternation of the "natural" explanationists. Consequently, the term "jealous" has been applied to the UFO phenomenon, for one, referring to the fact that it remains elusive when it apparently shouldn't. And this insinuates that rather than being a natural phenomenon, it is a non-natural phenomenon.

Of course, intelligent design or control behind the UFO or any other phenomenon would certainly account for this lack of predictability. If this posited intelligence does not wish to be known, nonpredictability would be a very basic requirement. Since natural explanations simply do not fit the objects of our scrutiny, we must assume — rightly or wrongly — that there is an intelligence at work and that it is going to continue to confound us. And that means more rigorous investigation and more complete recording of data. Anything, no matter how odd, inconsequential,

or poorly substantiated, may eventually prove to be of importance.

This will certainly involve more work, but it sure beats looking back from ten years down the road and asking, "why weren't we keeping track of abductees' shoe sizes? We'd have had this thing solved by now . . ."

**TIES THAT BIND**

A relationship does exist between crop circles and mysterious animal deaths, even if it is only one of imagery and interpretation. It could be that crop circles are yin to the classic mutilation's yang, but that would imply that human value judgments are absolute, and that would seem rather unlikely. What we do have for certain, though, is a similarity between unknown quantities.

Whether there is a direct relationship here, or if these events are merely coincidental, is a moot point. What remains important is that these incidents are continuing to occur, and they at least appear to be changing.

Anyone with an interest in UFOs who was alive at the time, remembers when they first heard about Snippy the Horse. More recently, and in a far less explosive way, the crop circle phenomenon more or less oozed into our awareness. Yet neither phenomenon is new. Both phenomena may have been around much longer than we even suspect. But one thing is certain: both are currently *en vogue*. Another certainty is that, in Canada at least, they seem to have been, on occasion, operating in tandem. And one other fact, redeemable at your neighborhood financial institution, is that these two particular phenomena, along with many of their brethren, friends, and cousins, are becoming much bolder.

They are coming closer to us.  
Why?

**CREDIT DEPARTMENT**

This article is the result of a great deal of research and investigation by many people, made possible with the kind assistance of others. A partial list of those who deserve mention are: Dr. Terri Clemett for her gracious help and advice concerning the care, feeding, packing, shipping, etc., of tissue samples. Mr. Jim Cousins and the staff of the Vancouver City Pound, who went above and beyond the call in helping us investigate a most unpleasant situation. Chad Deetken, for his usual crop circle circulating. Chris Rutkowski, for being more organized than I am. And very special thanks, both personal and professional, to the Dynamic Duo of MUFON in Saskatchewan, Ruth Walde (Provincial Director) and Danny Clairmont (Section Director), without whom this article would have been much, much shorter.

**NOTES**

1. Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1990, and Lethbridge, Alberta in 1991 are two examples.
2. Gordon Kijek, personal communication; *Edmonton Journal*, 19 July 1992.

3. *The Province*, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 04 June 1992. See also Lou Farish's *UFO Newsclipping Service*, #277, August 1992.

4. A "stumpy" Manx has some portion of its tail, whereas a "rumpy" Manx has no discernible tail at all. All true Manx have noticeably longer and sturdier hind legs than domestic cats, making them much shorter in front. These are genetic traits.

5. "Once Upon a Time in the Wheat," *MUFON UFO Journal* #284, December 1991.

6. Acronym for Unidentified Ground Marking—categorization devised by NAICCR to denote all types of markings, e.g., burn marks, depressions, crop circles, "saucer nests," *et al.* NAICCR publishes a yearly report on North American Crop Circle events. Available through Arcturus Books.

7. I lied. It was Gord Kijek, with help from Chris Rutkowski.

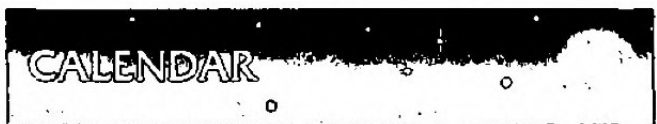
8. A complete detailed report on the Strathclair/Ipswich complex will appear in an upcoming article by Chris Rutkowski of UFOROM.

9. Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The RCMP functions as, among other things, a sort of national police force, especially in rural areas. Although often underrated, they can be an exceptionally efficient and surprisingly effective investigative agency.

10. This of course does not preclude the possibility, even the likelihood, that other tests were carried out elsewhere and that these records are unavailable to the public.

11. *Pinelandia Laboratories Research Report #13* (KS-01-77).

The author is MUFON's Canadian National Director. Mr. Strainic's past articles for the *Journal* include "River, Lake and Creek," (March 1991) and "Once Upon a Time In the Wheat," (December 1991).



**UFO CONFERENCES FOR 1993**

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## UFOs: POLITICS & DECEPTION

*A timely warning on the perils of mixing UFOs with politics and telepathically "channeled" messages*

By Vince Johnson

*"There is a genuine UFO phenomenon and it is not explained by the revelations of alleged government agents...nor is it explained by the cultists of UMMO. Some of the most remarkable sightings are actually complex hoaxes that have been carefully engineered for our benefit. The witnesses are merely the victims and instruments rather than the authors of the hoax."*

— Dr. Jacques Vallee

**O**n February 6, 1966, near a suburb of Madrid, a group of Spanish soldiers observed a circular luminescent object land near an ammo dump. The disk was approximately 30' in diameter and bore an unusual symbol (three vertical lines with a central horizontal line) on its underside. After the object shot off, three deep rectangular impressions were found at the landing site.

A year later in another Madrid suburb, a lens-shaped object with a dome on top was seen traveling along power lines just above tree top level. This object was also emblazoned with the same symbol seen by the Spanish soldiers. Two photographers sent pictures to the newspaper *Informaciones*, and several months later additional pictures were delivered by a third photographer. As with the earlier incident, landing marks (including a scorched area and a metallic powder residue) were found near the area of the sighting.

During the next few days, residents of the area discovered several strange objects, shiny metal cylinders with a central disk portion. When opened, the cylinders were found to contain a tough plastic strip embossed with the same symbol seen on the underside of the UFOs.

A reward for the recovery of more of the mysterious objects was posted by a Henri Dagousset, with instructions that the objects be forwarded to one Antoine Nancey in Madrid. One of the objects was turned over to a Spanish UFO researcher by a man named Antonio Pardo, who just happened to be one of the photographers who had sent photos of the UFO to *Informaciones*.

Curiously, investigators who attempted to locate Dagousset, Nancey and Pardo met with no success; they did not exist. When the cylinders were analyzed they were found to be constructed of earthly materials. The photos of the alleged UFO were analyzed by the French satellite imaging company, SPOT, who concluded that the photos were fakes. The UFO model in the photos was determined to be 8.5 to 10 inches in diameter and was suspended 10 feet from the camera. In one photo, the suspension string was revealed after en-

hancement. In short, the entire affair was an elaborate hoax, but the story does not end there.

Shortly thereafter and continuing for several years, documents bearing the same symbol as the hoaxed photos were mailed to numerous European UFO researchers. These documents came to be known as the UMMO documents. UMMO was supposedly the planet of origin of both the UFOs in the hoaxed photos and the documents. The UMMOians mailed hundreds of pages of data on their technology, their planet and their philosophy. The author(s) of these documents were obviously knowledgeable in college-level physics, although the UMMO computer technology as described in the documents was considered advanced by 1960s standards, but is crude by comparison to 1990s computer technology.

A cult-like group (including several credentialed scientists) formed to study the UMMO documents and spread the word of the UMMOians. The UMMO phenomenon spread across Europe and Latin America. Among the UMMO revelations was the existence of a counterpart or mirror universe to our own, much akin to Billy Meier's DAL Universe. Comparisons between UMMO and the Meier's alleged Pleiadian contacts are unavoidable. Since the whole UMMO story is a hoax, one could conclude that the same group of hoaxers could be behind the Meier case. If so, the level of expertise in hoaxing convincing UFO photos has risen considerably. The most obvious question is, who is doing the hoaxing and why?

**I**t was feared that UMMO was a means for East-Bloc intelligence agencies to establish contacts with Western scientists, which is also a possible explanation for the Meier affair: Consider this: Meier quit taking UFO photos a few years ago, coinciding with the end of the Cold War. The KGB, who certainly possessed the expertise necessary to produce convincing UFO photos, could have simply pulled the plug on the operation due to the changing political climate.

Another possible explanation involves one of the more bizarre characters in U.S. political history. According to noted UFO researcher Dr. Jacques Vallee, several French UFO investigators believe they have uncovered a link between the ongoing UMMO activities and scientists associated with the shadowy Lyndon LaRouche organization. LaRouche has organized a number of European front groups that would have had both the financial resources and technical expertise to perpetrate a hoax of this magnitude.

**A disturbing trend in UFOlogy has been surfacing in recent years. More and more UFO lecturers have begun to incorporate political ideology and fringe right-wing buzzwords into their presentations.**

Most readers are probably unfamiliar with LaRouche, a radical neo-Nazi who controlled a "political cult" that raked in as much as \$80 million a year. Fundraising activities occurred in almost every airport, where LaRouche disciples would solicit donations under the banner of "Feed Jane Fonda to the Whales" and "Beam Weapons/ Fusion Energy Now!" Ultimately, it was LaRouche's illegal fund-raising schemes (credit card scams, fraud and theft) that landed him in a cell in the federal penitentiary where he now resides.

Just because LaRouche advocated some bizarre policies, such as his belief that the Queen of England was the boss of the international drug trade, and as recently as the late '70s advocating a nuclear war with the U.S.S.R (he considered 150 million American deaths as "acceptable"), he was in frequent contact with some of the more radical elements of the Reagan administration. Indeed, LaRouche was probably the intellectual author of President Reagan's SDI program.

Dennis King, author of *Lyndon LaRouche and the New American Fascism*, described LaRouche's successes thusly: "The major media had failed over the years to vigorously unmask LaRouche. Jewish and Black organizations and the left had largely ignored his dramatic political inroads in the early 1980s, blithely allowing him to operate his international network of hate from midtown Manhattan with nary a protest. Reagan administration aides, GOP operatives, Teamster leaders, and others on the right had treated him as just another political ally, to be used as needed. When the Klan endorsed President Reagan, it immediately received a blistering denunciation from him. But when NBC exposed the administration's ties to LaRouche, the White House response was that it would continue to meet with whomever it pleased."

The links between LaRouche and the Republican Party become confused when in 1984, LaRouche became a Democrat — running in Democratic presidential primaries. Thousands of LaRouchians ran for office in local Democratic primaries, disrupting Democratic party activities from coast-to-coast. The Democrats seemed unable to respond to the LaRouche disruption, which U.S. Senator Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) described as "...a breakdown in our political immune system." Local LaRouchian Claude Jones was elected Chairman of the Harris County (Houston) Democratic Party, apparently because his name was the most WASPish on the ballot. Local Democrats endured the embarrassing spectacle of stripping their Chairman of all authority by temporarily changing their by-laws. It could easily be inferred that

LaRouche's disruption of the Democratic Party had the blessings, if not the complicity, of the GOP.

All attempts to expose LaRouche resulted in a bevy of slander, libel, and civil rights lawsuits against the offending news organization. One such legal blitz caused the *Washington Post* to delete all references to LaRouche's Nazi philosophy in reporter John Mitz' story on the connections between LaRouche and the Reagan administration. When mentioned at all by the media, LaRouche was usually described as a "conservative Democrat."

What does all this have to do with the subject of UFOs? A disturbing trend in UFOlogy has been surfacing in recent years. More and more UFO lecturers have begun to incorporate political ideology into their presentations. Terms like "Trilateralists, Council on Foreign Relations, The New World Order / One World Conspiracy and Zionists" are used with increasing frequency in UFO lectures and publications. The fact that these terms have been the buzzwords of extreme right-wing fringe groups should send off alarm bells loud and clear.

**T**ake the case of George Green. Mr. Green claims to have seen "flying saucers" in a hanger at Edwards AFB in 1958. After his discharge, Green went about making his fortune in financial services, and most recently, publishing. On October 18, 1989 Green claims to have had direct telepathic contact with the Pleiadian Commander Gyeorgos Ceres Hatonn, whose precise title is "Commander-in-Chief, Earth Project Transition, Pleiades Flight Command, Intergalactic Fleet - Ashtar Command: Earth Representative to the Cosmic Council on Earth Transition" (we'll just call him Hatonn for short).

Hatonn's communications (via psychic channeling) have filled up 26 volumes of Green's *Phoenix Journal*. Among the revelations: Hatonn has a computer that allows him to keep up with the day to day activities of every human on Earth; Hatonn is here to help; Pray to Hatonn. Green also publishes the *Phoenix Journal Express* "for more up to the minute information" i.e., first-person narratives allegedly channeled telepathically from Hatonn (the English is really stilted in spots so it must be from aliens). Hatonn is deeply concerned about U.S. economic policy, U.S. income tax structure, the International Monetary Fund, the CFR, the Trilateralists, and of course, the Zionists. Hatonn apparently has a lot in common with right-wing neo-Nazi fringe groups.

Watching one of Green's videotaped lectures can be enlightening. He spouts the usual fringe-right litany, and occasionally lapses into the standard LaRouche rhetoric about beam weapons, AIDS and the menace of the Zionists. He mentions the ongoing research of his friend, Eustace Mullins, an associate of both the neo-Nazi Sons of Liberty and the LaRouche organization. Oh

yes, he spends a few minutes talking about Billy Meier's purported Pleiadian UFO contacts.

Green's wife Desiree then takes the podium. Desiree, according to her biography, "...has been elected by the 'Lighted Command' who refer to themselves as 'The Hosts from Heaven, sent of God/Creator' as one of their public spokespersons for sharing the WORD contained within the *Phoenix Journal* series. She presents the Cosmic spiritual knowledge regarding our Divine Spiritual Heritage Within" (their punctuation). What this boils down to is about 15 minutes of an uninterrupted stream of pseudo-religion, new age cliches and psychobabble. During Desiree's lecture, Green grins incessantly, either due to husbandly pride, or more likely from barely being able to keep a straight face at this nonsense being presented as fact.

Another interesting example is Dr. Fred Bell. Bell not only claims to be in contact with the Pleiadian Semjase of Billy Meier fame, but to have had sexual liaisons with her. He was recently a guest on a local radio talk show to promote his appearance at a metaphysical festival here in Houston. Bell recounted some of the teachings of the Pleiadian "Space Brothers," although, curiously, the name of His Supreme Cosmic Highness Hatonn wasn't mentioned. It didn't take long before the usual kook-right propaganda began, including the obligatory slam at "Zionists." The host, to his credit, cut Bell off and apologized to his listeners with words to the affect of "I thought he was going to talk about UFOs."

A pattern is developing. People interested in the subject of UFOs are hooked by talk of "Pleiadian Space Brothers" and then subjected to fringe right political propaganda. The fact that these neo-Nazis can proselytize an unsuspecting audience has apparently made infiltration of UFO organizations a political objective of these groups.

After meeting with Robert (Area 51) Lazar, Jacques Vallee began receiving letters from a "colonel" near Las Vegas, inviting him to spend a month (all expenses paid) with a group of people who were preparing "a major belief change in America." The incentive for joining this group was "to establish contact with the aliens." Vallee was instantly put-off by this group's letterhead featuring a Nazi styled eagle clutching SS (*sig runen*) lightning bolts.

Says Vallee: "Another aspect many researchers in this field (UFOs) have studiously avoided is the link between the more eager proponents of imminent extraterrestrial contact and the American extreme right. It could well be the same kind of fanaticism that leads people to join neo-Nazi, anti-Semitic, or survivalist movements in the American SW also induces them to believe in the imminent arrival of aliens from the sky. But it could also be that some intelligence agency, or some rogue group within such an agency, has been bending the latest paranoia of some extremist

**"It could well be the same kind of fanaticism that leads people to join neo-Nazi, anti-Semitic, or survivalist movements in the American SW also induces them to believe in the imminent arrival of aliens from the sky."**

**—Jacques Vallee**

political movements to its own ends as useful, convenient testbeds for covert psychological experiments."

In his excellent book *Revelations*, Vallee recounts the Bentwaters (England) case to illustrate his point. As described by many of the witnesses, the incident could certainly have been a set-up to gauge the response of military personnel to this apparent CE3K. The case of the Gulf Breeze Six also raises questions for Vallee. Were these six soldiers deliberately exposed to materials that led them to believe a major UFO incident would occur at Gulf Breeze? The fact that the Gulf Breeze Six were simply discharged without disciplinary action should raise an eyebrow or two, considering that they all held high security clearances and their going AWOL could have represented a major security breach. Vallee believes that the U.S. has developed a convincing-looking UFO which is "being actively tested on military personnel, thus the persons who control the experiment can always contain the repercussion if the story ever leaks out."

**T**here is an abundance of circumstantial evidence to indicate that UFO hoaxes are being perpetrated by persons or organizations with substantial resources. The anti-Semitic focus of some of these hoaxers should arouse immediate suspicion. The fact that many UFO enthusiasts believe in a pantheon of alien entities that features blonde, Nordic-looking "Aryans" from the Pleiades as the cosmic "good-guys" in an interstellar battle between good and evil should give an indication of how successful these groups have already been. In addition to the hoaxers' ability to infiltrate and influence UFO organizations, anti-democratic factions within intelligence agencies can conduct psychological and unconventional warfare experiments without scrutiny under the guise of UFOs. Due to the success of frauds like Messrs. Green and Bell, ardent cadres of zealous "true believers" can be depended upon to embarrass serious UFO investigators, while diverting attention from and casting doubt on serious UFO reports, which may in fact be the hoaxers' ultimate goal.

When confronted with self-proclaimed heralds of Pleiadian Space Brothers, it would be advisable to remain skeptical. If there are alien visitors who wish to establish contact with the human race, they could certainly do so much more effectively than with the political extremists, kooks and scam artists that are currently acting as their ambassadors.

*Continued on Page 19*

# DECEPTION, DISSOCIATION & ALIEN ABDUCTIONS

*What every ufologist should know about Baron Munchausen, trickery and the paranormal*

By Jim Schnabel

The argument that anomalous experiences such as alien abductions are objectively or intersubjectively "real" remains controversial, but there is much less doubt that such experiences are primarily the result of "something" happening — i.e., something which is not entirely the conscious, premeditated fabrication of the experiencers.<sup>1</sup> Strong evidence for this view, in the case of the alien abduction phenomenon, comes from the observation that many abductees shun the attention, publicity and financial rewards which researchers and the media might have offered, and suffer the apparent disruptions of their experiences in relative silence and obscurity.<sup>2</sup>

Even so, there have been at least two reports of admitted deliberate hoaxes,<sup>3</sup> and others have been alleged or insinuated.<sup>4</sup> One reformed hoaxer, speaking of her erstwhile fellow abductees, reportedly told an interviewer that "the only way they can get any kind of satisfaction is to fabricate some sort of story to get the focus of attention that they need."<sup>5</sup>

Although many alien abduction accounts emphasize abductees' intellectual and spiritual enlightenment at the hands of their captors, other accounts emphasize emotional and physical trauma. Such accounts can be interpreted as literally true, as unconscious falsehoods, as deliberate falsehoods, or as mixtures of all three— although for some reports, such as those involving documented wounds to or "alien" residue upon the infant children of abductees,<sup>6</sup> only truthfulness or deliberate deception seem possible as explanations.

In any case, the deliberate falsification of abduction trauma, when incentives such as money or mass-publicity or the avoidance of work are not evident, would seem to be similar to cases that occasionally occur in ordinary medical practice, when with intentional deception an individual feigns or self-inflicts the symptoms of disease, apparently for no other reason than to obtain the attention and ministrations of medical staff. Such individuals are said to present with "factitious disorders."

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, version III, revised (DSM-III-R)<sup>7</sup> lists two major classes of factitious disorder: factitious disorder with psychological symptoms, and factitious disorder with physical symptoms. Virtually all of the medical literature on the factitious disorders focuses upon chronic factitious disorder with physical symptoms, better known as Munchausen's syndrome. Patients diagnosed with chronic factitious disorders with psychological symptoms have similar characteristics to patients with Munchausen's syndrome, and often have histories of

presenting falsely with both psychological and physical symptoms.<sup>8</sup>

Munchausen's-type individuals may account for only few, if any, abduction reports, but a description of their characteristics and a discussion of the relationship between the factitious disorders, less conscious forms of deception, and other mental disorders, may be useful to abduction researchers.

Munchausen's syndrome was first formally described in 1951 by Richard Asher, a physician at the Central Middlesex Hospital in London.<sup>9</sup> Asher named the disorder, which he wished to distinguish from hysteria or malingering but did not consider to be particularly rare, after Baron Karl Friedrich von Munchausen, an eighteenth-century character who was alleged (in a book whose contents were later said to be substantially false) to have wandered from tavern to tavern throughout his life, telling tall tales. The individual with Munchausen's syndrome, according to Asher, typically bore scars from numerous prior operations, and presented with a medical condition which was acute but not obviously confirmable or convincing — for instance, intense abdominal pain, severe blood-loss despite an absence of pallor, or a dramatic episode of unconsciousness. The Munchausen's patient also would manifest "a mixture of truculence and evasiveness in manner" towards hospital staff, as well as evidence of a "litigious" disposition; frequently he would check out of the hospital against the advice of hospital staff. "[Few] doctors can boast that they have never been hoodwinked by the condition," wrote Asher.

Often the diagnosis is made by a passing doctor or sister, who, recognizing the patient and his performance, exclaims, "I know that man. We had him in St. Quinidine's two years ago and thought that he had a perforated ulcer. He's the man who always collapses on buses and tells a story about being an ex-submarine commander who was tortured by the Gestapo." Equally often, the trickster is first revealed in the hospital dining-room, when with a burst of laughter, one of the older residents exclaims: "Good heavens, you haven't got Luella Priskins in again, surely? Why she's been in here three times before and in Bart's, Mary's, and Guy's [hospitals] as well. She sometimes comes in with a different name, but always says she's coughed up pints of blood and tells a story about

being an ex-opera singer and helping in the French resistance movement."

Discussions of this disorder continued in medical journals after Asher's paper, and have increased particularly in the last decade. Nowadays Munchausen's-type patients are said to present with any of a wide variety of apparent physical and psychological problems including tuberculosis, cancer, AIDS, asthma, ulcers, epilepsy, anemia, depression, hallucinations, paraplegia, suicidal ideation, ear-nose-and-throat conditions, respiratory failure, cardiac disease, dental disease, kidney disease, war-wounds, various fevers and allergies, and a number of more esoteric conditions including lupus erythematosus, Barter's syndrome and Goodpasture's syndrome. A letter to the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1980 even described a man who had falsely presented with Munchausen's syndrome (his scars washed off with soap and water) although that letter was later retracted as a hoax.<sup>10</sup>

Occasionally, diseases claimed by Munchausen's type patients are diseases which have only recently been identified and may still be somewhat controversial within the medical community but have nevertheless received wide coverage in the popular media. Examples include factitious post-traumatic stress disorders following non-existent war trauma or satanic ritual abuse.<sup>11</sup> It must be said, however, that in the case of a widely-publicized but non-existent disease which may excuse its patients from work or school, doctors will have difficulty distinguishing a (deliberate but compulsive) Munchausen's patient from an (unconscious) hysteric or from a (deliberate but non-compulsive) malingerer.

Munchausen's sufferers may be found to have actual physical disorders which have not been self-inflicted, although more usually the accompanying diseases are psychiatric: depression, schizophrenia, "VIP syndrome" (pretending to be an important official or a relative of one) and multiple personality disorder have been described in association with Munchausen's.

Munchausen's-by-proxy, or MBP, is a term intended to describe the behavior of a parent — almost always a mother — who falsely claims disease in her child. Typically the child of the MBP mother suffers from actual symptoms which suggest an underlying disease but which have been artificially induced by the mother. Suffocation of the child is probably the most common technique, and children of MBP-mothers often have a history of dozens of episodes of mysterious apnea or hypoxic seizures requiring hospitalization.<sup>12</sup> Some such episodes, unfortunately, result in the death of the child, and several MBP mothers have been jailed for their actions.<sup>13</sup> Other MBP techniques include poisoning, deliberate malnutrition, scarring and alteration of laboratory specimens.

**Although the distinction between deliberate deception and honest delusion may be difficult to establish, it may be less important than the psychological need which underlies and promotes both types of behavior.**

In one case published in the medical literature, a child was taught by his mother to mimic epileptic seizures. Such children may go on to develop Munchausen's syndrome themselves; indeed, MBP mothers typically have a history of Munchausen-type behavior directed against their own bodies, and there is even a case in which a mother and her (adult) daughter presented with factitious disorders simultaneously. It also should be noted that the proxy and victim in MBP cases are not always mother and child; the literature includes one case in which the proxy was the father, and also one in which the proxy was a man and his victim was his wife; after his wife's death, the man's girlfriend became the new victim. The behavior of nurses who deliberately harm or kill patients in their care has been attributed to a pathological desire for the attention and excitement that come with medical emergencies, and thus may also have psychological links with Munchausen's-by-proxy.

The typical Munchausen's or MBP patient will have a history of family problems, one or more personality disorders, and may in particular have experienced abuse, social isolation, and/or neglect from parents during childhood. The fact that Munchausen's syndrome and MBP occur relatively frequently in pregnant women and in nurses suggests that these syndromes, even if made more likely by genetic factors or by adverse childhood experiences, may be triggered by other factors in adulthood. The patient's Munchausenian behavior may have begun, for example, after a stay in hospital during which she was given a pleasurable amount of attention by both parents and hospital staff, or after working in a hospital and envying the attention enjoyed by patients. Later, while in hospital and feigning disease in herself or her child, she will frequently exaggerate or lie about things for no obvious reason, and in general will seem both glib and evasive, with poor impulse control. Her medical and personal history (or that of her child) is likely to be false or distorted, changing as circumstances warrant. She will have a surprising familiarity with medical terminology and hospital procedures. Her (feigned) symptoms may subside when she believes that she (or her child) is no longer being watched by hospital staff.<sup>14</sup>

Covert video surveillance of Munchausen's or MBP patients has been used with some success in the diagnosis of both disorders, and in MBP patients has been admissible as evidence in court. However, in some cases Munchausen's and Munchausen's-by-proxy patients have proved themselves remarkably adept at evading such surveillance. Even if such surveillance succeeds,

the Munchausen's or MBP patient will typically be resistant to psychological introspection and will not be cooperative following diagnosis of Munchausen's syndrome. Such a diagnosis is usually followed by the disappearance of the patient and her reappearance at another hospital. Commission to a psychiatric institution for treatment of Munchausen's may be followed by suicide.<sup>15</sup>

Although one report mentions a Munchausen's patient with an apparent brain abnormality detectable by MRI scan, there is as yet no consensus regarding an underlying or predisposing neuropathology.

Individuals with unconsciously fabricated illnesses often appear to be driven by the same underlying psychological need as individuals with factitious disorders, and yet they seem to satisfy this need in a much more effective manner, by producing symptoms unconsciously so that they themselves consciously believe that the symptoms are real. The manifestation of Munchausen's-type symptoms as opposed to the symptoms of hysterical disorders may simply reflect the unconscious inability of the individual with a need for medical attention (or attention from other authorities) to convince his conscious self that his symptoms are real. This inability may be gender-related; for factitious disorders are reported more often in men, while hysterical disorders are reported more often in women. This inability may also be overcome; the deliberate falsification of symptoms in Munchausen's syndrome has been reported on occasion to be transformed into the unconscious falsification of such symptoms. Therefore, although the distinction between deliberate deception and honest delusion may be difficult to establish, it may be less important than the psychological need which underlies and promotes both types of behavior.

This problem is highlighted in a recent paper by Toth and Baggaley,<sup>16</sup> who describe a patient with both Munchausen's syndrome and Multiple Personality Disorder. The patient, "G.C.Z.," had the classic background for both disorders — a lack of attention from his mother and an early hospital stay (predisposing him to Munchausen's) and also a lengthy period of childhood physical and sexual abuse (predisposing him to both Munchausen's and MPD). His MPD symptoms apparently began early, with episodes of amnesia recalled from about age 6 — when the sexual abuse started — and he subsequently developed at least four new personalities, although these were not identified until much later, when the patient, age 30, began to describe his personal history to a therapist. His Munchausen's-type behavior, which began when he was about 20, included the feigning or self-infliction of head injury, fever, anemia, deep vein thromboses, hypoglycemia, and urinary tract infection. G.C.Z.'s compulsive feigning or self-infliction of injuries seemed to have been carried out by an alter personality or personalities whose actions at the time

were apparently unknown to the other personalities. Thus conscious and unconscious deception may mingle simultaneously within a single patient.

The co-existence of Munchausen's syndrome with Multiple Personality Disorder has been described in other patients, and may not be accidental. Goodwin<sup>17</sup> reported the case of a married woman with children, who had a confirmed history of abuse by her father and stepfather; the woman appeared to have several different personalities which variously acted out Munchausen's behavior, feigning and inflicting injuries to herself, and Munchausen's-by-proxy behavior directed at her children.

Goodwin cited several other contemporary and historical cases of apparent Munchausenian symptoms in MPD victims, including the remarkable case of a "possessed" 17th-century Italian abbess, one of whose alter personalities, "Jesus," was observed scratching her own flesh to simulate stigmata. Goodwin also has pointed out several behavioral parallels between MPD and Munchausen's, including frequent self-abusive actions, feigned or imagined somatic symptoms, histories of childhood abuse or trauma, histories of apparent lying, active imaginations and changeable accounts of their lives, the use of different names, and sudden, fugue-like disappearances. The reluctance of Munchausen's patients to admit to their deceptive behavior also parallels the reluctance or amnesic inability of MPD patients to admit to the existence of their alter personalities. Goodwin has proposed that Munchausen's syndrome, currently classified as a chronic factitious disorder, should be reclassified as a dissociative disorder alongside MPD.

The fact that Munchausen's-type patients have presented falsely with war-related post-traumatic stress disorder,<sup>18</sup> and have falsely claimed satanic ritual abuse,<sup>19</sup> may be seen as reinforcing Goodwin's argument, since both PTSD and satanic ritual abuse claims have been associated with dissociative disorders or tendencies.<sup>20</sup> (It also should be noted that PTSD has been described in some abductees, and that accounts of satanic ritual abuse often have similarities to accounts of abduction and gynecological manipulation by aliens.<sup>21</sup>)

Of course, the *unconscious* falsification of disease has long been a feature of dissociative disorders, especially Multiple Personality Disorder, and even in the modern clinical setting the presentation of false symptoms by MPD patients often results in a diagnosis not of MPD but of hysteria. Thus, both the deliberate and unconscious falsification of disease appear to have links to the dissociative disorders.

The dissociative disorders, as well as sub-clinical dissociative states and tendencies, have long been linked to a range of paranormal phenomena, including encounters with aliens.<sup>22</sup> At the same time, paranormal

**Modern Christian possession cases typically involve multiple self-inflicted or psychosomatic injuries and a history of childhood abuse or trauma.**

phenomena often have seemed to be complicated by, or even characterized by, deception. UFO "contactees" have appeared to engage in deliberate or unconscious trickery of apparently extraordinary complexity, mingling prosaic methods with seemingly paranormal ones in an apparent effort to convince investigators of the reality of their experiences.<sup>23</sup> Spirit mediums whose powers have seemed genuine on some occasions, have on other occasions been exposed as frauds.<sup>24</sup> The behavior of poltergeists, which seems to be characterized by childish, pranksterish, attention-getting or thrill-inducing mischief, tends to be associated with anxious adolescents and pre-adolescents<sup>25</sup> who are sometimes caught producing poltergeist effects by ordinary sleight-of-hand.<sup>26</sup> The ritual scarring of initiates in various pre-industrial cultures is often attributed to ancestor spirits or to other spiritual agents of transformation, even though such scarring, to anthropological observers, may appear to be inflicted by other tribesmen or by the initiate himself.<sup>27</sup>

Similarly, it has been suggested that the talents of shamans and other primitive magicians consist chiefly in the ability to mythologize while performing minor sleight-of-hand tricks (thus suggesting the paleolithic origins of stage-magic). Spirit-possession also has appeared at times to involve obvious, although not always conscious, deception. Goodwin's possessed abbess is one example; other examples may be found in accounts of the various possession epidemics throughout Europe and the American colonies from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment.<sup>28</sup> Anthropologists also have observed a high incidence of spirit-possession among women in non-western cultures where women under ordinary circumstances are expected to play a subordinate role. The spirit possessing such a woman commonly demands, in exchange for its successful exorcism, that the woman be given various gifts or concessions by her husband or by other men.

It is not always clear why there should be an association between the tendency to deceive or to play mischievous tricks and the tendency to have anomalous experiences, but a popular hypothesis is that some anomalous experiences themselves are socially or psychologically meaningful forms of deception, predicated on the same psychological need or needs which drive more prosaic forms of deception. The anthropologist I.M. Lewis, for example, has argued that the diagnosis and treatment of spirit-possession among women in male-dominated cultures:

gives women the opportunity to gain ends (material and non-material) which they cannot readily secure more directly. Women are, in effect making a special

virtue of adversity and affliction and [are], often quite literally, capitalizing on their distress.<sup>29</sup>

More modern (especially Christian) possession cases typically involve multiple self-inflicted or psychosomatic injuries and a history of childhood abuse or trauma, and are often diagnosed as MPD. MPD itself has been explained as a defensive splitting-off from the original personality of separate personalities which personify, sometimes as apparently physically separate entities, the (then-unintegratable) emotions generated by stressful situations. These emotions are frequently sadistic, harmfully mischievous, and even suicidal, and the relationship between split personalities may develop into an abuser-victim relationship, with one or more personalities, apparently, using the considerable resources of mind and body (including deceptive techniques such as multi-sensory hallucinations and psychosomatic scarring) to abuse or to dominate the other personality or personalities—while all of the personalities conspire to keep their multiplicity a secret from outside observers.

In possession cases, a number of profound paranormal phenomena such as psychokinesis, telepathy, multiple-witness apparitions, and disembodied voices have been reported, usually in response to exorcism. If one interprets such displays as attempts by a dissociated personality to frighten the exorcist and/or the core personality, and to convince them of the possessing spirit's reality, then one may see them also as meaningful forms of deception. This view would seem to be supported by the observation that the more bizarre and religiously meaningful possession phenomena tend to occur only when the patient has a religious background and when therapy is attempted in a religious setting i.e., not when a diagnosis of MPD is made and psychotherapy is attempted in a secular clinical setting.

Other manifestations of the paranormal have been described as culturally or archetypally structured responses to stress or to definite psychological needs. In many cultures shamans are selected from among children or adolescents with a history of frequent illness, usually (by modern western standards) psychiatric or neurological illness, and it has been suggested that shamanism itself is an adaptive form of psychiatric instability—in which hallucinatory and psychosomatic self-deceptions are transformed into (other-deceiving) instruments of political, social, medicinal and spiritual power.

From this perspective, although it is easy to oversimplify, one can speculate that shamanism and related sub-phenomena such as mediumship and possession originated within an early milieu of spiritual belief, as a system for exploiting that belief to overcome the obstacles of the existing social order. The original shamanic system would have had to be psychologically very coercive, since early social groups were probably dominated by physically powerful heterosexual males,

whereas shamans whose "magic" could make them even more powerful often were homosexual, bisexual, sickly or female.<sup>30</sup> The power of the shamanic system by this reasoning, would have derived from the power of group belief in the spiritual, and from the linkage of this belief to the activities of the shaman. That the shaman's repertoire would come to include deliberate deceptions and apparently mischievous mystifications to shore up belief in his powers and belief in the spiritual realm, would therefore have been unsurprising.

Recalling the discussion of factitious disorders above, one might suggest that deceptive, Munchausenian behaviors, from the self-infliction of injuries to the feigning of serious disease to the teaching of a child to mimic epileptic seizures, might once have had similar cultural power in a shaman-revering society; and in fact the anthropological literature is full of stories of those who apparently feigned their way into a shamanic career. Taking this line of speculation a bit further, one might even propose that the induction of hypoxic seizures in a young child — so often reported in mothers who exhibit Munchausen's-by-proxy syndrome — is also an atavism of an ancient adaptive behavior, since such seizures, aside from their concomitant psychological trauma, would have imposed (or reinforced a familial) tendency to dissociate, thereby preparing the child for a much-desired shamanic vocation.

Jung, who was well aware of the connection between paranormal experiences and dissociative states, also sought the origin of their relationship with deceptive behavior. He noted the apparent parallels between the deceitful, mischievous activities of shamans, poltergeists, mediums and possessing "demons," and suggested that each was a manifestation of an underlying behavioral archetype — the "shadow," or "trickster" — which itself was a remnant of an age of more primitive human consciousness.<sup>31</sup> Persinger has suggested alternatively that such mischievous behaviors might simply reflect more childish structures of consciousness — left behind by personal maturation but uncovered during dissociative episodes.<sup>32</sup> Perhaps both concepts are valid, and neuropsychological ontogeny recapitulates neuropsychological phylogeny. In any case, clear examples of tricksterish or hysterically deceptive behavior have been noted by various authors among mediumistic UFO contactees, in a spirit-medium and repeat UFO-sighting reporter, and in two UFO abductees who exhibited, respectively, marked mediumistic and shamanic tendencies.

**T**he problem of human deception tends to be avoided by researchers of anomalous phenomena. The practical and philosophical difficulties in distinguishing deceptive from non-deceptive behavior are potentially insurmountable, and researchers in any case may not wish to risk distressing or alienating the experiencers of such phenomena, upon whom their research may depend.

### **The problem of human deception tends to be avoided by researchers of anomalous phenomena.**

Researchers of alien abductions in particular are usually careful to avoid implying that their subjects may be deliberately or even unconsciously deceitful. This avoidance is further supported by the belief that such deception is rare.

That may be the case. However, I have argued that paranormal experiences may be linked to deceptive behavior for several reasons. Firstly, deceptions such as the feigning, self-infliction and hysterical imagination of trauma appear to be interrelated. Secondly, these false traumas have links to dissociative states and disorders. Thirdly, the dissociative states and disorders are closely related to paranormal phenomena. Fourthly, paranormal phenomena have been associated empirically with deceptive and mischievous behaviors, including especially the feigning, self-infliction and hysterical imagination of trauma. In other words, there appears to be an interrelated complex of behaviors which includes deception, dissociation and paranormal phenomena. This is not to assert that all paranormal phenomena necessarily involve conscious or unconscious deception, but merely that such deception should be looked for. The fact that the alien abduction phenomenon is similar to other paranormal phenomena, both in its phenomenological details and in the psychological profiles of its experiencers, suggests that abduction accounts also should be scrutinized.

### **NOTES**

1. For example, Budd Hopkins, *Missing Time*, Ballantine, New York, 1988, 11; David Jacobs, *Secret Life*, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1992, 25; Kenneth Ring, *The Omega Project*, Morrow, New York, 1992, 53; Philip Klass, *UFO Abductions: A Dangerous Game* (revised edition), Prometheus, Buffalo, 1989, 203.

2. Hopkins, op cit, 11; Jacobs, op cit, "A Note to the Reader," and 24.

3. Jacobs, op cit, 284; Klass, op cit, 173.

4. Klass, op cit, 175. E. Bullard, *UFO Abductions: The Measure of a Mystery*, FUFOR, 1987, vol 2, c217-c219.

5. Klass, op cit, 174.

6. Jacobs, op cit, 240-43.

7. American Psychiatric Association, 1987.

8. Anand Popli, Prakash Masand, et al, "Factitious Disorders with Psychological Symptoms," *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* 53 (1992): 315-18. Also, P. Coons and F. Grier, "Factitious Disorder (Munchausen-type) involving allegations of ritual satanic abuse: a case report," *Dissociation* 3 (1990): 177-78.

9. Richard Asher, "Munchausen's Syndrome," *Lancet* 10 Feb 1951, 339-41.

10. Marc Gurwith and Claire Langston, "Factitious Munchausen's Syndrome — A Confession," *New England Journal of Medicine*, 327 (1992): 439.

11. E. J. Lynn, M. Belza, "Factitious post-traumatic stress disorder: the veteran who never got to Vietnam," *Hospital Community Psychiatry* 35: 697-701. Popli, Masand, et al., op. cit. P. Coons and F. Grier, op. cit.

12. Katherine Leonard, Patricia Farrell, "Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy," *Postgraduate Medicine* 91 (1992): 197-204.

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14. Thomas Duffy, "The Red Baron," *New England Journal of Medicine*, 327 (1992): 408-11.

15. Savard, Andermann, et al, op cit.

16. Ellen Toth and Andrea Baggaley, "Coexistence of Munchausen's Syndrome and Multiple Personality Disorder: Detailed Report of a Case and Theoretical Discussion," *Psychiatry* 54 (1991): 176-83.

17. Goodwin, op cit. See also Marlene Steinberg, "Commentary on Toth and Baggaley," *Psychiatry* 54 (1991): 184-6.

18. E.J. Lynn, M. Belza, op cit.

19. P. Coons and F. Grier, op. cit.

20. D. Spiegel, T. Hunt & H. Dondershine, "Dissociation and hypnotizability in post-traumatic stress disorder," *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 145, 301-05. B. G. Braun and G. Gray, "Report on the 1986 questionnaire: MPD and cult involvement," Paper presented at the Third International Conference on Multiple Personality/Dissociative States, Chicago, Illinois.

21. G. Ganaway, "Narrative truth: clarifying the role of exogenous trauma in the etiology of MPD and its variants," *Dissociation* 2 (1989): 205-20.

22. C.G. Jung, *Psychology and the Occult*, London, Ark, 1987. K. Ring, op. cit. H. Evans, *Visions, Apparitions and Alien Visitors*, Wellingborough, The Aquarian Press, 1984.

23. John Keel, *The Mothman Prophecies*, New York Saturday Review Press, 1975.

24. R. L. Moore, *In Search of White Crows*, New York Oxford University Press, 1977.

25. Philip Meyer, "Ghostboosters: The Press and the Paranormal," *Columbia Journalism Review*, March/April 1986, 38-41.

26. Richard Broughton, *Parapsychology*, London, Rider, 1991.

27. Joseph Campbell, *Historical Atlas of World Mythology* (vol 1), London: Times Books, 1984, 170.

28. For example, J.P. Demos, *Entertaining Satan*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1982, 99ff.

29. I.M. Lewis, *Ecstatic Religion*, second edition, Routledge, London, 1989, 67.

30. Campbell, op. cit. Recall that women are diagnosed with dissociative disorders much more often than men (DSM-III-R).

31. C. G. Jung, *Four Archetypes* (trans. R. F. C. Hull), London, Routledge, 1972, 135ff.

32. M. A. Persinger, personal communication.

*The original version of this paper contained 87 footnotes. Readers wishing a copy of the fully footnoted version should send \$3 to the author at 3A North Parade, Oxford, OX2 6LX, UK.*

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**Schnabel is an American journalist and postgraduate student living in England. His first book, "Round In Circles," will be published this summer by Hamish Hamilton (London).**

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#### CANADIAN CUT-UPS - Continued from Page 13

#### NOTES:

The UMMO symbol can now be seen being sported as tattoos on those noble defenders of European culture, the skinheads. They won't know anything about UMMO or Pleiadean Space Brothers, however. For them, the symbol is a stylized "HH"—for Heil Hitler.

Lyndon-LaRouche ran again for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992, garnering a whopping 1% of the primary vote. Despite his incarceration, he still had the financial resources to run several 30-minute political programs on national TV.

This article originally appeared in *HUFON Report*, the newsletter of the Houston UFO Network, and is reprinted with their permission. (Box 942, Bellaire, TX 77402-0942.)

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**Mr. Johnson is the Journal's Art Director. His last article to appear in these pages was "Time Travelers: An Alternative to the ET Hypothesis," No. 297, January 1993.**

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#### A FEW EDITORIAL NOTES

The theme of this issue could well be UFOs and deception, since the latter word appears in the title of two of the articles, and since deception, in the form of human hoaxing, is now thought to be widespread in the crop circle field. With a new season of circles just about to get underway, ufologists and cereologists alike would do well to tread lightly.

The issue of deception, whether self-imposed or externally created, should concern us all. Rather than bellyaching after the fact, a little cautious skepticism of some paranormal claims might be called for in the first place.

Due to space considerations, "Current Cases" and the "MUFON Forum" (letters-to-the-editor) section do not appear in this issue. Both will be back next time.



## The UFO PRESS

### JOURNAL OF UFO STUDIES

Remember the weather? How everybody complains, but nobody does anything about it? Well, much the same could be said for a scientific journal devoted exclusively to the study of the UFO phenomenon. Happily, however, someone has done something about the latter situation, and you can, too, by supporting and subscribing to the *Journal of UFO Studies*, published by the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago, and edited by Michael Swords, a professor of natural sciences at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. The cost is only \$18, postage included, or \$21 U.S. for foreign orders via surface mail.

The latest issue, New Series, Vol. 4, 1992, consists of 205 pages of closely set type and includes feature articles (with color illustrations yet), research notes, lengthy give and take commentary regarding previously published articles, and informed book reviews.

Three articles this time around deal with highly pure samples of magnesium reportedly recovered from the Ubatuba region of Brazil in the summer of 1957, in the wake of the aerial explosion of a UFO. While the results of detailed metallurgical analyses are still inconclusive, several intriguing issues are raised. How *do* we determine beyond a shadow of a doubt, for example, that a particular physical specimen is indeed of extraterrestrial origin or nature? It's not as simple as it seems on the surface. In the case of the Ubatuba fragments, for instance, the specimens are *too* pure to make a convincing case for the argument that they might have been part of the outer shell of a physical flying saucer. As it turns out, at least in terms of terrestrial technology, magnesium is typically alloyed, i.e., combined with a "lesser" metal for the express purpose of making it more durable.

Another particularly provocative article is "How Children Portray UFOs" by Linda Kerth and Richard F. Haines, based on an analysis of "375 drawings of imagined UFOs by Swiss children ages 7-15." The results are revealing for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the fact that the children tended to portray typical "little green men," as opposed to ubiquitous, standard-issue "Grays." Say the authors: "There was no evidence of imagery which might explain modern accounts of abductions by small gray entities."

Robert Hall, Mark Rodeghier and Donald Johnson also take a critical look at the recently released Roper Report, which seems to suggest that 2% of the adult American population (approximately 3.7 million individuals) has been abducted at one time or another.

The authors would have better put the conclusions of the Roper Report in perspective had they compared it to existing historical studies conducted by the British

Society for Psychological Research, Father Andrew Greeley and company, and even the Gallup Poll. As it turns out, the Roper Report findings aren't all that extraordinary; they certainly aren't necessarily indicative of a *physical* abduction by extraterrestrial beings as Hopkins and Jacobs continue to imply in their own article in the same issue. ("The magnitude of the phenomenon..." etc.)

Research Notes this time around consists mainly of an article by Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs titled "Suggested Techniques for Hypnosis and Therapy of Abductees." Most of the Comments & Responses section deals with past articles on the subject of UFO abductions, primarily in the form of an energetic intellectual exchange between folklorists Eddie Bullard and Peter Rojcewicz. The in-depth book reviews are excellent and almost worth the price of admission alone.

Because of their small circulation and high production costs, journals of this type and quality are notoriously expensive to produce. UFOs *can* be approached logically and scientifically, and *JUFOS* is one of the more respectable arguments in that direction yet. Don't let it lapse for want of support. Get out your checkbook and send off today. Write the *Journal for UFO Studies* at 2457 W. Peterson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60659. If you're still feeling guilty, order another copy for your local library.

If you can't subscribe yourself, do me a favor. The next time a skeptic rains on your parade, don't complain about the weather.

### UFO ENCOUNTERERS

This nicely done 20-page monthly newsletter carries a cover price of \$2.50, but a 12-issue year's subscription is available from editor Michael Norris for \$17.95, from Aztec Publishing, P. O. Box 1142, Norcross, GA 30091. Norris writes most of the feature articles, which in recent issues have dealt with a variety of UFO and possibly related phenomena, from the *Discovery* shuttle flight STS-48 video, to crop circles, the Face on Mars, animal mutilations and Close Encounters of the 5th kind, as when humans try to lure UFOs closer on purpose. The articles are uniformly well-written and Norris is fairly meticulous about including follow-up names and addresses for anyone wishing to pursue such matters further. Shorter pieces include book reviews and recent cases. The issues I've seen have also been well-illustrated and produced for a publication of this kind. Authors looking for an additional outlet for their material might well want to consider writing for *UFO Encounters*. The editor can be reached at the above address.

— Dennis Stacy

Want your book, newsletter or video reviewed? Send a copy to the Editor, Dennis Stacy, Box 12434, San Antonio, TX 78212.

**The NIGHT SKY**  
Walter N. Webb

**READER'S CLASSIFIEDS**

**JUNE 1993**

• **Bright Planets (Evening Sky):**

Mars (magnitude 1.5), in Leo, is in the WSW at dusk and sets about midnight in the WNW in mid-June. The fading ruddy planet lies about 1° above the star Regulus on the 22nd.

Jupiter (2.1), in Virgo, is in the SW at dusk. It resumes eastward motion on June 1. The 4th-magnitude star Eta Virginis lies only 4 minutes of arc S of Jupiter from June 1-4. This should be an interesting sight using optical aid (especially a telescope), as the star will compete with the planet's 4 bright satellites.

• **Bright Planets (Morning Sky):**

Venus (4.2) rises shortly before 3 AM in midmonth, moving to a position about 20° above the eastern horizon at dawn. The gleaming orb reaches its maximum point W of the Sun on the 10th. Our neighbor planet can be found not far from the lunar crescent on June 16.

Jupiter sets in the W about 1:30 AM in mid-June.

Saturn (0.7), in Aquarius, rises in the E about midnight in midmonth and lies low in the SSE at dawn. The world with rings is brightening and begins retrograding (moving westward) on the 11th as it heads toward its August opposition.

• **Total Lunar Eclipse:**

On the morning of June 4 the first stages of a total eclipse of the Moon are observable (weather permitting) from the western states before the Moon sets. Partial eclipse begins at 4:11 AM PDT, total eclipse at 5:12. Lucky persons in Hawaii will be able to view the entire eclipse. There our satellite enters the dark umbral shadow at 1:11 AM, is totally covered from 2:12 to 3:49, and exits from the umbra at 4:50. Lunar totality is the longest since 1989. If Mt. Pinatubo's stratospheric debris is still concentrated aloft, the Moon could once again darken to near invisibility as occurred during last December's eclipse. There is a more widely observable total lunar eclipse on November 28-29.

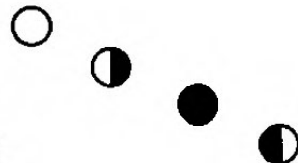
• **Moon Phases:**

Full moon—June 4

Last quarter—June 1

New moon—June 19

First quarter—June 26



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**DEMONS, DOCTORS AND ALIENS** ("An Exploration into the Relationships Among Witch Trial Evidence, Sexual-Medical Traditions and Alien Abductions") by James Pontolillo. A scholarly re-examination of the abduction phenomenon in light of historical precedents; extensive bibliography. \$10 (p/h included). Published by the International Fortean Organization, P.O. Box 367, Arlington, VA 2210-0367.

**AREA 51 VIEWER'S GUIDE:** Detailed milepost log of Nevada Highway 375, home of "Black Mailbox" and many saucer reports. Viewing sites, back roads, services, maps, references, practical tips. Reviewed in April *MUFON Journal*. \$15.00 + \$3.50 priority mail postage. Glen Campbell, HCR Box 45 VG, Rachel, NV 89001. (NV residents add 98¢ tax.)

**"THE BENNEWITZ PAPERS":** Scientist harassed/fed disinformation by the military after establishing communications with aliens through radio & television, as well as having filmed UFOs on ground inside Kirtland AFB. "Dark secrets" exposed by author Christa Tilton in 90-page "Confidential" Report. \$28.50 (Priority Mail), Global Communications, Box 753(M), New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

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**CANDIDATES FOR CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR**



**JEAN E. BYRNE**

Jean E. Byrne, M.A. and R.N., living in Norman, Oklahoma, received her Masters in Human Relations in May 1993 and is presently enrolled in graduate work toward state licensure as a Licensed Professional Therapist. Mrs. Byrne has been involved in ufology since 1987 as a consulting hypnotherapist and coinvestigator. She was a speaker at the Ozark UFO Conference in 1992 and presented two papers at the prestigious UFO Abduction Study Conference held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also in 1992. She is a participant in the MUFON abduction transcription project headed by Dan Wright and John Carpenter. After 20 years of management in the nursing field, Jean would like to apply her aforementioned skills toward making creative changes in the cohesiveness of MUFON as the Central Regional Director.

**WALTER L. GARNER, JR.**

Walter L. "Barney" Garner, Jr. M.Ed., residing in Baton Rouge, joined MUFON in 1988 and is presently the Louisiana State Director. He retired from the USAF

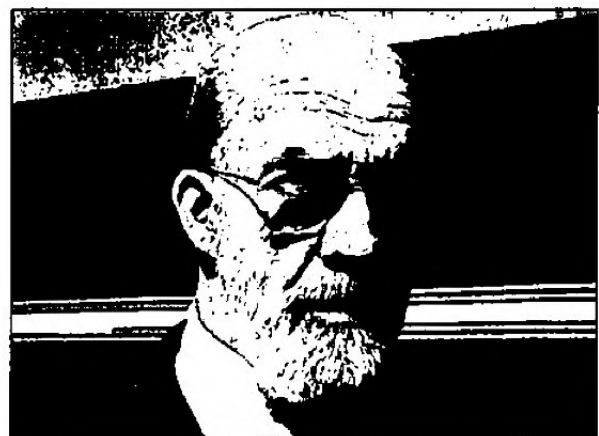


in 1972 as a Lt. Colonel and from the faculty of Louisiana State University in 1988. Since becoming State Director in 1989, Barney has organized the state investigative team through Parish State Section Directors and three geographically located Assistant State Directors. He publishes a very professional state newsletter titled "LA MUFON." Barney and his wife have attended numerous UFO conferences and symposiums since joining MUFON. Mr. Garner has done an outstanding job organizing and managing Louisiana MUFON.

**GEORGE R. COYNE**

George R. Coyne, B.A., a resident of Flushing, Michigan, is the incumbent Central Regional Director. Mr. Coyne graduated from Flint Northern High School in 1935 and earned a B.A. degree in psychology from the University of Michigan in 1960. Employed after high school by AC Sparkplug, he was soon promoted to supervisor. With the breakout of World War II, George was called into active duty, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, and served a four-year tour of duty in Europe with the First Special Service Force, the forerunners of the Green Berets. After returning to AC Sparkplug after WW II, he was recalled to active duty for three years during the Korean Conflict. In 1974, George retired from AC Sparkplug after 37 years of service as a quality control supervisor and employee counselor.

Mr. Coyne joined MUFON in 1983 and was appointed Co-State Section Director with his wife, Shirley, in 1984. He was an active member of the host committee for the MUFON 1986 UFO Symposium at Michigan State University. Following the symposium, he was named Michigan Co-State Director with his wife. In 1988, he was elected MUFON Central Regional Director. During the past four years, the Coynes have traveled to most of the central regional states to visit, help newer directors get organized, and to boost membership in the respective states.



**MESSAGE - Continued from Page 24**

Teton, Pondera, Chouteau and Glacier Counties; and **Victor C. Arrington** (Moncks Corner, SC) for Berkeley County.

New Hampshire State Director, **Peter R. Geremia**, refined his state section director assignments with the following revisions: **Walter F. Friesendorf** (Milford) for Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties; **Robert W. Heslop** (Warner) for Merrimack and Sullivan Counties; **Ruth F. Michaud**, B.S. (Hookset) for Belknap, Corral, and Grafton Counties; and **Kenneth E. Foster** (Derry) for Rockingham County.

**CONSULTANTS AND RESEARCH SPECIALISTS**

Emphasizing the scientific approach to the UFO phenomenon by the Mutual UFO Network, 13 new consultants volunteered their professional expertise this month. They were: **James B. Calvin**, Ph.D. (Waterville Valley, NH) in Clinical Psychology; **Jack E. Anderson**, D.D.S. (Lawrenceville, IL) in Dental Surgery; **Wilton R. Tenney**, Ph.D. (Richmond, VA) in Plant Pathology; **Richard L. Thompson**, Ph.D. (San Diego, CA) in Mathematics; **Joanne D. Lind**, Ph.D. (Ann Arbor, MI) in Sociology; **J. Audrey Havice**, Ph.D. (Shippensburg, PA) in Clinical Psychotherapy; **Dale F. Sobotka**, M.D. (Everett, WA) in Psychiatry/Stress Medicine; **Judith L. Cameron**, Ph.D. (Fullerton, CA) in Clinical Hypnotherapy; **Wayne Nichols**, J.D. (Durham, NC) in Law; **Gregory R. Webb**, Ph.D. (Willowbrook, IL) in Physiological Psychology; **Georgia W. Wills**, Ph.D. (Shreveport, LA) in Experimental Psychology; **F. Joe Lewels**, Ph.D. (El Paso, TX) in Communications; and **Barry S. Sapolsky**, Ph.D. (Tallahassee, FL) in Communications.

Five new Research Specialists joined MUFON during the past month: **Irv L. Burrough**, M.S. (Memphis, TN) in Aeronautical Science; **Gerard N. Belanger**, M.S. (Port Orange, FL) in Psychology; **Doris J. Metzger**, M.S.W. (San Antonio, TX) in Social Work; **Jeanette L. Gabriel**, M.S. (Los Angeles, CA) in Psychology; and **Donald (Jesse) James**, M.A. (Clarkston, WA) in Communications.

**NEW CONSULTING EDITOR AT FATE**

Editor-in-Chief **Phyllis Galde** has announced that **J. Antonio Huneus** will be the new Consulting Editor and UFO Columnist for FATE Magazine starting with the June 1993 issue. Mr. Huneus is MUFON's International Coordinator and a member of the Board of Directors. He is also a journalist and free-lance writer. Our congratulations are extended to Tony for his new responsibilities and recognition.

**CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR ELECTION**

Since **George R. Coyne** will be completing his first term on the MUFON Board of Directors on June 30, 1993, as Central Regional Director, the corporate bylaws specify that an election be held by all of the members living in the following designated states: MI, OH, KY, TN, AL, MS, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA, MO, AR, LA, TX, OK, KS, NE, SD and ND. The three candidates nominated for election are **Jean E. Byrne**, **George R. Coyne**, and **Walter L. "Barney" Garner, Jr.** A photograph and short biography of each is published in this issue of the *Journal*.

A new election procedure will be initiated for the convenience of all members as a means of streamlining this legal process. For individual members please mail a 19-cent postcard specifying your vote for Jean E. Byrne, George R. Coyne or Walter L. Garner for Central Regional Director. Sign your name, date and mail to MUFON in Seguin, Texas before May 31, 1993. If a family membership exists, the same procedure applies except that each must sign their own name on the same postcard for convenience sake. If they vote for different people, this must be clearly indicated. Please vote now while it is fresh in your memory. Thank-you for helping to make the voting process more expedient.

**MUFON ANNUAL AWARD**

Each year MUFON honors a person in Ufology who their colleagues select for having made the most outstanding contribution to the advancement of the UFO phenomenon during the past five years. The distinguished recipient will be presented with an engraved plaque and monetary award from MUFON. Candidates may live anywhere in the world and do not have to be members of the Mutual UFO Network to be nominated for this prestigious award.

The logistics of nominating and voting for candidates worldwide requires adequate time for the *Journal* to arrive at the far corners of our planet, thus a revised time schedule has been adopted. Please submit the name of your candidate with a paragraph elaborating upon his/her accomplishments to warrant receiving this recognition. All nominations must be received in Seguin, Texas by September 1, 1993. It is recommended that members in foreign countries use airmail for their nominations. This is an opportunity to express your appreciation and a personal thank-you to the person you so highly regard for their Ufological accomplishments. Please submit your nominations promptly so that a list of candidates may be published in the September 1993 issue of the *Journal*. A postcard or letter election will ensue with the winner being announced in the December 1993 issue.

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Walter Andrus

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

#### MUFON 1993 SYMPOSIUM

The theme for the MUFON 1993 International UFO Symposium is "UFOLOGY: The Emergence of a New Science." Hosted by MUFON Virginia, the conference will take place the weekend of July 2, 3 and 4, 1993, at the Hyatt Richmond Hotel, 6624 West Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23230. Virginia State Director, **Mark E. Blashak**, is the host symposium chairman and **Walt Andrus** is the program chairman.

The list of confirmed speakers reflects the international scope of the symposium theme. Speakers from foreign countries and their subjects are **Vincente-Juan Ballester Olmos**, "Spanish Air Force UFO Files: The Secret's End"; **Colin Andrews**, "The 'Signs' of Change are Real"; **Cynthia Hind**, "Abductions in Africa — Worldwide Similarities"; **Illobrand von Ludwiger**, "The Most Significant UFO Sightings in Germany"; and **Hoang-Yung Chiang, Ph.D.**, "UFO Sightings and Research in Modern China."

Other featured speakers are **John E. Mack, M.D.**; **George Knapp**; **Linda Moulton Howe**, "Moving Lights, Disks and Animal Mutilations in Alabama"; **John F. Schuessler**, "The Eddie Webb Medical Case"; **Wesley E. Ellison**, "Detection and Analysis of Aerial Phenomenon"; **Jeffrey W. Sainio**, "Video Analysis"; **Jorge Martin**, "The Astounding UFO Experience in Puerto Rico"; and **Budd Hopkins**, "A Linda Cortile Case Update."

Three-hundred and fifty rooms have been blocked for July 2 and 3 at the Hyatt Richmond Hotel for attendees at a special rate of \$62 per night for single, double, triple or quad occupancy by calling the reservation desk at (804) 285-1234 or FAX (804) 288-3961 and advising the desk that you are attending the MUFON 1993 UFO Symposium. A limited number of rooms have been reserved for July 1, 4 and 5 for those arriving early or staying over for a few days at the same rate.

Other important events scheduled for Friday, July 2, will be the annual State/Provincial Director's meeting from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., a press conference from 1 to 3 p.m., and everyone is invited to the Reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Reservations must be made for the reception, which will feature a light buffet with a cash bar for \$10 per person. This is a grand opportunity to not only meet the speakers but to converse with your colleagues in ufology. When you are making your advance registrations please indicate if you will be

attending the reception and include the admission price.

All Assistant State/Provincial Directors, Continental Coordinators, National Directors and Foreign Representatives are cordially invited to attend the State/Provincial Director's Meeting on July 2. The MUFON Annual Corporate Board of Director's Meeting will be held Sunday morning, July 4 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Since the speakers will be videotaped under contract, no video cameras will be permitted inside the auditorium. Still cameras are authorized, but no flash photos will be allowed.

Advance registrations may be obtained before June 1, 1993, by mailing a check or money order for \$45 per person payable to "MUFON 1993 UFO Symposium" to the following address: Virginia MUFON, P. O. Box 207, Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103. After June 1st, the registration fee will be \$50 or \$10 per session.

If you are interested in having an exhibit or a sales table of directly related UFO material at the symposium, please write to the above address for an application form. (New Age paraphernalia will not be permitted.)

#### NEW OFFICERS

MUFON Corporate Secretary, **Thomas P. Deuley**, has relinquished his position of Texas State Director by promoting **Ellen R. Stuart** (Austin) to this office. Due to the large geographic size of Texas, Mrs. Stuart has appointed **Andy Abercrombie** (Houston) to be the Assistant State Director for Southeast Texas. Additional assistant state directors will be selected in the future. After passing their Field Investigator's examinations, **Hugh B. Horning**, Delaware State Director, has appointed the following gentlemen to become State Section Directors for their respective counties: **Raymond A. Gurczenski** (Newark) for Kent; **Kevin P. Reynolds** (Newark) for Sussex; and **Stephen S. Rosiak** (Claymont) for New Castle.

On December 20, 1992, **Virgil C. Staff**, State Director for Northern California (Berkeley) designated **Ruben J. Uriarte, M.A.** (Castro Valley) to become his Assistant State Director. With the resignation of **John F. Schroeder**, a MUFON member since 1975, **Bruce A. Widaman**, Missouri State Director promoted **Walter L. Palmer** (St. Louis) to State Section Director for St. Louis County and **James R. "Bob" Carter** to be his assistant. Other new state section directors appointed this month are **Larry Z. Kennedy, Ph.D.** (Huntsville, AL), a Consultant in Physics, for Madison, Marshall and Limestone counties; **Richard G. Rauk, D.V.M.** (Helena, MT) for

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