

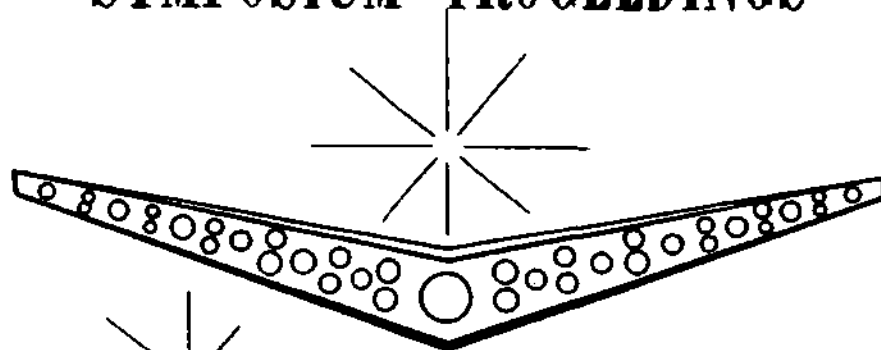
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MUFON's mission is the systematic collection and analysis of UFO data, with the ultimate goal of learning the origin and nature of the UFO phenomenon.

Is there a connection?

UFOs and cemeteries

By Preston Dennett

Graveyards and cemeteries are places usually associated with ghosts. However, several cases are now on record in which UFOs have shown an undue interest in graveyards. The question is, *why?* What interest could UFOs possibly have in something so macabre as a cemetery?

These types of cases are somewhat rare, but they continue to turn up, and have been confounding leading UFO investigators for years. These are not cases of so-called "spook-lights," but accounts of apparent metallic spacecraft. Let us examine a few cases and see for ourselves.

Case One: Mount Pleasant Cemetery

On the evening of May 7, 1967, fourteen-year-old Ricky Banyard was walking to his home in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, when he observed a "strange beam of light" emitted from an unknown object in the sky. He quickly ran to the home of his friend, Glenn Coate, and the two boys watched the object through binoculars. They said it "looked like two bowls joined together at the rims, and it hovered, making a whistling noise." It would periodically send powerful beams of light to the ground.

At around 2 A.M. Glenn became tired and went to bed while Ricky went outside and hid under some trees to watch the object. The next time the object emitted a beam of light, he followed it to the ground and was shocked to realize that it was shining directly on the Mount Pleasant Cemetery across the street from his home. According to the report on the case, "The light beam extended down, striking the ground and making a white, bright, rectangular area on the ground."

Ricky eventually tried to get closer. However, as soon as he stepped out from under the trees the beam of light retracted, the lights on the object went out, and the object departed with a "noise like a jet starting up," followed by several "bangs."

The most interesting aspect of this case was revealed by an inspection of the cemetery the next day. As the report reads, "...an inspection of the cemetery yielded several unexplainable rectangular black streaks on the sand and gravel paths leading among the graves. Rocks and pebbles seemed to be charred, but none of the grassy areas or trees appeared to have been harmed.

"Joseph LaForge, the cemetery foreman, could not explain the marks, but suggested that a grader had gone over the roads on Saturday and may have exposed some of the cinder base under the gravel. He then pointed to



Preston Dennett

About the author

Preston Dennett, a MUFON Field Investigator, is the author of *Extraterrestrial Visitations* (2001), *UFOs Over Topanga* (1999), *One in Forty* (1996), and *UFO Healings* (1996), as well as eighty articles.

two other large marks and said, 'I don't know about them—they look pretty unusual.' He couldn't account for the black marks on the stones, and explained that no oil is used on the cemetery roads."

Case Two: An Arkansas funeral home

Another even stranger case occurred earlier that year, but more than a thousand miles away. The witness is the anonymous owner of a funeral home. The whole ordeal began when the owner's son ran inside and reported that a "flying saucer" was hovering right over the funeral parlor. The owner reports that she assumed her son was imagining things, and didn't investigate.

Then, several days later, a man was visiting the grave of a dead friend when he ran inside and told the owner of the funeral parlor that a "disk-shaped, metallic appearing object" was hovering directly over the building. Suddenly remembering her son's earlier report, she ran outside to see, but by then the object was gone.

However, she was left thoroughly shaken by the event, and eventually made an official report to the Aerial Phenomenon Research Organization (APRO) headed by Jim and Coral Lorenzen. She agreed to report her case only on the conditions that her name and location be kept confidential.

Case Three: Leominster Cemetery

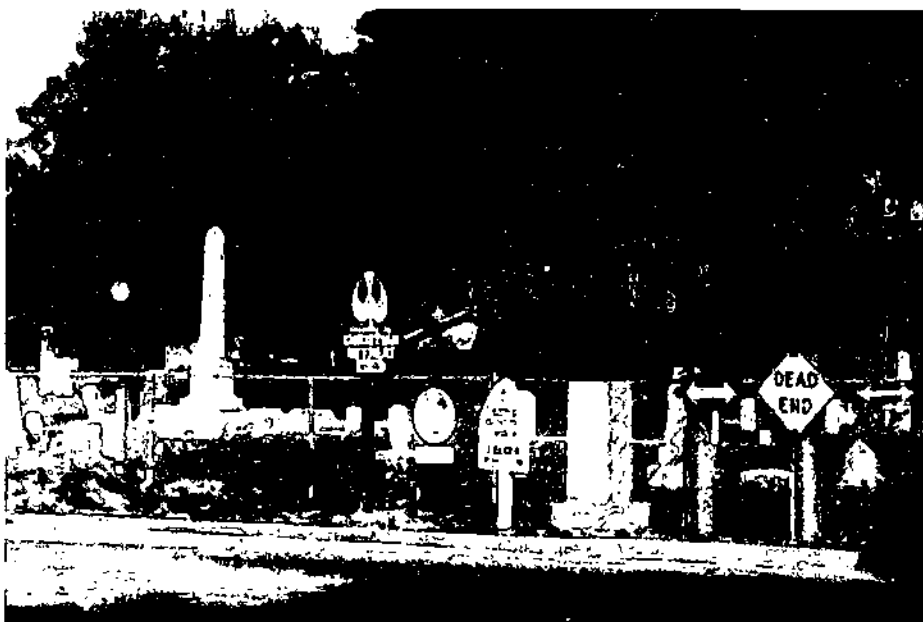
A truly alarming case which occurred in Leominster, MA, was originally investigated by J. Allen Hynek. It began on March 8, 1967, when a young couple (a painter and hairdresser) went out for a drive to look at "the snowladen branches of trees after a heavy snowstorm." It was around 1 A.M. on a clear night, and they were passing a small cemetery outside of Leominster.

Both noticed that the cemetery was strangely shrouded in fog, even though it was clear everywhere else. Then they spotted a strange light directly over the cemetery, and their initial reaction was that there must be a fire in the cemetery, and the fog was actually smoke. They took a closer look, and at this point things went from strange to bizarre.

As the investigator's report says: "He turned the car around again and put his windows down and drove off the road broadside to the cemetery and to the light...he got out of the car, shut the door and started to point to the object. Simultaneously several events occurred: the au-

tomobile lights, radio, and engine ceased functioning; he felt an electrical shock, and his body became numb and immobilized; the arm he was pointing with was pulled against the roof of the car and hit with such a force that it left an imprint in the ice and snow...Mr. W. could not move a muscle, although he could hear, and his mind seemed to be functioning normally. Then the lights and radio came back on, and the object which had been rocking back and forth emitted a humming sound and accelerated upward and out of sight above the fog patch."

The two witnesses were left thoroughly frightened by the event. As one said, "Nothing I have ever seen compares with the object."



Case Four: Haverhill Cemetery

With nearly a dozen books and hundreds of cases to his credit, Raymond Fowler remains one of the most respected UFO researchers. So it should come as no surprise that he has also noticed a connection between UFOs and graveyards. According to Fowler, approximately 23% of his cases took place over rural fields, a portion of which were actually cemeteries. Says Fowler, "I had no idea then that cemeteries...would figure in future UFO investigations."

In the A.M. hours of Oct. 6, 1964, Robert Soucey and his friend William Chase drove through the country outside of Haverhill, MA. Chase spotted the object first—a metallic domed disk—hovering above the trees next to a graveyard.

Soucey put the car in reverse and backed up until they could see the object closely. At this point, the object was only 150 feet away. According to Soucey, "It looked like a half ball on a flat plate. We both stared at it for about twenty seconds and then got out of there real fast. No one else was around and we were plenty scared."

In fact, the two men were so upset by what they saw that they drove straight to the police station. Seeing that the two men were sincerely frightened, the police sent a car to the scene of the sighting. But by then, the object was gone.

Case Five: Pournoy-la-Chetive Cemetery

On Oct. 9, 1954, four children ranging in age from five years old to sixteen, were roller-skating by the cemetery near their homes in Pournoy-la-Chetive in France when they encountered a UFO. It hovered directly over the graveyard and was described as round, luminous, and about three meters in diameter.

All four witnesses watched in shock as a short figure appeared. It was dressed in black, had large eyes, and hair on its face. It shone a "blinding light" at them, and spoke in an "unknown language." The four young wit-

nesses fled in terror, but turned around in time to see the object take off and fly away.

Case Six: Nova Scotia Cemetery

One alarming case was investigated by Eugene H. Frison, the MUFON Provincial Director for Nova Scotia, Canada. In this case, a paperboy had taken a shortcut through a local cemetery to deliver papers. Once inside the cemetery grounds, he noticed an increase in wind and a strange whining sound, followed by a sudden rush of heat. On his right, 3 feet away, he observed a triangular-shaped object about 9 feet tall and 5 feet wide hover and move quickly by him and out of view.

Apparently, he had surprised the UFO after it had landed in the cemetery. The witness did not observe anything else unusual. However, immediately following the incident, he suffered raised blisters across his chest and face. The blisters stung and burned if picked, but disappeared after a few days.

Case Seven: Elmwood Cemetery

On Nov. 4, 1957, another encounter occurred which indicates that UFOs show a strong interest in graveyards. At 3:12 A.M. that morning, Patrolman Joseph Lukasek, Patrolman Clifford Schau, and Fireman Robert Volt of Elmwood, IL, were in their squad car investigating a store which had an open window. Suddenly one of them spotted a strange bright red-orange egg-shaped object hovering 250 feet in the air, directly over the Elmwood Cemetery.

They turned the spotlight on the object and radioed Officer Daniel De Giovanni at the Elmwood police station that they were observing an "unknown object." At that instant, the headlights and spotlight dimmed and flickered repeatedly.

The object appeared to be "folding into itself." But when they turned on the spotlight it "puffed out," shot up 200 feet and took off. The officers chased after the

object in their car, but hit a dead-end street. Still, they were able to watch the object "fold inward from the bottom" and disappear.

Back at the Elmwood Park police station, officer De Giovanni ran outside just in time to observe the object shoot across town and disappear.

Case Eight: Canyon Creek Burial Grounds

In December, 1966, Rob McKinnon, a rest-area operator, observed a bright beam of light "hanging absolutely motionless in the air, maybe 100 feet up." McKinnon called his family and they all observed the light descend over the nearby burial ground.

The witnesses observed that the huts containing the bodies were brightly lit by the beam. Said McKinnon, "We definitely had a feeling it was interested in this place....there definitely was something strange happening out there over the cemetery that night."

Case Nine: Aracariguama Cemetery

In 1989, Nelson Oliveira, the local grave-digger for the Aracariguama Cemetery outside of Sao Paulo, Brazil, experienced a dramatic graveyard encounter. According to an interview with South American ufologist Hermes de Fonseca, Oliveira observed a classic metallic flying saucer which he described as "an upside-down hat" made of aluminum. Oliveira observed the object hover low over the cemetery for several minutes before quickly flying away.

Case Ten: Dean Memorial Cemetery

This next case is without a doubt the most complex and chilling of all graveyard-UFO encounters. Investigated by veteran journalist Bob Teets, this case involves dozens of witnesses, all of whom have regularly seen UFOs hovering over the local graveyard in Elk Garden, WV.

The sightings seem to concentrate over a particular area called Nethken Hill. However, the only thing on the hill is a small church surrounded by cemeteries, including Nethken Cemetery, Kalbaugh Cemetery, and the Dean Memorial Cemetery. The sightings began in the early 1960's and seem to be continuing today.

The Jones family is only one of many families of this small town that have seen UFOs over the local cemetery. In April of 1968, two members of the family were driving by the graveyard when they saw a bright ball of light hovering overhead. Both watched as the 100-foot orange sphere moved brazenly over their vehicle. They could also now see a metallic structure to the object and could hear a high-pitched buzzing noise.

Overcome with fear, they sped away. The object, however, followed them home, hovering above their car. The terrified couple darted into the family home and woke up relatives, who came outside and also saw the object, which began to dart from place to place, and then left.

Another family who has seen objects over the local graveyards are the Kalbaughs, who actually have their own family cemetery. Says Amie Kalbaugh, "We'd see lights all during the late 1960's and early '70's going back

and forth around the church area. [The church is adjacent to the graveyard.] I never wanted to see them, but I did...We would watch the lights and go through a process of elimination, 'not a plane, not a helicopter,' and so forth, and try to figure out what they were...I always thought we heard a high-pitched sound, and then we would look out the window. The lights were always white."

Amie's sister, Vickie, also remembers the sightings. She says, "I saw a silvery white, elliptical-shaped thing in the sky. I was thinking, 'That's not an airplane or a helicopter.' Your mind plays tricks on you when you're frightened, and I remember being afraid...After these sightings, we were always so afraid."

Another member of the Kalbaugh family, Clark Kalbaugh, reports his own encounter in mid-July 1970. Clark says, "I was looking out the window toward Nethken Hill Cemetery when I saw an object moving in the sky over the cemetery...within a flash, it's right over the house! I'm looking directly up at the bottom of this object, which is possibly cigar-shaped to elliptical, somewhere in between. A lot of bright lights on the bottom, very bright. Ten to fifteen bright lights. As quickly as it's there, bam! it's gone again. Then I see the lights toward Elk Garden, on Nethken Hill Cemetery again."

Another witness to the Dean Memorial graveyard UFO sightings is local resident and mail-carrier Dixon Ridder. With his residence only one mile north of the graveyards, Dixon had an excellent view of the area. On one occasion, Dixon saw "...a brilliant white light with a sharp outline of its edge...it was about five feet in diameter, and was just a few feet back from the church. All of a sudden, it went to the back of the church, then went across the road to that Dean Monument over there, where, just like you turn a light out, it vanished."

The sightings became so frequent over the graveyard that residents would sometimes stake out the area just to see a UFO. Usually, nothing happened. But on one occasion, three people witnessed the granddaddy of UFO-graveyard encounters.

On Oct. 8, 1967, Reverend Harley DeLeurere and two other local residents decided to head out to the graveyards in order to see a UFO. They hiked to within a quarter mile of the area and waited to see what would happen. After 2 hours, they were startled by a bright flash of light. Seconds later they saw a classic flying saucer. As one witness described, "...something like a big turtle with lights on it appeared level with the top of the house...it wasn't more than six feet off the ground, and it had three or four recessed lights on it that shined toward the graveyard and down on the ground too."

As the three men watched, the object hovered low over each of the graveyards, shining down powerful beams of light as if searching for something. They then noticed a chilling detail. The object had stopped and targeted a particular gravesite with its beam of light. The only thing unusual about this gravesite was that it was very recent—only a day old. In fact, the funeral had just been held earlier that day!

After several minutes of hovering over the gravesite

and shining down beams of light, the object "disappeared." The three men inspected the area, but nothing seemed to be disturbed. Said one witness, "We thought for sure we'd see something, but when we got there, there wasn't anything there."

The Reverend recommended that the body be exhumed and examined for "signs of disturbance." However, nothing was ever done. The witnesses were convinced that the UFO was showing a definite interest in the new grave. It was a pattern they would later observe on many occasions. Said one witness, "It seemed like every time there was a new grave, within the next couple of nights, people would see lights up there."

Case Eleven: Extraterrestrial graverobbers

Why would aliens be interested in a graveyard? This next case may provide the answer, though perhaps not a very pleasant one.

This case involves Pennsylvania teacher James L. Walden. In March of 1992, Walden experienced his first fully conscious encounter with extraterrestrials. Later, under hypnosis, Walden recalled a lifetime of alien encounters, beginning with his birth.

According to his regression, he was actually implanted in his mother's womb by the aliens. His DNA, however, has a different source. As he says under hypnosis, "I am a composite of other people and beings. Some parts of me came from humans; others came from aliens. I'm not unique. I am composed of parts of all the people who were used to create me!"

In other words, Walden is saying that his embryo was created from genes harvested from a number of different people. He says, "I saw the alien beings harvesting brain cells from dying human bodies, then combining the cells to make my embryo....I see the corpses of two men and one woman. When they died, the aliens—who cannot be seen by humans—are present, and they retrieve tissue samples to use in creating me....the woman's corpse was the most vivid. I didn't recognize her..."

Conclusions & speculations

As can be seen, aliens have definitely shown a strong interest in graveyards. But again, the question is *why*? What is it about graveyards that extraterrestrials find so attractive? Could it be simple curiosity, or is there another explanation?

UFO researchers Coral and Jim Lorenzen had their own speculations. They explain, "The Edmonton cemetery report is one of many involving strange objects near cemeteries or old burial grounds...when the two reports—the object over the funeral home and the object over the cemetery—are considered alone, they don't make much sense; they just give one a kind of queasy feeling about possible supernatural phenomena. However, when considered in context with hundreds of sightings of objects following cars, especially at night, a faint connection is possible.

"UFOs have been following cars at night for years. At night, cars have their headlights on. Whether or not curiosity is the motivation for these antics, we cannot tell,

but if intelligent beings are behind these visits, then they also might well be curious about a long line of cars driving about in the daytime with their lights on when no lights are needed—the typical behavior of funeral processions, indicating to other traffic that it *is* a funeral procession.

"If intelligent beings in a hovering craft became curious about such an event, they then might indeed try to find out the purpose of such a procession. They could note that a box was brought out of a building, put into one vehicle, followed by others, and taken to a certain area where the box was removed and buried in the ground. So they might try to discern what a funeral home is, and ultimately, a cemetery."

That the aliens are intensely curious in human affairs is pretty obvious. It could very well be that the above cases show only that UFOs are studying yet another aspect of human society.

Well-known UFO investigator Scott Corrales has examined several cases like these. He speculates that "the UFOs were engaged in the business of retrieving alien implants..." He asks, "Why are the UFOs interested in our final resting places? What could they stand to gain from such pursuits? Trying to ascribe reason to an utterly unreasonable phenomenon leads us to consider that 'alien scientists' can glean important biological information from the deceased, or as suggested in the West Virginia scenario, we are witnessing a clean-up operation aimed at removing implants left in the bodies of long-time abductees."

There is always the possibility that the aliens are a little more than just curious. Could it be that the aliens are, in fact, actively engaged in the systematic exhumation and exploitation of human corpses? After all, the only thing of any interest in a graveyard are the bodies. Why else would UFOs shine a beam of light down on a freshly dug grave? Although this is pure speculation, the UFOs' interest in graveyards is not.

The Dean Memorial Cemetery and Walden cases strengthen the theory that at least some aliens may be robbing graves for the express purpose of obtaining genetic material. And if one wanted to obtain the DNA from a certain person with the least possible disturbance, waiting until the person actually died makes a lot of sense. Interestingly, genetic material remains alive for a period of days following biological death. This would explain why the UFOs over the Dean Memorial Cemetery not only targeted the brand new graves, but reportedly appeared every time there had been a new grave dug.

Also, consider the following report from veteran UFO investigators Raymond Fowler and Walter Webb. Writes Fowler, "One afternoon, [summer 1964] Walter phoned to say that he had received a tip concerning an alleged UFO landing near a cemetery at Lawrence, MA. Would I be willing to assist in his investigations? I excitedly agreed."

That evening, they interviewed a group of children who claimed to have seen an object land next to the cemetery. They explored the graveyard, but were unable to find anything unusual. Then came the shocking news. As

Fowler writes, "A few days later, a fellow employee informed me that there had been a grave robbery in this same cemetery that very week, and the Lawrence police had staked it out! What would we have said if the police had caught us creeping from tombstone to tombstone?"

Further evidence supporting the theory of alien grave-robbers comes from researcher Bill Knell. Following a rash of animal mutilations, rumors began to circulate among the UFO community that there were also cases of human mutilations. Bill Knell tracked down one such rumor to a medical examiner in Westchester County, NY, who informed Knell that several morgues in the area had been "hit" and "fresh human cadavers" were mutilated in the same style as the well-known cattle mutilations.

In this case, the damage included partial removal of the face, and total removal of the eyes, thyroid, stomach, and genitals. Knell was informed by the anonymous medical examiner that the morgues in question quickly enacted a cover-up, and that the public was never told the truth.

If these speculations are true, an interesting experiment might be to stake out cemeteries immediately following the placement of any new coffins with human remains.

Even more interesting would be a study of the already targeted gravesites. In other words, is there any evidence that the body was disturbed? Whose grave is it, and why would the aliens be interested in them? Have they had any prior UFO experiences? Are the gravesites of recently deceased UFO abductees likely to cause an encounter? Are those individuals in the graves genetically unique or unusual in any way?

These, of course, are mysteries that remain to be solved.

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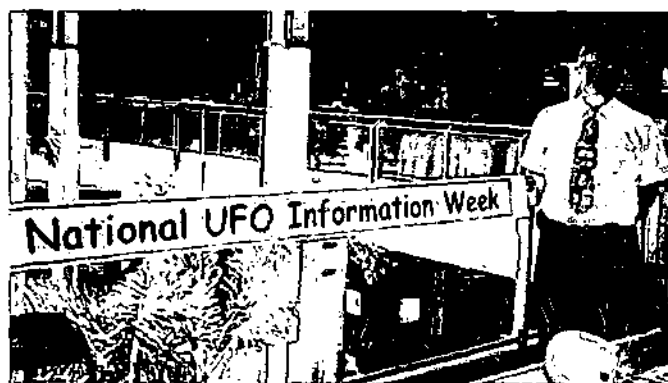
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Stan Gordon at last year's exhibit.

Gordon will again set up UFO exhibit at Westmoreland Mall

A National UFO Information Week Display will be held on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2002, at the Westmoreland Mall, Route 30 east, Greensburg, PA 15601. The event will be manned all day long by Stan Gordon and other researchers.

The exhibit will feature UFO photographs, books, magazines, government documents, and artifacts that were recovered during investigations of UFOs and other unusual events in Pennsylvania in past years. There will also be information on other UFO related topics.

UFO and phenomena research organizations, authors, and publishers are welcome to send handout literature or other materials for the display.

Non-returnable materials for display use can be sent to Stan Gordon, P.O. Box 936, Greensburg, PA 15601.

For information contact Stan Gordon at : 724-838-7768 or paufo@westol.com. Stan Gordon's website can be accessed at: <http://www.westol.com/~paufo>

MUFON International Director John Schuessler encourages all MUFON groups to set up displays in their areas. "Stan has shown that these displays not only serve to inform the public, but also lead to increased membership and the discovery of new cases," he says.

Reminder

State and local MUFON organizations which have address changes, email changes, or website changes need to immediately contact MUFON Headquarters so that this information is included in our files and on our website.

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Soviet cosmonauts & generals acknowledge Unidentified objects observed

(During his lecture at the International UFO Congress in Laughlin, NV, on March 6, 2002, Michael Hesemann presented filmed interviews with four Soviet Cosmonauts and four high-ranking Soviet generals. After he received numerous requests for transcripts, here is the translation of their statements by Valery Uvarov, St. Petersburg)

Cosmonaut Maj. Gen. Vladimir Kovalyonok, Saljut VI Mission, 1981

Many cosmonauts have seen phenomena which are far beyond the experiences of earthmen. For ten years I never spoke on such things. The encounter you asked me about happened on May 5, 1981, at about 6 PM, during the Saljut Mission. At that time we were over the area of South Africa, moving towards the area of the Indian ocean. I just made some gymnastic exercises, when I saw in front of me, through a porthole, an object which I could not explain.

It is impossible to determine distances in Space. A small object can appear large and far away and the other way around. Sometimes a cloud of dust appears like a large object. Anyway, I saw this object and then something happened I could not explain, something impossible according to the laws of physics. The object had this shape, elliptical, and flew with us. From a frontal view it looked like it would rotate in flight direction.

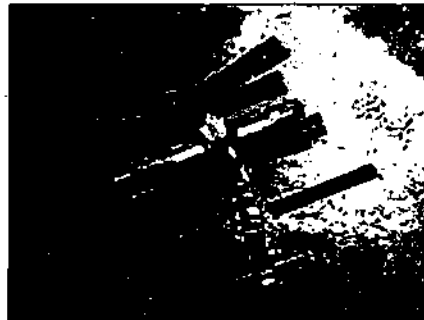
It only flew straight, but then a kind of explosion happened, very beautiful to watch, of golden light. This was the first part. Then, one or two seconds later, a second explosion followed somewhere else and two spheres appeared, golden and very beautiful.

After this explosion I just saw white smoke, then a cloud-like sphere. Before we entered the darkness, we flew through the terminator, the twilight-zone between day and night. We flew eastwards, and when we entered the darkness of the Earth shadow, I could not see them any longer. The two spheres never returned.

Cosmonaut Musa Manarov, MIR mission, 1991

It happened during a visit mission, when all our attention was focused on the slowly approaching space capsule. I was close to the great porthole, from where I could see our approaching visitors. I watched everything very carefully... When the capsule came closer, I filmed it with a professional Betacam camera. Suddenly I noted something below the spaceship, which first looked like a kind of antenna. Only when I looked closer and analyzed the situation, I realized that there was no antenna at all.

But first I thought it was a part of the construction. But then this element started to move. It moved away from



The MIR space station

the ship. So I grabbed the radio and told them: "Hey, Boys, you are losing something." This, of course, alarmed them. With all my experience, especially with docking maneuvers in space, I can tell you that especially

in this phase simply nothing can break off at all. If something would have been loose, it would have been torn off long before, during the launch, the maneuvers, the turn, all these much more energetic flight phases.

Now we were just gliding slowly towards each other, without any pressure on the capsule. But then this "something" started to remove downwards. When it flew away, it attracted all our attention. It looked like it was rotating. It was difficult to estimate its dimensions. If it was close or far away I could not say; it was in free sight, and in space it is difficult to estimate any size and distance. I can only say for sure that it was not very close, since I set the camera for infinity.

If it would have been just a screw or something close to us, it would have been out of focus. The object was quite far away. In any case at least 300 feet, since this was the distance of the space capsule, and I had the impression that it was beyond it.

It is possible that it was a kind of UFO. We can't say with any certainty what it was. It was definitely not a bigger piece of space junk, no rocket part or so, since this would have been located... the space surveillance, ours and the American, locate all bigger objects in space. They are followed, for every minute we know their position and flight direction. If such an object would have come so close to the MIR, they would have located it and informed us.

I don't think it was a piece of space junk or debris. There is a lot of that in the Earth orbit-Satellite parts, rocket parts, just everything—but our space surveillance locates them, and according to them there was nothing...

Cosmonaut Gennadij Strekhalov MIR mission, 1990

On the last two flights I saw something. During the flight of 1990, I called Gennadij Manakov, our commander: "Come to the porthole." Unfortunately, but this is typical, we did not manage to put a film in the camera quickly enough to film it. We looked on Newfoundland. The

atmosphere was completely clear. And suddenly a kind of sphere appeared. I want to compare it with a Christmas tree decoration, beautiful, shiny, glittering. I saw it for ten seconds.

The sphere appeared in the same way as it disappeared again. What it was, what size it had, I don't know. There was nothing I could compare it with. I was like struck by lightning by this phenomenon. It was a perfect sphere, glittering like a Christmas tree decoration. I reported to the Mission Control Center, but I did not say that I have seen a UFO, I said I saw a kind of unusual phenomenon. I had to be careful with the choice of my words. I don't want someone to speculate too much or quote me wrong.



Cosmonaut Gen. Pavel Romanowich Popovich Soviet Air Force

I had only one personal encounter with something unknown, something we could not explain. It was in 1978, when we flew from Washington to Moscow. We flew in an altitude of 30,600 feet. And suddenly, when I looked through the windshield I noticed something flying about 4,500 feet above us on a parallel course—a glowing white equilateral triangle resembling a sail. Since our speed was 600 mph, the triangle must have had a speed of at least 900 mph, since it overtook us.

I called the attention of all passengers and crew-members on it. We tried to find out what it was, but all attempts to identify it as something known ultimately failed. This object looked like a UFO, and it remained unidentified. It did not look like an airplane, since it was a perfect triangle. No airplane at that time had such a shape.

Col. Gen. Gennadij Reshetnikov, Head of the Gen. Zhukov High Command Academy of Air Defense, Tver

Yes, there were particularly mysterious occurrences during military practice. At times targets appeared, on which fighters in the air or radars set for anti-aircraft missiles trained themselves, but it was difficult to determine what they were exactly. There were situations when a target answered to the signal "I'm your plane" (we have such a system of inquiry.) Or the other way around, it wouldn't answer at all. It was considered incomprehensible.

Moreover, I'm aware of situations when, as planes which had been sent into the air were opening their side sites, they discovered a target. But when it reached the determined distance when the automatic weapons system which dispatched missiles should have operated, suddenly the system broke down. Everything disappeared, even the target.

Or maybe the plane warped through space to another position. They conducted another attack—again the same

result. There were such interesting and mysterious occurrences.

Now, when I find myself in the Army Institute of Higher Learning, I know that there were attempts at similar research. There were several definite scientifically-researched studies on ufological topics. But they didn't find a wide distribution for them. Judging, in essence, by the situation of things, I mean that they couldn't find any practical applications for the incorporation of the results of the scientifically-researched developments.

In this way, the problem of UFOs in the terminological sense, of how it figures into ufology, isn't followed in the affairs of the military right now. And it wasn't followed earlier. I want to emphasize, that if an unidentified target reveals itself in space, then it's displayed on our radars. Sometimes it happens that it's seen visibly. Sometimes signals are simply received from citizen eye-witnesses. Such information was also received from border posts after visual sightings, and from other sources, and we never throw it out. Verifications are absolutely conducted.

But I'm not able to say that this work is taken with a scientific approach. It's conducted within the framework of the administrative attitude towards this problem. In my opinion that's how things stand in the different branches of the Armed Forces.... We try to take into account the problem of UFOs. Quite a bit of interesting material has appeared, and it's perfectly obvious it needs to be studied in earnest, and that it's necessary to address this question on a governmental level.

Right now you are more and more inclined to believe that UFOs exist. But what stands behind this? The first you think of are extraterrestrial visitors.... A bit earlier, at the end of the 1970's and the start of the 1980's, I flew to the Arctic Circle, to the place where eye-witnesses had seen some kind of cigar-shaped apparatus with portholes. This was how the press in this area was describing it.

It happened in the region of Norilsk. The object was seen several times. Traces were discovered but no one conducted any kind of serious research there. When it became known to me, I flew there in a helicopter in order to examine the place; we even traveled out to the same place one more time, but we didn't succeed in noticing anything special.

Concerning the ascent of airplanes, in particular, when we were in the framework of the Soviet Union it's necessary to say that battle duties were kept up rigidly, and we sent up planes without all kinds of restrictions. Immediately upon my order, planes went up many, many times. For example, in those situations which I just recounted during my service.

Now we send up planes very deliberately on account of economic conditions. But I personally for many times have ordered aircraft to determine if something is a UFO or not—they were unidentified targets for us. Yes, there have been several cases in which they turned out to be mysterious, unknown targets on which the different detecting systems reacted, including our land, sea, and air-

space surveillance. Sometimes our weapon systems were activated because of them.

Maj. Gen. Vasily Alexeyev
Russian Air Force Space
Communications Center Moscow

If we are speaking about my military capacity, it was in the 1980s when I happened to be serving not in a regular unit, but in the central staff. Work in the central staff entails close links with the units in the field and a large amount of travelling. There were many reports from unit level regarding a large number of observations of unexplained phenomena.

You should bear in mind that at that time much was simply denied. The subject was to a large extent a closed one. On the ground, however, people wanted to find out what was what, to separate truth from fiction. In that period a lot of things were presented in such a way that you lost the desire to believe. Accordingly an attitude to the subject became established, where not only was there no desire to believe, it was even undesirable to believe.

Nevertheless the information coming in from the bases was of interest, if only because it was not merely talk and rumors; there were eye-witnesses to phenomena, and that was reflected in specific documents and the reports of officials. At times this information was of such a fascinating nature that it was impossible not to believe it. Later the question no longer seemed so fantastic and began to be examined at the level not only of the Defense Ministry, but of other government departments as well.

This interest specifically expressed itself in certain experts being sent to investigate, especially to those places where UFOs, let's call them that, appeared quite frequently. I know a whole number of military bases in that category. As a rule they are objects of strategic significance, rocket complexes, scientific test establishments, in other words the places where there is a high concentration of advanced science and, to some degree, danger.

Because every nuclear rocket, every new Air force installation represents a breakthrough, both in science and in military terms, it is first and foremost a peak, the summit of human achievement. And that is where UFOs appeared fairly often.

Moreover, individual officers and commanders on the spot who knew about the phenomenon and had no official instructions on the matter, acted on their own initiative to investigate UFOs, recording data, and so on. I know that in some places they even learned to create a situation which would deliberately provoke the appearance of a UFO. A UFO would appear where there was increased military activity connected, say, with the transportation of "special" loads.

It was enough to artificially stimulate or schedule such a move for a UFO to appear. In other words, some kind of conditional relationship emerged. And they detected it. We're an intelligent nation, nothing escapes us. I know that at certain testing ranges—I won't name them, although it's no longer a secret—they even learnt to make contact

of a kind. What did that consists of? First the UFO appeared; in most instances it was a sphere, but there were other kinds.

Contact was achieved with the help of physical indications of behavior—pointing your arms in various directions, say, and the sphere became flattened in the same direction. If you raised your arms three times, the UFO flattened out in a vertical direction three times as well. In the early 1980s, on the instructions of the then Soviet leadership, experiments using technical devices (theodolites, radar stations, and others) were carried out, as a result of which the unidentified objects were firmly recorded as instrumental data.

VU: Can you say on what level those researches took place? While studying the material from those observations and the contents of certain documents I formed the impression that the prime reason for circulars and orders on this matter in the armed forces was that they most likely considered UFOs a new sort of weapon belonging to some hostile country. Isn't that why orders were issued on the rigorous investigation and examination of the appearance and behavior of UFOs by all available ways and means? What was the nature of the recording, on instruments and in written documents, of the time of appearance, trajectory and other characteristics?

VA: I think that on the whole there were two reasons. First, a great deal of information of various kinds was coming in from all over. I know of a case when workers from one of the research establishments outside Moscow flew to Novosibirsk, I think it was to investigate an air crash. When they came back they wrote a report that they had had an encounter with a UFO that accompanied their plane in the air. Being sensible people and inclined to scientific analysis, they managed to share out their roles so that during the observation some watched and dictated, others sketched, a third group kept track of time. In that way the observation acquired a certain scientific grounding. It wasn't just a sighting, but a scientific team at work, carrying out a sort of real-time experiment.

Reports of UFO sightings came in regularly. And evidently somewhere nearer the core of our leadership in the sphere of the Defense Ministry, the Academy of Sciences and so on, a lot of this kind of information began to build up. And not only from ordinary laymen, but from scientists and professionals as well. Military men in general are not inclined to fantasize. They only report what they see, what actually occurs. They are people you can believe.

You should not forget that the arms race was still going on at this time, a struggle for military and other priorities. New discoveries in science and technology were being made all the time. The UFOs were something new and not understood. And there really was an idea that they might be some means of gathering intelligence.

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The 'greys' from the past

Fairy folk and aliens: a perspective

By Chris Aubeck

I have been very busy researching the way the UFO phenomenon emerges in folklore for what I hope will be a useful contribution to the field. After looking into this issue for many years there is no doubt in my mind that folklore and ufology overlapped in the first half of the twentieth century, and that this overlap is stronger than what many writers have shown so far.

A chapter of my book (*Return to Magonia*) discusses "the Greys" from a historical perspective. I take the following notes from there.

1) General physical descriptions of the fairy folk.

There are many instances in "fairy folklore" in which a strong physical resemblance existed between fairy entities and aliens.

Examples:

(a) "Like the bogle or the barguest, he often has very large eyes, as big as saucers, and his nose may be sometimes very small, hardly more than two nostrils." (Edwards) (19th/early 20th century sources in brackets—I can provide complete bibliographical references if anyone's interested)

(b) The fairy known as the *Glaistig* had grey skin. Her name, in fact, derives from Gaelic ("glas") and meant "grey." The *Banshi* also had skin the color of lead. (Campbell)

(c) There was even a color known as "elfin grey." (Spence)

(d) "their clothes were seamless, and it was impossible to say by merely looking at them whether they were male or female." (Spence)

2) Grey Men in 19th century abduction narratives

Grey-colored beings often featured in tales of fairy abduction (and let's not forget that the term "abduction" was itself used by folklorists generations before ufologists began to employ it. Thus we find, for example, nineteen page references under "Abduction of People" in the index of Evans-Wentz's *The Fairy Faith in Celtic Countries* (1911), etc).

Examples:

(a) "and there was not a man at all of them higher than about three feet and a half, and some of them were grey and seemed very odd." (Yeats)

(b) "five little creatures" a foot and a half high and "greyish in colour like fungus" (Briggs)

3) Close Encounters

The beings were very often referred to as "grey," either with grey skin or grey clothes.

Examples:

(a) After being enticed by "twinkling lights" a farmer meets "slim, unearthly creatures, about three feet in height, wearing grey, with red caps." (Miller)

(b) Ugly, stunted creatures wearing long grey cloaks. (Keightley)

4) Narratives concerning otherworldly babies given to mortals.

There was really no important difference between fairy changelings and the "hybrid babies" described in abduction accounts.

(a) The *Banshi* would tell the human foster mother that the child she held was not hers with the words "Grey is your child." The mother in one story replied in verse thus:

"Grey is the foliage, grey the flowers, And grey the axe that has a handle, And nought comes through the earth But has greyness in its nature." (Campbell)

(b) A changeling was known for its "wan and wrinkled appearance, its long fingers, and slightly bony development." (Spence)

"sallow skins... misshapen, peevish creatures" (Johnson)

"old-faced, big-headed" (Rieti) "sickly, fretful" would never cry (Simpson).

Compare Jacobs and his abductees on hybrid babies in *Secret Life*:

"... odd. They look kind of old... grayish... they don't look healthy... scrawny... not a lot of fat or muscle" (p.166-167)

"very large head for its body... its body is long and thin... Its hands and fingers are long and thin" "phlegmatic and sickly" (p.162) hybrids don't cry (p.163), etc.

5) Extraterrestrial origin of fairy folk

Something that is never mentioned in debates about the fairy-alien connection is the fact that fairies were sometimes believed to be from other planets. Thus we find, in books on folklore predating ufology by decades, comments like:

"[They] were only visitors to this world, and had no terrestrial habitations"

and

"The king of [the fairies]... his residence was in the stars"

or

"they are a big [in number] race who come from the planets"

In closing I'd just like to add that I treat these matters as a historian/folklorist, and have come to no personal opinion about UFO reality (or lack thereof). However, if it's the original grey man that's sought, the first reference to him in ufology is only the beginning of the story.

If it's true there's no 100% exact parallel of the "Grey" in pre-1900 folklore (and here we've just skimmed the surface), it's also true that it's not always easy to find two identical "greys" in modern abduction reports, either.

Considering the fact that we obtain most of the descriptions we have of them through hypnosis, often penetrating "screen memories" of animals and so forth, the correlations are quite impressive.



1005 Minnesota Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125

Dear Mr. Connelly:

I am a current MUFON member and recipient of the *UFO Journal*, which I read with interest.

I am now 62, but in the 1960's I worked in broadcast television. Beginning in 1957, I started work after high school with two stations in Virginia, and in 1960, after I moved to California, I obtained work with several TV stations locally, including KGO-TV, the ABC Owned and Operated station in San Francisco. At that time I was a member of the Production Department.

One of the station's new directors at that time was named Mel Swope, and knowing of my interest in UFOs, he invited me to produce a half-hour program on the subject. Since I knew of MUFON, I contacted Paul Cerny, who I believe at that time was the State Director for Northern California. He consented to appear on the program, which was then videotaped for later airing. (The program aired in late summer 1964.)

I wrote and produced the show—like one of today's themed talk shows, but I'm sorry I cannot recall the show name, which featured different topics each week.

At any rate, after the program, Paul gave me the enclosed 8" by 10" glossy black and white photo (this is a copy) of a UFO that he described on the air. He showed me several photos of the same craft, and in the other versions, the under gear appeared to be rotating.

Here is the data that I inscribed on the back of the photo after he gave it to me: "Picture taken by a Naval Officer aboard a U.S. Navy ship off Southern California in 1957. This is an enlargement. The device at the base of the UFO (landing gear?) - as shown in several other photos - had rotated around the craft." Paul gave no other explanation to me about the craft, but I am certain he had the sighting and the photos under investigation.

Although the photo I have is a reprint and an enlargement of the original, I doubt it was ever subjected to computer analysis, because the photo was taken during the 1950's, about 45 years ago. I also strongly doubt that the photo was computer generated, since that technology, as far as I know, did not exist then. I suppose another explanation might be possible, however.

I have read hundreds of books on UFOs and related aerial phenomena and have never seen this photo included in any book or other UFO source material.

Have you seen the photo before? If so, where? Do you think that if the photo were published in the *UFO Journal*, someone out there might be able to shed more light on it? The information I am giving you is to the best of my recollection, and Paul Cerny passed away a few years back, so I have no one else to turn to.

I am curious as to this sighting, and especially so because this was a military sighting. The photo shows a



The photo sent by Mr. Mattingley.

dark area beneath the craft, in apparent shadow, but the top is in apparent sunlight. Because the craft is unfortunately shrouded in darkness, few other details are capable of being identified. I do wish I had been able to obtain the other photos which were in Paul's possession, because they definitely showed the rotation of the under gear.

I would appreciate your response when you have the time. Keep up the good work. I think if you were to ask the membership if they have access to UFO photos taken prior to the mid-Seventies, you may get some. I am not a computer generation expert, but I think those photos (taken prior to 1975) would preclude faking, as long as the source was identified as competent.

My email address is: eagle22@pacbell.net
My phone is 408-938-0988, days/eves.

—Woods Mattingley

WUFOD login & password for MUFON members

WUFOD is MUFON's Worldwide UFO database, linked to the MUFON home page. URL for WUFOD is: <http://ohiomufon.services4all.com>
login (where it says Name) is: member
password is: !member!

Remember, the login is the word "member," NOT your name! Both login and password must be typed in lower case to enter WUFOD.

Print out the user guide once you log in and read it for best use of the database.

Logins and passwords for investigators will be given them by their State Directors. All Field Investigators should be getting email from WUFOD when a case is entered in your state. If you aren't, please contact the WUFOD administrator at: geekology@worldnet.att.net



Filer's Files

By George A. Filer
Director, MUFON Eastern Region

Unless otherwise noted, these reports represent raw data which has not been verified by official investigations.

Visiting Roswell

I recently spoke at the Roswell Museum and had a wonderful time meeting the staff and volunteers who work there. I encourage everyone to visit the museum, which has had over a million visitors. The exhibits, library, and gift shop are outstanding. Everyone was gracious and friendly and made me feel at home. The museum has wonderful displays and exhibits that need to be seen by everyone.

The on-going research into Roswell appears to be gaining ground with new witnesses coming in regularly. I also was able to visit the Foster Ranch crash site. Although, I searched the field for several hours, I was unable to find any crash debris in the rocky ground filled with various holes of animals such as prairie dogs. There are a million hiding places for small bits of metal. It was a warm day, but surprisingly cold on the field. I had the feeling that there must be some metal left, and that underground radar may be able to detect its presence.

It would cost about \$20,000 to have an underground survey of the site. A tax exempt donation to pay for the survey of the debris site might be able to find the answer once and for all? Contact <http://www.filersfiles.com>.

Portals reported on Oklahoma object

GRAND LAKE — Jean Seifried wrote that on April 27, 2002, about 10:45 PM, "I received a call from Mr. X, one of my UFO watchers. He was out at Grand Lake O'The Cherokee, OK, watching a UFO for about two hours searching the coastline. It was a round object hovering just above the shoreline and about 100 feet inland three miles south of Sail Boat Bridge.

"The UFO appeared to have a row of round portals around the outer edge, each spaced maybe ten feet apart, but they were not lit up, although they may have been some objects or equipment, rather than portals. The UFO had a red bottom and a blue top, a possible reflection of the red and blue lights revolving around it.

"He was observing from a high hill overlooking a large horse-shoe-shaped cove on the lake, and the UFO was below him. He watched balls of light leave from a hole that opened in the top. They zigzagged back and forth along the edge of the water in large 100 feet or more,

zigzags, like they were looking for something in a military search pattern. The larger UFO followed and then moved 500 feet back from the shore, and when it got to the eastern point of the cove it moved toward over the balls of light. He yelled, 'Hold it! It's coming in to pick them up. There they go into the thing from the bottom, up into it. Oh, oh. It's leaving. It's going up, straight up, fast!'

"There was a big flash from the bottom of the craft just before it began to rise up, 'like maybe it was revving up for the ascent.' By this time my husband Richard and I, in Eureka Springs, Ar, had reached the front of our porch to look. Mr. X said, 'Look just to the left of the big dipper. It's almost gone.'

"We were looking, but at first we saw nothing in the clear sky. Suddenly we saw a slow but short 'strobe-quality' flash just a bit larger than the largest planets. Then ten seconds later another one higher and further north than the first one. Then six seconds later, another one, until we saw five in all, moving north and up to the left side of the dipper.

"Mr. X was exclaiming something with each blink, just as we were. We were obviously watching the same thing from perhaps a hundred miles distance. The light was definitely not an aircraft light, and was brilliant and irregular in timing of the flashes, each one becoming a bit dimmer than the last. Richard saw it as less than brilliant white, more cream color light. But clearly we all were watching the same thing." Thanks to Jean & Richard Seifried, seifried@ipa.net, Eureka Springs, AR 72632

Mutilations & lights in Argentina

SALLIQUELO — A few days ago strange lights appeared in the night skies over Salliquelló, Province of Buenos Aires, and in the morning cattle ranchers of the area found three mutilated bovines showing signs of having undergone a surgical intervention with unusual implements. A veterinarian told local media that the incisions "are strange ones in which some sort of heating element appears to have been used."

The news was broadcast at the national level on Saturday through Cronica TV, which took images from the local cable access channel, showing images of the animals and a technician named Daniel, who analyzed one of the cases, providing details on the strange event.

According to the televised report, the animals were found by the owners of rural premises near Salliquello, a small city located some 80 miles east of the Pampan locality of Anchorena, after "strange lights" were reported in the sky. The bovine deaths were attested to by police.

A veterinarian inspected the abnormal carcasses, "They present strange cuts, as though resulting from an intense



George Filer

heat source. The skin is burned along the edges of the cuts, and the absence of blood in veins, muscles and ligaments is simply desiccated." He said, "It's as though you were cutting a piece of paper with a hot wire—the edges become dry, scorched and thinner. Furthermore, all traces of blood vanished. We only found some coagulated remains in the heart."

Daniel told the Saliquello TV that unusual cuts can be seen in the animals' bodies and heads. "One of them shows a perfectly straight cut on one mandible. Furthermore, its tongue is missing along with most of the alimentary tract, larynx, pharynx and saliva glands. The outer ear is completely missing. Another curious incision appears on the body (ribs and abdomen) which is teardrop-shaped through which genitalia was extracted," he explained.

"It is a strange circumstance since there are no signs that the animal put up a fight, nor is there any evidence of scorched pastureland. I'm not saying that this is the handiwork of alien beings, but it's a strange circumstance nonetheless. Even the other animals refuse to come close to the dead ones, and curiosity is a characteristic element of bovines," he concluded.

Intense bright lights were filmed over Argentina on April 18, 2002, by Ricardo d'angelo. Thanks to *Diario La Arena* (La Pampa, Argentina) April 29, Translation (C) 2002. Institute of Hispanic Ufology. Special thanks to Gloria Coluchi. communities.latam.msn.com/glaucoart/intensaesferaovnivedsobrepalermoyaledaos18402.msnw

Object passes over auto in Colorado

SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS — Anne Miller of the *Star Beacon* reports that a young woman in her 20s, whose parents she knows, "told me about a dramatic April 4, 2002, UFO sighting in Southern Colorado. The woman and her boyfriend were driving home from Durango to Pagosa Springs at 9:45 PM, when they saw a gigantic ball of light over the San Juan Mountains near Chimney Rock.

"The woman said it was terribly bright, and difficult to watch for very long. It stayed in one spot for five minutes and appeared to be a huge disc with an incredibly bright light. The woman said, 'We thought it was really big—at least the size of a football field, twice as large as a full moon and was many times larger than a normal airplane. Other car lights were coming at us, and as soon as we saw headlights the UFO would turn into something like a plane's blinking lights.'

"She said, 'It was as though the UFO were trying to disguise itself, and the strange thing was no car ever passed us on the highway, and we never saw what happened to the cars. We felt like we were on the highway by ourselves. We watched for 10 to 15 minutes but we didn't pull over and just continued driving.

"We both kept getting surges of weird energy, that were like huge rushes the whole time we saw it,' she said. 'We felt really weird since it was so powerful and I was almost crying. The UFO was kind of greenish-blue with red lights on it,' the woman added. 'There were little ships hovering above and below it. The object approached

and flew right over our car and I could see hundreds and hundreds of windows on it,' said the woman. 'Then it just moved on, and we didn't see it anymore.'

"The next day she called her parents and told them about the sighting. I asked if there had been any missing time, but she said no, they got home at the time they expected. However, there was one incident worth mentioning. The woman had been pregnant, and just a few days after the sighting she experienced a miscarriage. Whether the miscarriage was due to the energy surges during the sighting or something completely unrelated is not known." Thanks to Anne Miller Editor/Publisher Earth Star Publications: Home of *The Star Beacon* (May 2002 issue) <http://www.earthstarpublications.com> ulrichac@tds.net

Flying triangle in California

BAKERSFIELD — On March 29, 2002, two witnesses reported seeing a flying triangle at 9:30 PM, with three bright lights on the front. The is the second witness' report: "My boyfriend and I were driving south on I5 when he saw a bright light in the air. We drove south towards the light and saw this object that had three very bright lights on the front.

"The craft was diamond shaped and dark gray color with a red light. It would make very sharp turns that no airplane I have ever seen could have made. It hovered on the north bound side of the freeway, and then floated down the side of the freeway, went over a field, and turned very sharply. I thought the object was trying to land. It looked like it was having troubles.

"The belly of the craft had creases where it was put together. After leaving the area a highway patrolman was seen going at least 100 mph northbound towards the object. Many people saw this object on the Easter weekend. We weren't driving fast, maybe 55 mph, and traffic was bumper to bumper, so there were many witnesses." Thanks to NUFORC.

Object speeds and stops in New Mexico

ALAMOGORDO — On April 24, 2002, the witness was east of Florida Ave., north of Indian Wells, in the extreme northeast portion of the city at dusk, with the sun setting above the outline of the Sacramento Mountains to the east. The witness was sitting on her porch facing east, and she suddenly observed a light over the mountains. The light was about the size of a nickel held a foot in front of her face.

She watched the light for several minutes, and the light would ascend above the outline of the mountains and then descend below the outline of the mountains. It also exhibited lateral movement in that it would travel in a north-south direction, sometimes behind the mountain outline and at other times above the mountain line.

Horizontal motion was very rapid in that the object went from one extreme to the other in about a second. Witness was four to five miles from mountain peaks and horizontal distance travel was about one-half to three-quarters of a mile. The sighting ended when the object sud-

denly rose and "blinked" out of sight. Thanks to Wayne Mattson. Note: Investigation will follow.

Strange police report in Indiana

NEW ALBANY — Kathleen Keith reports that on May 11, 2002, she was listening to a police scanner "up north" (still in Indiana) and heard that a UFO had come down and landed on the road and blew someone's car(?) or person(?) right off the road. That was all they heard. Later they checked out the news broadcasts and the papers, and there was no mention of it. "You would think that if it came down on the road there would be a lot of people who would have seen it," says Kathleen.

Large triangular object in Illinois

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE - K. Chadwick reports that on Monday, April 29, "My daughter and I were traveling up towards St. Louis on I-57. About 10 P.M. we spotted a bright light north of us that behaved strangely, then seemed to hover, which we lost from our line of sight. About an hour later, south of St. Louis on I-64 (north) we saw what looked like the same light (brighter than the brightest star) again, and my daughter was looking right at it, perfect visibility, as it disappeared.

"We pulled off the interstate just past the Scott AFB exit and saw 3 craft very low to the ground, moving extremely slowly. They appeared to have 3 big lights at the front of the craft. As we came to a stop in a gas station lot, we got out and looked up at a triangular craft (not raked-winged, perfectly triangular), approximately the size of a basketball held at arm's length. Its shape was very well outlined by the starry sky, and it was totally stopped directly overhead.

"We heard what appeared to be jet aircraft sounds, although not as loud as you would expect by its proximity. I can't help but think all these sightings are related, and wonder who are piloting these craft, which we know nothing about, in our skies." Thanks to Chadwick, qualitywalls@webtv.net

Mystery disk over Colorado airport

TELLURIDE — On May 3, 2002, a large disc-shaped craft with a dome on top was seen hovering over Telluride Airport. The craft was as large as a 747 jet aircraft. At 3 A.M. locals there reported that supplies were arriving at the airport by transport and going up the highway by transport under heavy security. Black helicopters also flew in the area.

He surmises that this was an ongoing supply operation for a base nearby, most likely Idarado Mine. He said that that mine was purchased before public listing was made available, "off the market" several years ago by someone connected to Ford Motor Co.

Idarado Mine reportedly has 360 miles of tunnels under a mountain ridge with a western entrance located about 2 miles east of Telluride, and the eastern portal about 11 miles south of Ouray. The Idarado mines and mill operated until 1978. Thanks to Christopher O'Brian, author of *Enter the Valley*.

Daylight sighting in Canada

OTTAWA, ONTARIO — Brian Vike reports that on Saturday April 17, 2002, on Montreal Road in Vanier, across from a graveyard, there was a daylight sighting of a UFO. The witness reports, "I work in a convent as a chef and I am the only smoker in the building, and I have to go outside. I was on my lunch break 12:30 P.M. when I saw what looked like a small airplane coming from the northeast. As it got closer, I noticed that it was oval shaped and changing color from black to silver. The sighting lasted for about a minute and disappeared behind a large cloud.

"The size of the craft was about 25 to 30 feet long and about 15 to 20 feet wide at the front. The craft was black and silver and rocking side to side at about 300 feet high as it changed color. It flew behind a cloud and disappeared." Thanks to Brian Vike

UFO activity in Cuba

HAVANA—Mike Bird, reporting on his recent trip, says, "An intense wave of UFO activity has taken place in Cuba in recent years." Havana-based researchers have made a series of documentaries and books. He was able to interview five UFO researchers, the oldest a 70-year-old retired physics professor who had his own sighting in 1954, and the youngest about 30 years old.

They had never been in contact with North American researchers, and gave Bird a 300-page book entitled *Signos*, about the rich history of UFO activity in Cuba. The Cuban military has blamed UFOs on US aircraft used for reconnaissance.

A Cuban farmer, Adolfo Zarate, saw a UFO land 60 meters away in a rainstorm. He reports, "A being that looked human wearing a gas mask and dressed in camouflaged clothes climbed down a ladder that lowered out of the camouflaged grass-colored UFO. The pilot got down and inspected the craft. He spoke to someone in the cockpit. I think he was collecting some rice shoots or ripping out a 'malanga' (coco-yam) plant.

"After the being climbed up a ladder, the UFO flew off in a burst of blue fire. The only thing I felt was the pressure of the air expelled through its exhaust. The craft was the size of a touring machine. There were no wings or propellers and it made no sound. It looked like a flattened egg or a turtle that landed on two legs, like shock absorbers.

"To me, the device had skates, because it left its wheels well marked. The being's face could not be seen, but he resembled a normal man. I didn't notice him bearing arms," he told the Sunday newspaper *Juventud Rebelde de Cuba*. Thanks to Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology, and Yohanan Diaz Translation (C)

First UK crop circle reported

The first formation of the year has been reported at Soberton, Hampshire, England, found April 12. A simple 60-foot circle/ring in canola, with two small standing circles in the ring is a humble beginning to another season.

<http://://cropcircleconnector.com/2002/soberton2002a/soberton2002a.html>

Close encounters:

The meaning we bring with us

By Craig R. Lang MS CHt

The close encounter can be either a terrifying experience or a wonderful event. For many, it is a time when one is confronted, overpowered, and taken against one's will by unexplainable, unearthly beings for reasons that the individual cannot hope to comprehend. It is a dark and sinister force in the world of the experiencer.

But the close encounter can also be a moment of contact with a power greater than one's self. It can be a time of communion and enlightenment—a chance to meet face to face with a wonderful source of light in our universe.

Some see the encounter phenomenon as dark, and some as light. Yet, in most cases, the events described in encounters are quite similar. So what makes the difference? Could the emotional nature of the experience be affected by our own consciousness? Does this show that our perceptual filters profoundly affect the good/evil-ness of the phenomenon? Can we, using a healing modality such as hypnotherapy, resolve the good-evil polarity that often comes with close encounter experiences?

In this article, we will look at some cases which show that the phenomenon has both positive and negative elements—a mixed bag that seems to defy the good-evil duality.

These cases are taken from my own case files with names and key details altered to protect the anonymity of the experiencers. They are representative of those which I have studied, and which fill researchers' files. In these, we can see that the experiencer's consciousness can do a lot to frame the reality of an encounter, for good or ill.

"Evelyn"—Managing the fear

One case which most graphically illustrates fear resulting from the phenomenon is that of an experiencer I will call "Evelyn." Evelyn has had many close encounters—both physical and metaphysical in nature. When I first interviewed her, an extensive chronology of events emerged—along with a deep sense of fear.

As she described her many experiences, the fear seemed to grow until it became an almost-physical presence in the room. Its effects on her life were causing her difficulty. She found herself becoming anxious at times when she was alone in the house, and at other times which reminded her of the UFO topic.

Our initial field investigation had occurred before I had begun my study of hypnosis. Some time later when I had become certified as a hypnotherapist, we arranged a session. As we began the first hypnotic work, the fear again showed itself with its full brutal force. I could only admire her courage as she, despite a look of terror on her face, told me she still wanted to continue with her regression.

About the Author

Craig R. Lang is a Certified Hypnotherapist with the National Guild of Hypnotists, and is a Field Investigator with MUFON. He resides and has his hypnotherapy practice in Minneapolis, MN. He conducts UFO and close encounter research in the Twin Cities area and in surrounding areas within Minnesota and Wisconsin. He can be reached by e-mail at crilang@mm.com.

The Minnesota MUFON website can be reached at www.visi.com/~jhenry.

Evelyn wanted to get to the bottom of her experiences, to put them to rest once and for all. We decided that in the next session, we would try to manage the fear she felt, and then continue on with regression work.

Parts and the fabric of the mind

The human mind can be thought of as being made up of a large number of parts (also referred to as ego states). Each is built around thought complexes, feelings, memories, ideas, etc.—and together they interweave to form the fabric of consciousness. At times, however, individual parts can behave independently, and sometimes can even come into conflict with one another.

During deep hypnosis, parts can be addressed individually, and issues between them can be resolved. In this case, once Evelyn was in a deep hypnotic trance, an inner child aspect of her mind-scape came forward which had learned from childhood religious schooling that the unknown was evil—a thing to be feared. This part had done its job well. Whenever Evelyn would have significant thoughts or memories related to the UFO phenomenon, this part would inject fear into her awareness.

Conversely, with Evelyn still in deep trance, another part of her mind emerged which was inquisitive and deeply spiritual, and which very much wanted to explore her experiences.

Having built a rapport with both parts, it was now possible to address the concerns of the "Fear" part, fostering an agreement between it and the "Spiritual Explorer." Once a deal was struck, as long as both parts kept their end of it, the fear should no longer be an issue. Both parts agreed, and Evelyn felt them merge back into the overall tapestry of her mind—and I eagerly waited to see the results.

It worked—even better than I had hoped. The fear that had plagued Evelyn for so long quickly abated. In subsequent sessions, she was able to explore her experiences extensively. What had seemed like a dark scenario could now be looked at much more objectively. As with any aspect of life, there were both positive and negative elements to her encounters. But from now on the phenomenon would be objective and manageable to her, yet would still be a deeply meaningful part of her life.

“Mark” and “Terry”—a frightening night drive

Another case with profound implications for the emotional understanding of UFO encounters involved two teenagers whom I will call “Mark” and “Terry.” Part of a middle class rural family, they were ordinary kids who were about to have an extraordinary evening.

They were driving through the countryside some time after sunset, heading home after a day in a nearby city. Mark suddenly pointed out a distant light in the sky. It seemed to just hover there, far ahead of their car. As they watched, it slowly descended toward the highway. Then a turn in the road hid it from their view.

When they next saw the object it was huge, and it was close. It seemed to hover just above the treeline to the right of the highway. Both of them were frightened. Terry, who was driving, floored the gas pedal, and they sped off down the highway toward home. As they did, Mark observed that the object seemed to be following them, always just over the treeline to their right and slowly descending.

They were now in a state of near panic as they passed a clearing, which they observed to be brightly lit. Eventually they reached a small town close to their home, and the object was lost to view. A few moments later the two visibly shaken teens pulled into the driveway of their home.

I learned of this case from a friend who lived in the region, who had talked with Mark and Terry a few days after their sighting. She had notified our state MUFON team. I then contacted the witnesses and interviewed them.

As I investigated, it became apparent that the object resembled a type of small aircraft, but as seen under unusual conditions. The route which the car had traveled passed near a small airport, which was out of sight of the highway. The object’s path, description, and geometry at each stage of the sighting corresponded closely to an aircraft on approach to the landing strip. (Note: As with most UFO sighting cases, one can never say with absolute certainty what had occurred, but this was our best hypothesis).

In most sighting cases this might have been the end of it. However, one interesting aspect of this case was the fear that the witnesses described as they observed the object. As I interviewed the family, it turned out that their history contained many suggestions of possible close encounter events. The witnesses and several other family members described events and perceptions similar to those which fill books by Budd Hopkins, David Jacobs, Whitley Strieber, etc. It appeared that this case might be more than just a single “misidentified airplane” sighting—perhaps a lot more.

One thing that investigators routinely ask sighting witnesses is how much they had read or heard about the phenomenon. In this case, the family members had had very little exposure to information about UFO’s or close encounters. However, what they had learned was largely from a televangelist, who taught that the UFO phenomenon was demonic.

Could this continuous exposure, both to the phenom-

enon itself and to the admonitions that it was evil, have combined to generate a fear scenario in their minds?

“Jim”—positive on the surface, dark beneath

One group of nearly identical experiencer cases can be characterized by the story of someone I will call “Jim,” who has had unexplained experiences since childhood. As far back as his memory goes he had been accompanied by a friendly little “cartoon character” companion. This friend would appear to him at irregular intervals, playing, telling him stories, and taking him away on wonderful adventures. Jim often found his little friend to be a welcome refuge from a challenging world.

As Jim grew up, his cartoon companion seemed to disappear, to be replaced by other events which left him with a deepening sense of mystery. However, his overall view of his encounters was generally positive. He enjoyed life, and said that he also enjoyed his interaction with the phenomenon.

I have noted that sometimes, just as when excess fear is involved, an overly optimistic view of the phenomenon may suggest that all is not as it seems. Jim’s experiences were no exception. At several points while describing his “fun” experiences to me, he broke into tears—not tears of joy. Could his “cartoon friend” have been just one side of a polarity? Was there a darker side to his experiences as well?

At Jim’s request we began hypnotic sessions. In deep trance he began to examine his “cartoon friend.” The first “crack in the wall” for him was that his friend had large black eyes. This, along with other factors, seemed to suggest some type of screen memory. He continued on to describe his companion as a small two-legged creature, about four feet tall, with no hair, a big head, and big black eyes, a classic “small gray.” His fun and companionship now seemed to have become a classic alien encounter.

As we continued, he recounted a lifetime of abductions, very similar to what Evelyn and many other experiencers have described, and which permeate the UFO literature. His description of them initially had a very dark, frightening tone to it. However, as he continued to describe his encounters—and to examine the world view through which he saw them—Jim increasingly spoke in more objective terms.

His polarity of feelings—the joy of his “companion” versus the darker tone of his encounters—was steadily changing into an increased understanding and resolution, losing the innocence of his “cartoon character” friend, but healing the pain beneath. The phenomenon was increasingly beginning to fit into his life in a more manageable way.

Conclusion

In these cases—and in many more which fill my files and the files of other researchers—we see that the experience (both positive and negative) of the phenomenon tends to be greatly affected by one’s world view. If these factors are extreme in one way or another, they can increase the polarity with which the experiencer views an encounter. However, as one better understands one’s own perceptual filters this polarity can heal and one can

deal with the phenomenon more objectively—on a more level playing field.

Is the phenomenon physical, metaphysical, or (para)psychological? I believe that we do not yet know—nor do we understand its motivations. It is not clear whether the intelligence behind it means us good or ill, or if it even has a specific intent.

What we do learn from working with experiencers is that close encounters can be either positive or negative, or sometimes both—a mixed bag of trauma and growth. Perhaps, rather than simply being good or evil, close encounters might be subject to a scale that, like the rest of the phenomenon, we do not yet understand.

Endnotes:

1. Watkins & Watkins *Ego States, Theory and Therapy*
2. Hunter, *The Art of Hypnotherapy*
3. Bryant and Seebach, *Healing Shattered Reality*
4. David Jacobs, *The Threat*
5. John Mack, *Passport to the Cosmos*

Government disclosure candidate seeking support in Maryland

A political candidate whose primary thrust involves forcing the government to disclose what it knows about UFOs and ETs is attempting to get on the ballot in Maryland's 8th Congressional District, according to Larry W. Bryant, Director of Governmental Affairs for MUFON.

Stephen Bassett, who has been active in such areas as the Disclosure Project, Dr. John Mack's PEER program, and the Missouri Ballot Initiative, needs 4,000 signed petitions to get on the ballot, says Bryant.

Basset's campaign platform also includes a ban on space weapons, more privacy for citizens, an end to the CIA's In-Q-Tel, joining the Mine Ban Treaty, reforming the IRS, and ending discrimination in the military. Details are available at <http://www.disclosure2003.net>



Stephen Bassett

MUFON 2001 Proceedings available

The *MUFON 2001 International UFO Proceedings*, featuring Symposium papers by Dr. Robert Wood, Stanton Friedman, Dr. Eric Davis, Daniel Sheehan, Steven Greer, Dr. Barry Downing, Budd Hopkins, Ryan Wood, Dr. John Mack, Bob Pratt, Dr. Roger Leir, and Ann Druffel is available from MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369. The 8x11 216-page softback book is \$25.00 plus \$2.50 postage & handling.

Dr. John Mack's websites change; PEER website signs off

Will Bueche, Communications Advisor, Center for Psychology & Social Change, has announced some changes to Dr. John Mack's websites. "The Program for Extraordinary Experience (PEER) website is being retired," says Bueche. "We would like to redirect you to two alternative sites that preserve much of the material:

<http://www.centerchange.org/peer>

"This site presents a selection of articles about extraordinary experiences by Dr. Mack and friends. The main page is updated regularly with essays on a wider range of topics; any new material by Dr. Mack will appear here first.

<http://www.passporttothecosmos.com>

"This is actually a redirection to www.centerchange.org/passport

"This site presents some of the best interviews and writings by and about Dr. Mack, as well as some audio clips and some of the promotional material that was created for his 1999 book; and other odds & ends. This site is also being mirrored at

www.beyondcommunion.com/johnmack

"As the Passport to the Cosmos site is based on the original promo site created for his 1999 book, it is more splashy than Dr. Mack would personally like. His official outlet is the first site, which is more conservative in appearance.

"In case you are wondering about the future of Dr. Mack's interest in the subject of alien encounters," Bueche notes, "Dr. Mack has remarked that *Passport to the Cosmos*, his second book on alien encounters, is his final word on the subject, or at least it is the last book he will devote in full to it. He is working on a new book about cultural transformation which may touch upon the transformational themes that were his primary interest in his work with experiencers, but this book will be aimed at a broader audience."

Bueche adds that Dr. Mack "recently returned to his anti-war roots by contributing a chapter to a book on terrorism (as yet untitled, release to be announced). Dr. Mack expects he will be making fewer public appearances, favoring events that bring together a wide range of speakers from different fields.

"These changes should not be viewed as turning away from the UFO community, but rather as a continuation of his effort to bring the subject of 'what we can learn about ourselves from extraordinary experiences' to the greater public.

"On that note, we have heard that the 90-minute film about Dr. Mack and experiencers, 'Touched,' is within 3 months of completion, and the filmmaker is seeking interest from networks; the site is www.blinddogfilms.com.

"PEER itself has been largely inactive for the past year, though we have continued to assist the media, as efforts have shifted towards the new Institute for Psychological & Spiritual Development; the closing of the PEER website reflects this shift in focus and resources."



View from Britain

By Jenny Randles

UFOlogy in disguise?

Britain is currently awash with debate concerning the manner with which the MoD (Ministry of Defence) investigated UFOs during the 1950s and 1960s. Our archaic secrecy laws have long ensured that information on this was barely ever conveyed to the public—even via the PRO (Public Record Office) in Kew, London, where official documents available to public scrutiny are to be housed.

Only a few scattered documents, such as letters from the public or reports about RAF pilot sightings during a flap that bedeviled a NATO exercise (Operation Mainbrace), have come to light. Indeed the MoD had long argued that they had destroyed all relevant early information about UFOs—such as working party reports and investigations into major cases.

Many suspected otherwise, and two men set out to prove it. The two long-term UFO researchers, Andy Roberts and David Clarke, began a project 18 months ago to try to coerce the MoD into releasing their documents. They did this partly by setting themselves up not as UFO buffs, but as “social historians,” and citing their record at explaining away many cases—no doubt as a means to persuade the powers that be that they could be trusted. David also has a doctorate in folklore—plus funding to aid the often lengthy quest for information—and this has worked wonders in getting through to the people that matter.

Documents flowed out, including some once denied. And through what is unquestionably a highly skilful investigation, following many leads and clues, they traced others that nobody suspected to exist, finding many ex-MoD and RAF big-wigs willing to tell their story directly to the two UFOlogists (even if they were not now calling themselves UFOlogists!).

Andy and Dave then set off to write a book on all of this called *Out of the Shadows* (Piatkus, London, May 2002). It has created considerable media interest, with a radio documentary aired in April based on their interviews with RAF personnel, and with a Discovery Channel TV documentary in the can set for transmission—not to mention the serialisation of their book in Britain’s biggest selling daily newspaper, the *Daily Mail*.

Yet in pre-publicity they are characterized as outsiders investigating our field, and not as rational insiders who have something pertinent to say. This is no doubt a valu-



Jenny Randles

able PR ploy’ so as to ensure that those who normally consider UFO enthusiasts to be crackpots will at least hear what these chaps have to say. But it is proving a little galling for some UK UFOlogists.

In my view it is perfectly legitimate to term the research that these two UFOlogists have carried out “social history,” since it tells the story of how society in Britain during the Cold War era dealt with the problem of UFOs. One might properly call it good marketing.

Indeed I must admit that I have toyed with the concept of reinventing UFOlogy in disguise to get away from the bad image that it often has. When Andy, Dave, myself, and several other British UFOlogists launched a net-based UFO forum three years ago we considered junking the name “UFO” altogether for this.

Rather tongue in cheek I suggested that we tell the public that we were investigating “scientific anomalies” and were called “Scientific Anomaly Network Enquiries”—or SANE. Someone then pointed out that they did not fancy telling a journalist, who asked what group they belonged to, “Actually, I am in Sane,” although I rather liked the PR possibilities that this might bring!

Still, in the end, we reverted to the sedate title UFOIN (UFO Investigators Network), although I suspect it is only a matter of time before some researchers wise up to the advantages of not coming across as UFOlogists, because not doing so offers a means to reach a broader audience.

Credit

Possibly the success that Andy and Dave have had with this approach is one reason why some resentment seems to be simmering in British UFOlogy. A few other UFOlogists have adopted the same documents (although not, as far as I can see, Andy and Dave’s superb list of interviewees that do by far the most to transform these papers into real social history). This information has appeared at conferences and in the UFO literature during recent weeks—not always, Roberts and Clarke believe, with proper credit given to their efforts. And, I suspect, they are correct.

Something of an acrimonious battle has grown up—fighting over who should get the respect due for doing this research. But if there is an award for services to UFOlogy over the past year, then Andy Roberts and Dave Clarke surely deserve to win it hands down on the basis of all that they have added to our knowledge.

I must admit, though, to a bit of a wry smile when reading their chapter on the Lakenheath/Bentwaters (1956) case. There is no question that they present a cogent and extremely detailed account that is packed with new information that they have personally secured. Nor is there any doubt that they have tracked down and interviewed many of the key players in this story, making their

record of it easily the most comprehensive and important to ever appear in print. However, it is not always made very clear how this case was investigated by other members of the UFO community before them.

There are one or two credits I feel are lacking here that do not make the final edit. Let me emphasize that I do not say this to demean their contribution in any way. Very far from it. They have pursued this case exceptionally well, and rightly quote from their own direct interviews as primary sources. But the mode of presentation at times shows that the ideal of giving credit where credit is due is not always as straightforward as it may seem.

The sad thing is that this ongoing argument about credit will distract attention away from the importance of the information that is being published by them—not to mention the huge questions that it poses about official government handling of UFOs. It is an interesting side debate. But there are far more important issues to arise from this research.

When is a skeptic not a skeptic?

One of the big arguments raised against these two researchers (be they UFOlogists or social historians!) is that they have a debunking style that seeks to reduce cases to misperceptions or hoaxes. They certainly do look for answers—something I can vouch for, having known them both for many years. And they do not pull any punches in doing so, exposing deception or sloppiness whenever they see it in a manner that you either find refreshing or you detest. In fact your perception may depend on whether you have ever been on the end of their wrath (nearly always with good reason I should add).

However, what I think is often misunderstood about Andy Roberts and Dave Clarke is that they are skeptics in a pure sense, rather than debunkers. Whilst neither seem convinced that UFOs in any traditional form do exist—if indeed anything beyond misperceptions is involved at all—they are not embittered champions of an effort to destroy UFOlogy.

They say—and I believe them—that they would publish (and be delighted to publish) the facts of any case truly seen to be unexplained after investigation. And they have indeed admitted from time to time that cases do still mystify them. This is not the hallmark of a debunker.

Out of the Shadows

Out of the Shadows is sure to be the talk of UFOlogy over summer 2002 (at least in the UK). And rightly so. This is not the place for a book review, but having read a proof copy of the MS I can add some thoughts that may surprise. This is indeed a fascinating account of how and why the British government got interested in UFOs and the mess they often made of the job. But it reveals not a few new cases exposed by the documents and interviews with prominent figures that these authors have directly uncovered.

And some of those cases are ones that the authors freely admit that they cannot explain. I doubt most of their critics were expecting that. This includes what may be the earliest unexplained incident in the UK records, dating from 28 November 1942.

It involves the entire crew of an aircraft from Syerston in Lincolnshire that was flying over the Alps. Twice during a period of 45 minutes they saw an object trailing their plane that was long, tubular and had rows of red lights on the side. What is more, the captain said he had seen a similar object three months earlier. And this one was on the ground as his aircraft passed over Holland near Amsterdam.

To the no doubt surprise of many (but not of myself) the authors point out that none of the obvious explanations for such an incident (such as a fireball meteor) fit this case. And it is not the only occasion that they demonstrate proper objectivity. This book is packed with good sense analysis of what is often previously untold information.

But to me perhaps the overriding thing that emerges from this unquestionably important work is the consequence of it being presented almost as if it is written by outsiders who are analysing the foibles of UFOlogy. I have no doubt that this will suit the needs of Andy, Dave and their book. It will gain them recognition for the important data that they are publishing that those presenting overtly as UFOlogists would never get.

And they will reach an audience that can embrace them as objective outsiders, when much of this audience would probably regard UFOlogists as anything but objective. However, this raises interesting questions for our future as a subject. Should we all, as a community, be willing to masquerade as something other than UFOlogists in order to play the political games unfortunately necessary in this modern world?

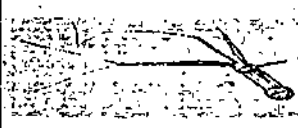
A degree of respect?

Whilst I am not ashamed to call myself a UFOlogist, I do know (and have often seen in action) how someone who calls himself "Doctor" (even when that credential is in some instances rather dubious) gets a credible hearing from the public merely because that appellation creates an impression of sobriety and greater knowledge.

Would a scientist who is also a UFOlogist be advised to present himself or herself in public as a scientist who tries to keep an eye on those pesky UFO buffs, rather than as a UFOlogist who attempts to use science during investigations? And would many of us stand a better chance of being listened to if we presented ourselves as cautious, objective, even skeptical outsiders aware of, and even critical of, the mistakes of those rather silly UFOlogists? It is an issue we may all have to face.

Unfortunately, in an age where presentation counts I suspect Roberts and Clarke knew what they were doing here and were not ill advised to minimise their status as UFOlogists and maximise their role as social historians. If it works, as I bet it will, then maybe more of us will have to pay attention to their methods.

Of course, this has to be coupled with an ability to do first class research that uncovers masses of new information and to present your findings in a totally objective manner. There can be no question that *Out of the Shadows* achieves all of that and more in a way few UFO books have ever achieved.



Perceptions

By Stanton T. Friedman

Pseudoscience of Anti-ufology

In 1981 I wrote an article "The Pseudoscience of Antiufology" which was eventually published in the First Quarter, 1983, issue of *PURSUIT Magazine* (pp.17-20). My primary focus was on the massive misrepresentation by Carl Sagan on the Cosmos TV series of the UFO experience of Betty and Barney Hill (*Interrupted Journey*, by John G. Fuller) and Marjorie Fish's star-map work associated with it ("The Zeta Reticuli Incident" by Terence Dickinson).

A second focus was on the grossly inaccurate portrayal of the same case by the Amazing Randi in his aptly named book *FLJM FLAM*.

Once again the term pseudoscience has reared its ugly head. The National Science Foundation takes polls every so often to measure what the public knows about science and what they believe about the so called paranormal areas like astrology, ufology, telepathy, etc. They found that a lot of people are ignorant of the simplest notions about science with, for example, only 54% knowing that it takes the Earth a year to go around the Sun. They also found that lots of people believe in the paranormal.

Their press release seems to suggest that it is because people believe in "pseudoscience" that they don't know much real science. They somehow can't seem to provide any evidence to back up this claim. Or at least to present it, if they found it.

Gallup Polls and others have consistently found that the greater the education the more likely to accept UFO reality. I would, I think reasonably, expect that the greater the education the more basic science one would know. So where is the beef?

Well, as might be expected, Dr. Lawrence M. Krauss (Department of Physics) referred to by his employer, Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, as the new Carl Sagan, jumped right in with an article in the April 30 *New York Times* entitled "Odds Are Stacked When Science Tries to Debate Pseudoscience."

I had done a debate with Krauss on March 30, 1999, on the Jeff Rense Radio show from the West Coast. Ten days in advance, Jeff had asked if I was willing to debate Krauss, who had written a nasty review of an NBC TV Documentary involving Whitley Strieber. I agreed, obtained background info from Case Western Reserve, and read Krauss' books *The Physics of Star Trek* and *Beyond Star Trek*.

During the debate it was quite clear that Krauss really hadn't done any homework on either UFOs or advanced nuclear technology, though he had written negative items about both and pretended to be an expert on both. He had also not read *Crash at Corona* or *TOP SECRET/MAJIC* or anything else by, or about, me.

Since I had worked as a nuclear physicist on fission and fusion rockets and nuclear power plants for space, and have had a very strong interest in UFOs and advanced technology since 1958, I was able to directly quote and correct the false claims from the books. As one caller put it, Krauss sounded like somebody who was unwilling to look through Galileo's telescope to view the moons of Jupiter.

After that show I wrote Krauss, sending along some background material and some papers, and challenging him to a debate at a location and time of his choice. He naturally refused. After all, why should he take on somebody who knows more than he does about these topics?

In his new *NY Times* article, he talks about his battles with creationists and a debate he supposedly had on a Florida radio station about UFOs. I suspect he was really talking about the Rense show.

He claimed that debates stack the odds against science because "Science is not fair. All ideas are not treated equally. Only those that have satisfied the test of experiment or can be tested by experiment have any currency... Beautiful ideas, elegant ideas and even sacrosanct notions are not immune from termination by the chilling edge of experimental data."

This sounds very scientific. But it isn't. Provide me with an experiment using dark energy, or neutron stars, or quasars or black holes. We observers have no control whatsoever over these strange phenomena. We can make measurements and try to interpret them. We can't make an eclipse happen or a major earthquake (we can make small ones).

There are scientific approaches that can be taken to find out more about other uncontrollable events, such as automobile accidents, murders, rapes, burglary, or UFO observations. But our entire legal system, often concerned with very significant events such as the above, is primarily dependent on testimony from witnesses. Ask a lawyer or a judge. Of course we can measure DNA, and alcohol blood levels, and lengths of skid marks, and bullet trajectories and ballistics.

Krauss really goes off the deep end with this gem: "We may not know how spacecraft of the future will be propelled [certainly true], whether anti-matter drives will be built or even if time travel is possible. But we do know absolutely how much on-board fuel will be needed to speed up a substantial spacecraft to near the speed of light—an enormous amount, probably enough to power all of hu-



Stanton T. Friedman

man civilization at the present time for perhaps a decade..." Not a shred of evidence to justify this outlandish claim. Just as when he wrote his books and then debated me, Krauss seems to have no understanding of how very important the selected trip parameters are.

In my May 1 letter to the *New York Times*, I noted that Dr. Simon Newcomb had "scientifically" shown that man would only be able to fly with a balloon, two months before the Wright Brother's first flight; that Dr. Bickerton had "proven" in the 1920s that there was no way to provide sufficient energy to an object, even using our best explosives, to get it to orbital velocity.

I also stressed the "scientific" work of Dr. Campbell, who in 1941 "scientifically" showed that the required initial launch weight of a chemical rocket able to get a man to the moon and back would be a million million tons. He was only too high by a factor of 300 million!

He made just about all possible wrong (dare I say stupid?) assumptions, such as assuming a single stage rocket, limited to 1-G acceleration, launched straight up, and having to be slowed down by a huge retrorocket when coming back.

Engineers and scientists involved in the space program (as obviously Krauss and Campbell never were) used a multistage rocket, exposed the astronauts to several Gs, launched to the east from near the equator, and used the Moon's gravitational field to pull Apollo in, and the Earth's atmosphere to slow it down upon return. The feasibility is entirely in the details.

And all this is not even considering fission and fusion rockets, on both of which I have worked and about which Krauss was almost totally ignorant.

Late in 1999, I sent Krauss a copy of my MUFON 99 paper "Star Travel? YES!!" which reviews many of his naïve comments. Judging by his latest commentary, he hasn't learned anything since. Of course, I have sent him a copy of my letter to the *NY Times* and once again challenged him to a debate.

The April 30 NYT article and my May 1 response are both posted on my website www.v-j-enterprises.com/sfpage.html.

I would certainly agree that there is a lot of nonsense published about "paranormal" subjects. But we don't expect amateurs to be very scientific. We do expect the professional academics to do their homework and NOT to follow the 4 basic rules for debunkers:

1. Don't bother me with the facts; my mind is made up.
2. What the public and the media don't know, I will not tell them.
3. If you can't attack the data, attack the people; it is easier.
4. Do your research by proclamation, rather than investigation. It is much easier.

In short, then, what passes for scientific truth from on high is often pseudoscience.

New chip implant capable of remote monitoring

A device called the VeriChip, similar to a MedicAlert bracelet, has been created by Applied Digital Solutions, a technology development company based in Palm Beach, FL, but instead of being worn on the wrist, it is implanted under the skin.

The company calls its chip, which is no larger than a grain of rice, a potential lifesaver for Alzheimer's patients who may get lost, as well as an effective way for doctors to identify patients who will be otherwise unable to identify themselves.

A prototype of the chip holds 126 characters and is activated only when a handheld scanner passes over it. The patient's identification number is displayed and then uploaded into another portable device. Patient data is encrypted to 128 bits and then displayed on the reader.

Privacy rights advocates worry that the chip may be crossing a dangerous line, since it could some day be tracked remotely. Newer versions of the VeriChip will hold up to a megabyte of programmable data, and some may include a global positioning tracking feature.

And therein lies the problem. Ethicists wonder who will be able to access the data. Can people be monitored? From how far? What about the right to privacy?

CALENDAR

June 8. Roswell International Museum, Roswell, NM. Bill Hamilton, executive director of Skywatch International, will talk about EBEs and underground bases.

June 22. Intruders Foundation Seminar Series, David Jacobs on "Alien Hybrids." Information: 212-645-5278

July 5-7. MUFON International Symposium, Hyatt Regency Rochester Hotel, Rochester, NY.

July 5—Roswell International Museum, 1 PM (time change), George Fawcett will talk on recent UFO events and their implications.

July 5—Roswell International Museum, 7 PM, Jim Moseley's talk is entitled "True Wierd Personal Experiences of a Skeptical Believer"

July 6—Roswell International Museum, 7 PM (time change), Stanton Friedman. (Note: Stanton Friedman may be joined on stage in a debate format with Don Schmitt, Jim Moseley, and Karl Pflock)

Aug 10—Roswell International Museum, Dr. Don Burleson's talk is entitled "UFOs and the Murder of Marilyn Monroe."

Sept. 28—National UFO Conference, 2002, Cincinnati, OH., see <http://home.fuse.net/ufo> or call Kenny Young at 513-588-4548

Oct. 12-13. UFO/ET Congress of 2002, Days Inn, Bordentown, NJ. 609-631-8955 (after 11 A.M.).



July 2002

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Venus (magnitude -4.1) is low in the W during twilight and sets about 10:30 in mid-July. The dazzling planet closes in on the fainter 1st-magnitude star Regulus until the pair are only 1 degree apart on the 9th and 10th. Thereafter, the two objects go their separate ways, with Regulus to the lower right of Venus. The crescent Moon joins the pair on July 12 and 13.

Mars and Jupiter cannot be seen this month, as both are nearing the Sun.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Saturn (0.1), in Taurus, emerges in the ENE during morning twilight, rising about 3 AM in midmonth. The planet **Mercury** is only a 3rd of a degree below the ringed world on July 2. For telescope users, Saturn's rings now are open near their maximum tilt, presenting a nice view.

The Comet Chaser:

This month NASA hopes to launch a comet probe called CONTOUR-Comet Nucleus Tour. It will fly by 3 comets in 2003, 2006, and 2008 in order to image 3 comet nuclei for comparative spectral studies and to analyze their outflows of dust.

Moon Phases:

Last quarter—July 2
New moon—July 10
First quarter—July 17
Full moon—July 24

The Stars:

The Summer Triangle has ascended high in the SE, while below it already appears the vanguard of the autumn constellations—the Great Square of Pegasus, Aquarius, and Capricornus.

The Milky Way, a glowing river of starlight, crosses the entire eastern sky. This band of billions of stars stretches from Perseus and Cassiopeia in the N through the Summer Triangle to Sagittarius and Scorpius in the S.

The July heavens offer some superb telescopic treats for backyard astronomers, such as the Hercules globular star cluster, the Ring Nebula in Lyra, the Dumbbell Nebula in Vulpecula, and a host of nebulae and star clusters in Sagittarius.

Director's Message...

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New MUFON Membership Levels Announced

In response to requests from members, the MUFON Board has approved several new membership levels in addition to the basic membership level at \$35/year, which includes a subscription to the *MUFON UFO Journal*. The new membership levels are as follows:

- Donor: \$100-249 *MUFON UFO Journal* + one MUFON publication**
- Professional: \$250-499 *MUFON UFO Journal* + two MUFON publications**
- Patron: \$500-1999 *MUFON UFO Journal* + all documents published that year
- Benefactor: \$2,500 & up *MUFON UFO Journal for life* + one document/year**

** Documents may be selected from MUFON Publications List

MUFON is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations that exceed the cost of the publications are tax deductible.

XXL Field Investigator's Shirt Now Available

Due to the many requests we have received, MUFON now stocks the 2XL (XXL) Field Investigator's T-shirts. They are slightly more expensive than the smaller sizes. The white XXL shirt is \$14 + \$3 p&h = \$17.00. The black XXL shirt is \$17 + \$3 p&h = \$20. Orders can be filled immediately.

MUFON shirts and caps

Wear official MUFON T-shirts (royal blue printing on white cotton), sizes S, M, L & XL. Two styles of baseball caps (royal blue with white logo or dark blue with blue logo on white front). T-shirt price \$12.00 and baseball caps \$8.00. S/H for each is \$3.00 or if both ordered together is only \$3.00. MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369. (Check, MO, or cash, U.S. dollars.)

New MUFON field investigator t-shirt, cap

The new field investigator t-shirt has the MUFON logo over the left chest pocket area and MUFON Field Investigator on the back. It comes in S, M, L and XL in two colors. The white shirt has a blue logo, and the black shirt has a white logo. White shirts are \$12 + \$3 S&H. Black shirts are \$15 + \$3 S&H.

MUFON has a new black cap with white MUFON logo to match the new field investigator black t-shirts (the caps also look great with the white t-shirts). Screen printed is \$8 + \$3 S&H. Embroidered is \$15 + \$3 S&H. MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369. (Check, MO, or cash, U.S. dollars.)

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By **John F. Schuessler**
MUFON International Director

The MUFON Business Board Goes To Work

For 33 years MUFON has been able to make a difference in UFO research and investigations because of the fantastic volunteer efforts of MUFON members. We are fortunate to have dedicated field investigators, state section directors, assistant state directors, state directors, continental coordinators, provincial directors, national directors, foreign representatives, foreign state directors, functional directors, regional directors, consultants, research specialists, journal subscribers, news clipping representatives, amateur radio experts, associate members, state groups, and headquarters staff.

Everyone counts—everyone is important to MUFON's future.

At the July 2001 MUFON board meeting in Irvine, CA, it was decided to establish a "Business" board comprised of seven individuals having the goal of meeting often to address the issues related to running the business of MUFON in these volatile and changing times. These individuals had to have sufficient time, energy and finances to be able participate in this new role—a role that is beyond the basic UFO-related aspects of the organization.

Three of the positions were established by the MUFON Bylaws to include the corporate secretary, corporate treasurer and the international director. The other four positions were defined as at-large positions.

The Business Board is comprised of **Clifford Clift**, B.A. (Greeley, CO), **Thomas Deuley**, B.S.E.E. (San Antonio, TX), **Jan Harzan**, B.S. (Newport Beach, CA), **John Schuessler**, M.S. (Littleton, CO), **Robert Simpson**, B.S.B.A. (Parker, CO), **Thomas Whitmore**, B.S. (San Antonio, TX), and **Robert M. Wood**, Ph.D. (Newport Beach, CA).

These board members will all be in attendance at the MUFON 2002 International UFO Symposium in Rochester, NY, July 5-7. We hope you will come there and meet them and offer them your ideas and support.

The first meeting of the board was held at MUFON Headquarters on Saturday, April 27, 2002. Topics covered included: quality and level of success of the *MUFON UFO Journal*, website, publications, training, annual symposium, public education and research; work quality—operations, grants and fund raising; memberships/subscriptions, staffing, unity in the UFO field, and staying in busi-



John Schuessler

ness. There was agreement to focus efforts on the *Journal* and website for immediate action because these are key to success in all of the areas noted above, especially for feedback to members and public education.

In addition, MUFON will endeavor to become more pro-active in UFO-related issues by offering expert help to movie and TV production companies; by working on friendly terms with other legitimate organizations and individuals; developing a new MUFON brochure; pressing for rapid and complete UFO investigations; and striving for unity throughout the UFO field.

This is a big task for an all-volunteer organization, but MUFON is ready, willing and able.

Grant Supports Outreach Project

We are pleased to announce that MUFON has received a grant from the **Zoh M. Hieronimus Fund** that will allow us to continue sending the *MUFON UFO Journal* to all major U.S. news outlets for another year. The project was started in 2001 when MUFON received an initial grant from the **Zoh M. Hieronimus Fund** for this purpose. Thank you **Zoh and Bob**.

Zoh and Dr. Bob Hieronimus publish *The Hieronimus and Co. Journal* based on interviews from "Future Talk" with **Zoh Hieronimus** and "21st Century Radio" with **Dr. Bob Hieronimus**. Program schedules may be obtained from Hieronimus & Co., Inc., P.O. Box 648, Owings Mills, MD 21117 or on-line at www.FutureTalk.org or www.21stCenturyRadio.com.

George Zeiler Hit by Illness

It is with sincere regret that that we must announce that **George Zeiler** has dropped out of the MUFON 2002 International UFO Symposium speakers' lineup due to serious illness. **George** was going to present the results of his extensive research into recent, as well as older, government UFO documentation in a talk entitled "UFOs: A Clear and Present Danger." Hopefully, as **George** recovers, we will be able to publish his material in another format.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director for Field Investigator Training, has announced the following Field Investigator Trainees have completed the Field Investigator's Exam and are now MUFON Field Investigators: **Bruce Austin**, Redondo Beach, CA., **Lin Luck**, North Hollywood, CA., and **Nancy Ann White**, Oregon City, OR.

Field Investigator trainees are urged to study the *Field Investigator's Manual* and take the exam. The exam may be requested from MUFON Headquarters. There is no charge for the exam. The *Field Investigator's Manual* is available from MUFON Headquarters for \$25 + \$3.50 p&h.

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