

"We tell it as it is"

SKYLOOK

\$1.00

Number 101

The UFO Monthly

April, 1976

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.



The above painting was done by Michael Rogers, one of the witnesses in the Travis Walton case. First-hand reports by

Walton and Rogers are included in this issue.

Founded 1967

SKYLOOK

The UFO Monthly
26 Edgewood Drive
Quincy, Illinois 62301

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Editor's Column

It has come to our attention that Dr. J. Allen Hynek of the Center for UFO Studies has stated to the press that the editor of Skylook has a "personal vendetta" going against him. Not true.

It is a fact, of course, that Skylook has pointed out what we feel are some of the unfortunate activities and attitudes on the part of Dr. Hynek and the Center.

Dr. Hynek apparently feels he should be beyond such criticism, although he has not been reluctant to criticize others--often unfairly and without apparent purpose.

Actually, Dr. Hynek has been getting a great deal of criticism in recent months, both privately and publicly, most of it far more severe than anything Skylook has printed. The May issue of OFFICIAL UFO is one example.

For two years this editor has tried to be a moderate as more and more MUFON members became increasingly critical of Dr. Hynek and his definition of cooperation. Some of these MUFON people, including two

members of the Board of Directors, have resigned, at least partly because of their objection to MUFON's continued close association with Dr. Hynek. Other members have been just as critical, but have remained in the organization thus far.

Dr. Hynek's claim to fame is that he is currently the best-known name in ufology. In our opinion he does not deserve this fame--which has come to him primarily as a result of Air Force publicity--since he has actually done far less with far less expertise than a great many others.

We have yet to see, for example, a detailed report of any case he has investigated "scientifically," and he has obviously mishandled some he has been involved with (such as Pascagoula). As an administrator of the Center, he is a walking organizational and public relations disaster.

No, there is no vendetta. Dr. Hynek, not we, is his own worst enemy. He is, somehow, managing to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory.

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The contents of SKYLOOK are determined by the editor, and do not necessarily represent the official position or judgment of MUFON. Opinions of contributors are their own, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the staff, or MUFON.

SKYLOOK THE UFO MONTHLY is published monthly by Dwight Connelly, 26 Edgewood Drive, Quincy, IL 62301 USA. Subscription Rates: \$8.00 per year in U.S.; \$9.00 per year foreign; single copy, \$1.00. Advertising rates: \$5.00 per column inch. All ads subject to approval of the publisher.

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Second Class Postage paid at Quincy, IL 62301.

Physiological effects, teleportation, time loss?

Kentucky women report close encounter

Location: near Stanford, KY.

Date: Jan. 6, 1976.

Type of case: close encounter, loss of vehicle control (possible teleportation), possible physiological effects, possible body burns, possible time loss.

Witnesses: Mrs. Mona Stafford, Louise Smith, and Elaine Thomas.

Source: CASEY COUNTY NEWS, Liberty, KY., Feb. 12, 1976.

By Don White

"It has a force we don't have. We have nothing to fight IT. God is the only one who could save us from IT. With ITS intense heat and light, IT can do whatever IT wants to."

When Mona Stafford tells you she and two other local women saw and perhaps came under the power of an unidentified flying object (UFO) early last month, it's difficult not to believe her.

Her voice still trembles when she talks about the incident, and the swollen dark area around her eyes gives evidence she hasn't been sleeping too well recently.

The day that was to end in a night of horror for Mona and her two friends was January 6.

It was Mrs. Stafford's birthday and Louise Smith and Elaine Thomas wanted to treat her to a night out at the Redwood Restaurant near Stanford.

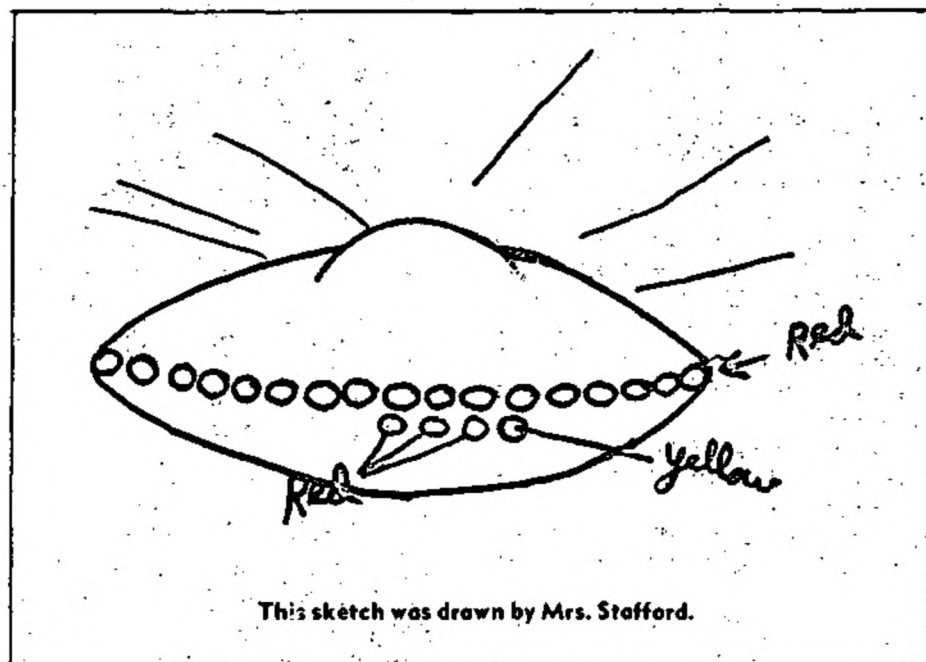
"I don't get out much," remarked Mrs. Stafford. "These two girls just wanted to do something nice for me."

The trio of Casey Countians dined at the Redwood and left the restaurant at 11:15 that evening, Mona recalls.

They drove through Stanford past the city cemetery and then the drive-in theatre and into the open countryside.

The three ladies were not too far out of Stanford when they saw something that appeared to be fire coming down from the sky.

Mona, who was sitting up front between her two friends,



This sketch was drawn by Mrs. Stafford.

told the driver, Louise, to drive faster toward the falling object.

"It was several hundred feet ahead and I thought it might be an airplane crashing," said Mona.

As they neared the area where they had seen the fire, Mona says an object as big as a house and shaped like a blimp or football started coming down the road toward them.

She said the object had red lights all the way around it, and the lights were rotating. "It had a light on top that was bluish-white and more brilliant than anything I've ever seen," noted Mona.

The object came across the road to the right of the auto the ladies were riding in, made a half-circle and came in behind the car, Mrs. Stafford remarked.

She said they turned to look at the object but the intensity of the lights gave all of them headaches.

All of a sudden, the trio realized that they were no longer in control of the auto-

mobile. They felt like something was pulling back on the car.

The speedometer on Louise Smith's car showed they were traveling at 85 mph...but how could that be...she didn't even have her foot on the accelerator, Mrs. Stafford said.

"It felt like we were crossing those grooves they have in the road to slow you down when you're approaching a stop sign," Mona recalled.

Then, all of a sudden, the women found themselves in Hustonville. However, they were shocked because none of them could remember traveling the area between the two towns.

"It was like something had picked us up in Stanford and set us down in Hustonville," Mona remarked.

Mrs. Stafford says that when they arrived back in Liberty at Louise Smith's house, they saw it was 1:25 a.m. It had taken the women more than two hours to travel to Liberty from Stanford, normally a 45-minute trip.

Another strange thing the women noticed was that two of

them, Louise and Elaine, had burns on the backs of their necks. "It resembled a real bad sunburn," Mona recalled.

The women got their neighbors out of bed to see the burns and to tell them about what they had seen. The neighbors advised them to separate and draw what they had seen.

Mrs. Stafford's drawing showed a blimp-shaped object with the row of lights around it. In addition to many red lights, she said there was also one yellow light that was flashing. "I think that was a window because it was dimmer than all the other lights," she explained.

The women reported their sighting to Kentucky state troopers and to the armed services, but for Mrs. Stafford the ordeal did not end with that.

"I don't feel like the same person," noted Mona. "This has just taken my mind over. I was worried about all kinds of other problems before, but this is something I just have to get a better understanding of."

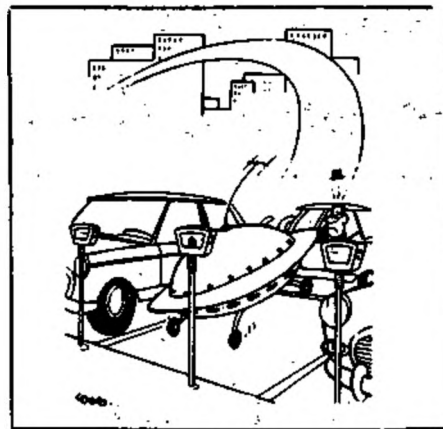
Mrs. Stafford, who says she can see the object now as plain as she did on that terror-filled night in Lincoln County, has been living with her parents since the incident occurred.

Although she has a household of her own and a young son, she says she can't bear the thought of staying alone on nights her son might be away.

Her mother, Mrs. Ed Witt, has shared in some of the agony her daughter, who appears to be in her mid-thirties, has been experiencing. "The first two weeks after it happened were just terrible; it's just impossible to explain the fear that she showed," Mrs. Witt noted.

Mrs. Stafford thinks she may have seen two UFOs since the incident in Lincoln County. "My son said they were airplanes, but he couldn't explain why the lights on them went off after we started looking at them," she remarked.

"My ears seemed to open up



more after the night...and it seems like I can hear things... a whirling sound I didn't hear before. It seems like I can almost hear it when it's around."

The Casey housewife, who claims she can tell the difference between the objects and a star, feels they have a way of hiding from a person who has never seen one.

"I believe what they do is get up high enough to blend in with the stars and come down when they want to," she said.

"I look for it now, but I don't want to see it unless it's at a distance. I might have a heart attack if it came upon me again."

Additional Detail

Although details are sketchy at this point, it is reported that at least one of the women experienced an unusual menstrual flow. Such an effect has been reported in the recent Fargo, ND, abduction case on Aug. 26, 1975, (March SKYLOOK) and in the Bethal, NM, case on Jan. 6, 1976 (same night as this case), reported in this issue of SKYLOOK.

CIA photo expert dies

Harry Woo, a photoanalysis expert who testified to the Robertson Panel concerning the Navy analysis of the 1950 Montana and 1952 Utah movie films of UFOs, died March 19 at the age of 65.

Two years after his testimony to the Robertson Panel he joined the CIA (according to the Washington Post), where he served for 16 years until his retirement in 1971. (Submitted by Richard Hall).

Minnesota

Woman

Location: near Bethal, MN.

Date: Jan. 6, 1976.

Type: close encounter, possible physiological effects.

Witness: Mrs. Janet Stewart, primary witness; partial corroboration by Mary Root.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Following is the edited transcript of a tape recording made by Mrs. Janet Stewart of Bethal, MN, at the request of Mr. Harry Kirchner, a field investigator for IUFOR (International UFO Registry) in Bethal. It was provided by IUFOR Director William Hauak through Joe Brill.

My name is Janet Stewart. I am 29 years old, married to Kenneth Stewart, and the mother of three children, ages 11, 3 and 2. On Jan. 6, 1976, a Tuesday night, I was headed for my astrology class in Moundview. I was stopping in Cedar, a few miles away from my home to pick up a girlfriend, a classmate of mine whose name is Mary Root.

I left the house a little after 7:20 p.m., which is a little late for me, and headed down east Bethel Blvd. towards Mary's house. Well, as I came around the last curve on east Bethel Blvd. and was heading south I saw ahead of me, on the horizon, above the trees, three lights which made up one air vehicle, which at the time I assumed to be an airplane.

There was a central red light, and on each side of this was a smaller green light. I did think the lighting arrangement was a little strange, but I assumed it was just my view of it that made it appear that way.

Getting closer

At the time I first saw it, I thought it was going to travel across in front of me on the horizon. I thought it was moving from west to east at the time, but within just a few minutes, well, seconds really, I realized that it was getting

reports possible UFO effects

larger and therefore deducted it was coming closer towards me.

As I reached the stop sign at the end of east Bethel Blvd. and paused there, it was becoming quite a lot larger and now I really could see that it was not an airplane. I assumed now that very possibly it was a helicopter. I paused at the stop sign and watched it for a minute and then I went ahead onto County Road 15, still headed south.

Now it began to grow much, much larger; rapidly it was coming closer to me and I could see that the green lights on either side of the red light were blinking very, very fast--much, much faster than any airplane lights I'd ever seen. I still thought it could be a helicopter, possibly, and I was now near the first curve on County Road 15, which is a very sharp 25 mile-an-hour curve to the right.

As I neared this curve, I could see that the object was beginning to drop down, sort of slung down into a lower position, and as I came into the curve, I was at the center of the curve when the thing actually zeroed in over my hood and windshield at a bit of an angle. It instantaneously was going in the same direction as my car, even though it had been moving in the opposite direction.

Now, I realized that it was not a helicopter. That NO WAY was it a helicopter. I did not have the radio on. I was waiting for my tapes to warm up. I usually play eight-track tapes, and they were cold because it was such a terribly cold night. It was minus fifteen degrees with a windchill factor of minus fifty degrees. In fact, I almost stayed home because it was so cold, but I did have my

heater fan going full blast and of course all my windows were rolled up.

But I did not have the radio on nor any tapes playing at that time and I did not hear a sound, even though it was so close that I'm sure it wasn't more than 25 feet above me, and it may have been as low as fifteen feet above me. Somewhere between fifteen to twenty feet. In that range I'm sure.

The large red central light didn't blink at all. It was just a solid red light. The green lights on either side of it were blinking. There was one on each side of it that were blinking very, very fast that I didn't look at them as much as, of course, I looked at the whole thing. But I kept my eyes mainly on the central light because it was easier on the eyes than these blinking lights.

I was hunched down in the seat. I was hanging on to the steering wheel with my chin pressed in towards the steering wheel so I couldn't look up, because it was--it appeared right above the windshield, and so I could get a better view of it I sort of sat in this hunched or hunched down position.

It stayed with me in that position all the way around this curve and into the next curve, which is a left hand curve, and then the road curved again to the left. It stayed with me around that curve also. Then, the road straightens out for a time before going into the next right hand curve and it stayed with me along this straight area of road, and as I moved towards or came into the right hand curve it moved over the top of my car so that the roof of my car obscured my view.

All in all, it was with me very, very close to a mile. I slowed to a stop as I was going

very slowly anyway. I'm sure I couldn't have been going more than twenty or twenty-five miles an hour, because I was intent upon watching the thing and therefore I didn't have a whole lot of time to watch the road. I kind of varied back and forth between the two constantly, the whole time it was above me. But I slowed to a stop and I tried to peer out the back window, which was so thickly frosted that I couldn't see out of it at all.

I really couldn't see any of the craft itself. All I could see were these lights. The lights didn't give off a lot of light. The light was pretty well contained. It just didn't give off light. I tried very hard to see if there was anything at all of the craft I could see behind the lights, but I can't really say I was successful.

A chrome ring?

I'm quite sure that I saw what was probably a chrome ring maybe at the bottom of one of the green lights. The one on the left hand side. Measurement wise, from green light to green light, it would have been--it was larger than the car, that is, my car from end to end. I would say it was probably between sixteen and eighteen feet. That's approximate, but it was, I am sure as large and probably larger than my car.

I thought I could see, at one point, a dome shape behind the central red light. I'm not sure, though, because sometimes lights will give off kind of a black glare and that could have been what it was. So I really can't say I saw anything of the craft itself, only these lights, but it definitely behaved in a way that no helicopter or airplane would behave.

I tried to look out the side

windows. They were frosted too and I didn't have any luck there. I didn't have the presence of mind to get out of the car and look to see where it had gone. Anyhow, I just sort of gave up and started to drive on again into the right hand curve, and as I did this, a car coming from the opposite direction came out from around this curve and I sort of helplessly watched it go by, thinking, gee, I should stop them and ask them if they had seen it too. But, I couldn't figure out how to do that and then, of course, they were gone.

So then I continued on to Mary Root's home, a girlfriend of mine, who attends classes with me and I stop and pick her up on the way. I drove as quickly as I could to her place and ran up to the door. I was very excited. On the way to the car I told her what had happened and what I had seen. She was also excited then and wanted to go back to the curve and see if we could see anything. So, as long as I had company, we decided that was what we would do and we went ahead and went back to the curve.

Once there, we even got out of the car and looked around, but didn't see anything at all. So we turned around and went back out again past her place and up to highway 65, where we turned south, headed for Moundview, where the classes are held.

A red light

We had just barely gotten going south on highway 65 when Mary noticed off to our left-hand side, the east side of the highway, just above the trees, there was a solitary, red light which she said was moving with us. I thought this was a little too much and I told her it must be a tower light. She said no, that she was very observant and that she had never seen a tower light in that place--and she drove on this highway all the

time.

Well, she kept an eye on it while I was driving, so I only got a couple of glances at it. But she kept a very close eye on it and it stayed in the same position. In her view, she was looking out the window past me. It stayed with us for two miles. Now at the end of two miles it rose up in the air a bit and began to move farther to the east. We could tell this because it was growing smaller. Mary wanted me to turn off on an eastbound side road to follow it, and we just made a quick decision and did that and we swung off onto this eastbound road which was flanked on both sides heavily with trees.

We did keep it in view most of the time. A few times the trees blocked our view, but never for any length of time. We followed the road down as it was only a few miles long. It was a dirt road. We followed it down to where it dead ended, where a T, a tar road tees across it. On the other side of the tar road, there's a field partially open and surrounded by trees. We stopped at the tar road and apparently the red light stopped there too, over that field, at the edge of the trees.

It stayed there. It just stood there. Hovered there. It didn't blink. It didn't go up or down. It didn't go sideways, It didn't do anything spectacular at all. We just stopped there and watched it. I lit a cigarette and we stayed there while I smoked the cigarette. So, it would probably have been between five and ten minutes. We even blinked our lights on and off, but we couldn't get any response out of this red light. So after a short time we turned and went back out to highway 65 and continued on to Moundview.

As soon as we got there, I called my husband and told him what I had seen and I was grateful that he believed me. Anyway, we had our class and we, of course, on the way home that night kept our eyes

peeled. We didn't see anything at all.

The following day (Jan. 7) I began having menstrual cramps, which I thought was a little strange since I had only been over my last period for six days. I assumed it must be ovulation cramps coming a bit early and I didn't pay any attention to it.

But then, the next day, (Jan. 8), which would have been forty-eight hours after the sighting, I came down with a full pledged period. I just could not believe it because I have a pretty tight 28 to 32-day cycle. I adhere to my schedule quite predictably. I didn't relate it to the sighting at all. That never even crossed my mind.

But, I was complaining to my girlfriend, Mary Root, the same girl who had been with me that night, and lo and behold she had had the same problem. She takes birth control pills, so she was really amazed to say the least. Neither one of us related it to the sighting at all. We just complained in the usual manner and never considered the thought that the sighting had anything to do with it.

I was also having some eye problems, but I thought it was the dry air and the lack of humidity and the cold, and so I didn't relate that to the sighting either. The fourth day after the sighting (Jan. 10) I woke up in the morning with the realization that my eyes were burning, even though they were closed and there was matter running out of them. I got up and looked in the mirror and they were quite bloodshot. I used Visine. By about noon it began to go away.

It wasn't terribly uncomfortable that day, but the following day (Jan. 11) it was VERY uncomfortable. I woke up and the matter had collected around my eyelashes. It was running out of my eyes. My eyes were like two little tail lights. I was afraid and I cried. I thought I was going blind. I

couldn't imagine what had happened to my eyes, and still I did not relate it to the sighting in any way. I just couldn't imagine what was happening to my eyes. I used a lot of Visine and some of the kid's old pink-eye drops. I had to keep my hands over my eyes all morning. I couldn't keep my eyes open for even a few minutes at a time, even a few seconds at a time.

I was planning on going to the doctor that afternoon, but by about noon they did begin to clear up considerably. By shortly after noon my eyes were in much, much better condition, although still bloodshot. But as far as the discomfort, that was mostly gone. I had doctored them a lot. I used a lot of eye drops and kept them closed. So I didn't go to the doctor.

The sixth day after the sighting my eyes were returning to normal.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Another close encounter case was reported the same day at Anoka, MN, 10-12 miles southwest of this case, involving one witness. It was reported to the Center for UFO Studies; no additional information is available. Another case, similar in some respects, was reported on the same night near Stanford, KY (see story elsewhere in this issue).

Boyd to specialize in unexplained physics

Veteran UFO investigator Robert D. Boyd of 121 Huron Rd. Mobile, AL., has informed Skylook that he has begun an effort "to specialize on the anomalous characteristics of UFOs."

Boyd, who points out that UFOs frequently demonstrate abilities contrary to our knowledge of physical laws, feels that a concentrated effort should be made to study these apparent contradictions.

He invites specific information concerning this topic, and urges other researchers interested in this area of UFO research to contact him.

Travis Walton case

Walton explains controversies

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following account by Travis Walton of his experiences surrounding the investigation of his UFO encounter is being printed in order to give, in his own words, his version of the facts. While this account was written prior to Walton's receipt of SKYLOOK's later and more complete articles on the case, we feel Mr. Walton should have the opportunity to "tell it like it is" from his viewpoint.

By Travis Walton

I'm sure you realize that erroneous heresay and incomplete newspaper articles are not a good source of information to judge anything by, but you did do a very unbiased article with what information you had to go on.

In your article on the Walton case in Skylook you said in conclusion, "If additional information on this case becomes available it will be printed in Skylook." I would like for this letter to be used in Skylook, and if it is, I would ask that it be printed in its entirety as I don't want to be quoted out of context.

When I was returned on Nov. 10th, I was in a serious emotional state. At that time and for weeks afterwards I didn't want to tell anyone about my experience except those close to me. I avoided the public and the media for several days. During my silence a lot of misinformation was printed. I feel much better about it all now and I would like to set the record straight. I have not read a newspaper yet, not even one, that printed exactly what I have said. The stories always garble the facts and misquote everyone. None of the newspapers referred to in your article actually ever interviewed me. However, I don't doubt that you quoted the newspapers correctly.

I have never met or talked with Bill Spaulding in my entire life, and to my knowledge, Spaulding has never interviewed any of the crewmembers who wit-



Travis Walton (photo by Michael Rogers)

nessed the incident. Although much quoted in your article, Spaulding only visited the abduction site and talked to my brother, Duane, in way of investigation. The real investigation was carried on by the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) who conducted numerous medical, psychiatric, and hypnotic tests, as well as polygraph examinations.

When I was returned, my brother contacted Spaulding whom he had met at the site. Duane asked him to arrange a complete medical examination for me as he was naturally concerned about my physical condition. Spaulding directed him to a Dr. Lester Steward in Phoenix. As it turned out Steward was not an M.D., as indicated by Spaulding, and was unsuccessful in trying to get a doctor on the telephone. Duane took me back home after being there less than thirty minutes. "Dr." Steward claims a number of degrees from a university that when checked into by APRO, turned out to be a small unaccredited correspondence school.

Mr. Steward, who also claimed to be an expert on hallucinogenic drugs, later made allegations that my experience was the result of L.S.D. He didn't explain how my supposed "hallucination" was shared by six other men. My blood tests that day were run through the Mari-

copa County medical examiners drug screen and revealed no trace of any drug.

Mr. Steward made no examinations or tests on me of any kind. I'm sure this man's little run-down Westward Ho Hotel is not Ground Saucer Watch headquarters. This was my only contact with any GSW representative. It is understandable why I did not cooperate with them. APRO quickly produced two reputable M.D.s that day and continued a thorough investigation from then on. Bill Spaulding became negative only at this point, which he refers to as noncooperation. After it was clear that he couldn't handle the case, Bill Spaulding numerous times referred vaguely to "holes" in the story and some "questions" and "other factors" that caused him to have "doubts." Never once did he specifically state what these discrepancies were. Possibly Spaulding's ego was more at stake to him than the factuality of the case.

Without consulting us, Spaulding arranged for a meeting with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, which was associated with GSW, which we had lost faith in by that time. Neither my brother nor myself knew enough of the UFO subject at that time to recognize Dr. Hynek as one of the foremost scientists in the field. Since then I've had direct correspondence with Hynek and have scheduled a meeting with him.

The media has accused me of refusing a lie-detector test that was ordered by police. I personally requested that polygraph test from Sheriff Marlin Gillespie with his promise that the media would be kept away and that it would be held in private. The day of the test the reporters were again camped on my doorstep and I was in no emotional condition to be interviewed at that time. As I was preparing to leave for the Department of Public Safety headquarters we discovered there were numerous television and newspaper reporters inter-

viewing the OPS examiner in the room arranged for my test. Since the sheriff failed to keep his word in the matter, I did not take it that day.

I was advised shortly thereafter by APRO psychiatrists that to have taken a polygraph test that soon would have given inconclusive results at best. The psychiatrists said a polygraph measures stress, not lies; therefore, to get a valid result I should wait until any reaction registered would not be the result of emotion-packed memories. This was borne out by the inconclusive results of the test on Allen Dalis, the crewman who was so agitated after witnessing the incident. APRO will have Dalis retested soon.

When I was calm enough, APRO arranged for me to take a polygraph test from Ezell Polygraph Institute, who does all the lie detector work for Pinal County Sheriff's Office. The results of my test were positive.

Undersheriff Kenneth Coplan said that I and the rest of the crew saw the NBC special, "The UFO Incident," as to infer that we had made everything up because of similarities in the two incidents. I did not have a TV and did not see the show. I know that at least a couple of the others didn't see it either.

(There is no such person as Deputy Sheriff Ken Nolan as quoted by the Arizona Republic in your article.)

I never said I thought I was hit over the head, I simply described being struck by the beam as feeling like a physical blow.

I do not consider myself or my family to be UFO buffs. We haven't had an overt interest in the subject or ever bought any UFO publications. My brother Duane saw a UFO about 12 years ago and we have talked about the subject on a few occasions since then. I myself have never had a UFO experience before this.

I suppose many people that live an outdoor life have seen

a few things in the sky they can't explain. This doesn't make them freaks on the subject. Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle told me that 15 million Americans have seen something unidentified in the sky. Sheriff Marlin Gillespie has himself reported seeing 2 or 3 UFO's over the years, including one close encounter. He does not, however, consider himself a UFO buff.

My older brother, Duane, has acted as father to our family in recent years. His expression of confidence of my return and his saying that I was having "the experience of a lifetime" was only designed to bolster my mother's confidence. My mother believed this and the accounts of the crewmen whom she knew. She was terribly upset by my disappearance and had to be sedated. This explains Duane's criticism of the investigator who said he doubted the chances of my return after so much time. Due to Duane's involvement, he was suspected of conspiring with me to perpetrate a hoax. He took and passed a lie detector test concerning this from the same firm as I did.

Duane's fierce protection of me from reporters who didn't seem to care about my condition drew much hostility from the local media. Duane told the reporters I was in a Tucson hospital to get them off our backs. I never was in Tucson. All the tests were performed in Phoenix and the results are available from the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization in Tucson.

My experience aboard the UFO has been just as garbled by newspapers as everything else, but I won't take the space at this time to cover all that. APRO has all the facts of the sighting and the account of my abduction experience. Anyone can obtain this information by reading the APRO Bulletin or calling their headquarters in Tucson.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to correct these misconceptions.



This painting by Michael Rogers is one of a series he is doing to represent visually the Travis Walton case. Rogers told SKYLOOK that he had not painted in ten years, prior to beginning this current series.

Teacher, student report Massachusetts sighting

On Jan. 9, 1976, at Gloucester, MA., 14-year-old Joseph Aiello and his teacher Robert Sampson (radiological monitor for MUFON MASS) reportedly observed a white, globe-shaped object with a yellow glowing band around its circumference. The object, which was observed for a total of 15 seconds, moved in an arc from the NE to the N (S to N direction) as a bullet would fall. When first sighted, its apparent diameter was that of the full moon, then becoming $\frac{1}{2}$ that of the full moon. The object was not moving in the direction of the WNW wind. There were no abrupt maneuvers. Visibility was 15 miles. The object left bright white, rapidly dissipating streaks in its wake which were totally dissimilar to normal aircraft contrails. MUFON Investigator Raymond E. Fowler concludes that natural phenomena (such as balloon spider webs) and man-made objects (such as aircraft or balloons) do not fit the descriptions and conditions, and classifies the sighting as being in the "unknown" category.

Travis Walton case

Painting depicts experience

Michael Rogers, one of the witnesses in the Travis Walton case, has sent SKYLOOK a color photo of a painting he did of the UFO encounter (cover photo), as well as his comments concerning the case. Contact between Rogers and SKYLOOK was established through the cooperation of Jim Lorenzen, international director of APRO. Following are Rogers' comments:

"Working from the composite descriptions of all of us, I have painted a detailed scene of what we all saw that Nov. 5 when Travis was hit by the beam emitted from the UFO.

"The reason I did the painting is because so many people say we don't know what we saw, or say we were tricked. I know as sure as I breathe that was in no way a ball of gas or dust or some kind of illusion. My eyesight has always been extremely keen and I know exactly what I saw.

"Even as detailed as I did

Names and addresses of ufologists offered

A list of addresses of individuals, groups, journals, and newspapers having to do with UFOs is available from Jacques Deschenes, 175 Caron, Hull, Quebec, Canada J8Y 1Z8. Price is \$1.60 postpaid (by cash or money order).

The list is $5\frac{1}{2}$ pages long, closely typed and is coded to indicate what to ask for and what kind of information is available from each source. The scope is international. Although it is a motley collection and contains some obscure names, the code numbers are helpful and the list would be of value to serious UFO researchers.

The list is in no particular order, not categorized at all, a possible shortcoming. Still, it includes over 150 addresses many of which are not readily available. It would appear to be a useful research aid.--Richard Hall.

the painting, it does not even compare to the beauty and perfection of the object we all saw that night. The sound it made is equally unexplainable, a powerful sound of many tones simultaneously.

"Even before Travis was struck by the beam, the awesomeness of what we were experiencing was almost too much to bear. Allen, frantic with fear, hid his head between his legs. The rest of us somehow held up until that beam hit Travis and we sped away. Stopping a quarter mile down the road, all our emotions literally fell apart, some of us screaming at each other, some crying, some praying. Looking back, I saw the thing lift up and streak away to the northeast in a split second.

"Anymore, when someone makes those ridiculous accusations against us, I feel like fighting. I wish they could have been there. But for now the best I can do is show them my painting."

Annual Carlyle Skywatch, Picnic set for July 10-11

Additional dates to mark on your calendar for upcoming UFO activities are Saturday and Sunday, July 10 and 11, when Rosetta and Dick Holmes, along with the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, will sponsor their eighth annual UFO Skywatch and Picnic at Carlyle, IL. Joe M. Brill, Clarence Dargie, Walt Andrus, and Dwight Connelly are scheduled to speak.

Care Needed

By AP

When the Viking unmanned laboratory lands on Mars in 1976, every precaution must be taken that no earth matter lands with it. One thumbprint on a piece of Viking equipment would leave as many as 10 trillion molecules of amino acids, building blocks of life.

Newark, Delaware

Woman, son see UFO at busy corner

Date and time of sighting: Jan. 17, 1974, 2030.

Location of sighting: Newark, Delaware.

Local Evaluation: Significant.

Investigated by: J. J. Magrans, state section director of New Castle County, Delaware, from referral by Ted Bloecher.

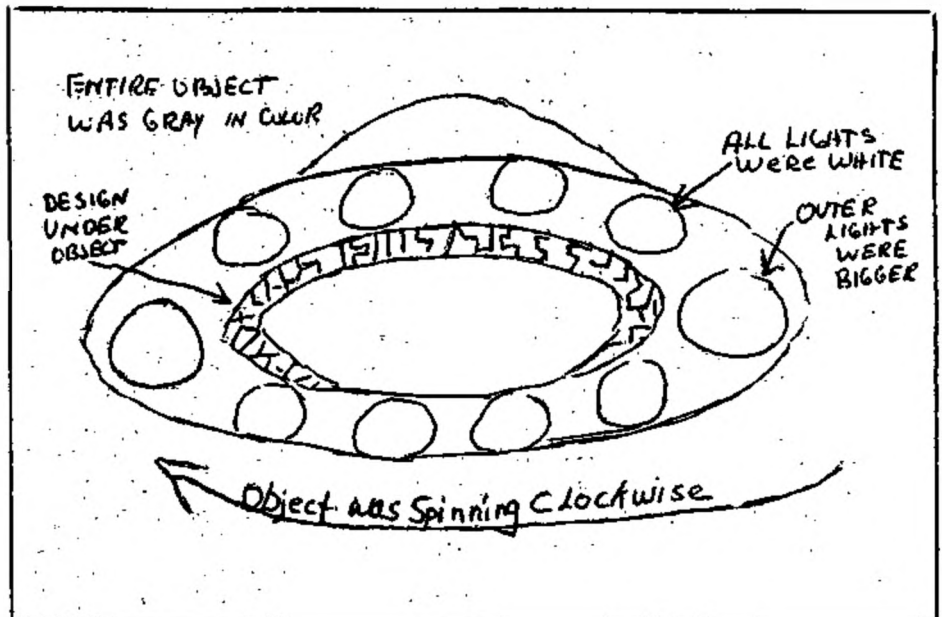
The sighting

The main witness, with her 8-year-old son sitting next to her, was driving east on Delaware Av. at approximately 2030-2100 hour. As she approached the intersection of Chapel Street and slowed down for the traffic light which was red, she noticed bright illumination through her windshield. This illumination (white fluorescent light) appeared to be coming from the left hand side, so she looked through her driver's window and saw "a huge circular object."

At this point she stopped the car. She was the first car arriving at the intersection, but other cars were behind her and they also stopped at the light.

The object was of huge dimensions, by the witness's account: it entirely covered the nearby lot, which is a used car sales lot. The object was grey, having a metallic look, and was smooth. A dome was visible on top which was not illuminated.

The bottom of the object had lights (white fluorescent in color), not so bright as to hurt the eyes, which seemed to be shining down on the witness. The two extreme lights at the left and right of the object were bigger than the others. The witness did not count the number of lights, but for the sake of illustration a set num-



ber was indicated in the drawing.

There was also a band revolving around the base of the object which had many straight lines forming some kind of a lighted design. The witness said her first thought was that "this was some kind of government project advertizing something, but I couldn't understand what the design moving around the disk was saying, if anything." The bottom center around which the design was revolving protruded out, and the bottom of the protrusion was flat. Part of the design was blocked out of view because of this protrusion. The witness said she was "really amazed and curious" as she viewed "this big strange object," but "then I began to get scared, as I had never seen anything like this before."

The object was in a slanted position, and the entire object spinned clockwise and gave off a high pitched humming sound. There was no wind created by the object. It was very close to the light poles, electric poles and building, hovering over them and appearing as if it wanted to land there.

Everyone watches

While the witness had been watching the object, the traf-

fic light turned green, but she did not move and neither did anybody else stopped at the traffic light. It was about this time that she noticed the guy in the car to her right roll his window down, laugh, and say, "Hey, that up there is a flying saucer!"

She also noticed the driver of a car behind and to her right get out of the car, lean on his car and stare at the object. At some point during all this she also rolled her window down and looked at the object.

She did not keep count on how many times the traffic light changed and no one at the intersection moved, but it was several times. She stayed there for approximately 5 minutes. The witness does not remember whether there were any parked cars on the lot; if there were any, it was not many.

Her son started to get scared and she was afraid that the object might get tangled up with the electric lines or hit one of the light poles, so she decided to leave. She turned left at the intersection and drove two blocks on Chapel Street. When she drove on, the other cars followed.

Object moves higher

As she was passing Main

Street (the traffic light was green) she said the object was on her left and seemed to be following her, but it was now much higher in the sky (3/4 up on the horizon).

At this point, she turned into the Newark Shopping Center and got out of the car. She approached a lady walking out of the Acme Supermarket and told her, "Look, look up in the sky," and as they both looked, the object was disappearing very quickly straight up in the sky above them. As the object ascended, no exhaust was visible. There was no visible emission coming out of the bottom of the object.

The witness

It is my impression that the main witness is a trustworthy, reliable person and that she saw what she described. She did not read UFO literature before the sighting and paid only minor attention to articles in newspapers. She does not want her name used in any way whatsoever with this matter. I did not interview the boy because of his age, but he did mention that he saw a big object with lights, and he got scared because it was going to fall on them.

Additional witness check

The sighting area was checked for additional witnesses by a door-to-door canvass, but none was found. Nearly all of the potential witnesses were very helpful, easygoing and talked to me carefree. The occupant of the house next to the used car sales lot was the only one that gave me the impression that he was hiding something. When I asked him about the sighting he quickly answered, "We saw nothing, goodnight." His son (around 11 years old) started saying something about an object and lights going off and on but his father just looked at him and repeated that they had seen nothing. I explained to him what MUFON is and that

anything he said would be treated confidentially. He repeated again, "We saw nothing."

Natural phenomena check

Due to the nature of the object described, all natural phenomena were discounted as a possible cause for the sighting.

Man-made object check

The only object which could remotely be the cause of this sighting would be a balloon or a blimp. The balloon can be disregarded due to the quick ascension and disappearance of the UFO. The wind speed for that night was 10 m.p.h. Although the direction coincides with that of the UFO, the speed of the wind can't account for the fast disappearance of the object.

The blimp can be eliminated when one asks such questions as: what would a blimp be doing so close to the ground, on top of a busy intersection almost colliding with a building, street lights and power lines? Why wouldn't the witness have been able to identify the object as a blimp? Any conventional object, that size, so close to the ground would create a lot of wind commotion and noise. The object in question made only a high-pitched hum and created no wind disturbance.

Other possibilities

The hallucination possibility can be discounted. The witness and her son saw it and, according to them, other people also saw it and acknowledge their seeing it by their actions and remarks. A hoax does not seem possible because of the number of people that would have had to have been fooled under the circumstances. The object was just too huge and the area just too busy. No psychic phenomena to my knowledge could have caused this sighting.

Man claims UFO controlled auto

By Richard Hall
MUFON International Coordinator

Some UFO witnesses have reported that they have lost control of their cars, seemingly overpowered by a superior force, while being paced or approached by a UFO.

The following report, excerpted from the transcript of a tape-recorded interview by the Tasmanian U.F.O. Investigation Centre, describes a similar occurrence near Bridgewater, north of Hobart, in July, 1974. The witness, whose name is on record, prefers to remain anonymous.

Q. Could you tell us now what it looked like?

A. Well, there was no actual definite shape; it seemed to be oval, definitely didn't appear to have wings. It had a front top light--a red one, and this larger bottom light...We went along the highway and turned off. It hovered as we turned and seemed to keep pace with us.

Q. There was no noise?

A. There seemed to be no noise, no. It was so queer it was perfectly silent. (Describes the UFO speeding up when they speeded up and slowing when they slowed. As they passed onto the main road near Campania, where there were a few houses, the UFO remained higher and at a greater distance, and when they left "civilization" again it once again descended below hilltop height and resumed pacing the car). After it came down again I felt as if I was in its power, as if it was definitely going to take over the controls of the car; it was hard to steer. We did wander right over to the right side of the road where the object was; to pull it back onto the right side of the road was quite an effort. I can remember that after it disappeared that my arms ached around the shoulders, so I was making quite an effort to keep the car where it should be...

Q. Did the car slow at all?

A. No, seemed as if the car wasn't in my power.



California report

The 'amateur' ufologist

By Ann Druffel

In recent months there have been published a few books by scientists prominent in the field of ufology. We hail the arrival of these books, for they indicate that ufology has at last reached respectability in the public eye.

Why that should be is strange. It should always be respectable to seek truth. But in our technologically-oriented society, the stamp of scientific approval on any field of endeavour is tantamount to public approval.

These books are well written, and often fascinating. But without exception, each refers to scientists as having the ability to seek truth, in contrast to the so-called "amateurs" who have handled the majority of public UFO research during the past three decades.

Being myself one of these "amateurs" to whom scientists refer, I must confess the term rankles me. I have always thought of an "amateur" as a bungling idiot, akin to an amateur carpenter who mashes his thumb with a hammer or an amateur plumber who ends up knee-deep in water.

Since that is about as far from the real meaning of the word as Pluto is from Mercury, a brief examination of terms is in order.

"Amateur," going back to its Latin root, means "one who loves." Apply this to the well-known genre of amateur astronomers, who for centuries have studied planets, discovered comets, and were the first to become aware of radio sources in space. These amateur astronomers, a majority of whom are qualified observers with precision instruments, typically

make no money from their contributions, but engage in astronomical study for sheer love of the work.

This is not to take anything away from professional astronomers. But there is no great difference between the QUALITY of work put out by a paid professional astronomer and a good amateur. Most professional astronomers are only too glad to admit to this fact.

So to our "amateur" ufologists. The very word "ufologist" brings up another semantical snag. What is a ufologist? It is one who studies ufology--the classification of UFOs. One could say that the first ufologists HAD to be amateurs. Since ufology has been in existence less than twenty-five years, it has not yet become a science. Too little is known about UFOs to even properly classify them---and classification is the heart of any science.

Likewise, almost nothing is known of the facts behind their existence--what they are, their purpose and motives, how they are propelled. A prolonged study into the literature leaves any researcher, scientist and non-scientist alike, agape with their seemingly infinite complexity.

It must be admitted by ANYONE who studies UFOs that ufology is not yet a science, and therefore a ufologist is not a scientist, per se.

The only answer to this problem lies in determining who is competent to study UFOs. At present this research requires two things: 1. detailed documentation, without prejudice, of whatever facts are available from individual sightings, and 2. generous individual dona-

tion of time, energy and resources without hope of compensation.

Let us hope that this second requirement will change before very long! But until money grants become available to fund research projects, a ufologist must willingly pay his own way.

Referring back to the two requirements for a ufologist, 1. an ability to perform competent research and 2. a willingness to give of his/her own resources---where does anyone get the idea that only scientists can fill these demands? Are only scientist per se CAPABLE of being ufologists? Why are non-scientists referred to as "amateurs"?

When I was taking graduate training in the field of social case work, an established and respected profession, one of the first things taught us was the definition of a "profession." A profession possesses two elements: 1. it provides a needful and trained service to society and 2. the members should give that service with financial reward being secondary in their minds.

If you review the requirements for a "profession" and for a "ufologist," you will note that they are almost identical. Therefore, a competent ufologist---scientist and non-scientist alike---is to all intents and purposes a professional.

It all comes down to whether each individual researcher is competent to study UFOs. I have known scientists who were sadly lacking the ability to interview witnesses properly; likewise I have known competent persons in non-scientific fields who easily gathered "the facts" with open, objective

minds. And vice versa.

Let's face it. In ufology there are no real "professionals" because of the tenuous nature of the subject. There are no "amateurs" either, because "amateur" is in semantical opposition to "professional." There are only those persons who can competently give of themselves.

Provided each researcher is competent, we are all professionals OR we are all amateurs together.

When the time comes that sufficient knowledge is available as to the nature of UFOs, and they can be properly classified and studied, only then will ufology be a science. The distinction of "amateur" as opposed to "scientist" as used at present simply does not apply.

In Southern California, the mainstream of UFO research since 1955 has been handled by a comparatively small group of dedicated persons. The nucleus group composed the Los Angeles NICAP Subcommittee from 1959 through 1971. It included a bio-physicist, three engineers, a public relations person, a bookkeeper, a social worker and a secretary.

We worked together fruitfully and in harmony for twelve years. Since 1972, when it transferred its resources to MUFON, the group has grown manifold, pulling in scientists in varied disciplines and other researchers of widely disparate skills. Required of each individual is that he/she loves the subject and is competent in research and field investigation of UFOs.

This is the only reasonable way in which UFO research can be done. It makes no difference whatsoever what skills and training a UFO researcher possesses. The field is so complex that every skillful, intelligent, and properly motivated person can contribute to it in a unique way.

NO ONE---scientists included ---holds within his grasp the abilities required to handle the whole field.

June 12-13

MUFON Symposium set

Plans are now moving into high gear for MUFON's 7th annual symposium, according to Bob Stinson, state director for Michigan. The Conference will be held at Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor, MI, on June 12, 1976. Weber's Inn was selected over several other hotels due to their excellent reputation in hosting conferences, their exceptionally fine food, and superb guest facilities.

The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. J. Allen Hynek. Other speakers will include Dr. Jacques Vallee, Bill Spaulding, Ray Stanford, David Webb, and Henry McKay. An informal "rap" session is scheduled the evening before in one of Weber's conference rooms.

Registration will be held from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 12, and the program will begin promptly at 9 a.m. The afternoon session will include several specialization workshops associated with landing case traces, humanoids, and UFO detection via instrumentation.

A deluxe buffet dinner will be served that evening at 5:45 p.m. with the evening program scheduled to start at 8 p.m. Dr. Hynek's presentation will be followed by a critique session with questions fielded from the floor.

On Sunday, MUFON will hold its annual corporate meeting (members only) from 9 a.m. until noon. A workshop entitled "Techniques Employed in UFO Field Investigations" will be featured that afternoon.

Early advance registration is strongly recommended, according to Stinson. The cost for advance-registering for all sessions and dinner is \$16.00 (a savings of \$2.00 vs. individual ticket prices), and checks should be made payable Michigan MUFON, and mailed to Bob Stinson, 2903 Sheffield

Court, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48105.

Bob has also agreed to make reservations for lodging at Weber's Inn for those attending the symposium if given the appropriate information regarding arrival and departure dates and times as well as type of accommodation preferred.

Further information can be obtained by writing to Stinson at the above address, or calling 313-994-0927. Advanced registration and room reservations will be confirmed in writing.

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In Others' Words

By Lucius Farish

The March 30 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER featured two articles of interest. The first dealt with sightings along the New Jersey coast in January; the second article (by Erich von Daniken) details some amazing stone carvings from Peru which appear to provide more evidence for the "ancient astronaut" theories. A small item in the April 6 ENQUIRER tells of the UFO credit course being taught at Northwestern University by Dr. J. Allen Hynek. The April 20 ENQUIRER provides testimonies from former Air Force members concerning their experiences in tracking and chasing UFOs.

The recent contact claim of singer Johnny Sands is explored in some detail in the March 30 issue of THE STAR. The April 6 issue contains an article on the Center for UFO Studies and the April 13 issue rehashes the recent Clovis, N.M., sightings.

The January New Jersey reports are examined in somewhat greater detail in the April 11 NATIONAL TATTLER. The May 2 TATTLER issue has a rehash article dealing with the theories propounded by Hynek and Vallee in THE EDGE OF REALITY.

The April issue of MAN'S has a UFO article which is largely composed of familiar material, although it does contain details of an abduction case investigated by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle which are very interesting.

Three articles of interest appear in the May issue of SAGA. Brad Steiger contributes a summary of recent reports involving UFOs and Bigfoot-like creatures; John Keel's column analyzes the state of UFO research after 29 years; the Nazca Lines controversy is renewed by suggesting that the Indian tribes of the area were flying in hot-air balloons, thereby accounting for the

"aerial perspective" needed to construct the designs.

The May issue of OFFICIAL UFO contains the usual amount of good material, including George Earley's book reviews, a new column by Bill Pitts, and articles by Dick Ruhl & Kevin Randle, Ray Fowler, Robert Barrow, Dave Webb, Don Worley, Richard Hall and others.

The third issue of ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS is now available. The first two issues were largely comprized of rehashed material, but the current number has some items of interest, including Richard Shaver's last article. AA is to be published on a bi-monthly basis in the future.

Curt Sutherly's article in the July issue of PSYCHIC WORLD examines the Fort Smith conference of October, 1975. An interesting summary of the events and the atmosphere of that meeting.

Brad Steiger's MYSTERIES OF TIME AND SPACE (previously reviewed in this column) is now available in a Dell paperback edition.

LASER BEAMS FROM STAR CITIES? is Robin Collyns' second book on the "ancient astronauts" theme. Unfortunately, it is rather a hodgepodge of miscellaneous material which appears to have been culled from his previous work, DID SPACEMEN COLONISE THE EARTH? It is long on speculation and all too short on previously-unpublished data. Some rather interesting photos are included and Collyns is not reluctant to link the "aa" subject with modern UFO evidence (unlike many of his counterparts), but overall, the book just doesn't make it. It is also grossly overpriced by the British publisher at 4 pounds, 25 pence (approximately \$9.00). Anyone wishing to order a copy may write to: Pelham Books Ltd. - 52 Bedford Square - London WC1B 3EF, England.

If you have not yet read Dan Clements' book, HOW TO BE KIDNAPPED BY UFOLK, you might like to know that copies are still available and at a reduced price. Only \$3.00 for this well-written, humorous look at the UFO subject. Order from: Clemco - Box 1362 - Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Andrew Tomas is one of the better and more interesting writers on the theme of ancient astronauts and prehistoric civilizations. His books, WE ARE NOT THE FIRST and THE HOME OF THE GODS, presented some of the results of his research conducted during his travels around the world. In his most recent hardcover work, ON THE SHORES OF ENDLESS WORLDS, Tomas devotes the first half of the book to an examination of life itself; its myriad forms and the possibility of life elsewhere in the universe. In the second half, he re-examines some of the more convincing evidences that beings from elsewhere have visited this planet and influenced the course of history. Any book by Tomas is always a pleasure to read and I look forward to his next one. The present volume is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons - 200 Madison Avenue - N. Y., N.Y. 10016; the price is \$7.95.

Long-time UFO researcher Robert Gribble of Seattle, Washington is profiled in an article for the April issue of POLICE GAZETTE.

Conference scheduled

The UFO Sightings Newsletter has announced that the First Mountain States UFO Believers Get-Together is scheduled for the Guanella Pass campgrounds, eight miles south of Georgetown, CO, on Aug. 7-8, 1976. The registration fee of \$2 (cash or money order) should be sent to Miss Janice Croy, 512 S. Logan, Denver, CO 80209.

Three reviews

The Edge of Reality

By Lucius Farish
Publications Reviewer

As various people associated with Ufology will readily tell you, I am often somewhat hard to please. To some, I must seem a chronic grouch. Perhaps I am, but while others line up to sing the praises of various "authorities" in the UFO field, I am finding more to complain about. No better example of my dissatisfaction could be found than the recent book by J. Allen Hynek and Jacques Vallee, *THE EDGE OF REALITY*. I respect the credentials of the authors and I find their DATA of considerable interest, but their theories and conclusions (such as they are) are a different matter.

Both Vallee and Hynek feel that the extraterrestrial hypothesis is inadequate to explain UFO activity. Vallee summarizes his view by saying: "We know that there is an unknown phenomenon being manifested. It appears to center on a technological device, a machine that is capable of transporting occupants. The behavior is not consistent either with what you would expect from space visitors, or with what we know about physics."

To my way of thinking, Vallee is ACTUALLY saying, in effect, "They don't play by our rules, therefore they can't be space visitors." Vallee also finds no purpose in the celestial peregrinations of the UFOs. I would suggest that if one finds no logic or purpose in the activities of the UFOs, the fault might well lie within the observer, rather than that which is being observed. To presume that we know what extraterrestrials SHOULD do and how they SHOULD act is nothing more than a combination of profound egotism and naivete.

I do not suggest that all
(continued on page 16)

By Richard H. Hall
International Coordinator

Despite its unusual format--fragmentary transcripts of taped discussions--this is an absorbing and highly readable book. It is at once loosely organized, yet coherent; casual and informal, yet penetrating.

Although it is a potporri of personal anecdotes and experiences, illustrative UFO sightings, analytical discussion, and free-wheeling brainstorming, its focus is clear: by all familiar measures UFOs are "real," but that reality seems to skirt the edges of accepted science and to suggest the need for revision of scientific concepts.

Reasonable men may disagree on exactly what reforms are needed, but the notion serves as a springboard for interesting speculation and the exercise is mind-expanding.

The book probes the question of where we now stand: what is the evidence and what will it take to explain it? No doubt there is a good consensus on the first part of the question; however, the second part is likely to be more controversial and it is clear that there is no simple answer. The answer, if there is one, is involved with complex interactions of science, politics, sociology, psychology, and possible parapsychology.

My gripes with the book are minor factual ones only. It is a good and thought-provoking survey well worth the attention of all serious students of UFOs for its discussions of the central questions.

An incidental benefit is the insight gained into the attitudes and thought patterns of the authors, who have played important roles in the effort to have UFOs studied scientifically.

(end of review)

THE EDGE OF REALITY by J. Allen Hynek and Jacques Vallee, (Henry Regnery Co., Chicago, 1975) \$14.95 (hardback) and \$5.95 (paperback).

By Dwight Connelly
Editor-Publisher

THE EDGE OF REALITY is a book which is honest, if egotistical. It is a valuable book in the sense that it enables both fans and detractors of Dr. Hynek and Dr. Vallee to know where these gentlemen stand--and where they fall.

It is an interesting book for the same reason. It is a refreshing book because of its off-the-cuff format. It is a disturbing book because it shows the rather primitive state of UFO research.

The total impression one is left with after reading the conversations between Hynek and Vallee, which make up the bulk of this book, is that the two "experts" do not seem to know as much as they should. In other words, their conversations are no more brilliant and their "facts" are no more accurate than other novices who have studied UFO literature and guessed at its meaning.

Perhaps it is difficult to live up to reputations in a field where there are really no experts--where amateurs know as much as scientists with Ph.D.'s. At any rate, the two authors certainly come off as being quite human in their expertise, though one gets the impression from reading the book that they see themselves as more God-like.

One problem the two authors face is that they bill themselves as scientists, yet do not possess UFO credentials which are any more scientific than those of anyone else. Moreover, the very topic of conversation--the edge of reality--tends to pull them from known science into unknown areas. They are challenged more than enough in the former; they are on treacherously thin ice in the latter.

Still, if one does not at-
(continued on page 16)

EDGE OF REALITY review

by Farish

(continued from page 15)

UFOs are spaceships; if I knew what UFOs are, I would not be writing these words. But, I do think it is a grave error to reject a POSSIBILITY merely because elements of that possibility do not fit one's preconceived notions. Much more could be said about the errors and numerous examples of fuzzy thinking to be found in THE EDGE OF REALITY, but space does not permit a full accounting. Suffice it to say, the UFO organizations come in for their lumps, while the Center for UFO Studies is touted as a "scientific" body which is willing to "cooperate" with all groups and publications. We have already seen the extent of the Center's "cooperation" and it leaves a great deal to be desired.

Overall, Vallee comes off much better than Hynek in this series of transcribed conversations with Dr. Arthur C. Hastings. Vallee seems to recognize the danger of "scientific recognition" for the UFO subject and he also points up the inadequacies of computer techniques. When Hynek comments on Charles Fort's writings, for instance, it is obvious that he does not have the faintest clue as to what Fort was "all about."

Both men seem to favor a "parallel world" concept to explain UFOs. While this certainly cannot be ruled out, they would do well to remember a quotation from another recent book on the subject: "...if one wishes to postulate worlds other than physical (astral or etheric), one can easily satisfy and explain virtually all the reported antics of the UFO. But how do you establish that the hypothesis is true? Unless you have an operational method of doing so, it is not SCIENCE." That quote? It's from Hynek's previous book, THE UFO EXPERIENCE.

(end of review)

EDGE OF REALITY review

by Connelly

(continued from page 15)

tempt to draw anything solid and scientific from the book, it makes interesting reading. For example, the following exchange (p. 258-59), which is moderated by Arthur C. Hastings, a researcher in parapsychology:

Psychic Projection

Hynek: Now, as part of our hypotheses when we're examining the panoply of hypotheses, we should take into account the paranormal phenomena that are being written about and apparently being experienced. Should those psychic claims be true, it opens up another can of worms. Then the problem essentially is solved; that explains why UFOs can make right angle turns, that explains why they can be dematerialized, why sometimes they are not detected by our infrared equipment. All that. But that's dangerous territory to tread.

Vallee: Why does it explain all that?

Hynek: Well, because psychic projections aren't picked up on radars, that I know of.

Vallee: That's right, as far as we know they aren't, but UFOs are.

Hynek: Some are, some not-- there are many times when UFOs aren't picked up.

Vallee: There are ways of making an airplane invisible to radar.

Hynek: Yes, well, I'm not sure that there are, that's one of the things that they're certainly trying very hard to do. But if they had that, then all planes, or all military planes, would be fixed up so they couldn't be picked up on radar.

Hastings: Invisibility is one of the occult abilities.

Vallee: I understand what you're saying, Allen, but it's not clear to me that it explains it. I mean when you say it explains everything, I don't

agree with it.

Hynek: It certainly would explain the apparent violation of the laws of physics, because psychic projection doesn't have to obey Newton's law of gravitation, it doesn't have to obey $F=ma$. To that extent it would get around it.

Vallee: It has to obey $F=ma$ if it has mass.

Hynek: Psychic projection probably doesn't have mass.

Vallee: Then it doesn't explain the 800 cases of traces left on the ground by UFOs that Ted Phillips has collected. You said in the beginning that those are the things that any theory must explain, right? If it doesn't explain it, why would it be a good theory?

Hynek: All right, why do poltergeists move something and yet don't appear on radar? Do they, the poltergeists, have that physical reality? And yet they have physical effects! In other words, we have a phenomenon here that undoubtedly has physical effects but also has the attributes of the psychic world.

In addition to such "brainstorming" sessions, the book also features a few actual cases. One of the more interesting is entitled, "The Night an Occupant Was Shot." This particular case apparently took place in North Dakota (the book says only "in the northern plains") a number of years ago. This case is, by the way, still very much "open" and an additional attempt has been made within the past year to obtain more details (this is not mentioned in the book).

The other cases are pretty well known, such as the sighting by the Rev. Gill in New Guinea in 1959.

One of the more controversial, ill-considered, and inaccurate sections of the book is made up of attacks on the "private" UFO groups, such as APRO, MUFON, and NICAP (excluding, naturally, the Center for UFO Studies). Why Hynek would want

(continued on page 18)

Study by Bastide suggests that

UFOs prefer nights without a moon

By Jean Bastide

Some French UFO events have been published recently in FSR of London (FSR Vol. 20, no.1: roundup of the French wave), but most of them have only been published in French reviews on UFOs, such as "Phenomenes Spaciaux," "Lumieres dans la Nuit," and so on.

The UFO cases which have gained notice in France during the end of the year 1973 and the beginning of the year 1974 are mainly a result of the great number of news reports given on this subject by the local mass-media. We know that the publicized 73-74 "French

wave" was very probably not a wave at all, and only a result of such mass-media on French people during this period, when 39 broadcasts on UFOs were transmitted by the French radio. Therefore, the UFO wave of 73-74 in France and Europe (Germany, Spain, Italy, Rumania, England, etc) is not comparable in quality and volume with the famous French wave of 1954: low-level events are numerous, but humanoid cases are very rare.

I have seriously studied this period of four months (from December, 1973, to March, 1974) and found a total of 183 UFOs events in France only. This

work is the result of an in-depth study, hour by hour, day after day, and month after month of the French cases, and I can say that very strange things have hovered at low altitude in the French skies, being seen by several witnesses in numerous events, and definitively cannot be identified by Mr. Menzel or the late Dr. Condon.

I have in fact identified a great number of "UFOs" (mainly misinterpretations of the moon crescent, the planet Venus, and sounding balloons), but these 183 cases are remaining after all these studies...

TIME DISTRIBUTION:

A) SOLAR INFLUENCE:

We have for the studied period:

	DAY	NIGHT
% of UFOs	12 %	88 %
% of time	40 %	60 %

B) LUNAR INFLUENCE:

a) If we consider the percentages of UFOs seen seven days before and after the syzygies (syzygies= new moon or full moon), thus having taken into account all the period considered, we will have:

	FULL MOON	NEW MOON
% of UFOs during the syzygies	43,4 %	56,6 %
% of time	49,6 %	50,4 %

b) Number of cases the night being with or without moon:

	NIGHT WITH MOON	NIGHT WITHOUT MOON (darkened areas on the figure)
% of UFOs	35,2 %	52,8 %
% of time	31,4 %	28,5 %

c) Relatively to the number of nocturnal UFO cases and nocturnal total time, we have:

	NIGHT WITH MOON	NIGHT WITHOUT MOON
% of nocturnal UFOs	40 %	60 %
% of nocturnal time	52,4 %	47,6 %

CONCLUSION:

If we admit we must have the same number of UFOs during the whole time considered, we have a theoretically unexplainable increase of UFOs during the

periods of darkness (particularly during the night, and the night without moon as it could be expected logically). The real numbers of UFOs seen during these periods of darkness

are exceeding the theoretical numbers expected for these same periods. The hypothesis of equivalence of all the hours of day or night for a UFO to be seen cannot be the right one

(the hypothesis of "equiprobability" is often applied in statistics).

The time being held constant, I can calculate two theoretical numbers by the simple mean of

proportionality in cases A, Ba, Bv, Bc and I give the geometrical mean of these two numbers for each of these cases. The unexplainable increases are the differences between real and theoretical numbers:

Unexplainable increases for lightless time:

A	58,3
Ba	12,4
b	21,9
c	24,8

We can now calculate the corresponding rates of increase:

A	r.i. = $\frac{58,3}{12}$ = 486 % (enormous increase!)
Ba	$\frac{12,4}{43,4}$ = 28,6 %
Bb	$\frac{21,9}{35,2}$ = 62,2 %
Bc	$\frac{24,8}{40}$ = 62 %

The conclusion is very simple: during periods of lower luminosities--such as night and night without moon--the number of UFOs observed is greater than the number of UFOs that can be expected from a theoretical point of view. The lower the luminosity, the higher the number of UFOs seen. Because the UFOs are not shy--I presume --we must admit the following hypothesis:

- 1) the UFOs are often very luminous by themselves
- 2) the UFOs are of a physi-

cal nature

These two simple logical explanations are of unusual importance, as anybody will acknowledge...I hope such little remarks will perhaps help us to go out of the "parapsychology wave," which is nowadays a dead end of Ufology. Thanks to such men as the late Dr. McDonald and Mr. McCampbell, we can hope that the physical hypothesis of UFOs will be the hypothesis of the XXI century, if not of the end of our own XX century.

Ph.D. dissertation studies McDonald

Paul McCarthy has written a Ph.D. dissertation which takes a detailed look at James E. McDonald's 1966 UFO activities, making the case that the scientific process is a political process.

Chapters of the thesis include one on the University of Colorado Project; one on the 1968 Congressional Symposium, essentially arguing that McDonald masterminded it; one on the office of Naval Research controversy in which Phil Klass attempted to discredit McDonald and claim that he missed Navy

funds; and one on the AAAS Symposium in Boston showing how Sagan & Page, for their own questionable motives, pushed through a panel discussion over the objections and severe opposition of Menzel and Condon.

The study portrays McDonald as a "revolutionary" scientist forced to adopt "extreme" tactics (in opposition to the other-extreme tactics of UFO debunkers) in order to pursue the UFO problem. The study so far has only been circulated privately--Richard Hall.

EDGE OF REALITY review

By Connelly

(continued from page 16)

to attack the groups he claims to want to work with is, to coin a phrase, beyond reality. It is especially surprising that he should falsely accuse these groups of the very things which CUFOS is undeniably guilty of: such as failing to produce "scientific" papers.

Vallee, for his part, shows inexcusable ignorance concerning the "bulletins" of these UFO groups, charging that "if you buy the typical bulletin of one of these groups, you will have a two-page editorial that says Mr. Such-and-Such has resigned; Mrs. So-and-So's knees aren't getting any better (club news); So-and-So gave a lecture and it was enthusiastically reported in the MORNING STAR REGISTER: and, we're making great progress. That's about it."

Here at Skylook we receive all the major "bulletins" and most of the minor ones--foreign and domestic--and, whatever their demerits, none fits Vallee's strange perceptions.

Even this aspect of the book is interesting, however, since it too indicates where these two "names" are--in terms of their perceptions of other UFO researchers and groups. In general, the Hynek-Vallee Rule applies: the farther the researcher, group, or publication is from the U.S., the more acceptable the researcher, group, or publication becomes--with the exception of CUFOS, of course.

Although the book is a sobering letdown, even a sobering letdown can be worthwhile and interesting. I highly recommend the book.

Musgrave wants info

Information concerning the history of UFOs in Canada is being sought by John Musgrave, 10510 86th Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6E 2M6. His study is being financed by a grant from the National Research Council.



Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

State directors

The success of MUFON may be directly attributed to the outstanding organizational and planning work being performed by active state directors. The following new appointments are being made to strengthen this asset.

Forrest R. Lundberg, formerly state section director for Polk and Warren counties, has accepted the position of state director for Iowa, succeeding Harold E. Cowdin. Forrest has demonstrated a sincere interest in the UFO phenomenon and was the moderator and co-host for the 1975 MUFON UFO Symposium in Des Moines. His mailing address is: Commodore Hotel, Room 207, 3440 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312, and telephone (515) 255-2141. Desmond H. Bragg, Ph.D., 1411 Hackley Street, Des Moines, IA 50313; telephone (515) 285-1647, has graciously consented to become state section director for Polk and Warren counties. Dr. Bragg heads up the Department of Education at Drake University, and was the co-host for the Des Moines UFO Symposium in 1975.

With the termination of VFON and personal commitments, Herb Roth has resigned as state section director for Arapahoe County. He was also serving as the acting state director for Colorado when Larry Childs moved to Seattle, WA. We are privileged to announce that Robert A. Spencer, a MUFON field investigator since 1973, has been selected as the state director for Colorado. Bob and his family reside at 4430 Glad-iola Street, Golden, CO 80401; telephone (303) 279-4682. His credits include a B.S. in Business Administration, past president of the Denver Astronomical Society, and he is current-

ly secretary/treasurer of the National Amateur Astronomers. Herb Roth has turned over his entire UFO files to Bob so they may be perpetuated.

We wish to send our deepest sympathy and offer our condolences to Mrs. Dorothy C. Mickle and family upon the death of Walter A. Mickle, M.D., MUFON consultant and acting state director for Louisiana.

Theodore F. Peters, Ph.D., 2742 Collinswood, Newberry, S.C. 29108; telephone (803) 276-7174, has been appointed state section director for Newberry, Laurens, Saluda, Greenwood and Lexington counties. Ted is a professor at Newberry College and presently is teaching a college level course on UFOs.

Ted Bloecher, state director for New York, has appointed Robert D. Clayton, M.A., P.O. Box 38, Diamond Point, NY 12824; telephone (518) 644-2496, as state section director for Essex, Hamilton, Warren and northern Washington counties. Bob is a professor of history and anthropology.

Russian translator

Susan L. Claywell, 10229 Virginia, Kansas City, MO 64131, has volunteered to translate Russian technical papers for MUFON. She has a B.A. in Soviet Area Studies and one year of graduate study toward her M.A.

Clips appreciated

Your international director would like to express his appreciation to the numerous people serving the "UFO NEWS CLIPPING SERVICE" who have so faithfully sent newspaper articles to the MUFON office. Ap-

propriate UFO reports from these clippings are sent to Rod B. Dyke in Seattle, Washington, MUFON Staff Member.

Official UFO magazine

Compliments are extended to Richard H. Hall, international coordinator, for his fine article in the February 1976 issue of OFFICIAL UFO titled "MUFON--The Mutual UFO Network." It is a very objective view of MUFON as a scientific UFO investigative agency, and relates some of the outstanding people involved and their contributions in helping to resolve the UFO phenomenon. It was our pleasure to meet Bernard O'Connor, Editor of OFFICIAL UFO, during the UFO Conference in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, last October. Bernie and the many MUFON members who have been submitting articles for this magazine are responsible for making it the most credible UFO magazine available on the newsstands today.

Kansas City symposium

The "1976 UFO Public Information Symposium" was held on Saturday, March 27, 1976, with two identical sessions at the Midland Theater in downtown Kansas City, MO, under the sponsorship of MUFON of Kansas City. Speakers were Stan Fouch, Ted Phillips, Dr. J. Allen Hyn-ek, and Walt Andrus, with host and moderator Ross Reagan of WDAF Radio. All of us are indebted to Stan Fouch, state section director for Kansas; Thomas H. Nicholl, state director for Kansas, and the many MUFON people in the Heart of America group who conducted this successful symposium and were hospitable and gracious hosts in their homes.

Recapping and commenting

This month's column is directed toward articles appearing in the February, 1976, issue of SKYLOOK.

The San Antonio, Texas, occupant case (5/3/75) bears such a striking resemblance to the Ririe, Idaho, (11/2/67) occupant encounter in so many features of appearance that it invites detailed comparison.

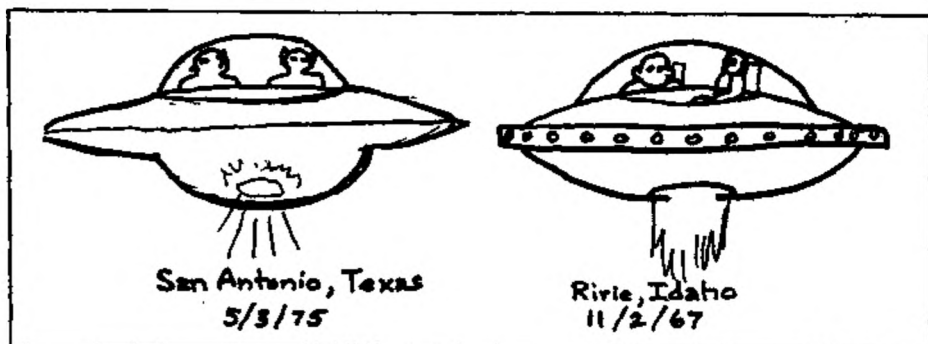
In both cases disc-like UFOs with transparent "bubble" domes approached vehicles, stopped and hovered above them. Each had two occupants with large ears and hairless heads (eyes and other features differ), one of whom looked directly at the witness while the other looked away. Both UFOs seemed to have "control panels."

The Idaho case is reported, with detailed sketch, in UFOs: A NEW LOOK (NICAP, 1969) along with two other cases in which two occupants were seen inside a clear dome. The four cases contain many features in common, including brilliant lights (green, red, and orange) either around the rim or like a beam from the underside, and vehicle-like UFOs that hovered at low altitude, turned and tilted. In the recent Texas case a strong odor like burning wires or metal was noted; in Blenheim, N. Z. (7/13/59) an odor like pepper filled the air.

The summary of separate investigations of the Travis Walton abduction story is useful and informative. Some points worth consideration have been made by GSW, NICAP, and APRO, but can we say that all the facts are in and investigation is complete?

It seems to me that some people are committing the same sin often attributed to scientists--leaping to conclusions and failing to resolve discrepancies or gather all the information before passing judgment. There is no excuse for us not to suspend judgment (whether or not scientists practice what

By Richard Hall



they preach) in complex cases of this kind.

Some clarification is needed of the Waltons' pre-existing attitudes toward the knowledge of UFOs and of the NICAP claim that Travis tried to force himself on a talk show host. On the other hand, APRO's psychological testing yielded strong positive results, and several witnesses attest to the basic circumstances of the encounter. I agree that skepticism toward spectacular UFO cases is far healthier than gullibility, but a negative form of skepticism that prejudices a report may be just as self-deluding as gullible belief.

We should be far more willing to keep a case open indefinitely, and feel less compulsion to come up with a final "yes" or "no" answer simply for organizational image reasons. The best image is cautious, careful open-mindedness and painstaking investigation.

Schuessler's resignation

Deputy Director John Schuessler's candid resignation statement touches on many critical points as well as frustrations of UFO investigation. It needs to be said openly that serious friction exists between a number of important MUFON personnel and Dr. Hynek's Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS). I, too, have some reservations about CUFOS but I continue to approve of MUFON's policy of full cooperation.

Whatever we may think of

Hynek or CUFOS, the Center is a rallying point for scientists who treat UFOs seriously. We badly need the resources of science to properly study UFOs. Politics makes strange bedfellows; we need them and they need us. More tact and diplomacy on both sides would help, for the sake of our common goals.

Astronomy Notes

By Mark R. Herbstritt

May Sky

Mercury--for the first week of the month it should be visible low in the west just after sunset, but by the 20th it is in inferior conjunction.

Venus--it is difficult to observe, rising just minutes before the sun at mid-month.

Mars--moving into Cancer, it is now past the meridian at sunset and sets about midnight. Late on the 11th (at 21 hours E.S.T.) Mars and Saturn are in conjunction.

Jupiter--in the latter part of the month it is easy to observe as a morning "star" rising in the north of east before the Sun.

Saturn--in Cancer it is well past the meridian at sunset and sets at about midnight.

The Aquarid meteor shower occurs from the 1st to the 6th.