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# FROM THE EDITOR

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We present in this issue still another interpretation of abduction reports, this time as psychological imagery. The ferment of thought on abduction cases is a healthy sign. The author's idea is interesting and deserves to be studied, though its application to some cases (e.g., Travis Walton, with independent witnesses to a UFO, and others with physical evidence effects) would seem to be strained. Still, it may have application to some of the cases and therefore warrants discussion rather than out-of-hand rejection. As with some other recent "theories," the author may be stretching it too far. However, the imagery phenomena described do bear sufficient resemblance to some aspects of close encounter cases to suggest that the notion deserves critical review.

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# IMAGERY AND CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

By Keith Basterfield

The great majority of reported observations of UFOs are explainable in conventional terms once common sense investigation has taken place. Aircraft, weather balloons, clouds, the moon, the sun, stars, planets, and meteors have all been the cause of reports from people caught either by something which they haven't previously observed or by an unexpected or unusual aspect of viewing.

Ground markings reportedly associated with UFOs have been caused by fungus, slime mould, leaf smut, animals, whirlwinds, helicopters and hoaxes.

Even photographs have fallen to the use of sophisticated computer technology which has now eliminated all but a few of the more than 1,000 photographs known to have been investigated since 1947.

Radar "evidence" has been confused by the lack of understanding that even in this medium the human element of interpretation still comes into play and that other cases can be eliminated by the words "anomalous propagation." The January 1979 New Zealand radar reports in association with two movie films represents the point in question. The New Zealand government declared the radar targets to be due to faulty equipment and anomalous propagation effects. The second film was said to be Venus and doubt was cast on the initial film as being of little scientific value. (This interpretation, of course, is strongly disputed by Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee. —Ed.)

The residue left after the above explanations have been taken into account are a few photographs which have passed computer analysis, a small group of physical trace cases, and a larger number of close encounters where verbal testimony is the only evidence available.

It is this latter group of reports

which will be the subject of this paper.

The following examples of reported encounters will illustrate the typical event under consideration.

*Gum Creek, South Australia (1964)*

A farmer's wife lying awake at 0200 hrs. (CST)<sup>1</sup> noticed a "figure" suddenly appear outside the bedroom window, as if a "movie screen had been unrolled." The scene seemed very bright as if daylight and the entity was revealed in great detail because of the unusual lighting. The male figure appeared to be taking "photographs," then advanced towards the window. The lady wanted to speak to the figure but found she couldn't. She slipped down into bed and fell asleep. It was conjectured by her that the lighting came from an object above the house. No traces were found.

*Sandford, Tasmania (1978)*

Awakening due to a dog barking, a woman rose at 2350 hrs. (EST)<sup>2</sup> and looked out of the window. She noticed a "doorway" of white light out on the rough, front driveway. It was dark everywhere else surrounding the "door." However through and only through the "door" she could see the drive as if it were lit up by daylight. Then a golden glow spread from the door and both went out instantly. No traces found.

*Boyup Brook, West Australia (1967)*

A man was driving alone at 2130 hrs. (WST),<sup>3</sup> doing a steady 100 kph. Suddenly he became aware of the approach of a lighted object from the air. The car was immediately "stopped dead" and all electrical systems ceased to function. There was no feeling of deceleration at all. Looking up he reported seeing an iridescent blue oval over the car with a tube of light extending down into the car. After an estimated five minutes the object left and he found himself

travelling along at 100 kph again with all systems working and no feeling of acceleration. His watch was later reportedly found to be 5 minutes slow.

*Prospect, Ill., USA (1977)*

At 0100 hrs. (local) while driving alone a 19-year-old man claimed he was abducted from his car and taken into an object where weird entities were observed. He was then returned to his vehicle and found himself still travelling at speed.

An inspection of a large (300) sample of such close encounters within Australia lead to the conclusion that most are reported to occur in rural or isolated localities, at night, mainly with only one person present, frequently when they are driving a vehicle. There are peaks in the times of reports, namely 2000-2200 hrs. and 0200-0400 hrs. (see diagram 1). The type of object reported varies tremendously, and in some cases a humanoid "figure" is described in association with the UFO. There are physically inexplicable events described such as "materialization," cars being "taken over" from the drivers' control, and abduction stories of medical examination.

In attempting to determine if there was a real event without resort to the extraterrestrial hypothesis or other more fanciful theories, two cases caught my attention. Details follow.

*Ivy Tanks, South Australia (1973)*

A lady was travelling as a passenger in a semi-trailer and decided to go to sleep at 0200 hrs.<sup>4</sup> About 0300 hrs. she heard a warm male voice calling her name and telling her to look out of the window. By the side of the road she saw an egg-shaped object surrounded by a "force field." The entire thing was alight with a white glow which seemed to come from all

(continued on next page)

### Imagery, Continued

over and inside it. She feels the oval may have been semi-transparent. This illumination was so good that she was at a loss to compare the color and glow to anything she could think of. Although the viewing time was short (5 seconds) much detail was noted. The "force field" glow died down in an inexplicable manner. She woke up feeling fresh and upon questioning the driver found he had said and seen nothing.

*Frankston, Victoria (1972)*

While driving home, a 37-year-old housewife encountered a large silver-blue iridescent object hovering over her car. Twenty-two days later a similar or the same object appeared over her car at the same location. Suddenly the car's engine cut off and couldn't be restarted. She tried the steering wheel, pumped the brake and changed gear, all to no avail. The car "controlled itself" to the side of the road and stopped. All sound was drained out of the air and she was told three things. The engine then started itself and she drove to a police station and reported the incident. Later a mental message told her to return to the spot. On the way a man "materialized" then later "dematerialized" inside her car. Meeting two other people at the spot she again saw this "man" then lapsed into unconsciousness and while physically in the presence of two people who saw none of this, she described being taken inside a "room." There was no visible sign of illumination yet the room was well lit. She then recovered in the car. Other odd psychic events occurred at around this time (e.g., voices in her head). She was regarded as an average, normal healthy person by those who knew her.

As will be noted from these two reports there are items which we would consider impossible. Cars do not take over control of themselves and materialization is not an everyday practice. Remember, though, we are not talking of cranks or crackpots here, we are speaking of credible, reliable, healthy, average persons who stood up to rigorous cross-examination. These events are single

or at most multiple over a period of 6 months in an entire lifetime, not constantly repeated unlike so-called "contactee" claims. A court would have no doubt about the status of these people as reliable witnesses.

A literature search revealed that there are known psychological phenomena which are still not fully understood (as far as a mechanism goes) which seem to provide a possible examination for these events. These are hypnopompic and hypnagogic imagery.<sup>4</sup>

Hypnopompic imagery was so named by Alfred Maury in 1848. Maury perceived "faces" in the dark. Both types of imagery most often occur with the eyes closed, but may also occur in a darkened environment with the eyes open. McKellar (1972) reports encountering individuals who reported remarkably similar imagery which occurred when they were fully awake.

The imagery content is visual, or auditory, in the main but also include sensation of heat/cold, smell, or touch. They may be reproductions of the events of the day or strange, bizarre images of pleasing or frightening proportions. There seems to be little control over their appearance, and thus a person could certainly be frightened by their sudden onset. Reality and images of this kind can be readily confused. One of the most basic auditory images is that of hearing one's name called. You may recall instances where sleeping or dozing waiting for a morning call to breakfast, you hear your name called and obediently trot into the kitchen only to find a half-cooked breakfast and a puzzled chef.

Visual images range from simple (patches of color) to integrated and complex scenes. Objects can be "strange" or noticed from an unusual angle with sometimes an unusual clarity of detail. Durations range from seconds to minutes. Persons experiencing these images comment on the unusual intensity of color and lights using such phrases as "strange luminosity" and "glow of the Sun."

Surveys which have been done have led to speculation that such imagery is experienced by all but denied

by some as some deny having dreams. The incidence of imagery amongst the population has been found to range from 50-70% with events occurring to a number either nightly or regularly experienced on at least half the nights.

As an example of just how "real" these images can be, an instance quoted by McKellar (1968) is of note. A young couple had a routine of the wife getting breakfast ready for her husband and then seeing him off to work. One morning she recalled getting out of bed, washing, dressing, getting breakfast, and then kissing her husband goodbye. At this point she "woke" to find her husband kissing her goodbye. She had been asleep in bed all the time until that point.

Green and McCreery (1975) related what they called type two awakenings where we find people awakening normally to find themselves in bed. The surroundings at first appear normal but then become unusual or uncanny. Alternatively they may awake immediately to a stressed or stormy feeling. In either case they may experience fear, panic, or an hallucination or apparitional effect. This may also be accompanied by a seeming paralysis of the body or an "out of body" state.

To an outside observer the person would appear asleep, lying with eyes closed. Occasionally type two false awakenings are simply the sensation of awakening, then really awakening.

Table 1 compares characteristics of UFO events and imagery.

I would suggest that events such as Ivy Tanks (1973), Gum Creek (1964), and Sandford (1978) are imagery caused as they occurred on the awake/asleep interface where we know imagery occurs.

The accounts of the Boyup Brook (1967), Prospect (1977) and Frankston (1972) cases contain the same basic elements and occurred to persons travelling alone in an environment of unrelieved nature, driving along a relatively isolated road where one would have the probability of being in relaxed wakefulness on the sleep/awake interface.

*(continued on next page)*

## Imagery, Continued

There are hundreds of such events described in the UFO literature which the "image" hypothesis appears to be able to satisfactorily explain.

About 100 cases exist on record where people claim to have been "abducted" by aliens and subjected to a medical examination on board a UFO. An in-depth examination of 25 cases indicated strong correlation with the types of event already discussed. There are the same basic details present, except these abduction events result in a more convinced reporter with seeming physiological and physical traces, (e.g., glazed eyes, needle puncture marks). However, many cases occur where the witnesses claim to have been awakened from sleep or travelling in a vehicle where image conditions are optimum.

One abduction case (Calgary, Canada 1967) presents a further pointer to this hypothesis being credible. A boy on a 3-minute walk between two houses along a paddock arrived home in a daze. Under hypnosis he revealed he heard a high-pitched noise, looked up and saw an object. He was taken up into it and medically examined. However, the hypnotist believed that the incident was actually a subconscious memory recall of an earlier appendectomy operation.

Physiological and physical occurrences in people might have a parallel with the medically recognized "hysterical conversion." Hysteria is recognized as an illness resulting from emotional conflict and is classically manifested by dramatic physical symptoms involving the voluntary muscles or the organ of special senses. During the process of conversion unconscious impulses are transmitted into bodily symptoms. The emotional conflict is expressed physically (e.g., facial swelling, tunnel vision, or shock).

### Mechanism

Although we accept imagery as occurring we are still not certain of its mechanism. EEG experiments reveal that creative imagery is connected with the Theta brain wave pattern and that excess theta may be evident

in schizophrenics and psychoneurotics. Victims of the former can withdraw into fantasies and hallucinations. Much more investigation needs to be performed and it would be premature to speculate on the possible mechanism here beyond reporting that Ferguson (1973) describes how William Dent and associates of Stanford University looked at neural discharges — PGO (pontine-geniculate-occipital) spikes — which occur most heavily (but not exclusively) during paradoxical sleep. These bursts are thought possibly to bring on the intense visual imagery associated with REM (rapid eye movement) sleep.

If abnormal discharges of this kind occur to normal, healthy people at other than REM sleep periods, this might prove to be a possible mechanism.

If these encounters are in fact images, we would need to address ourselves to the question of why the form of imagery is metallic spaceships and entities. Surely imagery has been with us through the years?

Looking back through time we do in fact find support. People experienced "visions" and "apparitions" which were reported in a religious context; perhaps they became the village oracle or were held to be witches. In the middle ages we became afraid of elves, hobgoblins, and fairies. A percentage of the population could be found who actually reported seeing such creatures in isolated spots, notably during the hours of darkness. Materialization and dematerialization of entities was reported. A general belief in all this pervaded all classes of people, with the grass roots of society firmly convinced.

The 20th Century brought us a disbelief in such happenings; belief in them was seen as childish. Along came aircraft, rockets, missiles, and talk of extraterrestrial life. Many people today believe life exists outside of the Earth. The jump from existence to visitation has been strongly reinforced by science fiction films, books, and open discussion on the subject. I would suggest that we have merely moved the content of our im-

agery from the supernatural to UFOs.

### NOTES

1. Central Standard Time — GMT plus 9½ hours.
2. Eastern Standard Time — GMT plus 10 hours.
3. Western Standard Time — GMT plus 8 hours.
4. The intermediate period between wake and sleep is termed "hypnagogic" and between sleep and awake "hypnopompic."

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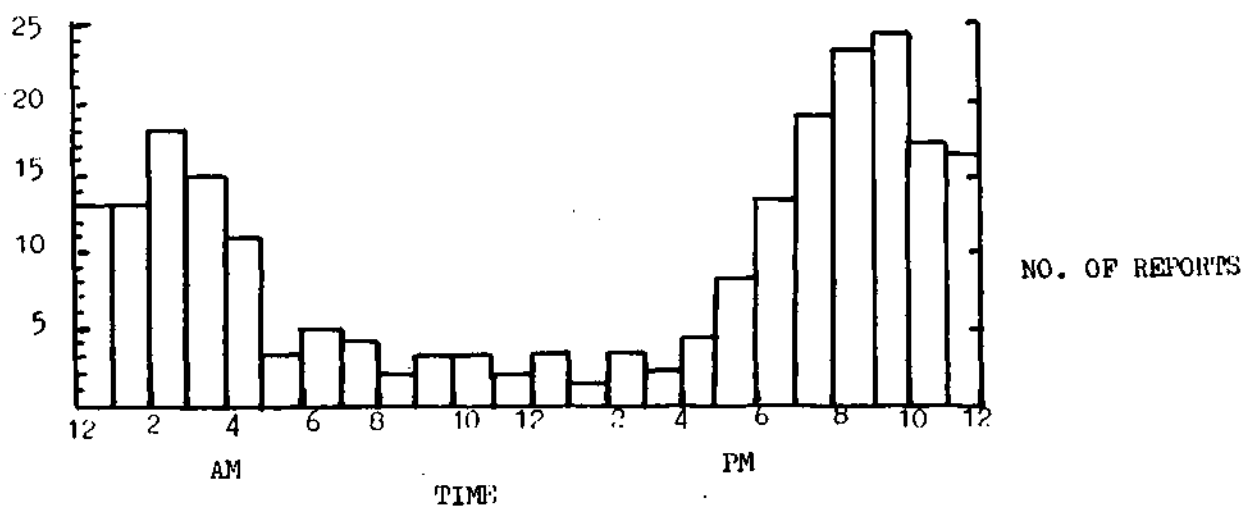
(Table and Diagram on page 6)



## Imagery, Continued

**Table 1 — COMPARISON OF IMAGERY VERSUS CLOSE ENCOUNTERS**

<b>Imagery</b>	<b>Close Encounter Reports</b>
Occurs on the sleep/awake interface — can occur during day.	Mainly occur at night, often when driving alone or when awoken from sleep during night, few occur during daylight.
Eyes closed, or in a darkened environment usually.	Mainly occur in a darkened environment.
Little control over the appearance or disappearance.	Occur suddenly and unexpectedly and most objects move away at incredible speed.
Vary from simple to complex.	Momentary encounters to longer duration abductions.
Little control over the content.	All sorts of descriptions of objects and aliens. This has been said to be a good reason to disbelieve the ETH.
Unusual quality of lighting/color.	Main point brought out by people reporting encounters is the intense lighting and vivid color of UFOs.
Healthy normal people and percipients.	Normal healthy people report.
Contents may be bizzare/unusual.	Car stops, car paces, engine failures, weird electrical effects which do not last, etc. Seemingly impossible.



**Diagram 1. — Statistical Breakdown of Time at Beginning of Event — 225 Cases (Local Time)**

# Second London International UFO Congress

By Dennis Stacy  
(Staff Writer)

The Second London International UFO Congress convened the weekend of May 24-25, 1981, at the Mount Royal Hotel, near Hyde Park. At least two Lords were in attendance and so were some 350 mainly European and American ufologists. The Congress was sponsored by the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA). Featured speakers included Dr. Bruce Maccabee, Chairman of the Fund for UFO Research; Charles Bowen, editor of England's prestigious "Flying Saucer Review"; Bertil Kuhlemann, of Project URD (UFO Research Data), Sweden; Hilary Evans, of the Society for Psychical Research; and Nigel Henbest, radio astronomy, Cambridge, and consultant in astronomy for "New Scientist."

Lord Kings-Norton, former Head of Britain's Air Defense, and current BUFORA President, convened the Congress on a Sunday morning. He was joined in the audience by Lord Glencarty, Brinsley le Poer Trench, who initiated the 1978 House of Lords Debate on Unidentified Flying Objects, in which both participated. Le Poer Trench is himself the author of several books about UFOs and a former "FSR" editor.

In his opening remarks, Lord Kings-Norton noted that as a child he was often asked if he believed in Santa Claus and similar ephemera and that invariably the answer was no. But now that he has participated in the House of Lords Debate and accepted the Presidency of BUFORA, reporters ask him in the same tones if he believes in UFOs. "And I'm afraid this time I have to say yes," Lord Kings-Norton said. "I do believe that life exists elsewhere. I do believe that it will one day make itself known, and I do believe that man will one day communicate with this life. But I do not believe that it has been proved to



Lord Glencarty, left, with Staff Writer Dennis Stacy

have happened yet," he added. Still, it was in the interest of perhaps resolving just such a question that he was calling the Second Congress to order.

And it was this dual tone of faith and skepticism that colored most of the subsequent proceedings. Robert Digby, BUFORA, delivered the opening address and asked ufologists, "Have You Got Your Facts Right?" Digby compared the ufologist's task with that of the police trying to reconstruct the events leading up to an automobile crash: both parties, he said, begin with what is essentially a cold trail. Thus, the witness becomes the main instrument of the investigation and it is imperative that we begin to recognize this inescapable facet of the UFO investigation. This is also the reason why separate and individual witnesses are so imperative, if a contamination factor of personal or familial origins is not to creep into the report.

Finally, Digby said, the investigator himself must beware of introducing his own contaminations into the case.

Were your questions leading or otherwise designed to support a personal theory? Did you ask the witness what he or she saw, and not what you *hoped* he saw, for example?

Bertil Kuhlemann of Sweden followed Digby to the podium and addressed the Congress on "The Link Between Investigator and Scientist." Kuhlemann is Head of Computer Services for his government's IVA Administrative Department and is also a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences. The link Kuhlemann proposed was the international adoption of Project UFO Research Data, or URD, a two-fold program designed to coordinate in-the-field data gathering with computer analysis of that data.

Kuhlemann's proposal was also submitted to the Provisional International Committee on UFO Research (PICUR) which met the day before the Congress in a closed-door meeting. The working party session

*(continued on next page)*



## London, Continued

was attended by delegates from England, Scotland (Chairman Peter Hill), Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Italy, the United States, and Canada. David Haisell, of UFOCAN, representing the Canadian UFO organizations, proposed that Michael Sinclair, MUFON International Coordinator, be accepted as MUFON's permanent delegate to the committee, a motion that was duly ratified. This reporter represented MUFON in Sinclair's temporary absence. Dr. Bruce Macabee, MUFON State Director for Maryland, a board member of CUFOS, and Chairman of the Fund for UFO Research, was the other U.S. representative.

PICUR was originally established during the First International Congress in London in 1979 with the intent of coordinating the international investigation of the UFO phenomena. Anyone who has followed the sometimes chaotic history of UFO organizations around the world realizes that the Committee has its work cut out for it. Too often, the civilian effort has been characterized by jealousy and a proprietary regard for collected data which has worked against the best interest of ufology as an objective and legitimate scientific discipline. Whether PICUR can reverse this sad state of affairs remains to be seen. In the meantime, the Committee has taken the first steps toward credibility and should be applauded accordingly. MUFON has long led the way in international cooperation and looks forward to working with others of a similar interest and intent.

### Project URD

Project URD itself, developed by Kuhlemann's fellow countryman and computer programmer, Bjame Hikansson, of Stockholm, is designed to standardize international investigative techniques and to insure the compilation of a minimum UFO data base acceptable to scientific analysis by computer. A field investigator's manual has already been prepared in English which would familiarize individuals



Stuart Campbell (BUFORA, Scotland), left, with Hilary Evans (British Soc. of Psychical Research)

with the use of the Project's Form A and B punch cards. Form A is intended to gather general information about the UFO sighting, including geographical coordinates, duration, and applicable meteorological conditions. Form B collects specific data about the UFO stimulus itself, such as size, shape, and characteristics of behavior, such as changes in luminosity, movement, and audible sounds. As currently outlined, Project URD would employ an IBM 360/175 computer, a system already widely deployed around the world, including the communist bloc countries, which would greatly facilitate any future international interface.

Kuhlemann also told the Congress audience that as ufologists they would have to ask themselves some very hard questions. "Why do we not enjoy a wider acceptance among society and science at large, for example? Part of the problem is undoubtedly because most politicians, bureaucrats, and scientists are still getting their information from media which tend to sensationalize UFO reports and thereby mitigate against personal involvement."

But all too often, Kuhlemann warned, UFO organizations themselves are to blame. By trying to exert

pressure upwards in the social hierarchy, ufology has defeated its own purpose.

"If we really want to see more of society's resources applied to a study of the UFO phenomenon, we must start at the top with the scientists and the politicians in control of those resources. It is up to ufologists to adopt the methodological approaches acceptable to science as a whole. And that means we need a body of reliable, computer-processed data which indicates that there is indeed something new and unknown up there."

Project URD, of course, could provide just such an indication and once that is done, Kuhlemann urged, there would be no reason why PICUR, or a similar federation of international UFO organizations should not be formed with the goal of seeking affiliation with the International Council of Scientific Unions.

Almost all of the Congress speeches were provocative, but Kuhlemann's may well prove to have the most reverberating consequences for the future of ufology. Time, as it has so often been said, will tell.

Other highlights of the London Congress included Hilary Evans' com-

*(continued on next page)*

## London, Continued

parison of traditional psychic phenomena with some aspects of contemporary UFO reports. In particular, Evans pointed to the similarities inherent in many UFO contact stories with the historical accounts of out-of-the-body experiences, so-called "bedroom visitations," and "orthodox" poltergeist phenomena, including possession and instances of psychokinesis.

Charles Bowen's "Reflections of an Editor" and Nigel Henbest's discourse on "Implications of Black Holes for Space Travel" were also well received. For the past 17 years Bowen has been responsible for putting out one of the world's most highly regarded UFO journals, *Flying Saucer Review*. First published in the spring of 1955, the quarterly celebrated its Silver Jubilee Anniversary last year.

"Like the world's economy," Bowen said, "we are currently in a state of recession which greatly restricts our activities, and I cannot help but wonder why this is so." If, as sociologists tell us, UFO reports are a consequence of the stress modern life, Bowen wondered, then where are today's flaps, or periods of peak activity, for surely the world has seen enough stress recently? Bowen went on to cite the assassination of John Lennon, the attempt on the Pope's life, and the continuing strife in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and other troubled parts of the world. "Never before have there been more articles and books and movies about UFOs than there are now and still, we have yet to see the surge of modern reports that might be anticipated."

But recessions have their opportunities, too, Bowen noted, and work of lasting importance would be done, if investigators were to go back and explore in detail some of the earlier cases, particularly those from the early sixties.

Bowen recalled several cases which were characterized by a high degree of absurdity. In Venezuela, a percipient saw two eight-foot tall beings emerge from an apparent craft in a beam of light. He was soon engaged in a conversation which contained the



Charles Lockwood (BUFORA); Peter Hill (Chairman, Provisional International Comm.); David Haisell (UFO Canada)

following dialogue:

"Are there more like you living among us?"

"Yes," came the immediate reply, "Two million, four hundred seventeen thousand, eight hundred and five."

"Have you any powerful weapons?"

"Yes, we have a compressor which can destroy the moon with only one discharge."

"Did you bring it with you?"

"No."

In another instance Bowen cited, not even the percipient himself could believe what happened. A Frenchman had encountered a disc-shaped object in a field. Standing between him and the disc was a dwarf-like being who kept repeating in a mechanical voice: "Truth is refused to the constipated," and then, "Cancer comes from the teeth (or: what is eaten)."

Nigel Henbest considered the physical improbability of at least one UFO theory in his talk entitled, "Implications of Black Holes for Space Travel." It has been proposed that UFOs may be interdimensional, i.e., capable of flitting between universes by a quantum mechanics process known as "tunneling," in which a

UFO in one space-time continuum enters a black hole in one universe and emerges from a white hole in another. The known facts, as Henbest persuasively argued, do not support such a supposition.

As far as we know, black holes can only be formed as the result of a star collapsing, or going supernova, or at the center of galaxies where the necessary conditions may also be created. When a star such as our sun explodes, the forces of implosion may well compress the star's inner core to the degree that a black hole is formed, Henbest noted. Unfortunately, the black hole itself is not a thing to be treated lightly. Long before an astronaut (or ufonaut) could make use of a black hole's supraphysical properties, he would be stretched asunder by what is called "spaghettification." As an astronaut approached a black hole, say, feet first, contorted forces of gravity initiate what might be called a cosmic "taffy-pull," stretching his limbs out in a long line while the upper part of his body remained for the time being unaffected.

Paradoxically, however, the larger the mass of the black hole, the less the

(continued on next page)

# PERCIPIENT-DEPENDENT COMPONENTS IN UFO EXPERIENCES

By Luis Schoenherr  
(Innsbruck, Austria)

## London, Continued

tidal stretch effect. And where might the more massive black holes be found? At the center of galaxies, of course. But now a new problem arises; instead of the deadly consequences of gravity, a potential ufonaut must now consider the consequences of overexposure to radiation. A black hole at the center of a galaxy would inevitably begin to attract vast clouds of interstellar dust and gas, forming a tremendous spiral plane of cosmic debris. But as this matter moves closer and closer, faster and faster, towards ultimate absorption, friction creates tremendous heat and the resulting free electrons are thrown off vertically as X-rays. Again, any form of life or matter as we know it, could not possibly hope to survive such a close approach. In short, while not ruling out the possibility that some UFOs may have their origins in another solar system, the chances of their tunneling from one alternative universe to another via black holes is extremely remote if not physically impossible.

But what about the Extra-Terrestrial Hypothesis itself, which has enjoyed somewhat of a roller coaster career since its inception more than three decades ago? This was the subject of Dr. Bruce Maccabee's talk to the Congress. ETH's fall from grace began in the mid and late 1960s as more of the patently absurd contactee cases were becoming more widely known. Not only were the aliens given to spouting juvenile theology and ludicrous physics, but their own behavior was suspect, as well; not at all the sort of thing one would expect from a truly intelligent and advanced race of extraterrestrials.

More recently, the ETH has come under fire because it was said to be ultimately unverifiable and therefore "unscientific." But according to Dr. Maccabee, the theory's burial may have been a bit premature. He offered the Congress at least four examples of cases which might not be explainable by any alternative theory: (1) the radar and multiple witness sightings of December 21 and 31,

Hilary Evans' article "Abducted by an Archetype" in the April issue (No. 158) reflects a ufological trend which will gain increasing importance in the future. It is good scientific methodology (and economy as well!) to examine UFO reports from a psychological and even a psychoanalytical viewpoint before the men of the "hard" sciences move in. Which would be worse: trying to interpret true physical data in psychological terms or to search for physical explanations where only psychological ones could be found? For me this question has been answered by the unproductive confusion of the last three decades surrounding the close encounter and abduction cases.

There is no science which could supply us a reliable frame of reference for the evaluation of the presumed extraterrestrial components in UFO reports. Therefore the most subtle arguments (and how many have I thought out myself) can only lead into inconclusive ambiguities and

1978, near Kaikoura, New Zealand; (2) the Lonnie Zamora landing report, outside Socorro, New Mexico; (3) the McMinnville, Oregon, photographs taken in 1950, which were closely replicated by another picture taken in Rouen, France, four years later; and (4) the Roswell, New Mexico, incident of July 1947, alleging the crash and retrieval of an apparent flying disc and its alien crew.

"The Roswell Incident, of course, is potentially the whole jackpot," Maccabee said. "I say potentially because it is not yet a completely investigated case."

In conclusion, Dr. Maccabee urged that the theory of extraterrestrial visitation be maintained because "it makes us look at things in new ways, and who knows? — ultimately, it may prove to be right."

vicious circles. If the most notable astronomers and cosmologists assure us that, according to their probability calculations, there must be an incredible number of inhabited planets in the universe, does this help us to prove in the specific, actual UFO case that the extraterrestrial visitors could or could not have had bald heads, luminous bodies, and bulging eyes?

On the other hand we know a lot about man (albeit not enough) and there exists a large and well-tried body of theory and experience in the social sciences, which can serve as a basis of reference in the psychological approach. Moreover, the dominant instrument of ufology is necessarily the human being and it is this instrument that must be calibrated. This is simply a question of methodology and has nothing to do with mysticism or debunking. For these reasons the psychological approach should be assigned increased priority. There is of course no room in ufology for a psychology that is misused for discriminating against UFO witnesses or even the whole field (similar things have in other fields led to the angry catchphrase of the "terror of psychiatry").

It cannot be overlooked, however, that the indiscriminate attempts to interpret all phenomenal characteristics of UFO experiences in terms of realities existing independently of the witness, can only lead into confusion. But it is not sufficient to use psychological methods solely for the elimination of fraudulent and pathological cases. The implications of the psychological approach are far more important and I won't be astonished if those supposedly "soft" methods would some day yield more durable results than the premature application

(continued on next page)

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Roswell Incident

By Charles Berlitz and William Moore  
(N.Y.: Grossett and Dunlap), 1980;  
168p.

*The Roswell Incident* is probably the first of several books to come from authors who will try to convey to the general public the reasons why the UFO "community" is presently becoming more involved with the Crashed Disc Syndrome (CDS). The first occurred in the early 1950's with the publication of a book by Frank Scully entitled *Behind the Flying Saucers*. Scully's book was thoroughly discredited when investigators determined that his sources were unscrupulous men, and that his book was filled with errors of fact because of poor research on his part. By the middle 1950's the CDS had faded into the

background of "mainstream Ufology," largely as a result of the efforts of UFO buffs themselves. What, then, is this CDS which was rejected years ago as a possible solution to the flying saucer mystery? And, more importantly, why has it been resurrected in this more modern, doubtless (?) more enlightened decade of the 1980's? The answers to these questions are quite straightforward, as will be seen.

The CDS could be defined as the feelings a person gets and the actions a person takes upon learning that the government has in its possession one or more crashed discs with one or more occupants. More and more people are "suffering" from the CDS these days because of recent revelations under the Freedom of Information Act, and, more importantly, because many reputed witnesses of such crashed discs are now speaking out

about their experiences. The availability of this new information is the reason why the CDS is being resurrected.

As an example of FOIA information, consider the following verbatim transcription from an FBI document dated March 22, 1950, sent from Special Agent in Charge (abbrev. SAC) in the state of Washington to FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C.:

The following information was furnished to SA (i.e., to the Special Agent) xxxxxxxx (name crossed out) by xxxxxxxx (name crossed out).

An investigator for the Air Forces stated that three so-called flying saucers had been recovered in New Mexico. They were described as being circular in shape with raised centers, approximately 50 feet in diameter. Each one was occupied by three bodies of human shape but only 3

(continued on page 17)

### Percipient, Continued

of the (not necessarily always "hard") natural sciences.

There are, for example, indications that the tunnel-images, the large rooms perceived during (or perhaps only remembered) abduction experiences, may be related to the birth trauma. It will be possible to test this hypothesis by comparing the experiences of abductees born by Caesarean section with those of a control group. The experience of diffusely lighted interiors with no visible light source as well as the experience of being blinded, as it is reported again and again, may also turn out to be a memory of birth. Some psychologists tend to regard this "light screen" as the proto-hallucination of the dream and it seems that even prenatal psychology will have something to say about those matters.

Jung regarded the discoid shape of UFOs as archetypal images and it is not impossible that they are in fact related to memories of embryonic structures. It seems to be a preposterous thing that a not yet existing individual brain should "remember" the embryonic shape of its later body. But concepts like Jung's Collective Unconscious or even Persinger's Geopsyche may help us some day to

understand this.

Ufology, however, should not make the mistake of going from one extreme to another. Now as before we should be aware of the possibility that the phenomenon includes important physical components. One of the goals in the field should be the verification of the hypothesis that in physical trace cases the reports themselves are generated independently of the physical traces. This would settle the controversy about the percentage of explanatory myths (whose influence is, for example, detectable in the development of folk lore) giving the remaining physical trace events a better level on the evidence scale.

In my opinion the critical as well as the promising point lies in the fact that the UFO phenomenon is (if compared with any other conventional event) to a hitherto unheard of degree dualistic by its very nature. We cannot say at present that the physical or the psychic component is dominant. But the fact that there is such a discouraging diversity in the phenomenal profile of UFO reports should be sufficient to indicate that the psychic component is probably far more important than has been thought.

In any case it is safe to regard every

single UFO event (and not only the whole population of all reports) as an intricately interwoven complex of physical and psychic components. Any progress in UFO research will depend on whether we can find out how those two components interact and how they are mutually dependent. In a 50-page paper\* I have dealt with this problem and some related topics. The paper demonstrates that, notwithstanding effective filtering factors, thought-provoking psychic material appears in published UFO reports and that even a case once unanimously regarded as an outright fraud is not that simple.

To paraphrase Evans: could it be that some people possess inside themselves the do-it-yourself kit necessary for transforming collective or individual memory images into reality and is the *modus operandi* an interaction of the observer/percipient with an as yet unknown transient force or condition in his physical environment?

\*Luis Schoenherr, "Percipient Dependent Components in UFO Experiences," *UFO Phenomena*, 1980, Vol IV (Editecs Publishing House, P. O. Box 190, I-40100 Bologna, Italy).

## *"California Report"*

By Ann Druffel

### The "Pitiful Pockets" of UFO Research

Some areas of the United States (and other countries) are well covered as far as the gathering, filtering, and correlating of UFO sightings is concerned. In these localities, dedicated investigators and researchers have banded together to collect reports, diligently weed out IFOs, and disseminate and publish meaningful cases.

These well-watched areas, however, are very few, and even in those places where public UFO reports are consistently collected, there are pitiful pockets where no technically-trained observers are available to act immediately on a puzzling report.

A flurry of sighting reports in the Los Angeles Basin, beginning on December 10, 1980 emphatically demonstrated this pathetic lack. But first — a brief review of the present situation of UFO research in this sprawling metropolis (approximately 1,500 miles square) will point up the urgency which exists at times when researchers stumble against the "pitiful pockets."

Since 1965 I have been Project Co-ordinator of a filter center and tracking system in the Los Angeles Basin. Known as SKYNET, it has knowledgeable observers living in various places around the area, who are available to be called if an object — a potential UFO — is reported in their line-of-sight. SKYNET is small in size in relation to the area it presumes to cover.<sup>1</sup> Even though our present group of about 60 members does an excellent job, you can see how impossible it is to adequately cover such a large territory. One of our biggest problems, of course, is that the majority of public reports occur "after the fact," that is, after the UFO has already vanished

from view. Most of the cases which are long-lived enough to warrant activating the system involve objects which are identifiable.

We have over the past 15 years, however, collected valuable, correlative material which gives rather substantive evidence of UFO "window areas" in Southern California, such as the communities of Yorba Linda, Temple City,<sup>2</sup> and certain parts of the Tujunga Canyons.<sup>3</sup>

Another suspected "window area" is over the offshore waters of the Pacific Ocean between the coastline of Long Beach and the island of Santa Catalina, which lies 20 miles farther out. Evidence collected by this writer from 1962 through 1980 points to the possibility that this particular ocean area *either attracts or permits the formation of* huge, cigar-shaped UFOs.<sup>4</sup> At times these shapes are shrouded in clouds and are similar to the giant UFOs which the French researcher, Aime Michel, termed "cloud cigars."<sup>5</sup> Other times they seem to be unadorned "shells" or almost transparent. Cloud-shrouded or not, these huge UFOs invariably seem to be aggregations of smaller UFOs which depart from, return to, and maneuver around the main object.

"Cloud cigars" are reported worldwide. They are relatively long lasting. The smaller glowing and/or metallic-like objects associated with them are sometimes called "surveillance craft."

In the Los Angeles area, the giant cigar-shaped objects hover or move slowly and seem generally confined above the channel waters. During four known appearances of these gigantic cigar-shapes since 1962, smaller UFOs were seen simultane-

ously, making forays inland. The giant shapes have remained stationary for as long as 3 hours.

Recently, however, a flap of inland sightings continued for weeks after the manifestation of a giant, maroon-colored, hazy UFO over the channel. (See Fig. 1.) The witnesses to this object, Mrs. D. G. and her daughter,<sup>6</sup> viewed it at 1:30 a.m. on December 10, 1980, from their home in Hollywood, 20 air miles inland. It was the apparent size of three full moons and seemed almost transparent. It "had a great deal of movement going on within its shape," but because of its great distance from the witnesses, they could not determine what the "movement" was. Its position in the sky seemed to be somewhere around or past Long Beach. As it moved farther away over the Pacific, it became brighter and pinker. Its traveling motions were jerky and erratic, with abrupt shifts and extended periods of hovering. It shrank in size as it moved away.

The entire sighting lasted about 5 minutes, but there is no way of knowing how long the strange object was in the sky before being noticed by the G's. No correlating sightings have surfaced up to the present time.

Following this report, a virtual stream of UFO reports came from various inland cities in the Basin. They numbered on the average two or three per week and, except for a few, they were too numerous to even investigate thoroughly.<sup>7</sup> None of these 1980-81 reports, however, occurred simultaneously with the sighting of the December 10th object. It was almost as if, I speculated

*(continued on next page)*

### Pockets, Continued

idly, that the giant cigar-shaped UFOs had "learned" not to stay around while the smaller craft were surveying inland! All of these cases, including the initial December 10th sighting, were received by SKYNET and other Basin sources "after the fact."

Then, on April 18, 1981, a call was received from SKYNET #1 in Hollywood. A Mr. J. R., who lived 3 miles southeast of SKYNET #1's location, had been watching a luminous, white object with "a red light on its tail," circling above his apartment building, darting in and out of thick rain clouds. Since SKYNET #1 was unable, because of pressing family responsibilities, to handle the call, I phoned five other SKYNET locations within five miles of Mr. R's home to try to get an experienced observer to help determine what he was watching. As can be seen in Figure 2, these five locations formed a half-oval around Mr. R's site.

Unfortunately, SKYNET members, like most UFO investigators, work on a strictly voluntary basis. They have no obligation to be home when they are needed to check out a SKYNET call — and they weren't. The urgency of this particular call came from the fact that a "cloud cigar" had been reported on December 10th and numerous inland UFO sightings had occurred after that date. Suppose the disk-shaped light that Mr. R was reporting was associated with a "cloud cigar" hidden among the thick cloud cover which lay over the Basin? I had to know, but the pitiful pocket on the SKYNET map where no members were available frustrated my efforts.

It was suspected, of course, that Mr. R was viewing searchlights on clouds. Numerous times after a rain, commercial searchlights playing on clouds appear as cohesive spots of bright, white light and are dutifully reported as UFOs. The light beams usually associated with searchlights are not visible from many viewing angles when the atmosphere is rain-washed and clear. The tight circles and other intricate, long-lasting

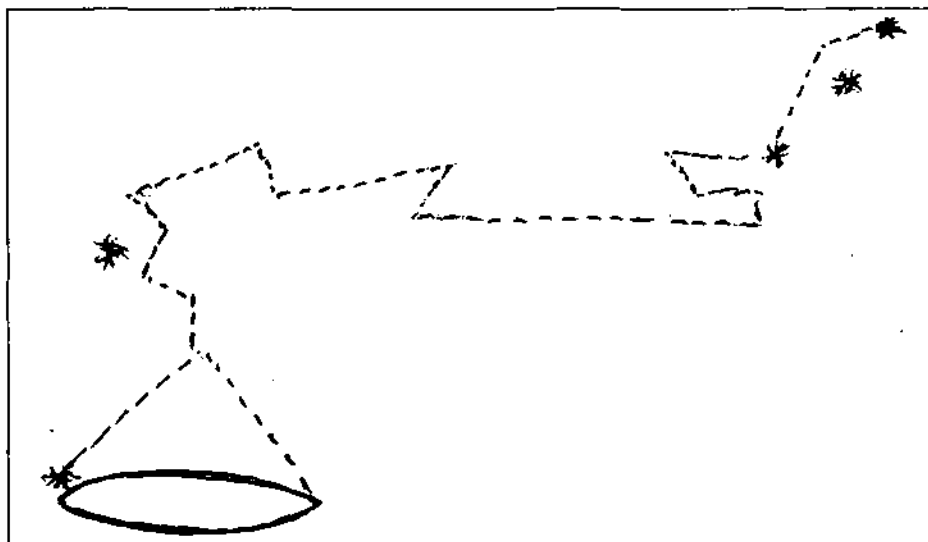


Figure 1. — The G. sighting of Dec. 10, 1980 sketched by Mrs. D.G. Dotted lines indicate erratic movement among star field background



**Figure 2. — SKYNET observers' locations**

maneuvers of Mr. R's object were familiar, too. In the past several years, at least three separate times, long-lived "circling lights" have been excitedly reported as UFOs.<sup>8</sup>

I talked at length with Mr. R by phone. He described a "very solid, white light, sometimes round, sometimes oval," circling over his apartment. Two police helicopters were nearby, he said, seemingly interested in the object. He described how the light occasionally "dove up into the clouds, pushing the clouds around as it moved through them." Checking out his story with the police, I learned that no patrol car was available to go out on the call. The courteous woman officer on duty obligingly looked in the direction of Mr. R's home and saw what seemed to be searchlights on clouds. However, she could see no beam reaching up from the earth, and because Mr. R's home was about a

mile from the Wilshire police station, she couldn't be sure. She also could not tell me whether the Air Support Division had sent helicopters to that location.

In desperation I considered jumping into my car and driving 15 miles to Mr. R's home, but the probability that the object was merely a searchlight on clouds dissuaded me. Mr. R had first seen the object at 8:15 p.m. and it was now about 10:00 p.m. The *possibility* that he was seeing an actual UFO manifestation continued to nag me. Talking with him again by phone, he continued to insist that the object had "a red light on its tail." I tried to interpret how searchlights appeared without beams after rain, and tried suggesting that the "red light" was an afterimage. He insisted that he was watching something truly unusual. Then, as we talked, the "object suddenly went up into the clouds and disappeared."

About one-half hour later the object was back. This time it periodically "split in two," according to Mr. R's excited description, so that two lights were circling and maneuvering in the clouds. Both objects had "red lights on their tails." A patrol car came finally, Mr. R reported, but the officers were busy trying to illuminate the objects with their own powerful spotlight and could not

(continued on next page)

## Pockets, Continued

come up to his apartment to speak with me on the phone.

The Wilshire police station would not give me the names of the policemen who had answered the call. The pleasant woman officer was no longer on duty. At the switchboard was an abrupt male who was handling a police emergency. By this time it was 11:00 p.m., and I gave up for the night.

The next morning I learned that another witness, Mrs. B, a neighbor of Mr. R, had seen the lights and identified them as searchlights on clouds. She had not seen any red lights on their tails! Checking again with the Wilshire station, I learned that no police report had been filed regarding the incident.

So another IFO entered SKYNET files, but at what cost! The pitiful pocket in that area of Los Angeles, caused by the unavailability of experienced observers, plus lack of cooperation by overworked police, was the cause. *When will UFO research attain a funded methodology which will permit prompt, adequate followup on all potential UFO reports?*

Twenty-four hours after J.R.'s sighting of the "maneuvering lights," what seems to be a genuine UFO was reported in the same area. From West Los Angeles, Barry Taff, a local psychic researcher and writer,<sup>9</sup> sighted a large, brilliantly lighted object about 11:30 p.m. on April 19, 1981. During the 45-second sighting, Taff noted rectangular "windows" along one side of its gray, opaque body, and the perimeter of the low-flying craft was outlined with alternating bright white and green-blue lights. (See Fig. 3.)<sup>10</sup> It was traveling from southeast to northwest at an estimated altitude of 500-600 feet above the ground. It was the apparent diameter of six moons. As it approached within about 2,500 feet of Mr. Taff's location, it made a 180 degree turn and traveled back toward the southeast, in the direction of the Long Beach-channel area.<sup>11</sup> As it turned, the "windows" were no longer visible, but Taff could still see the outline of

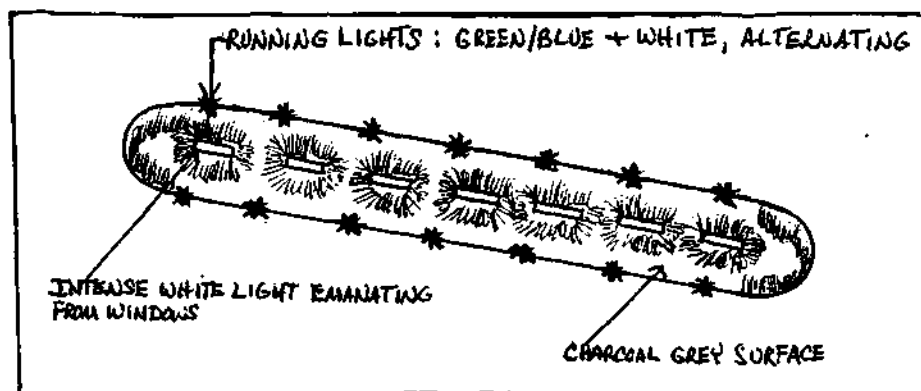


Figure 3. — Apr. 19, 1981 UFO; West Los Angeles

bright lights.

That same evening, Mr. D. W.<sup>12</sup> of Huntington Beach independently viewed a rectangle of bright white lights moving erratically among the star field, traveling in a northerly direction. The configuration of four lights moved as one unit, in a peculiar manner of stops and starts. The time was 11:05 p.m. Mr. W could not say whether or not the interior was transparent, but he saw what seemed to be "dull stars" within the rectangle. Its apparent position was somewhere over Long Beach when first seen, Mr. W judged. Moving inland, it traveled about 45 degrees of sky in 15 minutes, then "took a 180 degree turn" and went back on its original course. It disappeared over the channel waters, moving upward into the sky.

Both these sightings, unfortunately, were received by SKYNET the next day, after the fact. It is possible, however, that D. W. was actually seeing the same object as Taff, or a larger object associated in some way with Taff's smaller UFO. The two objects were not identical, but they traveled the same path in the sky at the same time. What was needed here was immediate reaction capability to receive both reports as they were happening, or at least immediately afterwards, and enough available, experienced observers in the line-of-sight to document these valuable events.

In a sense, then, in spite of the best efforts of Los Angeles researchers during the past two decades, the whole Basin area might be

considered one huge, "pitiful pocket." Such is the state of the art today!

## NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. SKYNET is not the only source which gathers public reports in the Los Angeles Basin. At least three other MUFON investigators receive reports on a more or less consistent basis, and an unknown number of researchers from other organizations also pursue these tasks.
2. For information on these two localities, see MUFON UFO JOURNAL, May and June 1980, Issues #147 and #148, article entitled "Magnetic Anomalies and UFO Flight," Parts I and II, by Druffel.
3. See THE TUJUNGA CANYON CONTACTS, by Ann Druffel and D. Scott Rogo, published July 1980 by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J.
4. See PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1976 CUFOS CONFERENCE, published by The Center for UFO Studies, Evanston, Ill., article "Santa Catalina Island Recurring 'Cloud-Cigars,'" by Druffel, pp. 62-74.
5. FLYING SAUCERS AND THE STRAIGHT LINE MYSTERY, by Aime Michel, published by Criterion Books, New York, gives numerous references for these phenomena.
6. Complete report, including identifying information, in MUFON and CUFOS files.
7. Complete notes on cases, including identifying information, in SKYNET files.
8. MUFON UFO JOURNAL, Nov. 1976, article "The SKYNET Log: Circling Ships," by Ann Druffel and Morrey Allen, describes one of these events.
9. For example, "Ghostly Apparitions and Aerial Phenomena: Is There a Connection?," from PROBE, Fall 1979 (Collectors' Edition), article by Barry Taff and Kerry Gaynor.
10. Complete report in MUFON and CUFOS files.
11. For those readers who note apparent discrepancies in stated directions, it should be pointed out that most coastal cities in Southern California face west toward the Pacific ocean, but Long Beach, being a sheltered cove, has the ocean to its south.
12. Full report, including identifying information, in SKYNET files.



**CARL SAGAN:  
A COMMUNICATION  
By W.H. Spaulding  
(Director, Ground Saucer  
Watch, Inc.)**

I have recently read the March 1981 edition of MUFON UFO Journal and as usual found it interesting, especially the article "California Report" by Ann Druffel. Regarding her article titled "An Open Letter to Dr. Carl Sagan" I personally found it loaded with assumptions regarding the recent highly acclaimed TV series COSMOS.

Dr. Sagan, like numerous others in the scientific community has an extreme propensity against the UFO phenomenon. All of us must agree that much of the UFO material; documents, reports, photos, etc., are at best, pure subjective nonsense. The numerous sensationalized hoaxes, continuing misinterpretations, even by reputable observers, create an aura that strongly suggests the entire subject is one that belongs in the paranormal category. It's no wonder that Dr. Sagan or any other person, not involved with UFO research, would have a biased judgment towards the subject. It is probably unfortunate that Dr. Sagan and others within the "community" have not taken the time to investigate/evaluate the unknown 5 to 10 percent of the sightings. Then, possibly, all of us would obtain a better perspective on the subject.

I am not defending Carl Sagan or his views on the UFO phenomenon, but I do wish to impart some of GSW's opinions on Ann Druffel's extremely prejudiced letter. We know for a fact that the religious fundamentalists of this country that viewed COSMOS have the same bitter opinions that Ann Druffel is projecting. When Dr. Sagan literally tore at their religious foundations with his excellent scientific segment on evolution, he created the same "stir" with the fundamentalists as he has done to the ufologists. In retrospect, Sagan has become the voice of anti-religious science, because of his factual presentation and exposure.

When the recent classic California case was presented to the state's Supreme Court regarding "equal time" for religion in the classroom commensurate with evolution teachings, the media used Dr. Sagan as the "expert" in religion to represent the evolution forces.

Now, by no stretch of the imagination is Dr. Sagan an expert on religion, but he was given that title because of his pro-evolution stand. Why does anyone consider Dr. Sagan an expert in ufology? Is it because of his national exposure on COSMOS and previous media appearances in which he took the anti-UFO stand? I personally think, with the broad scope of COSMOS, that Dr. Sagan covered the subjects as well as he possibly could, especially when you consider his previous proclamations on the UFO subject, the amount of time allotted, the script, etc. One thing Dr. Sagan did *attempt*, was the separation of science fact from blind faith.

Let's examine some of the ERRORS/FACTS presented in the MUFON article.

ERROR/FACT One, Two, and Three concern "indicated" statements by Dr. Sagan regarding the Hill abduction. Is it not fact that the Hill's *indicated* certain events during their regressive hypnosis sessions upon which many researchers tend to place great credence. Regressive hypnosis is very subjective and close to 22 states in this country are creating laws to prohibit this type of testing due to its subjectiveness. I think we are arguing semantics regarding specific incidents about this "encounter" rather than addressing the validity of hypnosis as a viable testing tool for close encounter cases.

ERROR/FACT Four relates to the term "UFO enthusiasts" and/or buffs. The term is not only used by anti-ufologists but by everyone outside of the UFO researcher community. The term buff/enthusiasts is similar to comparing the UFO organizations as UFO clubs. Clubs tend to remove the professionalism when used to describe UFO researchers' affiliations. Yet, the term buff is a

carry-over from the military/intelligence community. GSW has dozens of government documents which use the term buff. We are, once again, relating to semantics.

ERROR/FACT Five and Six relates to the controversial Hill "star-map" drawn after a detailed study by Marjorie Fish. I believe Sagan was attempting to demonstrate the lack of significance regarding the star-map in much the same manner that pro-saucer researchers have attempted to show the validity of the map. The basic questions still must be answered: (1) how can others draw similar maps by simply connecting the dots to other star systems and (2) how was the Hill data (original map) generated? Did some of this information come from the regressive hypnosis? (Reference article by writer entitled, *Abductions/Contacts - Who's Kidding You?*, to be released June 1, 1981.)

ERROR/FACT Seven relates to navigational lines of the map which Betty Hill allegedly saw aboard the UFO. The point here is, simply stated, were the Hills actually aboard a UFO, or what they thought was a UFO? Until conclusive evidence outside of hypnosis can be presented, how can the UFO field accept this case without question. Are the "essential facts" presented by Betty Hill the final, absolute word on this bizarre incident?

ERROR/FACT Eight involves the deliberate "picking and choosing" of the stars for the Hill star map. This hints that the stars were a deliberate selection to make the map work. This is a good point. However, the UFO researchers who worked on the map only worked with data supplied by Betty Hill and it is an assumption to deduce that her information is science fact.

I believe that the UFO segment on the COSMOS series should have had additional time to present other cases and facts concerning the UFO question. However, that was not the case. I believe it is preposterous to think that Dr. Sagan can make or

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## BOOK REVIEW

**Casebook of a UFO Investigator**, by Raymond E. Fowler. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. 246 pages. \$10.95

This book provides a rare opportunity to view the work of a veteran investigator, covering the complete modern era of ufology from 1947 to the present. It is Raymond Fowler's personal memoir. The reader can feel the emotions that consumed Ray at the age of 14, locking him into a lifetime of detailed investigations, sorting fact from fiction during a time in which the United States was joining the jet-age.

The novice as well as the seasoned UFO investigator can gain from the personalized discussions about the growth of the "cover-up," the exemplary application of the scientific method to the evaluation of UFO data by Dr. James McDonald, and Ray's own growth as an investigator. His details of the incident at Exeter, N.H., point out the need for the investigator to question all data and not accept "answers," even from supposedly accurate sources. For example, Project Bluebook provided a story about the Strategic Air Command exercises over New Hampshire, a story accepted by some people as the true explanation of the Exeter sightings. However, some critical checking of the facts showed that the alleged Air Force aircraft were not even airborne at the time of the incident.

### **Sagan, Continued**

break the UFO movement, regardless of his beliefs, anymore than anyone in the UFO field can bring the subject to number one prominence. With public apathy the highest it has ever been towards this subject, all of us are going to have to make the effort to place UFO research out of the stagnant position it is in today, with strong, absolute data. Only then will science ever consider it worthy of additional study. I am sure, that even Dr. Sagan, when given irrefutable facts will objectively look at the evidence.

The chapter on experienced witnesses dispels the old theory that only unreliable individuals observe UFOs. Ray provides the details of an analysis of local cases he personally investigated. His statistics cover the age, educational level, and profession of the witnesses. The results were comparable to the national samples in that the young to middle-age groups, with better than average education, and responsible jobs were the prime witnesses of UFO incidents. The chapter goes on to describe how the honest, childlike descriptions shared by children can be valuable to the investigator and important to the parents of small children that have a UFO experience. The careful questioning of a six-year-old Bingham, Maine girl revealed details of a humanoid close encounter case, a case not unlike dozens of others in the archives.

The book has its sections on wild goose chases and identifiable flying objects, with situations that most investigators will encounter sooner or later. However, the chapter on consistent characteristics of

real UFOs brings the whole mystery into focus. It begins by admitting to the reality of the mystery. Then the details of hundreds of cases are drawn together to provide a shopping list of important characteristics. It all starts with a classification according to physical configurations, and then proceeds to cover maneuvers, strange effects such as radiation, electromagnetic, sound, light, smell, etc., and concludes with coverage of humanoid and landing cases. After reviewing these details it is easy to understand why Ray remains a dedicated investigator.

*Casebook of a UFO Investigator* is unique in that it doesn't waste time alluding to the serious nature of the UFO situation. It provides the names, dates, and places. Anyone can go back over the material and check the facts. The result is a fine book for the casual reader, as well as the seasoned investigator. "Where do we go from here?" is the title of the last chapter in the book. The answer is supplied and for my money it is worth the price of the book.

—John F. Schuessler

## Letters

### **Bailey Case**

Editor,

My colleagues' letter (No. 158, April 1981) needs clarification. Semantical ploys therein throw false light on the Bailey case.

No time spent on the Bailey hypnosis was unproductive. The case was an early, heretofore unexplored CE-III. Lawson was not an investigator on the case. He only witnessed the hypnosis. He cannot consider his 5 hours' time "unproductive."

Recently, R. Leo Sprinkle and Berthold E. Schwarz added input into the Bailey hypnosis controversy. In their broad views, Bill McCall's hypnosis techniques were proper, resulting in recall comparable to any other acceptable "abduction" case. Their comments will be published shortly.

McCall's opinion that Rev. Bailey's recall was unreliable was expressed as an individual opinion. The concerted opinions of researchers world-

wide is that there seems to be some element(s) of objective or altered reality in abduction recall, and that the UFO phenomenon possibly indicates actual interaction of unknown intelligences with members of the human race. Lawson and McCall favor the hypothesis that the "UFO phenomenon" is produced by the human mind. That, in itself, is enough to explain their opinion that Bailey's abduction memories were unreliable.

The "will to believe" mentioned in the letter seems to indicate that most UFO researchers are victims of blind, mindless faith. This semantical ploy gives no credit to serious researchers who accumulate correlated evidence through objective, laborious study.

I was advised recently by Bill McCall not to bother answering the letter, since it was like a tiger chasing its tail. His comment, "We're all in this together" bespeaks of much

(continued on next page)

## Letters, Continued

needed cooperation and camaraderie. With researchers working together without rancor or resentment, the puzzle of UFOs might eventually be solved.—

**Ann Druffel**  
Pasadena, Calif.

### Archetypal "Yarn"

Editor,

Your success in procuring intellectual articles on the various aspects of ufology is to be commended. I have read with interest the thought-provoking contributions of Ann Druffel, Mark Moravec, Wayne LaPorte, Barry Downing, Bill Chalker, et al. including yourself, Richard Hall. May I congratulate you for elevating the Journal another echelon

of professional-intellectual altitude.

The yarn spun by Hilary Evans (No. 158, Apr. 1981), however, decked me! In his "Abducted by an Archetype," Mr. Evans drove me around Robin Hood's barn of logic just to zap me with this zinger of a UFO beam: "For whether or not there is any reality underlying the abductees' stories, their characteristic features derive from some widely if not universally diffused scenario, which in its turn is made up of elements deeply imbedded in all our subconsciouses."

For cat's sake! Hasn't Mr. Evans read of the many abductions substantiated by real, material, physical evidence? Surely he has been informed of the kidnapping and multiple injuries to the three Liberty,

Kentucky, ladies; the burns on their necks; the malfunctioning of their timepieces; the damage to the paint on their car? In what cloistered cell is Mr. Evans sequestered that he knows naught of the numerous abductions in which physical proof was deposited?

Is Hilary Evans metaphysical? No, he is pulling our leg. He spun his yarn with tongue in cheek, as do the jokers on this side of the Atlantic.—

**William D. Leet**  
MUFON Arkansas State Director

**MUFON**

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## Roswell, from page 11

feet tall, dressed in metallic cloth of a very fine texture. Each body was bandaged in a manner similar to the blackout suits used by speed flyers and test pilots. According to Mr. xxxxxxx, informant, the saucers were found in New Mexico due to the fact that the Government has a very high-powered radar set-up in that area and it is believed the radar interferes with the controlling mechanism of the saucers.

No further evaluation was attempted by SA xxxxxxx concerning the above.

The above document was duly recorded and filed away with hundreds of other documents related to flying saucer sightings. The FBI has released well over 1,000 pages from its file on "flying discs," and some of the pages provide very interesting information on the flying saucer "situation" in the late forties and early fifties. However, to this author's knowledge, the above document is the most bizarre. Could an Air Force investigator really have told the FBI about a crashed disc. . . or three such discs?

Other documents in the FBI file refer to FBI attempts to find out from the Air Force just what the official position was on the reality of flying saucers. The response to such queries was almost always that the Air Force had no evidence that flying saucers

existed. Moreover, the public statements by the Air Force, also echoed in the FBI documents, implied that the Air Force considered the UFO problem to be quite unimportant. And yet, the Air Force circulated several top level memos requesting information about flying disc reports. One such memo entitled "Unconventional Aircraft" was sent out from the Headquarters of the USAF, Directorate of Intelligence, and dated 15 February, 1949. That memo specified reporting procedures and was sufficiently detailed as to be, in effect, a sighting report form.

Documents released by the CIA and other government intelligence agencies indicate a considerable interest in the early 1950's. . . an interest which was not made public. Therefore the newly released documents provide information which was only known to intelligence agencies at the time. . . information which, although old, is "new" in the sense that it is in the public domain for the first time. But what about the other types of "new" information. . . that which comes from the witnesses themselves? Leonard Stringfield has recently published short monographs on his collection of CDS stories. But the big problem with his research is that no one has been willing to allow his name to be publicized. And herein lies the

importance of the book by Berlitz and Moore: the major witnesses of a "retrieval" of unusual material have been willing to speak up after more than 30 years and to allow their names to be used along with the information they have provided.

The most important parts of the Roswell book are based upon information obtained through extensive interviews of the original witnesses by William Moore and Stanton Friedman. These are the parts of the book which relate to the recovery of a mysterious foil-like material from a farm in New Mexico near Roswell. Other parts of the book tend more to speculation and even provide incorrect information related to other aspects of ufology. For example, there is a list of highly questionable "UFO reports" by astronauts in orbit. To this writer's knowledge only one astronaut case remains unresolved (Gemini 11 photos) out of the eleven sightings listed.

One section of the book discusses the possibility (presented as "fact") that President Eisenhower was, in 1954, "spirited" to Muroc Air Force base to view one or more crashed discs. Of somewhat more factual interest, however, is the transcript of an official Canadian document by Wilbert B. Smith who ascertained in

(continued on next page)

## Roswell, Continued

1950 through the Canadian Embassy that the matter of UFOs "is the most highly classified subject in the U. S. government, rating higher than the H-bomb."

Since the heart of the book is the collection of eyewitness accounts of the retrieval of a strange material and the subsequent Air Force reaction, I suggest the following "reader's guide" to the Roswell Incident: skip *immediately* to Chapter 3 and read straight through Chapter 4. Then read Chapter 8 and note that the FBI file contains a teletype message about the Roswell retrieval. (Also note: the statement that a copy of the teletype was sent to the Strategic Air Command is wrong: SAC stands for Special Agent in Charge, not Strategic Air Command. Mr. Berlitz take note. The Air Force officer whose name was crossed off the partially transcribed FBI document was Major Curtan.) Having read this much, jump back to Chapter 2 and read through 2, 3, and 4 again. By this time you should have the definite impression that an Air Force cover-up actually did occur, and that without the forthright attitude of (then) Major Jesse Marcel the public at large would still be in the dark about what happened in Roswell in July 1947.

Major (now Colonel, retired) Marcel supervised the retrieval of a material that was like thin metallic

foil, with thicker "structural members" and strange markings. The material was found covering a rather large area of pastureland several days after an unusual explosion was heard during a thunderstorm, and during a period of time when flying saucers were first being seen around the United States (1947 flap). The material was collected and loaded on a plane bound for Wright Field (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) by Major Marcel and members of the 509th Bomb Group of the Eighth Army Air Force at Roswell. The news of the retrieval made immediate headlines when the public information officer at Roswell Army Air Base released an unqualified statement to the press that "the many rumors regarding the flying disc became a reality yesterday when the intelligence office of the 509th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force, Roswell Army Air Field, was fortunate enough to gain possession of a disc through the cooperation of one of the local ranchers and the sheriff's office of Chaves County." The book provides copies of the original news stories and pictures of the principals involved.

Immediately after the press release the Air Force tried to cover its tracks by claiming that what was actually retrieved was a weather balloon with an attached radar target device. However, by presenting the well-researched statements by Marcel and by the son and daughter of the rancher

(the rancher is now dead), witnesses who actually handled the material, the book provides convincing evidence that strange material did not come from a balloon/radar target combination. There is also evidence that the material, whatever it was, was sent to Wright Field for further study. . . . strange if the material simply came from a common weather device.

The direct intervention of Brigadier General Roger Ramey in trying to arrange the cover-up, apparently on orders from the Deputy Chief of the Air Force, Lieutenant General Hoyt Vandenburg, also points to an event that is more important than the retrieval of a weather balloon. Apparently the orders to fly the material to Wright Field came from Vandenburg via Ramey. The astute student of UFOlogical History will remember that General Vandenburg was the man who, as Chief of Staff of the Air Force in 1948, refused to "buy" the interplanetary theory expressed in the famous Estimate of the Situation written by ATIC (Air Technical Intelligence Center) investigators in the summer of 1948 (according to Ruppelt, *The Report on Flying Saucers*, Chapter 3).

A less well researched incident related to the Roswell retrieval is the retrieval of the main body of a crashed disc with occupants. Unfortunately, only "second-hand" witnesses to this more spectacular event were still alive

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## Director's Message, Continued

member of MUFON as a condition of membership.

4. Many people are very interested in ufology and desire to read the Journal, however, due to age or physical limitations, they prefer not to be involved in active UFO investigations or research. These people may become members of MUFON as "Contributing Subscribers."

5. All members should publicize the Journal in their radio, TV and news media appearances as recommended reading and how subscriptions may be obtained.

UFO sighting reports received via the "National UFO Reporting Center" 24-hour telephone hotline number of 1-206-722-3000, through the cooperation of Robert J. Gribble, Director of Phenomena Research and MUFON State Director for Washington, and his associates in Seattle, Washington, have been instrumental in revitalizing MUFON's field investigative network. Cases are assigned to State Section Directors and Field Investigators living nearby and reported sighting for interviews and investigations. This not only provides the investigator an opportunity to exercise his or her interviewing techniques, but gives them a feeling that their talent

and services are being utilized and appreciated.

We all must recognize that at least eight out of ten of these reports will be classified as an IFO (identified flying object) after a thorough investigation has been completed. The same amount of time could be devoted to an IFO as compared to an actual UFO sighting before the distinction is made. This fact should not discourage an investigator, since he or she has been sharpening his or her investigative procedures in either case. It is only in this manner that we will be able to obtain the raw facts associated with the remaining 10 to 20 percent of the sighting reports that constitute the authentic UFOs.



Lucius Farish

# In Others' Words

The July 7 issue of *National Enquirer* contains the first of a series of articles by Henry Gris on UFO activity in the Soviet Union. This initial report tells of a large "mothership" and smaller "probes" seen over Moscow in June 1980.

James Oberg's "UFO Update" column in the July issue of *Omni* deals with UFO hoaxes. Oberg recounts some of the better-known hoax cases from 1897 to the present. For what it's worth, he describes MUFON as "a well-organized private research group with a good reputation."

Dr. Harley D. Rutledge has learned a lot about UFOs since 1973. When the town of Piedmont, Missouri became a focal point for UFO activity in early 1973, Dr. Rutledge's immediate reaction was that he "wouldn't touch the subject with a ten-foot pole!" However, in a short period of time, his scientific curiosity overcame his skepticism. As the head of the Physics Department at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, he felt that UFOs could — and should — be studied with scientific recording instruments by a well-qualified team of observers. Thus, Project Identification was born.

During the seven-year period, 1973-80, Project members had a total of 157 sightings of 178 UFOs. Numerous photographs were taken, with other data being obtained via instrumentation. In his book, *Project Identification*, Dr. Rutledge presents his account of the investigations, as well as his conclusions about the nature of the UFO phenomenon. The book contains a wealth of information on the various types of UFOs observed, their colors, speeds, maneuvers, evident interactions with the observers, etc. The photo section gives examples of the many anomalous lights seen in southeastern Missouri while Project members were on watch.

It is Rutledge's conclusion that an advanced technology is involved in the UFO performances and, in some of the more bizarre reports, he finds it difficult "to accept the objects as a creation of man." Further, he believes the intelligences behind the UFOs are capable of mimicking man and his technology for their own subtle purposes. To my way of thinking, there are relatively few books (probably less than 30) which make substantial and needed contributions to our knowledge of the UFO subject. *Project Identification* is definitely one of those books.

Rutledge has conducted the type of scientific study which *should* have been done 20 or more years earlier by some of those scientists whose names and faces figure so prominently in the UFO literature today. Had they done so, they might have established some genuine credibility, not to mention adding immeasurably to public awareness of the UFO mystery. *Project Identification* carries my highest recommendation. It is available from Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. The price is \$10.95 for the hardcover; \$6.95 for the softcover.

## Roswell, Continued

to be interviewed. However, they recalled that they were told by the main witness to the second event, that a large disc-shaped object had crashed in the desert. There were dead bodies in the machine. The witness did not have a good look at the device, however, because a military patrol escorted him away from the area. The authors have conjectured that a flying disc had passed over the ranch near Roswell during a thunderstorm and had exploded, dropping a considerable amount of material (outer skin?) on the pastureland. It had then continued its flight for several more miles before finally crashing.

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The UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE will keep you informed of all the latest United States and World-Wide UFO activity, as it happens! Our service was started in 1969, at which time we contracted with a reputable international newspaper-clipping bureau to obtain for us, those hard to find UFO reports (i.e., little known photographic cases, close encounter and landing reports, occupant cases) and all other UFO reports, many of which are carried only in small town or foreign newspapers.

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*The Roswell Incident* is easy to read and reasonably straightforward in its presentation of the evidence. Although it will require some effort on the part of the reader to connect threads and to ignore some useless padding of the book, it is well worth reading. And, if you read it, don't be surprised if you come down with a sudden "case" of the CDS.

—Bruce S. Maccabee

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE by Walt Andrus

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, keynote speaker at the recent MUFON UFO Symposium at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, set the stage for future goals and objectives in Ufology in his paper titled "Ufology as a Profession: A Manifesto." This challenge is being met by the International Committee on UFO Research, an independent organization dedicated to establishing the study of the UFO phenomenon on a professional level worldwide. MUFON was represented at their meeting, held in conjunction with the Second London International UFO Congress on May 24 and 25, 1981 in London, England, by Dennis W. Stacy, Director of Publications. MUFON, as a respected UFO organization on the international scene, has pledged its support to the positive endeavors of this prestigious committee.

Michael Sinclair, International Coordinator, and your Director are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Nachman Ben-Yehuda as our Representative for Israel. Dr. Ben-Yehuda is a lecturer in sociology at the Hebrew University. His mailing address is Dept. of Sociology, Hebrew University, Jerusalem 91905, Israel. He has been very active in the UFO field in his country and is planning a symposium for 1982.

Speaking for MUFON, your Director has invited the expanded Board of Directors of APRO to drop their isolationist policy and to cooperate with the other major UFO organizations in the United States, MUFON and CUFOS. This proposal in recent issues of the Journal has struck a responsive note with new members on the APRO Board and many APRO members, who have replied by letter and telephone calls. However, it must be pointed out that MUFON has not received any official reaction or statement from the APRO Board of Directors to our invitation, only from individuals expressing their

personal confirmations. Elimination of petty jealousies is essential if the UFO community in the U.S.A. is to present a united front in resolving the UFO phenomenon and combating the vocal negative minority.

The Third Edition of the MUFON Field Investigator's Manual edited by Raymond E. Fowler, Director of Investigations, is now in the formation stage. New investigative techniques and processes in scientific research are being actively solicited from Consultants and members at this time so that the new manual may be published early in 1982.

The 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium Proceedings titled "UFOs: The Hidden Evidence" (153 pages) is now available from MUFON for \$10.00 in U.S. funds plus \$1.50 for postage and handling. The book will be mailed Fourth Class Special Book Rate unless otherwise requested by the inclusion of additional postage costs. Philatelists are reminded that MUFON still has fourteen sets of four of the Grenada UFO postage stamps issued by the former prime minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy, to commemorate "Research Into U.F.O.s." The four mint stamps have a face value of \$5.40 and are being sold by MUFON for \$4.00 postpaid until the small supply is depleted.

The MUFON Amateur Radio Nets have met with various degrees of success throughout their existence depending upon the leadership and the frequencies involved. The 75 meter net is recommended for state groups or groups of adjoining states. The 2 meter, 6 meter, or 10 meter nets are very effective for State Section communications, where a limited range is adequate. The 40 meter net has been very successful for daytime communications from the east coast to the Mississippi River. The 10, 15, 20 meter bands are ideal for international communications and should be selected to conform to the "skip

distance" prevailing at the scheduled net time. Citizen Band radio has been utilized effectively for local or field investigative work. We need volunteers to organize and act as net control stations for each MUFON net under the direction of Joe Santangelo, N1JS. If you are interested, please write to the International Director in Seguin, Texas, and we will forward this information to Mr. Santangelo.

Due to the deterioration in quality of the UFO magazines on the newsstands and the sensationalist approach used by the weekly tabloids, the only creditable, authentic, and authoritative UFO publications are published by selected reputable UFO organizations. In the United States and Canada, the MUFON UFO Journal is the only monthly publication of this stature. Since the MUFON UFO Journal is a subscription/membership publication, it is obviously not available on the newsstands. For people interested in keeping abreast of the UFO situation and status worldwide, the Journal is the only current monthly scientific publication available. In order that this information may be shared with everyone interested in Ufology, a program has been launched to expand the subscription distribution of the Journal and MUFON membership in the following manner:

1. Give an annual Journal subscription to a friend or relative as a Birthday or Christmas gift. (MUFON will acknowledge your gift to the recipient with a card.)

2. Local UFO groups could purchase annual subscriptions to the Journal for their public, school, or university libraries in their name as a contribution to the library.

3. Participation in a State, State Section, or local UFO group affiliated with MUFON should require that each member also be a current

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