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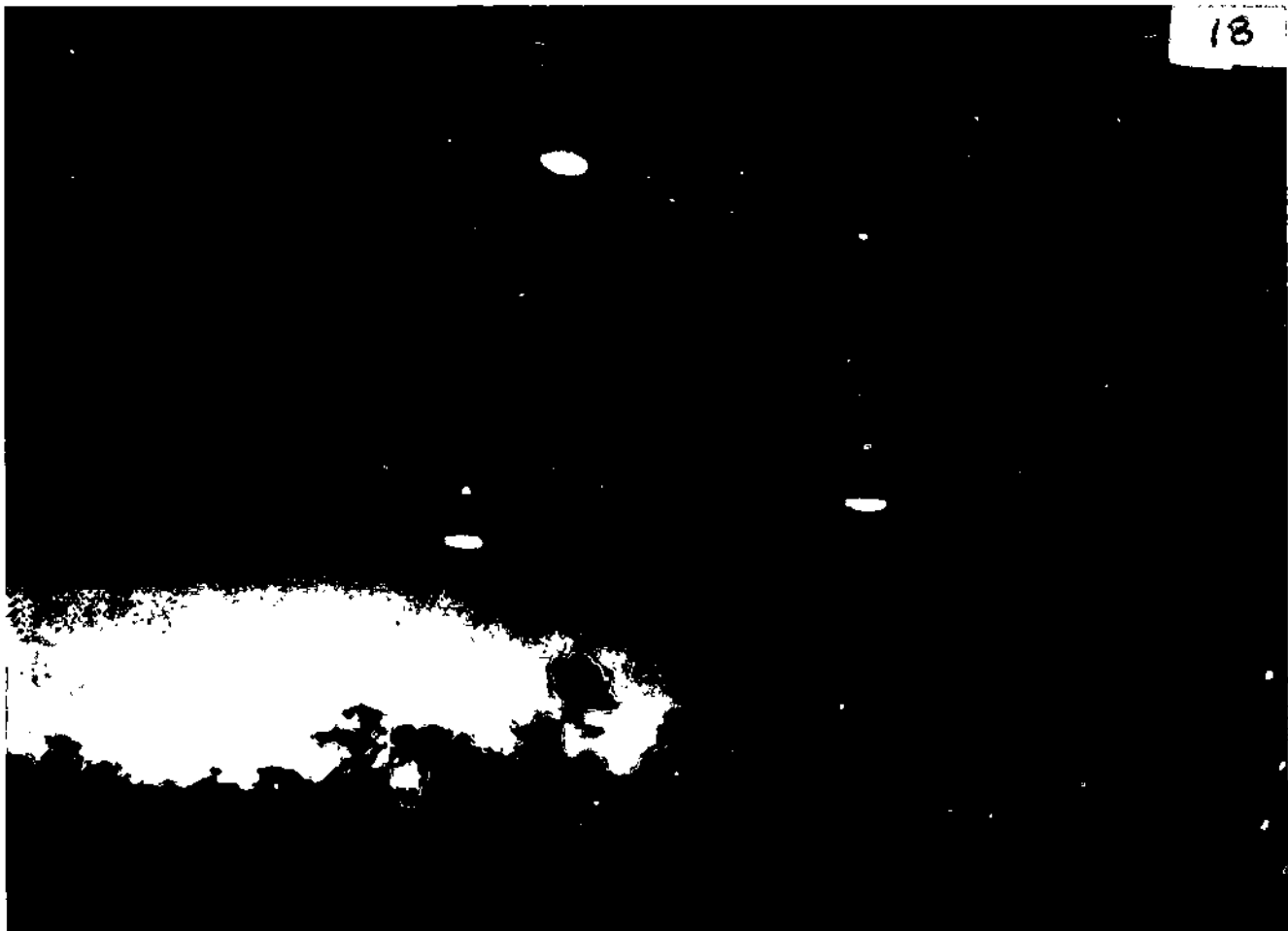
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# Possible Increased Cancer and Depression Risk Among UFO Field Researchers and Populations Near "Flap" Areas

By Michael A. Persinger

**Dr. Persinger is a Clinical Neuropsychologist and Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ontario. He is considered one of the world authorities concerning the effects of magnetic fields on living systems. He is also affiliated with the Center in Mining and Mineral Exploration Research in Sudbury.**

The tectonic strain theory states that most verified UFO phenomena (CUFOS classification IV or greater) and associated anomalous events are generated by extremely energetic but focal and brief geophysical forces. They display intense electromagnetic (as well as unknown) properties. When these forces occur, radioactive gases can be released from appropriate rocks beneath the soil. Recent evidence strongly suggests that people who are frequently exposed to similar electromagnetic emissions and radioactive gases may suffer a higher risk of specific cancers, psychological depression and personality changes that are caused by alterations in electrically sensitive portions of the human brain.

That most verified UFO phenomena share the characteristics of earthquake luminous phenomena or "earthstress lights" is well known. For example, as documented in Torahiko Terada's seminal work published in 1931, a "fireball resembling a paper lantern" was seen flying through the sky before an earthquake in Yedo (Japan) in the year 1672. Before the November 26, 1930 earthquake in the Idu district, a straight row of round masses of lights, each one revolving on its own axis, was noted above transmission lines. Earthquake-related luminous phenomena can precede

earthquakes by days and can occur up to several hundreds of kilometers from the imminent epicenter.

Recent field studies have shown that two potentially biologically hazardous physical stimuli are associated with some earthquakes: low level, low frequency (10 Hz or cycles per second, to 100 kHz) electromagnetic fields and radon gas emission. Radon emission from soils above faulted quartz diorite was noted by Yasui during the famous Matsushira earthquake swarm. During this period there was copious generation of low frequency (kHz range) electromagnetic fields. Preseismic electromagnetic forces sufficient to illuminate household fluorescent lamps (switched off) and to alter the strength of magnets have been common but inconsistent observations.

The tectonic strain theory predicts that similar physical stimuli should occur within the **region** in which frequent UFO reports are occurring. Although no earthquakes may be measureable near or at the time of the UFO sightings, substantial or unprecedented increases in seismic activity (or the occurrence of an unusually powerful earthquake for the region) would be expected within the region during the following **months to years**. However, the geophysical forces generated during the condition that creates the UFOs or Terrain Related Lights (Paul Devereaux's nomenclature) are sufficient to allow propagation of low frequency electromagnetic fields and to promote the release of radioactive gases. Although brief (a few minutes) at any given time, these forces may occur very frequently (several times per day) during flap periods within a small area but not always at intensities sufficient to generate luminosities.

Alleged emission of energetic elec-

tromagnetic fields from luminosities and the occurrence of radioactivity near UFO phenomena that were seen on or over the ground are frequently reported. The multiple references to disruptions in electrical apparatus, such as television sets, radios and light fixtures, are also suggestive. As shown by the elegant field experiments of the Vestigia group in New Jersey, both low frequency electromagnetic field emission and brief enhancements of radioactivity accompanied by the *relatively faint* recurrent luminosity known as the Hooker Light. It occurred along an old railroad track that was adjacent to a local fault line.

## CANCER RISK

Although the effects of ionizing radiation, such as X-rays, ultraviolet and microwave (primarily mediated by heating of tissue), upon human beings is well known, the influence of power frequency magnetic fields has only recently been considered. New epidemiological evidence suggests that people who have intermittent, but frequent exposures to low frequency magnetic fields are more prone to develop brain tumors. Electrical engineers, electronic technicians and radio operators are in the high risk category.

There are dozen of different types of brain tumors. The most frequent involves abnormal proliferation of glial cells. One class of these cells (astroglia), primarily responsible for the interaction between neurons and the blood vessels, is the source for the most malignant form of brain tumor: the glioblastoma. There is now evidence that this tumor facilitates its own growth by suppressing the person's immune system. Glioblastomas invade brain space quite unlike other

brain tumors (like meningiomas) that remain within a kind of capsule (but apply pressure) outside of the brain. Secondary sources of brain tumors originate from tumors of the lung, testis, breasts and thyroid.

High risk populations that are exposed frequently to low frequency magnetic fields are more likely to develop the glioblastoma and the astrocytoma. Because they are the most frequent types of brain cancer, particularly for adults, most researchers have suggested that low frequency electromagnetic fields promote the development of the cancer. The estimated levels of exposure that are expected to promote these aberrant cell growths involve strengths greater than about four milligauss (60 Hz), a level that is sometimes found in ordinary homes near overhead powerlines.

Although there is reason for concern, there is not necessarily a requirement for alarm. A conservative estimate of the incidence of all intracranial tumors is about 20 per 100,000 people with primary malignant tumors (glioblastomas) in the order of 2.5 per 100,000. The odds ratios for the most sensitive epidemiological groups is at most about 1:3 (that is about eight per 100,000). However, these estimates are based upon vocational exposures that would be much lower than the frequent but intermittent electromagnetic fields that are postulated to occur in UFO flap areas.

From an epidemiological perspective, the incidence of brain tumors within sensitive populations is more effective in determining a link between the existence of the focused strain fields that accompany intense UFO phenomena and the risk of disease. Because brain tumors are frequent causes of sickness or death, their presence is conspicuous. An increased incidence of heart attacks, for example, would be more difficult to demonstrate since they are the most common cause of mortality. More precise quantitative studies would be required.

A second type of cancer that is associated with chronic exposure to power frequency electromagnetic fields is leukemia, particularly in young children. This form of cancer has been

shown to become more frequent with exposure levels of more than two milligauss; the exposure duration is in the order of one to a few years. Some researchers suggest that about one-third of all childhood leukemia cases may be related to electromagnetic noise.

The third type of cancer appears to involve the reproductive organs. Although the link between reproductive problems, such as spontaneous abortions and miscarriages and cancer incidence has not been established, both dysfunctions have been associated with exposures to environmental electromagnetic fields. The sensitivity of the testicles to low frequency electromagnetic fields seems particularly acute.

Nonspecific problems that accompany cancer development are also associated with electromagnetic field exposure. These problems are highly correlated with a general, low level suppression of the body's immune system. Consequently, a general increase in sickness, that includes more frequent colds, flu, systemic infections and general lethargy, has been noted. Usually these complications occur during the earlier period of exposure (or if a person is a new resident within the flap area).

### **PSYCHOLOGICAL DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE RISK**

The types of electromagnetic fields that may be frequently generated in flap areas have also been shown to influence the body's daily (circadian) rhythms. In fact, there is some evidence that psychological depression occurs; it may be mediated by melatonin. This normal chemical, derived from the person's pineal organ that is buried deep within the brain, is intimately involved with mood and sleep. Exposures during the *night time* of less than one hour to low frequency magnetic fields have been shown to drastically affect the biological activity (including the sensation of pain) associated with melatonin.

Melatonin is a part of a chemical pathway within the brain that produces serotonin. Disruptions of this chemical system are known to produce severe depressions and to increase

the risk of suicide. Marked decreases in the concentration of serotonin in the brain stems of people who have committed suicide are well known observations. Recent experimental work with non-human primates have indicated that whereas other brain chemical systems return to normal following brief exposures to electromagnetic fields, the serotonin system remains suppressed.

The occurrence of moderate depression may be masked by substance abuse, such as alcoholism. Milder depressions may be hidden by psychological or personality disturbances, that include phobic responses (inappropriate fears) or panic attacks. During the latter the person may feel apprehensive, as if death is about to occur. Some mildly depressed people can become psychologically dependent upon specific rituals, such as jogging, that can reduce the unpleasant experience by elevating the body's own pain killers and euphorants.

### **PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS**

Epidemiologists have tended to avoid the spatial determination of psychiatric and psychological problems. The incidence of these occurrences are difficult to quantify because different professionals have tended to classify the same collection of symptoms (a syndrome) under different categories. In addition many psychiatric or psychological ailments are reversible or at least prone to remission, i.e., decrease in overt intensity over time.

Although studies have not been completed, there should be a conspicuous occurrence of a syndrome that involves enhanced temporal lobe signs. They are experiences and behaviors that reflect the function of this important area in the human brain. People who are already prone to temporal lobe sensitivity would be vulnerable to the effects of even brief exposure to the fields associated with UFO phenomena. The personality characteristics of these individuals have been discussed in another article for the *MUFON Journal*. In summary, they would be normal people who are suggestible, creative, emotionally labile, anxious, prone to philosophical and aesthetic interests

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(music, poetry, writing) and characterized by "bursts of productive activity."

Because of their intrinsically sensitive deep temporal lobe structures, such as the amygdala, these people would be susceptible to microseizuring during proximity to tectonic strain fields as they emerged within living areas. These electrochemical changes would not be obvious to the observer and would be similar to but more intense than those which occur normally during dreaming. Consequently these people would have a profound experience that has personal and cosmic significance. The negative or positive residual of the experience would depend upon the intensity of the strain fields. If the experiences were painful or traumatic, then the symptoms would be very similar to the post-traumatic stress syndrome. After the experience, there might be widening of affect (everyday, mundane details appear to suddenly relate to the experience), and a sense of personal contact. Friends and family would note a marked change in the behavior.

### RADIOACTIVE GASES

Radon gas emission has become a significant concern to environmental protection agencies. The release of radon gas from soils overlaying faulted acidious rocks (like quartz diorite) is a frequent natural phenomena. The most common health problem associated with radon gas is lung cancer. This gas can accumulate in domestic settings with poor air exchange, a factor that is often made worse in overly insulated houses.

Whereas the lifetime risk of developing lung cancer is only 0.3% in a house that contains 1.5 picoCurie (a unit of disintegration rates) of radon per liter, this estimate increases to 2% when the air contains more than eight picoCuries of radon per liter. It is estimated that more than one million houses in the U.S.A. alone exceed this value. During a recent measurement series, some houses contained values of more than 50 to 100 picoCuries per liter.

Unfortunately these studies did not address the issue of seismic activity or of tectonic stress within the

region. If the observations of Yasui and the assumptions of the tectonic strain theory are correct, then the inhabitants of houses near areas in which multiple UFO reports have occurred, could be exposed to excessive levels of radon gas. The concentrations would rise and fall aperiodically but over the duration of the flap the cumulative dosage would be substantial. Only constant monitoring would discern the variability.

### IMPLICATIONS: UFO FIELD RESEARCHERS

There are two important implications of this recent research for UFO researchers. First, **UFO field** researchers may be a high risk population for the development of these disorders. Secondly, populations in small areas (50 km) within which large numbers of UFO phenomena are frequently reported for several months to years might be expected to show an increased incidence of brain tumors, leukemia (in children), lung cancer (depending upon the type of bedrock), and depressive disorders.

**UFO field** researchers, the men and women who have spent the greatest amount of time visiting new UFO sites and who have experienced the most frequent proximity to luminous displays, would be particularly at risk. During some UFO flap periods, researchers have actually camped near these areas. The brain tumor risk would be elevated in addition because of the immunosuppression that invariably accompanies hectic traveling, disruption in sleep schedules and change.

Testicular changes would be expected as well. That even 10 to 100 gauss magnetic fields (well below those inferred from the presence of actual luminous displays) can affect the activity of testes and the thymus gland (the major source of the bodies T-lymphocytes that are involved with fighting against tumors and foreign materials) is well known. Because these fields are likely to be promoters of cancer, testicular (including prostate) forms should be prevalent in older males.

The psychological changes that occur following close proximity to a single UFO episode have been address-

ed elsewhere; specific references are noted at the end of this article. However, the psychological changes that could occur in **UFO field** researchers have been rarely considered. Whereas post-traumatic stress symptoms, such as recurrent distressing dreams of the event, hypervigilance, feelings of detachment, over-reactivity to noise, and panic attacks may emerge initially, an underlying psychological depression may persist.

Such depression would be sufficient to be treated medically; however because it is likely to emerge slowly, learned substance (alcohol) abuse, a very common correlate of some types of depression, may mask the difficulty. Although depression suppresses the libido and reduces the ability to experience and give affection, its most critical correlate is an increased risk of suicide.

The major problem at present is **dosimetry**, that is, how much real exposure has occurred either during the more intense episodes or cumulatively over a lifetime. Because **appropriate** electromagnetic measurements are rarely taken and continuous monitoring of an active area is almost never completed, dosage levels have not been established. In addition, there are **some UFO researchers who have had effectively little actual field proximity to UFO phenomena**. Their exposure levels and hence risk factors would be significantly different from the more avid, close proximity researcher.

### IMPLICATION: VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

The second application of this concept is to the community in (or around) which the high activity of phenomena occurred. People living in areas in which frequent luminous events were observed over long periods should demonstrate an increased incidence of lung cancer, brain tumors, leukemia and psychiatric admissions for severe depressions. If the flap lasts for one or two years, the first symptoms would involve general immunosuppression as manifested by more frequent sickness and infections. Elevated numbers of treatment-requiring depressions and childhood leukemia

would follow, especially towards the end of the flap period. Brain tumors and related cancers should develop last.

It is estimated that the incidence level would at least triple, but the actual value would depend upon the activity density of the flap (the number of UFO reports per unit area per unit time). Indices that might be used as inferences of the presence of tectonic strain fields within the vicinity would be the numbers of episodes of unexplained power surges, alterations in radio or (non-cable) television reception and the frequency of anomalous events.

Certain locations in which a strong UFO flap occurred in a very small area for a long period are optimal because of the phenomenon of "dose dependence." If there has been minimal social mobility (people moving in and out of the area), the development of their disorders should be a function of the numbers of and proximity to the major phenomena. Possible areas of investigation would include the Uintah Basin (after the 1967 flap),

the Yakima region, Washington (1972-1975), Carman, Manitoba (1975-1976), and Hessdalen, Norway (1984-1985).

Some of the strongest test cases are too far away in time to study. For example the October, 1917 luminous display in Fatima, Portugal was a classic luminous display that was observed by thousands of people. Two of the three children who had the most frequent and closest contact with the phenomenon died within three years after the incident. One of them died of symptoms that are markedly similar to a solid lung tumor associated with elevated calcium levels.

Until recently UFO research has been primarily a fragmented endeavor with little support from the traditional sciences. However, as more data is collected and epidemiological methods are applied to populations who have multiple or single, intense exposures to UFO phenomena, perhaps a more accurate health risk estimate can be attained. It is important to emphasize that like all epidemiological phenomena the effects would be primarily

detectable with large populations. Consequently, this does not mean necessarily that all people who have close UFO experiences will develop serious health problems.

### Selected References

The following references might be obtained for more technical details concerning the information presented in this article. Derr, J.S. *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, 1973, Volume 63, 2177-2187; Lin, R.S. et. al., *Journal of Occupational Medicine*, 1985, 27, 413-419; Milham, S. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 1982, 307, 249; Nero, et. al., *Science*, 1986, 234, 992-998; Persinger, M.A. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 1983, 56, 259-265; Persinger, M.A. and Cameron, R.A. *Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research*, 1986, 80, 49-73; Terada, T. *Bulletin of the Earthquake Research Institute*, 1931, 9, 225-255; Wiedmann, C.L. *Vestigia Newsletter*, 1977 (spring).

# The Gulf Breeze, Florida Photographic and CE III CASE - PART V

By Donald M. Ware, Florida State Director, Charles D. Flannigan, Lead Investigator  
and Walter H. Andrus, Jr., International Director

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## IMPROVED STEREO CAMERA

The date May 1, 1988 appears to be the final set of photographs taken by Ed which was inaugurated on November 11, 1987 with the original five color Polaroid photos. Ed had taken the latest version of his "self-referencing stereo camera (SRS)" to Shoreline Park South in Gulf Breeze on five consecutive evenings starting April 26, 1988. The SRA camera, designed by Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee and built by Ed, consisted of two new Polaroid 600 LMS Sun Cameras, mounted two feet apart on a boom and supported by a heavy camera tripod. A sighting rod (broomstick)

with a screw on the end is 48 3/4 inches from the camera's lens plane. The camera rig had been stabilized using a triangle of plywood since the previously discussed photos of March 17 and 20 were taken. (See the June 1988 issue of *MUFON UFO Journal* page 16 lower left for a photograph of the SRS improved version.) As a further means of calibrating distances from the camera, a set of six tape-coded poles were placed 60 degrees apart in a circle at a ten foot radius from the camera point of rotation.

## MAY 1, 1988 PHOTOS

Ed set up his cameras each even-

ing about 11:30 p.m. on the beach side of a concrete picnic table near the park pavillion (see photo of table, figure 1). Nothing was observed or photographed from April 26 through April 30th in spite of his persistence and patience. However, his efforts were to be rewarded after midnight on May 1, 1988 at 1:00 a.m. when he heard the familiar hum in his head as he sat in his pickup truck. He immediately manned his cameras. At 1:10 a.m. CDST he saw a lighted object in the southeast sky in the direction of the Bob Sykes Bridge. Simultaneously photos with both the right and left hand cameras were taken. (See

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figure 2 in this article).

After raising his head, he observed another lighted object (UFO) in the same direction, but apparently smaller. The second object, appearing in the upper right corner of the photos in figure 2, looked like the object photographed with the Nimslo 3-D camera on February 26, 1988. (See May 1988 issue number 241 of *MUFON Journal* page 14). Ed lowered his head to the viewfinder in preparation for taking a second set of stereo photos but could see nothing through the left viewfinder. At this moment he raised his head and observed a bright object less than 30 feet above him. Ed flinched and inadvertently took a picture with the right camera. He was immediately hit by a white light, which he referred to as a "white-out" in his head. He said his whole head went white and he lost control of his senses. He remembered falling, but not the sensation of hitting the ground. (See figure 3 for the second photo by the right camera).

### POSSIBLE ABDUCTION

When Ed recovered his senses, he found that he was lying face down in the sand about 20 feet away from his camera set-up and closer to the Santa Rosa Sound beach. When he regained his feet, he felt unstable and dizzy as he observed the surroundings. He walked back to the picnic table area and noticed that the time was now 2:25 a.m. (There was one hour and fifteen minutes of missing time, 1:10 to 2:25 a.m.). He said his head was throbbing and he had a horrible odor emanating from his right hand. The odor was coming from a black substance under his fingernails. When he collected his equipment, he left four of the tape-coded white poles behind. Considering what had happened to him, he did not feel that this loss was important.

Ed drove from Shoreline Park South, arriving home about 3:00 a.m. The odor was so bad that he wrapped a wet towel around his right hand so that he would be able to sleep. He had a feeling or fear that his 13-year-old daughter might be abducted, so he sat with his back to her bedroom door until 6:00 a.m. Ed

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Figure 1. Shoreline Park South. Picnic table and park pavillion.

went to bed at 6:00 a.m. When he awoke at 11:30 a.m., he went to the bathroom and saw three red marks on his face in the mirror. After calling Dr. Maccabee to report the additional photographs and missing time experience, he removed the smelly black stuff and a portion of the clipped fingernails, which were placed in a jar and frozen.

Ed had an abrasion between his eyes and on each temple, plus a knot on the back of his head. He took a photograph of the abrasion between his eyes and gave it to Charles Flannigan. Mr. Flannigan also took a photo of the abrasions on Ed's head which have been both filed with his report. The marks were visible for many days afterward, although there was no blood present to indicate an incision per se.

Ed said there were apparently no other witnesses since none have come forward. Normally, his wife Frances accompanied him to Shoreline Park for the potential photo sessions, however she was chaperoning a group of high school students on a bus trip. Half of the black substance

from under the fingernails on his right hand was given to the Pioneer Lab in Pensacola for analysis. The remainder will be analyzed elsewhere by Dr. Maccabee.

The original Polaroid photographs (3) were sent to Dr. Maccabee for analysis. Following his preliminary analysis of the excellent parallax information, he said the bright light was about 500 feet away and 14 feet in diameter, and the "Nimslo object" was only 134 feet away and about three feet long. Slides of these photos were displayed by Dr. Maccabee and Walt Andrus in their presentations in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 25th.

Ed realizes that the May 1st experience may have been an abduction due to the missing time of 75 minutes. He suspects that he may also have been abducted at the age of 17, 25, and 33. He said, "he thinks they abducted him to remove his capability to hear the hum in his right forehead." He hopes there will be no further incidents that have been interrupting their family life since November 11, 1987. It was explained to Ed by Walt Andrus that a tiny implant or





**Figure 2. May 1, 1988. Stereo photographs of two different objects.**

communication device may have been inserted into his head at some prior time (November 11, 1987 or before) and possibly removed on May 1, 1988. He has agreed to undergo hypnosis regarding the May 1st event by a professional in the Pensacola area to explore the implant possibility and the potential abduction scenario(s). Investigation continues into this highly significant case, since it is conceivable that "only the tip of the iceberg has been exposed." It relates to many other witnesses of reported UFOs, entities, and abductions in the immediate locale.

It is no longer necessary to preface the Gulf Breeze, Florida Case with the disclaimer that it is either one of the most incredible cases in UFO history or the most fantastically orchestrated hoax — one that would challenge the production skills of Steven Spielberg to duplicate. The overwhelming evidence is in. Gulf Breeze is indeed one of the most incredible cases in modern UFO history.

For the photo analysis by Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee please secure a copy of the *MUFON 1988 International UFO Symposium Proceedings* for his paper titled "A History of the Gulf Breeze, Florida Sighting Events" (92 pages). Dr. Maccabee literally



**Figure 3. Second photograph by right camera.**

demolished the objections of the skeptics and the unfounded accusations made by people who labeled the case a hoax. No other case in UFO history has been composed of CE I, CE II, CE III, and CE IV attributes

that could be studied and measured through modern scientific methods and techniques. Gulf Breeze is a solid case and you read it first in the *MUFON UFO Journal* as we promised in the March 1988 issue.

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# Whidbey Island "Unknown"

By Donald A. Johnson

**Dr. Donald Johnson is MUFON State Director for Washington. He is trained in research psychology.**

After a thorough investigation of all pertinent facts, the UFO sighting reported by Dan MacIndoe of Oak Harbor on January 21, 1988 has been given the classification of a true "unknown". The Mutual UFO Network has ruled out all possible conventional explanations for the object seen by Mr. MacIndoe, his wife, mother, mother-in-law and father-in-law, and three-year-old daughter.

Dan MacIndoe, age 32, an ex-Navy lieutenant with seven years military service in the field of aviation supply — including work assignments with the Navy's prestigious Blue Angels squadron — was rated as an exceptionally credible witness by the MUFON organization.

The UFO encounter began at 10:45 p.m. on the night of January 21st at the MacIndoe home not far from the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station. Flight operations at Whidbey NAS had by that time been over for 15 minutes, with the last plane reported "on the deck" at 10:30 p.m.

The UFO was first observed by Cornelia MacIndoe, age 72, Dan MacIndoe's mother, who sighted a bright, orange-yellow stationary light in the southern sky when she went outside to smoke a cigarette. She called the entire family's attention to the object, and together they watched as the UFO shot straight up for approximately three degrees of arc from a position of 25 degrees above the horizon in the direction of the Naval Air Station. The object then abruptly stopped, made a sharp right-angle turn in the horizontal direction and came straight towards them.

According to MacIndoe's account, the object covered a distance of one and a half miles in approximately three seconds. As the UFO approached

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ed the house it seemed to slow, taking approximately 15 seconds to slowly drift directly over the heads of the five adult witnesses and child. It disappeared from view as it travelled in a straight path to the NNE, passing behind some tall fir trees behind the MacIndoe house.

While the object was passing overhead Dan MacIndoe was able to observe the object through a 135mm telephoto lens, and was also able to determine that there was no sound associated with its flight. Mr. MacIndoe described the shape of the underside of the object as that of "a perfect circle."

## LIGHTED CIRCUMFERENCE

"The lights were blueish-white in nature and I estimate 15 lights spanned the circumference of the circle. All remained on forming a circle of 'running lights'. The lights would pulse brighter in sequence, I believe going in a clockwise direction," Dan MacIndoe reported.

He went on to say, "...during the event winds were calm, there were scattered clouds in the vicinity. We live in a rural area. There were no sounds. During the entire episode none of us heard the usual prop or jet noise associated with military aircraft using the airfield. At the time the object was directly overhead I asked my family for complete silence to listen for engine noise. There was absolute silence."

According to Dr. Donald Johnson, Washington State Director for MUFON, a combination of factors were sufficient to rule out all mundane explanations for the sighting. "The fact that this overflight occurred in restricted military airspace, together with the testimony of multiple witnesses, the complete lack of sound, the observation of the unusual lighting pattern on the object seen through magnification, and the lack of wind

combine to provide sufficient information to classify this case as an unknown."

"In other words, there is little possibility that the object the MacIndoes and others reported seeing that night was a satellite, balloon, commercial or military airplane or helicopter, or astronomical body." The National Weather Service and Whidbey NAS were called to confirm that there were no weather balloons released at that time. Additionally, several of Mr. MacIndoe's Dugwalla Bay neighbors and others from as far away as Lake Washington, Edmonds, and Bellingham called him to report that they had also witnessed unusual lights in the sky that evening.

Dr. Johnson reports that the field investigation has been evaluated by the National headquarters as complete. The sighting was assigned a strangeness rating of four on a five-point scale — labelled as "strange, does not conform to known principles"; it also received a probability rating of four on a five point scale — "credible and sound."

(Further information on this report may be obtained from Donald A. Johnson, Ph.D. [822-6609], the Washington State Director for MUFON, in Kirkland, Washington. Dr. Johnson holds a doctorate in Research Psychology from the University of Washington, and has twenty years experience in investigating UFO reports. People who wish to report a UFO sighting are urged to call the National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle, a 24-hour number, at 206/722-3000.)

## MACINDOE NARRATIVE

"On Thursday, 1-21-88, at approximately 2000 hrs., my mother, age 72, went outside on the porch to smoke a cigarette. The weather was mostly clear with scattered clouds. Navy flight ops were being conducted with occasional flyovers by A6/EA6B

aircraft doing touch-and-gos.

"My mother called my attention to an unusually bright object at about the 10 o'clock position to the SW as we looked out our family room window. The object would brighten and dim with occasional flashes of blue and red. (Note: this object has been positively identified as either the star Sirius or Rigel; both stars in that section of the sky now and Mr. MacIndoe has verified that a bright star has been in the same spot as the object his mother saw on subsequent nights — Don Johnson.) My initial impression was that this was probably a Navy helicopter conducting flight operations to the SW.

"There was intermittent cloud cover which would occasionally obscure the object. From 2000 - 2200 members of my family made numerous trips to the window to look at the object. I noted the object would change positions (laterally) from time to time but never more than 3-5 degrees left or right (Note: this apparent motion was due to scintillation and optical illusion, as this object has been identified as a star — Don Johnson.)

"The object I and members of my family witnessed was a curiosity but nothing dramatic due to the distance and size. I know it was not a star, planet, or satellite passing overhead. As time went on my helicopter theory became weaker as I could not understand one hovering in almost the same spot for more than two hours.

"We watched TV from approximately 2200 to 2245 without making another observation.

"At 2245 my mother again went outside to smoke a cigarette. She immediately called for me to come outside in a distressed voice. I, my wife, 3-year-old daughter, and my wife's father all ran out on the front porch and my wife's mother observed through the window.

"Our observations over the next 25-30 seconds are as follows and we all agree on the following description:

"We saw a ball of light yellowish-white in color and in the same position or relationship to the trees as the object sighted earlier in the evening but now much closer and lower in the sky. I estimate the glowing object

was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 miles from our home to the SW placing it at south side of Dugualla Bay Flats. I estimate its elevation to be 100' above tree level. Within 2-3 seconds the object moved from a stationary position.

"The bright ball of light took off vertically at a terrific high rate of speed, from a dead start to perhaps 1000-1500 feet up and immediately changed direction from vertical to lateral. My mother exclaimed 'here it comes' as the light moved directly at us and covered a distance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles in approximately three seconds. As it approached our house it seemed to slow, taking approximately 15 seconds to slowly drift directly overhead and disappear from view as it went to the NE. We lost sight as our view became blocked by our roof. We were standing on the front porch.

"I viewed the object from the time it reached its vertical position to the time it disappeared behind the house through a telephoto camera lens. I took my eyes away from the camera when the object was straight above our position thus viewing the object both with my camera lens and the naked eye. As it moved to an overhead position the bright ball of light was no longer visible as if it were turned off.

"When the object was directly overhead its shape was that of a perfect circle. We determined the shape from the light pattern now clearly visible.

"The lights were blueish-white in nature and I estimate 15 lights spanned the circumference of the circle. All remained on forming a circle of 'running lights'. The lights would pulse brighter in sequence, I believe going in a clockwise direction. I could not make out the body of the craft and the circular description is based on the light pattern only.

"During the event winds were calm, there were scattered clouds in the vicinity. We live in a rural area. There were no sounds. During the entire episode none of us heard the usual prop or jet noise associated with military aircraft using the airfield. At the time the object was directly overhead I asked my family for complete silence to listen for engine

noise. There was absolute silence.

"Our family ran into the house after the object disappeared over the roof top. We were all visibly shaken but not terrified. We began to compare notes on what each of us saw and agreed on the description I have provided.

"At approximately 2255 I called NAS Whidbey's weather office and inquired if there were any unusual lights sighted. The answer was no, but a log entry was made on my report by the Forecast Duty Officer.

"I next called NAS Whidbey's duty office and again made the same inquiry. Again I was told there were no sightings reported. The Duty Petty Officer took my name and number.

"The third and final phone call was made to my older brother Doug in California. I had a strong urge or need to talk to someone who I know would take me seriously. I knew Doug took UFO sightings seriously having himself believed to have made a sighting in the desert years ago. This conversation concluded and our family again recounted the events and compared notes. We went to bed at approximately 2330, all of us feeling uneasy."

## DREAM

"I awakened Friday morning (1-22-88) at approximately 630 having suffered a nightmare which involved a craft above our house which bathed the house in light. I had a feeling of terror. We were all awake by 7 AM and comparing notes once again. We went over the events again and again leaving no doubt among us that we all saw the same thing.

"At approximately 0800 I called NAS operations to ask if they had any lights in the area at 2245 the night before. I was told by the Duty Chief that all flight operations were secured at 2230. Our sighting was at 2245 and the object was in NAS Whidbey's restricted air space. When sighted above the tree level approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from our house I would estimate the object was within 200 yards of the eastern end of NAS Whidbey's runway.

"I hesitated to make the next call

but felt a strong need to find someone else who at least might have seen the bright light. I called the local radio station in Oak Harbor and talked to Dur Roberson the Radio D.J. At first I cautiously asked if anyone had phoned and verified our sighting. The answer was no. I then told our story. He made a tape and put it on the air and I hoped it would draw out someone else who had seen the light over Dugualla Bay. Within minutes I was besieged with calls from Seattle Radio and TV shows. I granted interviews with them in the hopes the increased

exposure would put us in contact with someone who viewed the object."

### WITNESS PROFILES

Dan MacIndoe (principal witness) birthdate 2/22/56, age 32. Former Naval Supply Corps Officer. Last duty station NAS Whidbey, Jan. 1984 - Feb. 1986. Six and a half years service. Left Navy at rank of Lt. Has lived at present address since November 1984 with his wife. Both he and her are familiar with the military aircraft which operate day and night at

NAS Whidbey. In addition, he can identify A6/EA6B, P-3 aircraft by engine sound as well as sight. He has over four years experience observing military flight operations at NAS Whidbey.

Isidra MacIndoe (wife) birthdate 3/5/56, age 32. She also has four years experience observing flight observations from their home.

Cornelia MacIndoe (mother) birthdate 9/5/16, age 72. Has made frequent extended visits to their home over the past four years. Enjoys star-gazing.

## MUFON Amateur Radio Net Report

By Dave Dobbs, K8NQN

FORTY METER NET activity continues to grow, with new check-ins almost every week. The Eastern Section of the net opens at 0800 EST/EDT on 7237 KHz with WA3QLW, Harrisburg, PA, and K8NQN, Cincinnati, OH, acting as net control stations on alternate months. On March 12, eighteen stations were privileged to hear Stan Gordon, MUFON State Director for Pennsylvania, summarize recent UFO activity. We thank WB3AMR, Charles King of Greensburg, PA, who phone-patched him on the air. We hope to transmit reports from other states as the directors begin to utilize our communication abilities.

During the second hour of the net, stations in the Central and Mountain Time Zones are encouraged to check in as the Section II of the net is activated. Eight stations checked in on March 5 at 0800 Central Time. WD8ARZ was pleased to report that sixteen stations participated in the second section of the net on March 12, including seven new check-ins. We look forward to even more activity as word spreads about the more convenient time and better propagation conditions for those who live west of the Mississippi. W0TID, Duane Sanderson in Topeka, KA, is welcomed back as a regular. We're particularly glad to have NY2X, Charles Huffer, a MUFON State Section Director, aboard from Fayetteville, MUFON UFO JOURNAL, No. 244, August 1988

AR. W5UAA, WA5CTJ, and WA00BN are a few of the other regulars helping to establish the Central Section.

NG1E in Boulder, CO, is a key station in the effort to roll the net westward into the Mountain Time Zone at 0800 MST/MDT. He is mighty lonesome at this point and is looking for check-ins from the mountain states as well as potential net control stations for that part of the country. Mountain and Pacific Time Zone members, fire up those rigs! We will be interested in reports of activity from the Pacific Coast area as the 0800 PST/PDT net begins to operate. The Sunday ten meter net can be used to liaison back. Please keep us informed.

TEN METER NET activity is improving, despite spotty propagation on that band. Conditions will get better as we move into the longer daylight hours of summer, and the new sun-

spot cycle ionizes the upper atmosphere to provide the necessary reflection of signals. WD8ARZ reports regulars are beginning to check in every week. Excitement prevailed on March 6 when 8P6GG from Barbados checked into the net! Art told the net, "We don't see UFOs in Barbados like you do there in the States." He was invited to be a regular participant, nevertheless. Because of the international potential of the ten meter net, WD8ARZ intends to keep the time at 2000 Z when Daylight Savings Time begins. This will shift the net from 3 pm to 2 pm on Sundays. The net meets on 21470 KHz USB to permit Novice and Technician Class operators to participate. We anticipate increasing involvement of MUFON members in this net in the coming months. Check in, or start your own section if you don't hear anyone. You might even work some DX!

### MUFON AMATEUR RADIO NETS

MHz	DAY	COVERAGE	TIME
7.237	Saturday	Regional	0800 All U.S. Time Zones
21.470	Sunday	International	2000 Z

### EMERGENCY CALLING / UFO FLAP

			First 15 Min. Following
7.237	Any	Regional	0800, 1200, 1600 EST/EDT
3.990	Any	National	2000, 2400, 0400 EST/EDT
21.470	Any	Local	All listed times

# Some Notes on Photographic Tricky

By Clive Tobin

Tobin is a MUFON member with 25 years' experience in motion picture and video technology. His company, Admiral Photo-Video, offers video transfer and duplication in Seattle, Washington, and he manufactures and installs electronic equipment for film production and theatrical projection.

Unfortunately the time has passed when a photograph could be taken as irrefutable evidence of anything. Hoaxes can be perpetrated via techniques used in the motion picture industry, which will be reviewed; by video effects equipment, which will be mentioned briefly; and by in-camera trick photography, of which examples will be shown.

## MOTION-PICTURE VISUAL EFFECTS

A statement was recently published to the effect that there are no films made for reproducing negatives as negatives. The perpetrator of that remark was evidently unfamiliar with the wide range of special motion picture emulsions, primarily made by Eastman Kodak, for just that purpose. For a visual effect sequence, original photography may be done with Eastman Color Negative 5247, Eastman Special Application Negative 5295, or other materials. A duplicate negative can be made directly on Eastman Color Reversal Intermediate 5249, or through two generations (color master positive and color duplicate negative) on Eastman Color Intermediate 5243. A blue screen is used for generating mattes (pronounced "mats") to permit or prevent certain picture elements from showing in the duplicate negative. A range of B&W films is available for making mattes from the original color negative.

The field of modern visual effects is too complex and specialized to fully

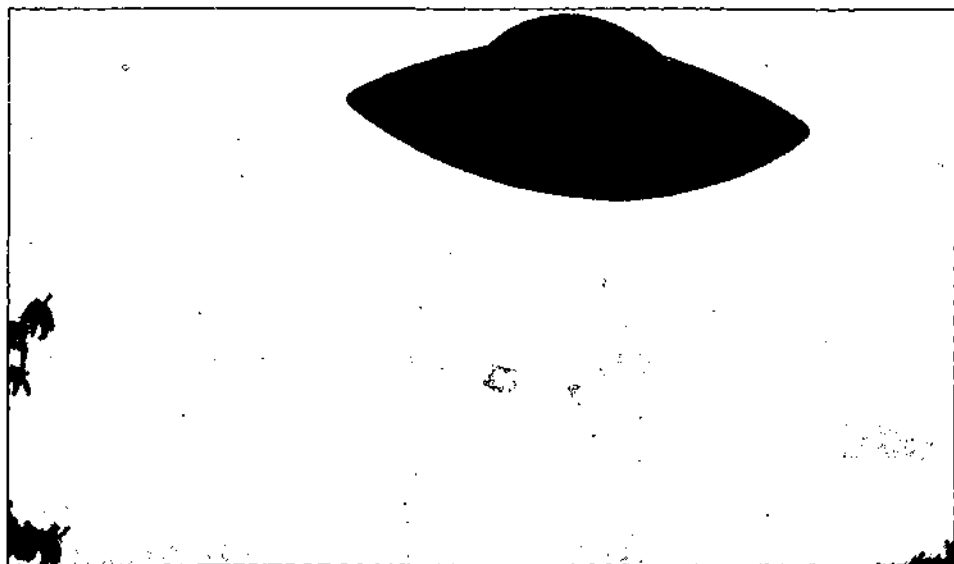


Figure 1. Polaroid UFO Photo.

describe here. For a taste of what is possible, though, the reader may refer to the July 1988 *American Cinematographer* magazine for a discussion of the current effects film "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" For a typical shot discussed in detail, some 14 film elements and mattes were combined in an optical printer with microscopic precision, correct exposure, correct color balance, etc. to produce a visually believable result. One could say that inserting a simple UFO vehicle into another negative would be child's play by comparison. Only a fairly expert technician could tell, by examining the resulting duplicate negative (if it were made available to him) that it was a duplicate and not an original negative. Telltale signs would be different edge printing, possibly different perforation shape, possibly different density and coloration of the film base. It may be worth mentioning that the effects generations of most high-budget films use a resurrected VistaVision format, using eight perforation pairs per frame, nearly identical to the normal 35mm still photography format. Release prints

are made on the normal four-perforation 35mm or five-perforation 70mm film.

Other tricks can be done in the camera, eliminating the need for slow, costly, grain-inducing optical printing. Some of these will be mentioned in the section after next.

## VIDEO EFFECTS EQUIPMENT

A photographed or video image can be stored in computerized form and manipulated, altered, combined with other images, distorted into odd shapes, and then displayed in video form or else photographed to yield a "hard copy" of the electronic signal. With the high-resolution digitizing into thousands of scanning lines, it may not be possible to detect that the image has been altered, particularly if it is rephotographed on ordinary color negative or color slide film. It would not show any of the telltale signs of being a duplicate negative that had been generated through special printing.

Video effects do not require the degree of commitment of someone making a "Star Wars" film where tens

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of millions of dollars are spent on special and optical effects. A few thousand dollars' worth of equipment, or more, is required but many of these systems are in use nationwide and it is not out of the question for a bored technician to fabricate a hoax on a slow night.

### IN-CAMERA TRICK PHOTOGRAPHY

A little imagination and some fairly ordinary equipment will enable a person to make convincing pictures. One technique borrowed from the movies is the glass shot. Here, a medieval fortress (or UFO) is painted on or attached to a large pane of glass to save the expense of building a real one. Details such as people walking in the distance are photographed through an unpainted portion of the glass at the same time as the finished painting. Attention must be paid to adequate depth of field, using a large piece of glass, a high light level, and a small aperture.

A piece of glass can also be used as a mirror. Held at an angle, it will make the object reflected in it have a transparent ghostly appearance. The actors can interact with each other in real time and avoid the bother of double exposures or laboratory trickery. By partial mirrors and controlled lighting an object can be made to change shape or disappear.

Double exposures can be of two basic kinds; where the entire film area is exposed more than once; or where portions are masked off during certain exposures to allow certain areas to register. In the whole-film double exposure, objects that are moved between exposures will take on a ghostly, transparent appearance. Where portions are masked off, unrelated scenes can be recorded on the same frame. With careful attention to exposure, degree of softness of the edge of the mask, and composition, a completely convincing picture can be faked, and here again nothing can be deduced by carefully examining the negative. One person can become twins; spectral apparitions can haunt the living.

Through animation, inanimate ob-



Figure 2. "Paranormal" Trickery

jects can be made to move. This is done by exposing movie film one frame at a time, and moving the subject between frames so your hand doesn't show in the picture. A telltale sign of this stop-motion filming is that the moving object is too sharp and shows no motion blur. High-budget effects films have overcome this problem by a secret technique dubbed "go-motion" where the miniatures are moved slightly during each exposure to prevent their looking too sharp.

Objects can be suspended on armatures behind them attached to the wall, or suspended from the ceiling and photographed from below. For outer-space epics, often the spaceship is stationary and the camera moves instead under computer control. The pole holding it up is removed optically later because it is painted the same color as the blue screen. Objects can be supported by exceedingly fine wires that will not show if conditions are right.

In front-screen projection an object can have anything as a background, which is actually film being projected onto a special retro-reflective screen material. By interlocked zooming of the projector and camera, "Superman" for example flies towards you without moving.

Following are UFO and paranormal

photos that were faked without the use of any unusual equipment.

### FIG. 1. UFO POLAROID PHOTO

Our startled witness sees a dark and menacing UFO overhead. Luckily he has his Polaroid 210 pack camera loaded with type 108 film. He manages a grab shot before the thing streaks back to Clarion. A learned investigator knows that the 210 has shallow depth of field, so the UFO must have been the same distance as the trees. He solemnly pronounces the photo to be genuine.

Actually, our intrepid hoaxer has been giving some thought to this problem. He knows that at the normal ASA 75 film speed setting the Polaroid shoots at about F/10 so the 12" paper cutout taped to his bedroom window comes out too fuzzy to be believable. He toys with the film speed slider, trying the ASA 3000 setting, and as expected the next photo is too dark to see as it was underexposed by a factor of 40; however the depth of field at the resulting F/64 aperture is good enough. He lacks a 1.6ND filter to put over the photocell window to correct the exposure, and puts his little finger over it instead. He braces himself for the long (1 second) exposure and produces the photo shown.

Largely by accident, the picture is pretty convincing. The slight fuzziness and underexposure, together with the bad composition, gives just the right effect. Subsequent pictures with better composition and exposure, and using a better and 35mm pro-grade camera, are actually less convincing and take on a pretty hokey appearance. These are not shown publicly.

**FIG. 2.**  
**35mm PARANORMAL PHOTO**

The author, left, does a "doppel-take" as his doppelganger leers at him from the stairway. The spectre needs only to steal the eyeglasses to

assume a solid form, meanwhile consigning the victim to an eternal void in the 39th dimension ...

Or, this could be a triple exposure with the camera (a Ricoh XR-P) firmly mounted on a tripod. Using the multiple-exposure capability and manual exposure settings (found on a number of good cameras) and a black paper mask that only allows the left or right half to be seen at one time, this can be done in a minute without accomplices who might someday recant. Locking in a manual exposure, determined before affixing the paper mask, the hoaxer sets the camera's self-timer and poses at left. Without advancing the film, two more exposures are made at right, each with half the exposure of the first so

the two will add up to an equal brightness. Again using the self-timer, one exposure is made including the hoaxer (sans glasses) and one is made without him giving a transparent ghostly appearance. Since he was careful not to move the camera between exposures, and the largely out-of-focus black paper gives soft edges to the transition area in the center of the picture, no dividing line is to be seen.

In the foregoing the author does not mean to imply that any particular photos have been faked, but just that techniques are available for doing so. My regret is that now, if I ever take a genuine UFO or paranormal picture it may prove impossible to prove its authenticity!

## LOOKING BACK

By Bob Gribble

**FORTY YEARS AGO — August 1948:** At noon on the 11th, two young boys were playing in their backyard at Hamel, Minnesota, when they noticed a strange object descending from the sky approximately 12 feet from the ground. The object settled to the ground gently. Upon landing, the UFO spun once, made a whistling sound, and then shot straight up into the air approximately 20 feet, stopped, and again made a whistling sound. The object then shot upward to a height of about 30 feet, and, during this ascent, maneuvered around tree branches and utility wires. When the UFO reached a height of approximately 30 feet, it moved away to the northeast at a high rate of speed. The boys described the object as about one foot thick, two feet wide, and circular. The UFO had no windows, wires, or any visible appendages. It was a dull gray in color, and when it hit the ground it made a slight clanking noise, like metal hitting metal. In the spot where the object landed investigators found an impression two feet in diameter. Within the impression rocks had been pressed into the ground and were level with the soil.

★★★

**THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO — August 1953:** About the first of the month Berryman Davids took off from Seattle, Washington in his Aeronca Chief airplane. He climbed to 10,000 feet, leveled off and headed for the Cascade Mountain range to the southeast. No clouds and bright sunlight. Suddenly the whole cockpit was drenched in dazzling-white, intense light. The pilot circled to try to determine the source of the light. After a 90-degree turn back toward Seattle, the blinding light hit the aircraft again. Then the pilot saw the source: 12 bright metallic craft, perhaps a mile away. One object turned on its side and the sun caught it as a huge mirror. And again the blinding light for a couple seconds.

The pilot flew toward the objects which were playing like a school of dolphins. As he neared the objects he could see they were disc-shaped. They would ascend straight up until out of sight, then descend at fantastic speed. three of the discs descended just in front of his aircraft, heading for the ground at high velocity. Just as they were about to crash they suddenly reversed direction and went straight up at high speed. That was enough for the pilot. He left the area

as fast as his Chief would take him.

A woman in the Ground Observer Corps in the Black Hills of South Dakota reported a light hovering in the sky to the east of her position on the night of the 12th. Two operators from a radar station went out to check visually while the woman was still on the telephone. While they were scanning the sky the woman reported, "The thing is beginning to move over Rapid City." Simultaneously, the two radar men observed the light start to move. They returned to their radar, while the woman reported that the object was moving back to its original position. The radar got a fix on it at that spot. An F-84, in the air at the time, was vectored in to the target, the pilot making visual contact. The object headed north with the jet in pursuit, radar tracking both blips. The UFO stayed ahead of the jet and seemed to maintain distance whenever the pilot speeded up the jet.

After chasing the object 120 miles, the pilot ran low on fuel and was granted permission to return. When he turned around, the UFO also turned and followed. After the first jet landed, a second F-84 went up to investigate. He was talked into posi-

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tion and spotted the thing visually above him. He went up to 20,000 feet, reported that he was level with the light, and again the object took off to the north with the jet in pursuit. Again the chase was observed on ground radar, with both the UFO and the jet showing plainly on the scope. When the pilot thought he was closing in on the object, he switched on his radar gun sights. This type of jet has a light on the instrument panel to indicate a "lock on". The light came on.

The second jet chased the light 160 miles to the north before abandoning the pursuit. This time the UFO continued flying north. The Ground Observer Corps Filter Center ahead was alerted and observers there reported a light speeding north. This was an incredible UFO incident. There were simultaneous visual sightings from two ground sites linked by telephone, simultaneous ground and radar sightings, simultaneous ground-radar and jet-visual sightings, a pursuit in which the UFO outran the jet, a reversal in course, a second jet-visual sighting confirmed by radar, an air-radar "lock on" and finally a sighting from the ground hundreds of miles away.

★★★

#### **TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO —**

**August 1963:** Ronnie Austin, 18, and Phyllis Bruce, 18, were driving near Fairfield, Illinois on the 4th, about 11 PM, when they spotted a big, white object moving along just above the tree tops. It looked as big as an automobile. At first the object was on the south side of the road and then it crossed over in front of their car to the north side, at one point coming within 100 feet of the car. The radio went crazy, so Ronnie turned it off. When he reached his girl's house the object hovered in the area around the home. As soon as he pulled away from the house, the UFO began to follow. "I really poured the coal to the car and I must have been doing 120 MPH (sic) when I topped the hill on the gravel road not far from our place," Ronnie said. "I was coming into a dead end spot on the roadway

and the object seemed to exert some strange force on my car, otherwise I would never have been able to make the turn. It slowed me down at an unbelievable rate of speed.

"Then the thing came straight for me and hovered over my car. My car engine started to miss ... it would hardly go ... finally the engine stopped running. I didn't know what was going to happen then. Then the light moved over to the side of the highway, overhead, and my car started. I raced for home. I ran inside and woke up dad and mom. They thought I was drunk or had gone crazy. Dad ran outside and took one look and ran back inside for his gun. When the object saw that gun it seemed to move right toward us. We ran back inside. The UFO was round and moved with the most ungodly speed I ever saw ... I can't imagine what it was."

On the 9th, a fireball as big as a washtub hovered over the home of a former Mt. Vernon, Illinois mayor. Harry L. Bishop said the fireball he saw "coming right down the Centralia Road from the north was the brightest red light I have ever seen. It appeared to be only about 300 or 400 feet high, was oval-shaped and was about the size of a washtub. When it got over my house it stopped and I could see it very clearly. Although it was bright red it did not light up the neighborhood. It seemed to be making a light whirring sound. I noticed a car coming down the Centralia Road. It stopped suddenly and the driver jumped out and looked upwards. He saw the object, too, and it startled him to a stop." When the car stopped, the light turned, hovered overhead, then moved off westward. "I thought those people at Fairfield were crazy when I read about the strange things they have been seeing in the sky," said Bishop, "but I've changed my mind ..."

★★★

#### **TWENTY YEARS AGO — Au-**

**gust 1968:** Mrs. Harold B. Eggers of Mt. Airy, North Carolina, was awakened by the frantic barking and scratching on the front door of her

home at 2:30 AM (date unknown). When she got out of bed she heard a penetrating sound like a "huge swarm of bees," and when she opened the door her dog ran and hid under her bed with his paws covering its ears. Before closing the door Mrs. Eggers saw a circular UFO with a dome on its top, divided by 12 square openings, hovering about 50 feet off the ground, some 90 feet away from her home. She estimated the UFO to be about six or seven feet high and 15 feet in diameter. The base appeared to be aluminum (in the glow of the full moon) and reddish-orange lights shown from inside the numerous openings. Her first reaction was to shut the door immediately. Almost at the same time the house lights dimmed, which she then turned off.

Through a bedroom window she could see what appeared to be a strange-looking, small being peering at her through one of the openings of the hovering UFO. The occupant wore a sort of silver helmet and appeared to be about three to four feet tall, and clothed in some sort of tight-fitting uniform. Finally the UFO departed. The next morning Mrs. Eggers discovered that her three electric clocks had lost about an hour overnight and that a power failure had occurred in the immediate neighborhood that same evening. She suffered from sleeplessness, dimming of vision and headaches, off and on for several days after the incident.

★★★

#### **FIFTEEN YEARS AGO — Au-**

**gust 1973:** Experts at an Army missile base at Huntsville, Alabama said they were puzzled about strange "ghost ships" picked up on powerful radar screens in the Pacific during a tracking exercise. There had been little official comment on what the scientists found during the exercise but, Major Dallas Van Hoose, an Army spokesman, confirmed that "some unexplained aerial phenomena" were observed. Scientists, many of whom were reluctant to be named because of general public skepticism over UFOs, said privately they have been unable to find any explanation for the



"ghost ships." "We have never seen anything precisely like this before," said one ballistic missile defense expert who works for an Army agency at Huntsville, and who is familiar with the advanced radar used to test missiles and warheads.

Huntsville houses the Army's ballistic missile defense system command, which analyzes results of tests in the Kwajalein Atoll region of the Marshall Island Trust Territory. In August the Air Force launched a Minuteman from Vandenburg AFB, California, aimed for the Kwajalein target area. Radar experts in the Pacific found they were also tracking a UFO next to the ICBM's nose cone. It was picked up to the right and above the descending nose cone, and tracked while it crossed the warhead's trajectory until it was below and to the left, before vanishing.

The ghost blip was described as 10 feet high and 40 feet long. Two separate radar systems saw it at the same time, decreasing the likelihood

of a malfunction in one of the sets. Three other similar objects were in the vicinity. One scientist said the data indicated that the phantom ship "flew under its own power," but could not explain what sort of power that might be. So far, none of the experts at Huntsville believe the ghost ship was a natural phenomenon caused by freak weather conditions or echoes commonly seen on radar screens.

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**TEN YEARS AGO — August 1978:** Terry Mayo reported his motorcycle was passed by a strange flying object that "looked like a cup inverted on top of a saucer," as he drove to his Buffalo Shoals, North Carolina home prior to 11 PM on the 11th. According to Mayo, "the object was about the size of a four of five room farmhouse. It was domed on the top and flat on the bottom and gave off a

yellowish-white light." When it passed near his motorcycle it caused the lights to go out and the engine to stop. Then it hovered nearby for about one minute, lifted up, then shot straight up into the sky with a loud humming. When the UFO left the area, the cycle lights came on automatically, but his starter switch did not work.

Larry Jenkins saw his first UFO at Strasburg, Virginia, at 9 PM on the 17th. He said it was about 18 feet in diameter, round in front and the back looked like it was blocked off. It had a red and green light which illuminated the sky as the object hovered just about the ground. Then the UFO began to glow and a mist or fog surrounded it. Both Jenkins and his sister, as well as his son and three daughters said the light was so bright it hurt their eyes. "It made my hair stand straight up in the air," said Jenkins. Jenkins said the police arrived 10 to 15 minutes after the thing disappeared in a shroud of mist.

## Letter To the Editor

**Dear Editor,**

I was interested to read Jerome Clark's article in *MUFON Journal* June 1988. However, he calls me to task a little unnecessarily. At no time was I suggesting that the subconscious belief in the extraterrestrial hypothesis was either all-pervading or religious in context.

My article (*MUFON Journal*, April 1988) actually suggested that there were some altruistic Ufologists who could legitimately say "yes" to the question that I posed. They would be involved in the subject even if it were demonstrated that aliens had nothing to do with it. However, I am surprised that Jerry considers it bad psychology to try to see inside people's heads and second guess motives for interest in UFOs.

In fact, of course, I can only really speak for British UFO enthusiasts. But I strongly suspect the same is true of the USA. It should be remembered that serious Ufologists are comparatively few. BUFORA, for example, has around 300 members.

Yet its "hard core" — ie those who are long term committed and in any sense professionalized is at best perhaps 30-50 people. I doubt if a similar percentage does not apply to organizations such as MUFON or CUFOS.

What this means is that the majority of those involved in the UFO field are there for reasons *not* connected with either altruism or their desire to find the truth. That remains the province of a handful. My contention comes from experience at meeting many of them over the past 15 years and receiving literally hundreds of letters a year from readers of my books or the "grass roots" of Ufology. What this has revealed about the matter is fascinating.

There is no question, certainly in Britain, that most of these people have an inner compulsion that (consciously or subconsciously) wishes to see the UFO phenomenon proven to be extra-terrestrial in nature. Frankly, I am surprised this is even regarded as a controversial statement.

What might make controversial is

its extension to others — the *real* Ufologists, if you like. Those amongst whom both Jerry and I would doubtless count ourselves — although the definition probably accommodates itself according to whomsoever you are. I was brave/foolish/honest (take your pick!) by admitting that there is something of this vague hope inside of me. It would not be immediately recognizable from my books, articles or lectures, because I strive so hard to remain objective. Indeed, I suspect that I counteract the tendency so much that I over-rebel against the ETH in an effort to remain "unbiased."

My feeling is that others probably are similarly inclined, without necessarily realizing it. Let us face it. Unless you are a specialist with a legitimate reason for interest in UFOs, then you are brought up with the mythical ideal that UFO and spaceships are synonymous terms. You can hardly avoid it (at least you could not when I got involved) as it is soaked through the fabric of popular books, cultural media and virtually

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every public presentation of the subject. You have to "unlearn" the truths about UFOs (as perceived by the tabloid press or the mass market books). That takes time and because you are unlikely to be attracted to the field in the first place unless a hope was sneaking somewhere inside that it may be like that, then what would have attracted you?

Of course, I know it is true that you can grow out of the indoctrination of the ETH. But it is a painful process of evolution and I am merely suggesting a hypothesis I consider to be valid. Maybe hardly any of us ever totally escapes. Otherwise why does the ETH remain such a vital part of the UFO phenomenon? Realistically, it is not because of its overwhelming support from the evidence.

Jerry proposes that the lack of photographic evidence for abductions is not persuasive, citing the interesting analogy that there are no pictures of assault, rape or murder. Interesting, but not wholly correct for two reasons.

There are some secondary observations of murder and a few have been captured on film (even TV cameras). True enough, the witness is hardly going to take a time-out to photograph the assailant. There are rather more important things to be doing! This has a degree of relevance to abductees. However, there are plenty of long duration observations of entities in non-stressful situations where photography would be feasible. Also the problem with photographic evidence is not confined to the abductees themselves. Nobody photographs (or even sees) someone else being abducted. And there are so few modern photographs of craft-like UFOs that even pass first base in analysis that it is a major question we have to face. When camera ownership, quality of cameras and film have all vastly improved over the past 30 years why are we reduced to citing as proof of good UFO pictures the McMinnville, Oregon shots from 1950 or the Trinidad Island ones from 1958, plus a very few others? We ought to be getting dozens of good new cases each year. We aren't. I have yet to hear any sort of answer as to why.

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I strongly suspect we need to look deeper at the people who mold the evidence (ie both the witnesses and the Ufologists). This is partially verified by the study that Dr. Shirley McIver made for her Sociology PhD at York University in England.

Shirley analyzed motives of the BUFORA membership (a potted summary can be found on pages 1987-188 of the book *Science and the UFOs*, by Peter Warrington and myself — recently issued in a paperback edition by Blackwell Inc. of New York). Crucially she discovered that 44% of people believed that UFOs were the product of physical extra-terrestrials travelling to earth. That was easily the most favored hypothesis.

There is no stigma attached to this. It is human nature and necessary we understand that. The problem comes more from our failure to acknowledge the same trend inside us. An unrecognized problem is far more dangerous than one that is spotted and guarded against.

As to Jerome interpreting my words as religious in nature, that is totally wrong but fascinating as to why he did so.

What I actually said was that the inner temptation leads us towards seeing UFOs as the consequence of "advanced alien visitors who have come here, will change the world and maybe help us get out of the mess we are in."

However, this statement was adapted by Jerry to fit in with CSICOP ramblings about pseudo-mysticism and religion. All I suggested was that the aliens are seen as a kind of "intergalactic cavalry". They act as a Superman substitute. We have made a mess of things, in terms of our environment, nuclear weapons, etc. Science does not appear to be finding the answers quickly enough. The desperation this engenders has the natural result of fostering a wish for some wise alien souls who have solved the problems to come here and tell us what we are doing wrong.

The UFO phenomenon is in many respects exactly what the doctor ordered. Of course, there are two ways of looking at this. Either our innate desires are twisting the evidence and producing blinkered perception of the issues. Or else the answer is what it seems to be and we are merely responding to our intuition of a great truth.

I suspect a bit of both possibilities might be involved. But I do not know the truth, as does nobody else, of course. All I am trying to show is a tendency towards the ETH within many UFO researchers. It works both ways, good and bad, for and against objectivity. But it is better we admit that it exists and not sweep it under the rug.

Jenny Randles  
Cheshire, UK

## In Others' Words

By Lucius Farish

The research of folklorist Peter Rojewicz into "Men In Black" reports is detailed by Dennis Stacy in the "Anti-Matter/UFO Update" column in the May issue of OMNI. The same column in the June issue has Patrick Huyghe's comments on the Knowles "car-lift" case from Australia.

A good report on the UFO activity in Southwestern Arkansas appears in the June issue of *Arkansas Times*. It includes two photos of unusual nocturnal lights which have been seen in the area. Anyone wishing a copy of the issue may send \$2.00 to: *Arkansas Times* - P.O. Box 34010 - Little Rock, AR 72203-9855.

The April 25 issue of *New Yorker*, in a profile of Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater, touches on his interest in UFOs. He repeats his previous statement about not being allowed access to certain areas at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, saying it was the "Green Room" which was off limits, not the famous "Hangar 18". Goldwater adds he has never seen a UFO, but has talked with pilots who have. He also says, "We lost a military pilot who went up to intercept

## WORDS, continued

strange lights and never came back. His airplane disappeared, too."

A lengthy article on long-time researcher Ray Fowler is included in the June issue of *Yankee*. His work with the Betty Andreasson (Luca) case is detailed.

Loren E. Gross has revised his previous booklet which covered the July - December 1947 period. By adding chapters from a previous booklet which dealt with the first six months of 1947, Gross now presents a complete picture of UFO activity during that all-important year. He has also combined his previous booklets for the year of 1948, making the chronological sequence of events somewhat easier to follow. Both books have complete lists of references, as well as indexes. You may order *UFOs: A History - 1947* and *UFOs: A History - 1948* at \$6.00 each from Gross at: 690 Gable Dr. - Fremont, CA 94538.

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## MESSAGE, continued

Nebraska, as part of their new two-hour TV release titled "The UFO Cover-Up: What is the Government Hiding?" It will be distributed and shown by LBS (Lexington Broadcast System) on Friday, October 14, 1988 from 8-10 p.m. EDT. The showing time will vary by time zones across the country. Please consult your local TV stations, Cable TV, etc. to determine when it will be shown in your area. It has been publicized in *Variety Magazine* in New York City. This will be one of the first UFO documentaries to be viewed on TV that we have alluded to in the Director's Message. Stay tuned for more details.

★★★

Due to the unanticipated influx of new members desiring MUFON Field Investigator's Manuals, our supply was exhausted before additional manuals could be printed and assembled. This is only a temporary situation. An explanatory note will be mailed and backorders processed promptly upon the receipt of new manuals from the printer. We apologize for this inconvenience.

# THE NIGHT SKY

By Walter N. Webb  
MUFON Astronomy Consultant

August 1988

## Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mars, in Cetus, rises in the east shortly before 10 PM in midmonth. Shining at magnitude -2, our ruddy neighbor now rivals Jupiter in brightness. Usually Mars is a disappointing small disc except when Earth catches up to it every 26 months. Its diameter exceeds 20 seconds of arc from August 19 to October 24 — the best period to observe the planet. Mars begins retrograde or westward motion on the 26th. See the July Night Sky.

Saturn, in Sagittarius, is low in the southern sky at dusk. The yellowish ringed planet (magnitude +0.4) resumes direct or eastward motion on the 30th.

## Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Venus rises in the NE about 2:30 AM in mid-August, reaching its farthest point west of the Sun on the 22nd. Its magnitude is -4.3.

Mars is visible in the SW at dawn.

Jupiter, in Taurus, rises in the NE below the Pleiades about midnight in the middle of the month and is high in the SE at dawn. The giant shines at magnitude -2.4.

Saturn sets in the WSW about 1:30 AM (mid-August).

## Partial Lunar Eclipse.

The northern limb of the full moon enters the Earth's shadow on the morning of August 27. Weather permitting, all of North America except the East will see the partial eclipse. The Moon slips into the dark central shadow (umbra) at 5:07 AM CDT, is 30 percent (maximum) eclipse at 6:05, and leaves the umbra at 7:02.

## Meteor Showers:

Unlike last year, there is no moonlight to spoil the annual Perseids shower which climaxes on the morning of the 12th. The optimum time to watch a meteor shower generally is between midnight and dawn — especially toward dawn when about one Perseid per minute can be glimpsed. In addition, the July Aquarids continue into mid-August.

## Moon Phases:

Last quarter — August 4  
New moon — August 12  
First quarter — August 20  
Full moon — August 27

## MESSAGE, continued

Richard is Director of Publications for MUFON and co-editor of the MUFON Annual Symposium Proceedings since 1985. (Prior to that, he was Editor of the *MUFON UFO Journal*).

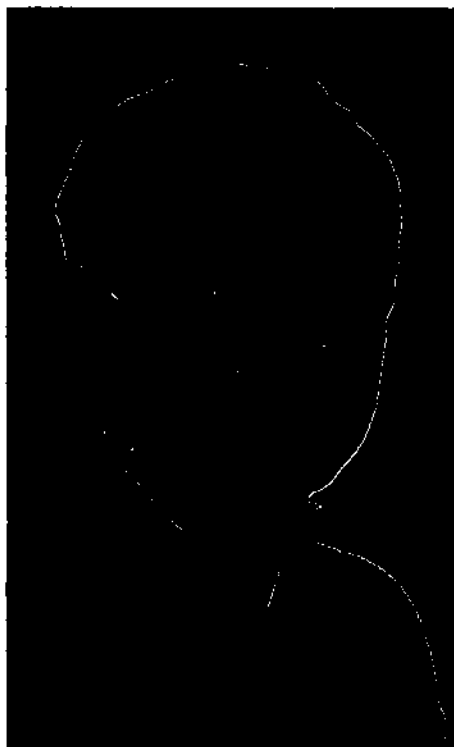
The MUFON 1988 International UFO Symposium Proceedings (241 pages) are now available for \$15 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155-4099. Please enclose a check or postal money order made payable to MUFON in U.S. funds. No C.O.D. All foreign purchases must be by International Postal Money Order or a check payable to a U.S. Bank. (No foreign checks accepted.) Cash in U.S. dollars will be accepted on foreign orders if this is more convenient.

★★★

**Joe Santangelo's** term as Eastern Regional Director is expiring. He has asked to be replaced, since he will not run for reelection. Anyone living in the Eastern Region of states consisting of ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA, MD, NJ, DE, WV, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, DC, and PR interested in being elected to this position should advise their State Director of their desire so they may be nominated. State Directors may nominate themselves. The deadline for receiving nominations is October 31, 1988 in Seguin, Texas. This is an opportunity for a dedicated person to help influence the goals and objectives of MUFON and the future of UFOlogy.

**Loren Gross**, MUFON Staff Historian, has published a series of 16 indexed booklets all titled "UFOs A History," covering the years from 1896 through 1952. With the exception of the 1896 booklet (\$2.50), all booklets are approximately 100 pages and cost \$6.00 each in U.S. dollars. Please add 50¢ per booklet for postage and mail your order to Loren Gross, 690 Gable Drive, Fremont, CA 94538.

MUFON is constantly receiving requests for UFO video programs, documentaries, and UFO sighting MUFON UFO JOURNAL, No. 244, August 1988



**ROBERT BLETCHEMAN**

footage. Even though we have an extensive library of VHS video tapes, we are not in the video tape reproduction business and decline such requests. We are delighted to advise *Journal* readers that an appropriate company is in this business as of May 18, 1988. For a list of video tapes (Beta or VHS format) available, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to UFO Video Clearing House, 12655 2nd Street, Suite #78, Yucaipa, California 92399-4660 (telephone: (714) 795-3361). The list is free.

The First International European UFO Meeting will be held in Brussels, Belgium on November 11-13, 1988. This meeting will be attended by UFOlogists from England, France, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Germany, the Scandinavian Countries and Belgium. An invitation is hereby extended to U.S. and Canadian members in particular. The theme is "Physical and Psychosocial Aspects of Anomalous Aerial Phenomena." **Robert S. Digby** (England), Chairman of ICUR plans to attend. Your International Director has been invited to present a slide-illustrated lecture on the Gulf Breeze, Florida Case at this meeting, which he has tentatively accepted. This could be an opportunity to meet

many of our European counterparts and especially MUFON Representatives. For information on this meeting please write to Michael Bougard, president, SOBEPS, Avenue Paul Janson 74, 1070 Bruxelles (Brussels), Belgium.

Several people at the recent MUFON Symposium in Lincoln, Nebraska asked about how they could obtain the oval-shaped MUFON lapel pin (gold over black). Pins are available for \$4 each from **Franklin A. Youri**, 446 Boynton Ave. #111, San Jose, CA 95117 or MUFON in Seguin, Texas.

★★★

The MUFON 1989 International UFO Symposium is planned for Las Vegas, Nevada with **John Lear** as the host chairman for Nevada-MUFON, assisted by **Hal Starr** and Arizona-MUFON.

In order to utilize the talent and education of our Consultants and Research Specialists, the following new procedure is being instituted: a copy of the membership application of all Consultants will continue to be mailed to **James M. McCampbell**, Director for Research, however new Research Specialists' processed applications will be mailed to **Jennie Zeidman**, Coordinator of Technical Analysis to build up a source of qualified people in diverse applicable fields. A high priority will be given to recruitment of qualified clinical hypnotists throughout the country, due to the large number of abductees surfacing daily. We must have a definite plan of action to help these potential abductees.

Michael Seligman Productions from Los Angeles, California filmed most of the speakers at the MUFON 1988 UFO Symposium in Lincoln,

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**SUPPORT  
UFO  
RESEARCH**

# Director's Message

By Walt Andrus

The "4th National UFO Information Week" is scheduled for August 14-21, 1988. Each State Director received a packet of informational material that may be reproduced in appropriate quantities, prepared by **Marge Christensen**. Some State Directors revised their previous publicity material and have already completed their plans for photo exhibits, handouts, lectures, media publicity, etc. UFO public education and information is high on MUFON's priority list.

In the July issue of the *Journal* it was announced that **George R. Coyne** and **Jennie Zeidman** became new Board of Directors members. The following revisions in the Board of Directors structure and responsibilities have been made to bolster MUFON's public relations clout. Marge Christensen now has the responsibility for Director of Public Education and Information, a position in which she has performed admirably for the past 5 years. MUFON has reached the stature in UFOlogy where a spokesman and Director of Public Relations has become essential in order to disseminate vital UFO information to the printed press and the electronic media. The MUFON Executive Committee has approved the appointment of **Robert H. Bletchman**, presently State Director of Connecticut, to the position of Director of Public Relations on the MUFON Board. An attorney with 20 years of experience in the UFO field, Mr. Bletchman is eminently qualified to execute this important function. As the greatest mystery of the 20th Century and the space age, the UFO phenomenon has not received the scientific recognition that it deserves in the press and electronic media. Several UFO documentaries are presently being produced for distribution to television networks and cable TV outlets. It is essential that the debunking press releases by a CSICOP spokesman concerning UFOs be repudiated with scientific



MARGE CHRISTENSEN

facts. With major UFO breakthroughs on the immediate horizon, MUFON must be prepared to respond to the public in a professional, scientific and respected manner.

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Increased interest in the UFO phenomenon is readily apparent by the substantial number of new members joining each month. This is also reflected in the high caliber of people volunteering for leadership positions. **Chuck Brooks**, State Director for South Dakota, has appointed **Tedra L. Plane** as the Asst. State director. She is vitally interested in hypnosis and counseling of abductees. **Robert E. Lawler**, M.D. of Cocoa, Florida has accepted the dual role of Consultant in Radiology and State Section Director for Brevard and Osceola Counties. **Robert E. "Chip" Eggerton, Jr.** living in New Orleans, is the new State Section Director for the Louisiana parishes of Orleans, St.

Charles, St. Bernard, Jefferson, and Plaquemines. "Chip" holds a Master of Divinity degree and an A.D. in Nursing. **George A. Filer**, a retired USAF Major and a MBA degree, volunteered as the State Section Director for Burlington and Ocean Counties in New Jersey.

**John S. Carpenter**, M.S.W., residing in Springfield, Missouri, is the new State Section Director for Greene, Webster, Polk, and Christian Counties. He also serves as a Research Specialist in Clinical Hypnosis. **Robert A. Liesser**, M.S.L.S. of Tulsa, Oklahoma has joined MUFON in the capacity of Research Specialist in Library Science. Mr. Liesser worked with the late **Robert Loftin**, author of the book "Identified Flying Saucers". Other Research Specialists joining MUFON this past month were **Gerald Mark Zeitlin**, M.S.E.E. of Oakland, California for Electrical Engineering and Amateur Radio Operator N6DH; **Rodney Jay Curd**, M.S., of Lincoln, Nebraska in Psychology and Counseling; and **John R. Salter, Jr.** M.A. in Sociology. John is a full Professor and Chairman, Department of Indian Studies at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

★★★

It is great news to announce that **Richard Hall's** new book titled "Uninvited Guests — A Documented History of UFO Sightings, Alien Encounters & Coverups" (1988), published by Aurora Press, P.O. Box 573, Santa Fe, NM 87504 is now available for \$14 (381 pages). Please send a check or money order payable to Aurora press and include the price of the book(s) plus \$2 for the first book ordered and \$1 for each additional book to cover postage and handling to the above address. Mr. Hall's book is highly recommended and should be a part of every UFOlogist's library.

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