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Have you seen this face during an experience you would just as soon forget? Don't be too sure. Budd Hopkins explains, beginning on page 3.

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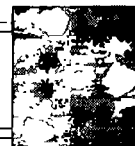
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Director's Message

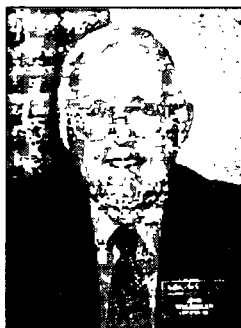
By John F. Schuessler



MUFON Symposium in July

It is time to start planning to attend the MUFON International UFO Symposium, to be held at the Marriott Tech Center Hotel in Denver, CO, July 14-16, 2006.

The Marriott has given MUFON a very special room rate for the event. All rooms will be \$69 per night plus tax for one through 4 occupants. The regular rate would be \$159 - \$199 for these same rooms.



John Schuessler

Room reservations must be made directly with the Marriott Tech Center, citing the MUFON symposium for the special rates. Reservations may be made by telephone at 1-800-228-9290 or 1-303-779-1100, or via the Internet.

If you ever wanted to attend a symposium aimed at giving you evidence you can quote to the science community, your government representatives, and your friends, this is the one to at-

tend. All presentations will be aimed at giving you information you can use, and many of the speakers will be presenting new and unpublished data.

The speaker's list includes: **Brian Boldman, Carl Feindt, Linda Moulton Howe, David Marler, Ted Phillips, Ron Regehr, Steve Reichmuth, Kenneth Storch, Ruben Uriarte, and Ryan Wood.**

In addition to the Saturday and Sunday presentations, we will again have a very special Friday evening social hour, sit-down dinner, and a unique program. State meetings will also be held all day Friday, and the movie room will be active all weekend.

Additional Airline Travel Opportunities

The good news about travel to Denver to attend the symposium is that all of the airlines are now competing for your business.

In the past, Denver had only one large low-fare airline—Frontier. Now in 2006, Southwest Airlines has returned to Denver to increase the com-

(Continued on page 22)

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MUFON's mission is the scientific study of UFOs for the benefit of humanity through investigation, research, & education.

Communion cover error creates a type of scientific control

By Budd Hopkins

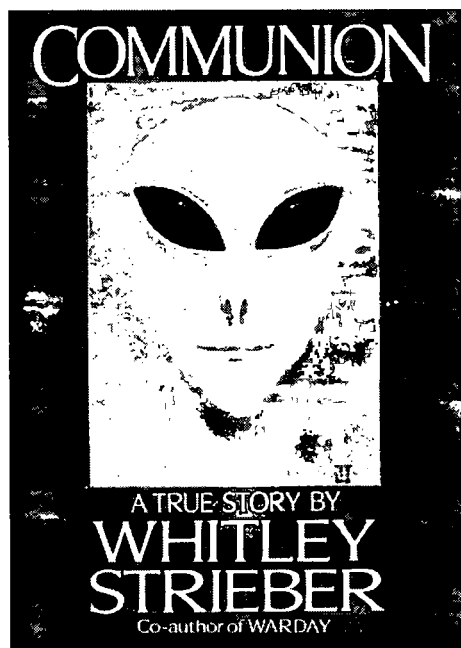
The dust-jacket illustration of an alien face on Whitley Strieber's *Communion* (1987) is arguably the most famous and most memorable book cover in publishing history. In fact, I can think of few rivals.

Though readers may have their own suggestions, the closest competitor that comes to mind is the dust jacket of William L. Shirer's 1959 classic, *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, an unforgettable design that helped make his book a best-seller for decades.

Essentially, the Shirer cover is starkly simple: a jet-black field surrounding a white circle, on which floats a large, ominous Nazi swastika. The reason for the success of Shirer's book cover, like Strieber's, was simple recognition.

Every reader knew the meaning of that terrible black symbol, just as many purchasers of Strieber's book recognized that staring alien face, and herein lies the importance of the *Communion* dust jacket for UFO history.

The cover illustration of an alien, seen over and over again in bookstores and in newspaper ads, led tens of thousands of people to re-examine their



partially-recollected UFO experiences.

There is, however, a major difference of accuracy between the illustration on Shirer's book and that on *Communion*.

The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich displays a correct version of the Nazi swastika—facing right and turned 45 degrees from the vertical—while the alien face on *Communion* contains a major error.

It is this glaring mistake, which I shall describe shortly, that acted as a control, in the sense of a controlled scientific experiment. Ironically, by containing this one false element, the *Communion* book cover helped to establish the validity of the UFO abduction phenomenon.

In 1986, while I was investigating Strieber's abduction accounts, we were in almost daily contact. As he describes in his book, I had referred him to a psychiatrist for hypnosis and therapy sessions because I felt the degree of trauma he was suffering required professional intervention.

Nevertheless, at some point it was necessary to ask him to make a drawing of the alien faces he was recalling. Though Whitley Strieber is by all accounts a talented writer, draftsmanship

is not one of his gifts, a fact he cheerfully admitted.

The rather crude sketches he eventually produced show a head with a long, narrow neck, a human-like cranium, and huge, slanted eyes that are placed in roughly the same position they would appear in a human face.

There is no nose, ears or hair, and only a straight, lipless line for a mouth. His quick, simple drawing was made with only seven separate lines, and contains no shading or modeling.

Whitley had begun writing *Communion* after only a few months of my investigation, and at some point asked if I could recommend an illustrator to make a painting, under his close supervision, of the alien face he recalled, so that he could use it in the finished book.

I immediately thought of Ted Seth Jacobs, an artist acquaintance of mine who had produced a powerful image for my first book, *Missing Time* (1981). It was because Strieber had read *Missing Time* and recognized in it parallels with his own experiences that he had initially contacted me, so when I mentioned Ted Jacobs' illustration, he consulted his copy of the book and decided to telephone him.

Eventually Ted began to work with Whitley, carefully following his specific instructions as to how the alien looked, slanted eyes to the shape of the cranium to the color of the skin.

I am not sure how long the project took, but I vividly recall Whitley's phone call to me when the small oil on canvas was completed.

He had it near him as we spoke, and the gist of his intense excitement was this: The painting was uncanny. It was exactly like the faces he'd seen.

He could close his eyes and see the face he'd recalled, and then, when he opened his eyes, there was the very same face before him, fixed for all time on canvas. It was frightening—real—exciting, thrilling.

Though by now I was quite used to Whitley's intermittent gusts of hyper-

About the author

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Annual membership is US \$30; outside the United States, US\$35. Membership includes four free issues of a newsletter, occasional special reports, and discounts to all IF events. Mailing address: PO Box 30233, New York, NY 10011-0112. E-mail: IFCentral@aol.com.

bolic enthusiasm—an attribute that is, perhaps, one of the secrets of his vivid writing—I was nevertheless extremely curious to see Ted's painting.

Whitley could not stop talking about the way the artist had accurately caught the silhouette of the alien's face, the tannish warmth of its skin, the hypnotic power of its eyes, the shape of its long, narrow nose, and so forth.

He asked me to come to his apartment as soon as possible to see the eerie little work.

At this time—1986—I had worked with scores of abductees and was very familiar with the commonly reported features of alien physiognomy.

I was almost finished writing *Intruders*, and in Debbie Tomey ("Kathie Davis" in the book) I had an abduction-experiencer who was herself an accomplished amateur artist. She had produced some fine drawings of alien faces, which I published along with an extensive account of her abductions.

But now, when Whitley ushered me into his office and proudly showed me Ted's painting, I was shocked and profoundly disappointed.

The image staring grimly out from the small canvas contained a staggering error: its cranium was tiny, virtually a pinhead, and it reminded me of photographs I had seen of severely retarded people whose brains and skulls were pitifully atrophied.

The hypnotically staring eyes in the painting Whitley was showing me were located so close to the top of the head that the result was grotesque. It was the very image of a pinheaded alien, a carnival freak!

I told Whitley of my shock. "The head is all wrong," I said. "The aliens are universally described as having huge craniums, not little pinheads like this."

He looked nonplussed for a few moments, and then suddenly shifted ground. "Now that I think about it," he said, "I remember that, yes, they did have big heads."

Apparently by this time the publication of *Communion* was well along, and the painting was to be used on the cover and in all the advertising. I assumed it would be difficult, now, for Whitley to admit his error and ask for a revision.

To compensate for my criticism of the bizarre skull, I pointed out that the eyes did eerily capture the effect so many abduction-experiencers had described to me over the years.

Beyond any doubt it was this feature that eventually drew tens of thousands of readers to Strieber's book.

So, despite the glaring error in the image on its cover, *Communion* appeared and was enormously successful.



Budd Hopkins

At a small reception in their apartment that Whitley and his wife gave shortly before the book's publication, a poster of the finished book jacket was prominently displayed.

One of Whitley's editors pointed proudly to the staring face, and said to me, "Now that is a million-dollar book cover."

He was right, of course. The jacket illustration, Ted Seth Jacobs' little painting, sold thousands upon thousands of copies for Whitley and his publishers, despite the fact that the book itself received mixed reviews and was, from the outset, a source of controversy.

But, as the Chinese say, "one picture is worth...."

Now I wish to explain why the mistake in the image on the dust jacket turned out to be extremely helpful to subsequent UFO abduction research.

My book, *Intruders* (sans alien image on the cover), appeared only weeks after *Communion*, and I began to receive a blizzard of letters from people who were beginning to suspect that some of their very bizarre life experiences might be poorly recalled alien abductions.

In one letter, a man wrote that he had seen the cover of *Communion* in the window of a bookshop and was immediately transfixed. "I know that face," he wrote. "I've seen those black eyes.

But where have I seen them? I know that face, but the head is wrong. The head should be very big."

Then, as he explained in his letter to me, he added this: "If I've never really seen that face before, how do I know the head is wrong? I must have really seen it somewhere." He was shocked to realize that the image of the black staring eyes, even in a "wrong" head, was stirring up a mass of somewhat inchoate but very disturbing memories.

Had the face been rendered with 100% accuracy, the writer might have rationalized it more easily, but the fact that he knew the head was wrong, though he could not recall where he had seen it before, cemented his certainty that somewhere, somehow, he had encountered an entity with those staring black eyes, but with a huge cranium.

His letter was only the first. More and more people wrote to me to describe their shock when they first saw the book cover, and then their dismay that, somehow, they knew the head didn't look right.

Many of these people also confessed that they had never been able to finish reading the book, that it frightened them too much, or that they were unable even to start reading it.

It was always the cover that riveted their attention, the gnawing realization that they had seen those eyes someplace and that they were disturbingly familiar, yet somehow the head was wrong.

It was almost as if Whitley Strieber had unintentionally set up a psychological test: If a reader accepted the accuracy of the alien face on the cover without question, it was possible that he or she was either a fantasist or a wannabe.

If another reader was disturbed by the cover illustration and sensed its mysterious familiarity, but at the same time noticed the incorrectly rendered cranium, he or she was more likely to have had genuine abduction experiences.

Many people wrote to ask me if they were recalling a different type of alien than the one on *Communion*, because "the ones I remember had big heads." Others said that either there was something wrong with them, or with the illustration.

When *Intruders* appeared, it in-

cluded some of Debbie Tomey's more accurate alien drawings, but if a reader wrote to me—as thousands did—claiming to recall having seen such a face, Debbie's drawings offered no "control" factor to help me evaluate that person's credibility, a control that Strieber's mistake nicely provided.

So where are we now, some 18 years later? Whitley Strieber has published quite a few UFO books since 1987, though none were nearly as successful as *Communion*.

And none, it should be pointed out,

were issued with a dust jacket as beautifully provocative as Ted Jacobs' original work, black eyes, long nose, pinhead, and all.

In the intervening years since *Communion* and *Intruders*, images of alien faces have appeared on everything from T-shirts, soap, and neckties to children's toys and kitsch of every stripe.

There are, believe it or not, alien Christmas tree ornaments. It is virtually impossible for anyone with a TV set or a schlock shop nearby to miss

this now ubiquitous icon.

Still, one historically important event is clear: the original image on the cover of *Communion* helped to free a mass of previously hidden UFO abduction memories within the minds of thousands of troubled people who were not aware of the source of their unease.

They saw the face Ted Jacobs produced, shivered, and reflected. "I know that face," they said to themselves. "I should look into where I've seen it before. But somehow, I don't know why, I know the head is wrong."

Strange animals reported in the Ozarks

By Tal H. Branco

During the past four years the RFP Research Project has received numerous reports from residents of western Arkansas concerning wild animals they have seen that did not resemble any known native or exotic species.

One such report was received from a life-long resident of Franklin County in early August of 2005. On Aug. 17 the writer drove to Ozark to meet the witness.

It was a coincidence that Lucille Elders' Barnes column in the *Spectator* that day mentioned another sighting of an enigmatic animal by a Cravens resident. Ms. Elders herself had seen one of the animals about a year ago, and wrote about the encounter in her column dated Sept. 15, 2004.

The witness the writer had arranged to meet in Ozark is Harley Edgin, who lives northeast of Ozark on the north side of Highway 352. The property consists of about 200 acres used for cattle ranching.

In the fall of 1991 Edgin and a friend were driving across the property checking on the cattle when they observed two animals standing in the field watching the vehicle. Edgin stopped the truck, and looked closely at the animals.

He and his passenger had initially thought they were seeing two coyotes, but they soon realized they could not identify the animals. The animals sat down on their haunches and nonchalantly watched the vehicle for a few minutes.

During that time Edgin picked up his

binoculars and looked intently at both animals for a short time. He then passed the binoculars to his passenger. The animals then ran to a barbed wire fence along the north side of the pasture and stopped beside it.

At that time the animals were about 100 yards from the vehicle. The animals stood for a few minutes as the witnesses alternately continued to watch them through the binoculars.

After a few minutes the animals turned and ran under the fence and into the woods. Edgin stated the animals were unlike any he had ever seen. He said that one animal was about 5 inches shorter than the other, the larger being about 3 feet tall at the top of its shoulder.

Both were about the color of a bobcat, with heads that seemed oversized for the bodies. The head and nose were noticeably more like a canine's than a feline's. According to Edgin the most noticeable feature on the head was the animals' ears.

He stated the ears were unusually large for the size of the head. The ears were reportedly mule-like, about 6 inches long, with tufts of hair growing from their tips. He noted that the neck was also thick and muscular.

He stated the animals had tails that were catlike, but longer than a bobcat's and shorter than a cougar's. He particularly noted the tails were rounded on the ends, and not pointed like a dog's.

He said the animals possessed massive chests and very muscular front legs. Their back legs were noticeably

shorter, causing the back to be sloped like that of a hyena.

When the animals ran, he stated they "pushed off" using their front legs, landed on all four feet, and continued their travel in that springing fashion.

Edgin stated that on three other occasions from 1995 to 1997 he saw one of these same mysterious animals. He said that two of those sightings occurred on a tract of land south of the road from Watalua to the junction of Highway 219.

On each occasion Edgin was driving across the open field on that property and had a different passenger each time. Each time the occupants of the vehicle had an unobstructed view of the animal, and it appeared to match in all respects the animals previously seen by Edgin.

During one of those encounters, the passenger saw the animal first, and initially thought it was a deer, then decided it was a coyote, and finally decided he could not identify the animal. Edgin then attempted to run the animal down in the open field with his truck.

He stated his truck came within 20 feet of the animal, but he was unable to hit it. After the animal ran away, the passenger was still in awe of what he had seen, and quietly told Edgin, "There ain't nothing right about that thing."

During Edgin's third encounter with one of the unknown animals on the same property, it was standing in the edge of the woods beside the pasture. He and a passenger watched it for about

(Continued on page 10)

Witness films bright object with camcorder

MUFON Investigator: Al Schuette, Field Investigator

Type of sighting: moving lighted object

Date & time of sighting: Feb. 27, 2005, about noon

Location: San Antonio, TX

Witness: Mario Vallejo

Camcorder: VHS Panasonic PV-L 452 D

Statement by witness

"On Feb. 27, 05, a Sunday, I was checking the motor oil and water. So I went back to the laundry room to get a jug of water. As I was walking back to my car I noticed a bright whitish object in the sky.

"At first I thought it was an airplane. I was glued looking at it for a minute. Then I realized it was not moving, just hovering by the clouds. It looked like a star, but in daylight. So I grabbed my camcorder and started filming.

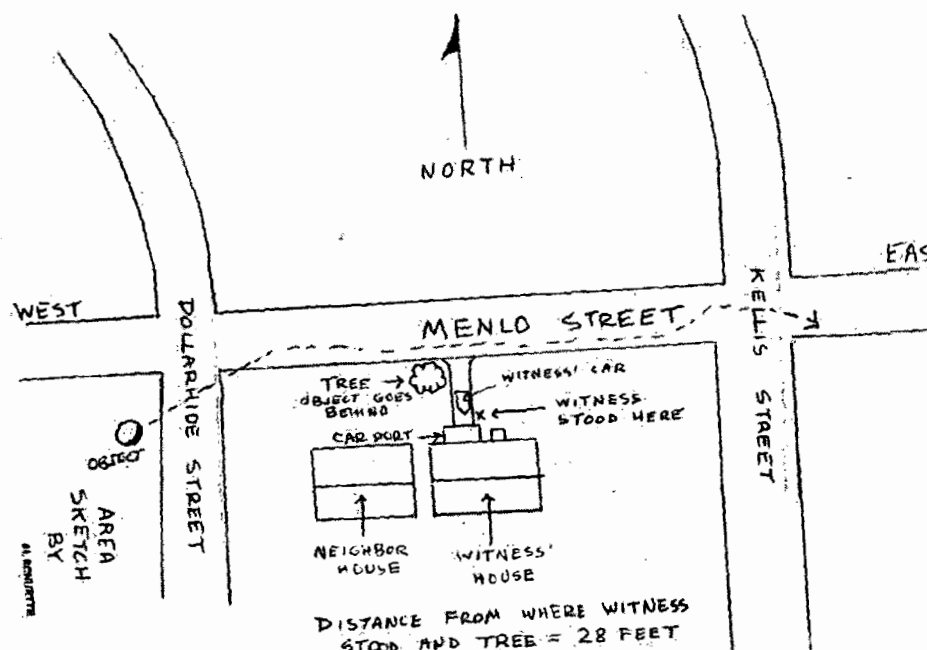
"At first it was hovering or coming in my direction. I noticed the clouds were moving in one direction; the sphere-like object was moving in the other direction. It seemed to pick up speed.

"Then I realized it was so close that it passed right over or behind the tree-top. Right in front of me. That's when I started to zoom in. All I could see was a bright object with an orange glow underneath it.

"The brightness is what made me grab my camcorder so that I could have some kind of evidence of what I saw. It then started to move away until I could not see it anymore. Don't know what I have filmed."

Initial Analysis

After watching this particular video many times in slow motion, stop frame, and regular speed; and checking online with the National Weather Service (NWS) and NASA's National Scientific Balloon Facility (NSBF) I have,



SOUTH

Drawing above based on sketch by witness. Drawing at left is by the witness.

for now, concluded that the object is probably not a weather balloon or high altitude scientific research balloon.

(I realize that detailed video analysis may indicate otherwise).

I believe the object is not a NWS balloon because it traveled against the prevailing wind, did not appear to gain altitude, and does not resemble a weather balloon.

The object might be an Ultra Long Duration Balloon (ULDB), but I do not think so, for the same reasons, except appearance.

I have also concluded the object is not any of the following: aircraft (unless secret); bird; star or planet; satellite; or blimp (advertising).

One possible identification may be a mylar balloon, but I doubt this, as it seems from my perspective that it would have to be a very large one, and, again, it went against the wind.

So my current conclusion (pending further investigation and analysis) is that the filmed object is unidentified (UFO).

Harvey Cooke dead at 87

It is with deep regret that I have learned of the recent passing of Harvey Cooke, chairman of the Tauranga UFO Investigation Group.

He was one of New Zealand's pioneering ufologists, and one of "Nature's True Gentlemen." Harvey was aged 87 years, and had been studying UFOs for 52 years.

—Murray Bott, New Zealand Director, Mutual UFO Network

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Body Snatchers in the Desert: a reply

By Nick Redfern

In his article in the November 2005 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal* on my book *Body Snatchers in the Desert: The Horrible Truth At The Heart Of The Roswell Story*, Gildas Bourdais made a number of comments and observations that I will address here.

He also made a number of hugely critical errors that I will also address.

As readers of both *Body Snatchers* and the Bourdais article will be aware, the book provides a theory for Roswell that does not include Mogul Balloons, crash-test dummies, or aliens.

Rather, the data presented suggests that the Roswell legend was borne out of a series of highly controversial experiments undertaken in the New Mexico desert in the summer of 1947 that involved captured Japanese POWs and individuals tied to Japan's notorious Unit 731 group.

Bourdais questions the scenario that a massive amount of Unit 731 documentation was brought to the United States after the end of the Second World War. He also stresses that no surviving victims of Unit 731 were found, and that no handicapped individuals were utilized in Unit 731 experimentation.

However, history demonstrates with 100 per cent certainty that *only one week* after the fall of Japan, Col. Murray Sanders of Fort Detrick (at the time Camp Detrick) was personally speaking with Yoshijiro Umezu, the chief of the Japanese Army's General Staff, in an effort to determine what 731 had been doing.

That's only seven days after Japan's surrender and two years before Roswell. Plenty of time to get 731 materials transferred to the United States.

It should be noted too that data has since surfaced showing that certain Unit 731 activities were undertaken in the closing states of the War on several Pacific islands and not on the Japanese mainland, where a lot of material evidence cited by Bourdais was destroyed at the end of the War.

The issue of what was taking place on those islands is beginning to surface

Editor's Note

While not endorsing Redfern's conclusions regarding Roswell, it is felt that he should have the opportunity to respond to the review of his book by Gildas Bourdais.

Roswell remains one of the dominant cases, and *Journal* readers should have the opportunity to hear the various theories, especially of those researchers, such as Redfern, who have spent considerable time in the field.

Redfern's latest book, *On the Trail of the Saucer Spies—UFOs and Government Surveillance*, will be reviewed in an upcoming issue of the *Journal*.

and is a highly sensational one, as will become apparent before the end of 2006.

And also on the issue of Unit 731, Japanese POWs, war crimes, etc., I refer the reader to the link below that concerns a high-level meeting that was held at the National Archives on 21 June 2005 (intriguingly, the exact same day that *Body Snatchers* was published).

This meeting was attended by representatives of the CIA and the FBI, among others, and focused its attention on Unit 731, Japanese POWs, human experimentation, etc., in the post-War era, and that referenced new CIA documents due to surface in 2006, along with an official report on the above topics. For those interested, here is the link:

<http://www.archives.gov/iwg/meetings/minutes/minutes-062105.html>

Bourdais also addresses the claims in the book that some of the Roswell crash UFO stories surfaced as a result of failed experimentation concerning early research into atomic powered aircraft.

He takes issue with the fact that nuclear-powered aircraft certainly did not exist in 1947. This is correct, and all of my sources were careful to stress this too, although, this is certainly not the impression that one gets from read-

ing the Bourdais review.

In fact, what Bourdais failed to tell the reader was that all of my sources were always (and repeatedly) careful to stress that no nuclear aircraft, and no fully functioning nuclear engine, existed in 1947.

But—and here is the critically important factor—the interviewees claimed that radiation experiments were undertaken on people in an attempt to try and understand how people might be affected by radiation in a nuclear aircraft environment, even if such an environment was decades away, as all the sources state clearly in the book.

For those who doubt that such a horrific scenario could have any basis in reality, I should also point out that I found officially-declassified files from 1948 that described how very high-level people within the Nuclear Energy for Propulsion of Aircraft (NEPA) project were actually trying to get permission (only 12 months after Roswell) to use American "life prisoners" in nuclear aircraft experiments.

For those who still doubt this, here is a quote from the document above: "Tests...should be carried out at some federal, state or Armed Services prison, where life prisoners are incarcerated and where arrangements can be made with the prison authorities to cooperate in the experiment. The selection of the prison is a matter for top military consideration. Continued cooperation of the prison staff and prisoners for a matter of many years will be required."

I might add too (as Bourdais knows from my book) that, in 1949, Col. Clyde D. Gasser (described in an officially declassified FBI document titled *Flying Disc* as the "principal army technician" at NEPA) confirmed to the FBI that he had an awareness that "scientists have, for many years, been attempting to develop this type of aircraft," and added that: "Some experimentation has been done even in the United States, but...there has never been any practical developments."

Gasser's statement accords exactly with what my sources told me: that a

lot of experimentation was undertaken, but with very few groundbreaking results. And how intriguing that Gasser, linked directly with nuclear aircraft research, had a personal awareness of this Flying Disc "experimentation."

Bourdais also addresses the allegation made to me that some of the people utilized in the alleged experiments were handicapped, and included people suffering from various forms of dwarfism and also Progeria.

Bourdais does not believe that anyone could mistake a Progeria sufferer for an extraterrestrial. Well, first of all I would say that nobody is in a position to definitively say what aliens look like.

And second, I ask the reader to take a look again at photographs of Progeria sufferers.

Then imagine if a person with that condition was utilized in a high-altitude balloon experiment in which they were dressed in some form of flight suit.

Imagine then that the experiment failed, the vehicle crashed to earth, the body was exposed to the blistering heat of the New Mexico desert for a period of time, and it was seen by a small number of civilians and even military personnel who had no idea what it was that they had stumbled upon.

This is the scenario suggested to me by the interviewees.

Bourdais is entitled to his opinion on the above issue, but he really should have informed the *Journal* readers that I found officially-declassified files (that I located deep within the human radiation experiment files of the 1940s that surfaced in the 1990s) showing that in the summer of 1947, staff at Oak Ridge (home to the nuclear aircraft project which had begun in 1946) were very interested in radiation experiments undertaken on a number of people suffering from dwarfism and...Progeria (a condition, it should be noted, that results in an enlarged bald head, a short body, and no hair).

These radiation experiments were undertaken on 54 individuals (described as "test-subjects" in the documentation) to try and better understand conditions of the thyroid gland. However, it is intriguing that the documentation on this matter was sent to Oak Ridge's "Biology Library," to its "Bi-

ology Division," and to the nuclear aircraft project: NEPA.

Bourdais also criticizes me for referring to the distasteful story of the government's Project Sunshine (of the early-to-mid-1950s) and its self-admitted "Body Snatching" activities that included securing full c o r p s e s , bones, and body parts for use in radiation experiments.



Redfern

cause the officially-declassified files on Project Sunshine describe how the Armed Forces Special Weapons Project had stated to the Project Sunshine team that they had provisions in place as late as 1955 to snatch certain "specimens" from a "native hospital" in Formosa.

No, this is not connected with the Roswell events. However, I cited this data because it firmly documents that the U.S. military—in the post-War era—was in a prime position to secretly bring bodies and specimens from the Far East to the United States for use in radiation experiments, as all of my sources claimed.

Bourdais also states, "If these White Sands experiments had been made with Japanese—or rather Chinese—prisoners, they would have been identified as such when found in the areas of White Sands or Roswell."

As Bourdais knows very well, identifications of the specifically non-handicapped bodies as looking Chinese were made and were discussed only months ago on "UFO Updates"—the Internet discussion site where Bourdais debated me about my book and in exactly the same time frame.

As a prime example of this, on 23 June, 2005, Jean Pierre Pharabod submitted the following post to "UFO Updates" in response to the allegations contained within my book:

"I already suspected such an expla-

nation when I read, in Timothy Good's, *Alien Liaison*, (1991), the testimony of Sergeant Melvin E. Brown, who was at Roswell in July 1947, as reported by one of his daughters (pages 86-87): 'He told us they were nothing to be scared of. They were friendly-looking and had nice faces. They looked Asian, he said, but had larger heads and no hair. They looked a yellowy color. He was frightened a bit, because he knew he shouldn't be doing it, so he only had a quick glimpse. But he said they could have passed for Chinese—they had slanted eyes.'"

I submit that a statement to the effect that the Roswell bodies "could have passed for Chinese" is highly significant. I am truly baffled, however, as to why Bourdais cited in his article the various debates that he and I had on "UFO Updates," but that he then decided not to inform the readers of the *MUFON UFO Journal* of the above "Chinese" point also raised on "UFO Updates."

Bourdais also states: "According to Redfern's mysterious informers, the 'Alien Autopsy Footage,' released in August, 1995, was actually showing one of the handicapped victims of the White Sands crash!"

Nonsense. What I actually said in the book was that the people I interviewed told me that the body in the Alien Autopsy film was possibly linked with highly controversial atomic flash-blindness experiments undertaken at Randolph Air Force Base, TX.

That's a very big difference from being found in the desert at Roswell (see pages 202-203 of the book).

Bourdais' error comes from not closely reading what one of the sources told me regarding another similar piece of film footage (but definitely a different film) that was linked with the White Sands crashes (see pages 80-81 of the book).

This similar film allegedly displayed a graphic dissection of the genitalia of the body, and it may very well have been the same little-known and seldom-discussed piece of film-footage that Philip Mantle had the opportunity to view in Ray Santilli's office years ago, and that has never surfaced. (This extra, unseen footage is not the so-called

Tent Footage, but a completely different film and, according to Mantle, displayed a body practically identical to that in the *Alien Autopsy* film.)

On the issue of the body in the *Alien Autopsy* film, Bourdais also states: "If it were a human body, there would have been no need for a complete protection suit such as is seen in the film. So, the idea of a real human body from the alleged White Sands experiments does not seem to make any sense."

But as I have said in the book and above, the sources I interviewed said that the body was linked with atomic experiments concerning flash-blindness at Randolph AFB, TX, and had nothing to do with the New Mexico events of 1947.

If true—and there was a radiation-based angle—it would make complete sense for those seen in the film to be wearing protection suits. Therefore, Bourdais' argument is a pointless and irrelevant one.

Bourdais also states with regard to the key event that my sources said led to the Roswell legend—namely the crash of a hybrid-style device comprised of a huge balloon array that had a fixed payload below that was a detachable, crewed glider:

"There is a more radical objection to this story, which is how clumsy and dangerous such an experiment would have been, from the mere aeronautical point of view."

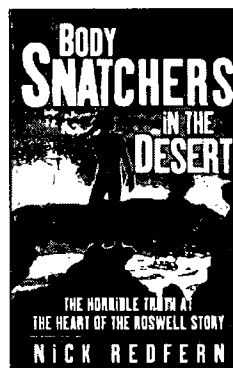
Bourdais fails to tell the reader that my sources did not dispute the fact that the attempt to fly the prototype device was ultimately seen as a failure. In fact, one of the interviewees described the whole test as being "dip-sh—" in nature; and it was made clear to me that the project was hastily canceled—precisely because it was not viable. And we know it was not seen as viable because the device crashed!

And for the record, despite what Bourdais says, at no time anywhere in the book do I claim (nor do my sources claim) that the device that crashed at Roswell was built by the aviation geniuses, the Horten brothers. All of them merely said it was Horten-like or Horten-inspired.

And links between UFOs and the work of the Hortens are not limited to

my sources. I included in the book an official document of 3 January 1952 from Brig. Gen. W.M. Garland to Gen. John A. Samford, Air Force director of intelligence, suggesting that some UFOs might be Soviet vehicles based in part on "certain developments by the Germans, particularly the Horten wing..."

The possibility that Samford's comment was prompted by the fact that similar experimentation may have been



undertaken with Horten-style devices in the U.S. several years previously cannot be ruled out.

Bourdais also fails to note that none other than *Popular Mechanics* magazine had been given a practi-

cally identical story almost a decade ago, and that also focused upon Japanese balloons and Horten-style aircraft.

Moreover, since the publication of the book, almost two-dozen people have come forward with similar data, which I am incorporating into a new report. None of these sources are anonymous.

In addition, various similar sources have surfaced on the Internet. And highly intriguing data of a very similar nature surfaced from Australia on the *Project 1947* discussion-list in late 2005.

Bourdais makes an additional statement on the matter of the hybrid balloon-aircraft device too:

"According to Redfern and his mysterious informers, the craft and balloon (which were supposed to go to a very high altitude, for tests of 'mutation') were caught in a storm and struck by lightning. But physicist Bruce Maccabee argued that, faced with such a dangerous situation, any pilot would have avoided it by separating his plane from the balloon, which was not the case in the Redfern's story."

First of all, I am not sure why Bourdais keeps referring to my sources as being "mysterious." There is nothing "mysterious" about my sources, and

several of them spoke on-the-record. They are simply a bunch of old people from the official world that want to set the record straight.

Second, Bourdais fails to note that an attempt was made to detach the aircraft; but that it only became "partly detached" and was left hanging precariously and spinning wildly below the balloon array before the two devices finally broke apart and crashed.

And contrary to what Bourdais tells the readers of the *MUFON UFO Journal*, according to my interviewees, the Roswell crash itself had nothing to do with "tests of mutation," at high-altitude, as Bourdais wrongly describes the scenario.

Again, he massively confuses issues—and, unfortunately, the readers of the *Journal*, too.

My sources said that various experiments had been undertaken in 1947 to determine the effects of high-altitude exposure on human subjects. Some such tests are indeed a matter of record and were focused in part on concerns about cosmic ray exposure and mutations at high altitude.

(Page 225 of the book includes an officially-declassified document on this subject that is dated 28 May 1947.)

However, the event at Roswell, according to the interviewees, was an experiment designed to determine only if the launching of a glider vehicle by a large balloon array could be considered feasible (see paragraph two of page 109 through to page 111).

As it transpired, it was not feasible because it crashed. And it had no direct connection with a high-altitude "mutation" experiment aside from the fact that both involved Japanese individuals, and both were undertaken in New Mexico in the same time frame.

In fact, according to the source identified in the book as "The Colonel," he specifically states on page 112 of *Body Snatchers* that: "...this is planned to be a relatively low-level situation: just get the balloon and the aircraft in the air, have the pilot release the vehicle, get it on the ground and then we can recover the balloon later..."

The Colonel also stressed that the vehicle was flown by a trained crew of Japanese POW pilots, and that there

was nothing handicapped about these people at all.

This is the important factor that has been missed by many: some of the experiments involved handicapped Japanese individuals, and some of them involved captured Japanese military personnel.

Bourdais also states: "Three separate informers approached Redfern, separately, in less than two months at the end of 2003, and told him the same story! This does suggest a concerted plan to inform, or rather to disinform him."

I have never said that the "informers" approached me separately.

In fact, although I have not spoken in-depth about how and where the interviews were conducted and under what specific circumstances, I have consistently said that all of them (aside from one source I interviewed in the UK in 1996) know each other, and I had contact with two of them more than a year before conducting the final interviews that appear within the pages of the book.

Granted, I was not initially aware that the source identified in the book as "The Colonel" was in touch with the other sources, but that was soon made clear to me, and I have never denied this.

In fact, three of the interviewees, Albert Barker, William Salter, and a source described as the "Black Widow," have known each other since the early 1950s.

But with regard to whether or not their collective story is disinformation, I stand by what I have always said: if the government wants to hide the fact that aliens crashed at Roswell, doing so by pretending that it undertook diabolical experiments on handicapped individuals is a ludicrous approach.

Why? Because it is such a controversial story that it makes people take notice. And if Roswell really did involve aliens, why would the government want the UFO community (or, worse still, the media) sticking its nose into Roswell again after it had laid the matter to rest (from its perspective at least) with the crash-test-dummies and Mogul balloon explanations?

The answer is simple: it wouldn't.

Strange animals in the Ozarks...

(Continued from page 5)

three or four minutes before it walked into the woods.

Edgin left and came back with another friend, who brought along a gun. They reportedly found the animal's tracks in loose soil and leaves inside a cedar glade.

The three men noted that the animals' front paws left tracks that were generally round like a cat's, and were about three inches in diameter. The back feet left similar but smaller tracks.

Edgin stated the tracks were unusual in the fact that the front paw tracks were about 12 to 14 inches apart in the side-to-side direction, while the rear paw tracks were only about half that distance apart in that direction.

Edgin's last sighting of the animal occurred in 1996 or 1997 when one of the animals crossed Highway 219 in front of his truck just north of I-40.

He had previously arranged for the writer to meet with other area residents who have also seen animals they could not identify. The writer spent two days interviewing those witnesses.

The close-up encounter that Geraldine Wyers describes was ominous and frightening. Her detailed observations portrayed an aggressive animal that has been similarly described in reports from Montgomery County, AR, and from LeFlore and McCurtain counties in Oklahoma.

Ms. Wyers stated that in mid-summer of 1994 or 1995 she drove alone to a small branch below a stock pond dam on the parcel of land on which Edgin had previously seen two of the animals.

She went to the property to destroy a beaver dam on the branch, and to attempt to kill the beavers that had built it. She said she parked her pickup truck in the edge of a field within about twenty yards of the beaver dam.

When she exited the truck, she left the driver's side door open. She stated she destroyed the beaver dam and went back to the truck to get a .22 caliber semiautomatic rifle, which she loaded.

As she walked upstream away from the truck to find a place to conceal herself and wait for the beavers to return

to the dam site, she heard a strange bird-like sound coming from across the branch.

As she slowly walked toward the sound, she began to hear loud moaning sounds. She thought the sounds were coming from some kind of animal in great pain. As she slowly and carefully walked toward the sounds, they diminished in volume.

When she reached a point about 20 yards from the truck, she saw an animal crouched and watching her from the other side of the branch. She was less than 10 yards from the animal at that time.

The bizarre and intimidating appearance of the animal reportedly caused her to freeze in fear. She said the animal's description generally matched those given by Edgin.

She stated the animal's head was in fact massive, but it had canine upper teeth that extended two or three inches outside its mouth, and she saw blood on those teeth.

She stated she could clearly see the animal was intently watching her and it was poised as if ready to spring in her direction. She had the distinct impression the animal was in no way afraid of her or the rifle.

She was carrying the rifle at her hip in both hands and pointing forward. She momentarily considered drawing the gun to her shoulder and emptying the 19 shot magazine of long rifle bullets into the animal, but she quickly decided the animal was too large and too close for her to ensure she could get off enough shots to kill it before it reached her in a full charge.

She began to carefully, and very slowly, walk backwards toward the truck without taking her eyes off the animal. She was moving her feet a few inches at a time, and it seemed to her she would never reach the safety of the truck.

When she finally did reach the truck, she stepped beside the opened door and slowly placed her right foot on the floor board. Only then did she briefly take her eyes off the animal to reach for the door handle. She immediately grabbed

(Continued on page 22)



Photo one.



Photo two.



Photo three.

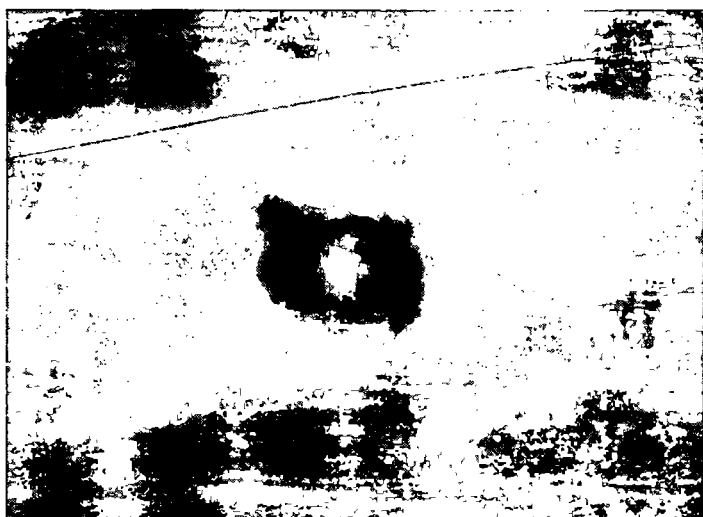


Photo four.

Correction

In the first two parts of the article by Ann Druffel concerning the series of photos taken On Aug. 23, 1965, by Rex Heflin, Photo four was incorrectly labeled (*January & February Journals*).

What was labeled "Photo four" was actually an enlargement of Photo three. Above is the correct sequence and labeling of the photos.

Although Photo four appears to be an enhancement, it is not; it shows the full smoke ring, which was just beginning to show in Photo three.

In Photo four there is a utility line running from left to right above the object, as discussed in the article.

Ms. Druffel now has a website, www.anndruffel.com. Her email is anndruffel@aol.com

Greek farmer reports landing

It's Greece, after all, so it should come as no surprise that even the UFO sightings are "classical" in every sense of the word.

A Greek farmer, Athanassios Tsioukas, claims that a large silvery disc landed in his field outside the village of Prini, crushing plants and leaving landing gear indentations in the earth.

It's not a case of too much ouzo, either. Another farmer confirmed the sighting, and children in the next village claimed they saw flashing lights headed toward Athanassios Tsioukas' field.

But it's nothing new for the area. Unidentified objects and flashing lights are commonly reported in the region,

which is in central Greece near Trikala in what was ancient Thessaly, long believed by the Greeks to be the home of various supernatural beings, spell casters, and other unusual folk.

Silent auction

This year's MUFON Symposium will again have a "Silent Auction" as a fundraiser for MUFON's general fund, according to Tom Deuley, who headed the effort last year.

"Please let me know your thoughts, and join the fun in Denver this July. Call me at (915)-276 1314 after 5:00 PM MST or send an E-mail anytime, tpdeuley@aol.com."

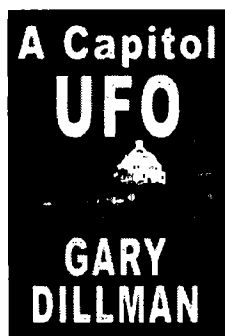
UFO over DC

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

A Capitol UFO by Gary Dillman, Gate-Way-Publishers.com, 2005, 52 pages (review copy had 38 pages), print on demand, \$8.95 (also available as less expensive downloads).

This is a brief account of a sighting by the author, a MUFON Field Investigator/Section Director for Southern Maryland, which occurred on the night of July 25-26, 2002, only ten months after 9-11. An essential part of the story is the apparent cover-up of the incident by authorities.



Dillman includes material concerning his own background, speculations regarding the incident, and information gathered by MUFON Field Investigator Joan Woodward.

The sighting took place near, but not in, the no-fly zone of Washington, DC.

Dillman, a former DC policeman, was working an overnight shift as a security guard on a 469-acre property owned by a sand and gravel company at Brandywine, MD.

Brandywine is located in the southeast corner of Maryland, about ten miles southeast of Andrews AFB in Camp Springs, MD.

At about 1 AM he was sitting in a truck, facing east, with the driver's window partially down. The nearly full moon was mostly hidden by an overcast sky of thin, broken clouds.

Suddenly the sound of jets was heard from the direction of Andrews. They appeared to be moving quickly on a southeast course at 2,000 to 5,000 feet

altitude. Three or four jets would disappear in the east, reappear, circle the area, then fly southeast again. Some aircraft were making very tight turns and small circles. One banked right, then hard left, then back to the right, as if following something.

The jets would fly back toward Andrews, then southeast again. Dillman had worked at this location for several years, and was familiar with jets at Andrews, so this activity was definitely out of the ordinary, especially at night and over residential areas. He alerted a local radio station that something unusual was taking place.

Standing outside the truck, he suddenly saw a medium orange-colored ball coming on a fast downward slant toward the earth in the southwest.

He initially thought it was a meteor as it became brighter and larger, but as a jet banked toward it the object seemed to stop and quickly reverse its course in a curved bank to the east, turning a blue color and becoming elongated. Both the object and the jet disappeared into the clouds.

About ten minutes later the orange object appeared in the southwest, about 10-15 miles from the author's vantage point, again being followed by an F-16 as both disappeared in the clouds.

Dillman describes the round or possibly disc-shaped object as being, at closest viewing distance, the size of a golf ball held at arm's length. It appeared to be noiseless, but the jet noise could have masked noise from the object. A portion of Ms. Woodward's report follows:

"On Nov. 5, 2002, I received a response from the FAA that included the tower logs for DCA [Reagan National Airport] and ADW [Andrews Air Force Base] for July 26. The tower log from DCA reported a scramble at 1 AM (as reported by Waldorf and Brandywine witnesses), and reported that the fighters returned to base at 1:51 (as reported

by Brandywine witness).

"The ADW tower log, however, showed no scrambles, no takeoffs, no airplanes for the entire day with the exception of an in-flight emergency landing late afternoon after a scramble (a scramble reported on DCA log, but not on ADW log)..."

Dillman concludes, "I think it is clear that the military expunged the log of the scramble by the jets. DCA reported a scramble during the time period I saw the UFO and fighters, and ADW showed nothing at all for that same period."

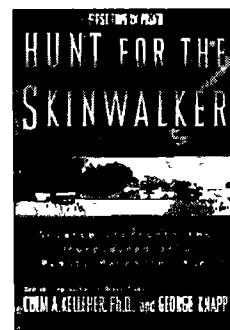
Science not enough

Hunt for the Skinwalker by Dr. Colm A. Kelleher and George Knapp, 2005, Pocket Books, Simon & Schuster, Inc., Paraview, 191 7th Ave., NY, NY 10011, soft cover, 5x8, 304 pages, \$14.00.

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

In addition to being an interesting book, this may be one of the more important contributions to the study of UFOs and other paranormal events to be published. I say this because of the implications suggested for applying science to the study of the paranormal.



Most ufologists are familiar with the work of the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), an organization started by Las Vegas real estate tycoon Bob Bigelow to bring technology and scientific expertise to the study of the paranormal.

NIDS has financed the scientific study of animal mutilations, implants, and several other areas possibly related to the paranormal, often without publicity.

For years ufologists have decried the lack of sufficient funding for the study of UFOs and related topics, contending that the issues could be resolved if qualified scientists get involved and there is adequate financing.

The eight-year surveillance described in this book suggests that science and funding may not be sufficient when dealing with the paranormal.

The authors of this book are Dr. Colm Kelleher, a heavily-credentialed scientist, and George Knapp, a respected journalist.

Kelleher, along with other Ph.D. scientists, spent years on this project. Knapp, who has worked with NIDS informally from time to time, participated as an observer during part of the project.

The locale of the investigation was a ranch and surrounding area in a remote corner of Utah, 150 miles from Salt Lake City and bordering a Ute Native American reservation. Other than the Native Americans, the area is populated mostly by Mormons.

The ranch was selected for the study because of its history of paranormal events.

NIDS purchased the ranch in 1996 from the Tom Gorman (not his real name) family, who had lived on the ranch for 18 terrifying months as they encountered a variety of paranormal events. There were indications that those who had preceded the Gormans had also been terrified.

For NIDS it seemed the perfect opportunity to set up a field laboratory. The Gormans moved to another ranch 25 miles away, and Tom Gorman was hired by NIDS to assist with the investigation, which included caring for cattle and horses on the ranch.

One of the events which had terrified the Gormans had been an experience with what appeared to be an unusually large gray wolf. The 200-pound animal walked up to Tom, Ellen (Tom's wife), Ed (Tom's father), and the two Gorman children, Tad and Kate, and allowed itself to be petted.

But suddenly it bounded to the calf pen, grabbed a calf whose head protruded from the pen, and attempted to pull the calf out. Tom ran to the wolf,

kicked it hard in the ribs, and Ed beat on the wolf with a baseball bat. The wolf seemed unconcerned.

Tad retrieved a .357 Magnum handgun and gave it to Tom, who shot the wolf at close range. The wolf seemed unaffected. Tom shot two more times into the wolf's upper abdomen, and the wolf slowly released the calf.

The huge animal stood about ten feet away, looking at Tom with chilling, hypnotic blue eyes, showing no discomfort from the shots from the powerful handgun.

Tom, an excellent shot, pumped another slug into the animal in the heart region. The wolf backed off about 30 feet, but still showed no effects from a handgun that would easily kill a deer.

Tom told Tad to get the 30-06 rifle, a firearm that would easily kill an elk. Tad quickly retrieved the rifle, and Tom took careful aim at the wolf, now about 40 feet away. He momentarily felt pity for the beast, but as the slug from the powerful rifle struck flesh and bone the beast only recoiled slightly.

Completely shocked, Tom again shot the animal, and a piece of flesh detached from the exit wound, but the wolf made no sound. It turned and trotted off toward a group of dense cottonwoods.

Tom and Tad decided to follow the beast. The animal was easy to track, but there was no sign of blood. However, near the creek the tracks suddenly stopped for no apparent reason, since the ground was still soft and there was no place that the wolf could have leaped.

It was the wolf incident, as much as any, which provided the title for this book. A skinwalker, in the religion and cultural lore of Southwestern tribes, is an evil witch who can alter its appearance to assume the characteristics of certain animals, such as a wolf, bear, or bird.

There were numerous other paranormal events, both before and after NIDS set up shop.

These included the apparent destruction of three dogs by some sort of vaporizing heat, cattle transported into a small enclosure, poltergeist activities, orbs, strange animals, mutilation of a calf in broad daylight, UFOs coming from an apparent opening in the sky, and some

sort of creature emerging from an opening in the Earth one night.

Especially frustrating was the episode in which three of six surveillance cameras suddenly lost power at 8:30 PM. Something or someone had ripped the wiring from the camera junction boxes while carefully removing every shred of duct tape from the wiring.

Even more puzzling and shocking was the fact that one of the three remaining operating surveillance cameras was pointing directly at the damaged pole, but picked up nothing—and at 8:30 PM there was still sufficient light for recording.

Thus despite night vision equipment, an array of cameras, significant paranormal activities, and personal sightings by qualified NIDS observers, after eight years the organization was unable to come up with evidence that would stand up to scientific scrutiny—the main goal of the expensive project.

How incidents are magnified

In Alien Heat by Steve Dewey and John Ries, 2006, ISBN 1933665025, Anomalist Books, P.O. Box 577, Jefferson Valley, NY 10535, soft cover, 6x9, 322 pages, \$17.95.

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Journal editor

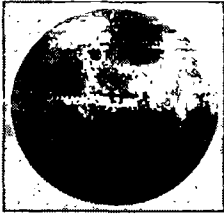
This book attempts to shed an unbiased light on the reported phenomenon known as "The Thing" which occurred in the British small town of Warminster, Wiltshire, in the 1960's.



The authors, both of whom grew up in Warminster, review the available evidence in what appears to be a careful manner.

They suggest that much of the "flap" which attracted considerable media attention owes its notoriety more to an enterprising local journalist, Arthur Shuttlewood, and a culture receptive to the paranormal than to UFOs or other aspects of the paranormal itself.

As such, this is an important study of how isolated events can be misinterpreted, misrepresented, magnified, perpetuated, and poorly investigated.



FILER'S FILES

Director, MUFON Eastern Region

Note: These reports are presented in order to keep readers informed of some of the vast number of sightings being reported. However, these cases have not been officially investigated, unless noted.

Trout Lake, Washington, UFOs

TROUT LAKE – During intermittent clear skies at 6:30 PM on Feb. 1, 2006, two UFOs came in from the south. One was dim, and the other became much brighter as it passed, slipping side-to-side, and heading east. They stayed illuminated far into the Earth's shadow.



George Filer

At 6:50 PM a very large golden light with no running lights or strobes came in again from the south. It was much lower than the first two objects, and flew north across the entire sky until it went behind some clouds over Mount Adams.

There are no known satellites for this time according to Heavens-Above website. Thanks to James, james@eceti.org

UK police reports

Detective Constable Gary Heseltine of the Heseltine British Transport Police has compiled details of 163 cases between 1901-2005 involving over 400 British police officers. Following are two of the cases:

19. Evening. 21/10/67. Location: South Shields, Tyneside. Following a report by a member of the public, a uniformed police officer visited the family and witnessed with them the sighting of three triangular-shaped UFOs in the sky above Tyne Dock, South Shields.

The objects appeared to fly in formation before stopping and coming to a brief hover. They departed in the direction of Newcastle. The objects were extremely bright, and were seen for a duration of 30 minutes.

23. 0530 hours. Late October. Location: Bacup, Lancashire. An on-duty uniformed police officer, PC Brian Earnshaw, heard a crackling sound coming over the station's short wave radio.

Curious, he went outside to see what might be causing the interference. When he did so he looked up to see a cigar-shaped UFO hovering 250 feet above the station.

He said, "It was approximately 50 feet in length. There were portholes on the side, but there were no visible signs of propulsion. The ship appeared to be metallic and gave off a bright glow. There was a low whirring sound coming from it."

Two other uniformed officers, **PC Colin Donahoe and Malcolm Reader**, also saw the same object from a different location in Lancashire, watching for several minutes before it rose vertically and disappeared.

Later a statement was issued by Lancashire Police that read, "We have had UFO reports before, but nothing like this. There has been no reasonable explanation, but it was something definitely seen."

Strange light in El Salvador

San Salvador – A strange event is under investigation by the police. The deputy chief of the San Salvador police force and 17 of his men on Jan. 24, 2006, were witnesses to a powerful silent radiation that enveloped them for several minutes.

Police cruisers were lit up by a powerful silent object that vanished after several minutes without a trace.

The deputy chief of the San Salva-

dor police, Amir Methey Doret, said, "We experienced the curious event when we were returning from a police operation, and all 18 of us witnessed a light in the sky that glowed with great intensity. That powerful light wasn't a floodlight, nor was it any other device or aerial optics like a helicopter or airplane."

After a few minutes of exposure, "the silent light began to rise to a considerable height and velocity until it suddenly vanished, leaving a significant glow that began to dissipate like smoke."

"The light, which we could see from a considerable distance, was moving sideways, then was suddenly gone, leaving a cloud behind. It did not interrupt communications between the units."

Other residents of San Salvador also saw the strange light headed toward the Villaguay region. Thanks to Planeta UFO and S. Corrales, *Institute of Hispanic Ufology*, (Translation (c) 2006)

A near miss in China

Bohai Sea – China's CCTV reported that six Chinese Air Force pilots of the Flight Performance Teams witnessed a large unidentified aircraft formation flying toward them, resulting in a near mid-air collision.

Air traffic control radar systems were unable to observe and/or record the unidentified formation. On the CCTV program "Approaching Science," Feng Yi, deputy team leader of the Chinese Air Force Flight Performance Team, a top level pilot with 3,000 hours of flying experience, talked about this unusual experience.

Flying Chinese J-11 Air Superiority Fighters, Feng and his team were conducting the performance training over the Bohai Sea. At 9 AM the flight team reached an altitude of 21,000 feet.

Suddenly a large unidentified formation of planes appeared just about 30

miles left of them, flying from south-east to northwest. Feng reported this observation immediately to the Air Traffic Control Center and requested them to conduct a search, but no other airplanes were reported on radar. Feng's teammates also saw the same aircraft formations.

This is not the first time that Feng and his teammates have seen strange formations. The airplanes both he and his team have seen all represented different countries from different periods of history.

Propeller types as well as jets had been included in the formations. It is highly unlikely that all of the pilots had the same illusion at the same time. Some experts believe perhaps it was a scene from another dimension or even another time.

UFOs stay for six hours in Italy

Milan – Paola Harris, a noted Italian UFO photo-journalist, reports that five UFOs were parked in the sky over Milan for six hours on Feb. 4, 2006, and reported by hundreds of spectators over the period 11 PM to 5 AM, when they finally went away.

Milan is only 65 miles east of Turin (Torino), where the Winter Olympic Games began. Thanks to Richard Boylan.

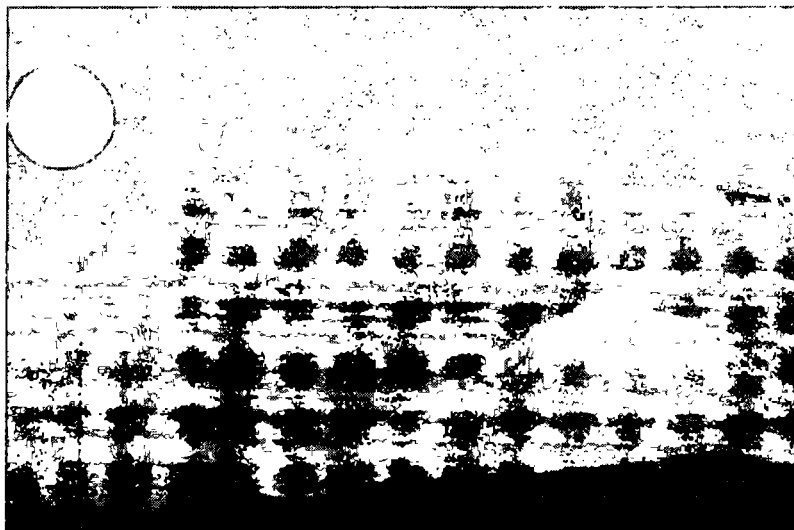
Many objects in South Africa

Western Cape – On Jan. 27, 2006, many witnessed at least 150 white spheres at 5 PM, and a large rush hour traffic jam was treated to a slow fly-by for about ten minutes.

Aerial movements were subtle, but clearly not a result of prevailing wind patterns. This is important because many people could easily mistake the white craft for weather balloons. City fire brigades were kept busy on the mountain for the third day running.

The timing of the visit was almost a year after last year's Feb. 5, 2005, sighting above Cape Town. Table Mountain was ablaze for a few days last year on the 5th. Cape Town was the scene of 60+ brilliant white spheres floating over the harbor.

It seems that the same UFO "model" again visited the city where Table Mountain is the dominant feature. So,



Oregon cylinder

Molalla – The witness reports, "I live about 5 miles south of Molalla, and on Nov. 15, 2005, at about 4:45 PM, I took a dozen or so pictures of Mt. Hood. I took the pictures from my deck, facing northeast with my Nikon Coolpix 3100 set to standard "scenery" mode.

"There is one picture that has a curious object, and I don't know what it is. It appears as a long cylinder without wings. I took three pictures within one minute, and the object only shows up in the middle picture. The object is only on image 009." Thanks to MUFON <http://mufon.com>

also, I'm wondering if the sightings experienced in South America and Spain were coupled with large infernos?

Georgia object

Oakfield – GUFOG Associates was contacted by Peter Davenport, the NUFORC Director. A retired military veteran currently holding a substantial position with a large internationally-known organization witnessed a UFO at about 4:30 AM on Jan. 17, 2006, while driving on Highway 300 in Worth County, GA.

The witness observed an object almost overhead, and it appeared so strange that he stopped to get a better view. The object moved away, and he describes an upside down teardrop with red and blue lights on the sides near the top.

The object moved toward an adjacent stand of trees, being about 250 feet in altitude. It disappeared behind the trees after three minutes.

GUFOG associate John Bodin in nearby Wray, GA, was given the preliminary data. This writer has contacted the Worth County sheriff, the two local airports, and the Albany USMC Base provost marshal, all having had no simi-

lar reports to come into their offices. Thanks to Tom Sheets/GUFOGÂ

Tennessee strange object

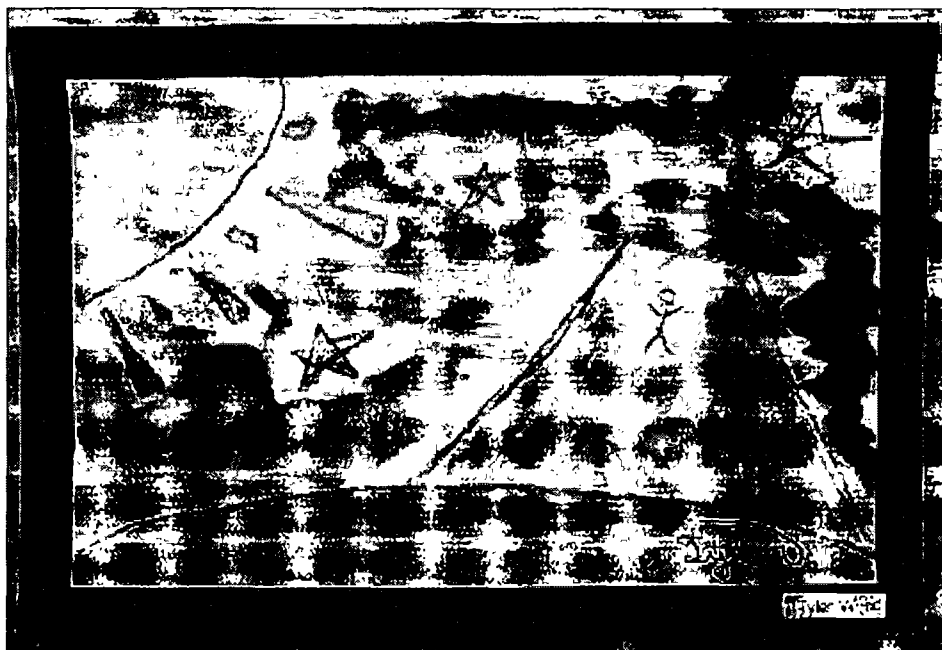
SEVIER COUNTY – The witness reports, "I live near a small community called Chestnut Hill, and on Jan. 4, 2006, about 8:18 AM, I glanced at English Mountain and noticed a very large oval disc-like silvery-white object.

"It was darker around the bottom and bottom edges. Immediately it looked strange, since you could tell that it wasn't a cloud because of its perfect oval disc-like shape.

"From the couple of minutes that I was able to observe it, there seemed to be some distinct geometrical patterns associated with it, such as squares running from the far edges reaching inward towards the top of the object—something similar to the latitude and longitude lines you'd see on a map.

"The object wasn't moving at first, and then after two minutes or so, it began rising upward very slow and suddenly shot straight up and out of sight as if it winked out.

"When it shot straight up it punched through a thin layer of cloud cover, leaving a hole in the clouds exactly the same shape as the object itself.



Art work by Maine fourth grade student.

"Smoke trailed the object as it broke through the clouds. I would estimate that the object was 1 to 2 miles away and higher than English Mountain, which is 3600 feet.

"That would make the object very large in diameter. I got my camera and took photos, which were taken within the first 3 to 5 minutes after the hole was made. The photos are still in my digital camera and have not been erased."

Thanks to MUFON. <http://gamehippo.com/cgi-bin/mufon>

Florida tumbling metal

Boca Raton – The witness reports, "My roommate and I were working on his car, and he was under the dash when I saw what I first thought was a big bird flapping its wings one or two times a second, which is unusual for a big bird.

"As it passed overhead, it became clear it was not organic in nature. The impression of wing-flapping seemed to be caused by parts coming into and out of sunlight.

"The object was moving directly west to east, and as it passed by I had the impression that it could be a small-ish jet that was tumbling end over end, although it neither gained nor lost altitude, nor changed speed.

"I called my roommate at some point to take a look, and he first said 'bird,'

then 'kite,' then ruled both of those out. I watched until it passed out of sight a couple of miles away. The object was very hard to focus on, even though I have pretty good vision, and I found it difficult to watch more than a few seconds at a time."

Thanks to MUFON

Kansas object

Great Bend – The witness reports, "When we lived in Kansas in early 1965 as small children, I looked out of the kitchen window and saw a white cube that glowed like a light bulb. It had a red light glowing on the inside of it.

"The cube-shaped thing flew around that radio tower like a moth flies around a light bulb, but slower than a moth, and it never hit the tower. I ran to get my dad, but he said not to bother him.

"So I yelled for my two brothers to come. Just before my brothers got to the window, it came across the field towards me in the blink of an eye, and it was hovering around 75 feet above the ground.

"That is when my two brothers made it to the window and started saying what is that, what is that? The thing hovered and slowly turned for 20 seconds, then it spun so fast that it turned into a ball and was gone in a streak almost straight up.

"The red light was fading off and on

like the tower light, and I believe it was trying to communicate." Thanks to Kim Shaffer. AUFORC has toll free reporting hotline operational. 1.888.338.1478

Maine children's UFO art

Bar Harbor – Gordon J. Gianninoto writes, "In March I was on Mount Desert Island at the Sonagee Nursing Home to photograph UFO drawings by 4th grade MDI art students (example at left).

"There were about one dozen drawings, and I found it interesting that one quarter of them had UFOs in the sky. It is interesting that the students wanted to put alien ships into their drawings.

"Isn't this a good sign, that young children have UFO interests sufficiently strong to express in artwork to be exhibited to the public?" Thanks to Gordon J. Gianninoto, UFO Contact News.

Argentina circular object

NECOCHEA – *Planeta UFO* reports, "On the evening of Dec. 26, 2005, several witnesses, Marcelo Pintacuda among them, noticed a large strange circular object, yellow in color, that he managed to capture on his Motorola C650 cell phone camera.

The object vanished toward the west of the city after having been visible for several minutes. A family saw a similar round object as they returned home along the coastal route.

Translation (c) 2005. Scott Corrales

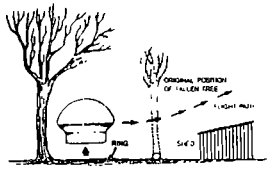
Spherical objects in Mexico

Mexico City – Ana Luisa Cid reports, "On Jan. 4, 2006, at 4:45 PM I recorded some spherical objects using a Sony TRV 340 camcorder with a 25x optical zoom.

"For the time being I can find no explanation to the event, and strangest of all is that while one sphere ascended, another descended, and a third one traveled horizontally—all of this against clear skies and the Moon about to enter its waxing phase.

"The spherical objects appeared to be self-motivated, following defined trajectories and keeping a constant speed."

Thanks to Scott Corrales and Profra. Ana Luisa Cid www.analuisacid.com



Physical Traces

By Ted Phillips

The Cato landing

Last month I presented part 1 of my investigation of a significant event on Oct. 8, 1978, at the Marlett Sturgell farm, located in eastern Barry County, MO, in a remote area 1.6 miles from the small town of Cato.

Several witnesses reported the sighting of an object resting on the ground which then rose off the ground and departed.

Witnesses included Marlett Sturgell, 71; Dora Sturgell, wife, 69; Norman Sturgell, son of Marlett & Dora, 24; Jean (Norman's fiancée), 23; Raymond Morgan, son-in-law, 37; Francis Sturgell Morgan, daughter of Marlett & Dora, 36; and Bruce Morgan, son of Raymond & Francis, 16.



Ted Phillips

Continuation of taped description of initial observation

Phillips: Have you ever seen a weather balloon?

Francis: "Yes."

Phillips: If this had been a balloon, four or five feet in diameter, resting in the field, or if it had been a balloon coming off the ground and then in the air 180 feet away, do you think you could have identified it as a balloon?

Francis: "I think I could have, yes."

Raymond Morgan arrives home and he confirms what has already been stated. He looked at the photographs taken about thirty minutes after the ascent by Raymond Lassiter of the site, and confirmed that the discoloration shown in the photographs it how it appeared visually.

He also stated that the small swirled area shown in the photographs was most distinct. He was the first to arrive at the site. The ground was normal in temperature, not warm or cool to the touch. The plants, he said, appeared to be scorched and had an odd color.

Marlett: "I was over at the barn (125 feet SE of the house) when it first started up. It was up almost tree top high. I ran over there, tried to get over here [in front of the house] quick. It was going up right through there. Oh, you see that cloud above that tree? It was up level with that." [20 degrees above the surface.]

Phillips: Did it appear to change speed at any point?

Dora: "Well, I would say it...the higher it got the faster it moved."

Phillips: As it was moving upward, how far away was it?

Marlett: "It raised up over there [site] and kind of floated in this direction [toward the clearing], and as it got over those trees it seemed like it turned to the right, then it turned [left] and went straight away."

Marlett: "It was an aluminum color..."

Dora: "I'll tell you, it would just sparkle when the Sun would hit it up in the air. One side always seemed a little darker than the other..."

Marlett: "The left side..."

Dora: "Yes, it was a little darker than the other, so my son-in-law said. We talked about that. But this side, over this way, an oval-like outfit, it sparkled when the Sun would hit it. It looked like silver up there, just flashing, real bright. When it slanted or tilted away from us I could see a dark streak on the lower side, I'm sure of it."

Phillips: Could you see anything underneath it? Anything extending from it?

Dora: I just wouldn't know. I was a little slower getting out [of the house] than the rest of them."

Phillips: Did the shape look different when it was in the air?

Marlett: "Well, we couldn't see it very well down there. I took it now...to be about this big around [four feet]. It was about this high [three feet] in the air. It wasn't that big down there. It kind of sloped to the side and stood up like this. I was watching you [Phillips] work down there, and it wouldn't have come up to your shoulders. One side looked higher than the other. When it raised up, when it got into the air, it was taller. When a person is all excited he doesn't look for all those things."

Phillips: Now, how long did it take the object to leave the ground, fly over here [west of the witnesses] and then disappear?

Marlett: "I would say it took between five and ten minutes."

Dora: "I didn't think to time anything, only look."

A second object

Dora: "When we were watching it, I said, 'There goes an airplane or something.' The rest of them finally saw it. It looked like a long white streak. I wouldn't know if it would be an airplane or not, it was so far. The way we saw it, after it appeared there, it would just stand still."

Marlett: "It looked like they were in a line."

Dora: "It looked like a white stripe [object hovering higher in the sky] floating up there, that airplane or whatever it was. It seemed like it came out of a white cloud into the clearer blue. That bigger thing was like a long gray-white board or something laying up there."

Phillips: It seemed like it came out of a cloud?

Dora: "Well, it seemed like the cloud moved off of it."

Marlett: "They both got in line there [small object and second object]. I couldn't tell if that thing got to it or what."

Dora: "You know, they were just

straight with one another."

Phillips: This second object, did it just disappear?

Dora: "They both disappeared, they just went..."

Marlett: "That looked big, that was a long outfit in the air."

Phillips: How many of you were watching the object flying away?

Dora: "All of us. After it left, Francis grabbed the phone and called the sheriff."

Marlett: "I wouldn't have said anything to anybody, but Francis had already called."

Bruce: "It went right to an airplane."

Phillips: Was the plane moving?

Francis: "No, it just sort of sat there. When they got up there together they were real close, and the small thing went right to the side of the large object. It seemed like it was pretty high, this other thing was."

Phillips: From the ground until it disappeared in the distance, how long was it visible?

Francis: "Eight or ten minutes..."

Bruce: "I don't believe it was that long, maybe five to seven minutes."

Francis: "Well that airplane can tell what it is; it was close to it."

Phillips: If you held an object at arm's length, what would just cover the length of the larger object?

Francis: "My thumb at arm's length would just cover it."

Phillips: When did you see the airplane?

Francis: "The small object seemed like it went to the right, then turned closer to the larger object. Mom was yelling about another thing up there when the small thing got high. It came in line with the second object. The bigger thing was silver, but it wasn't shiny like the little one."

Phillips: Could you see the larger object moving?

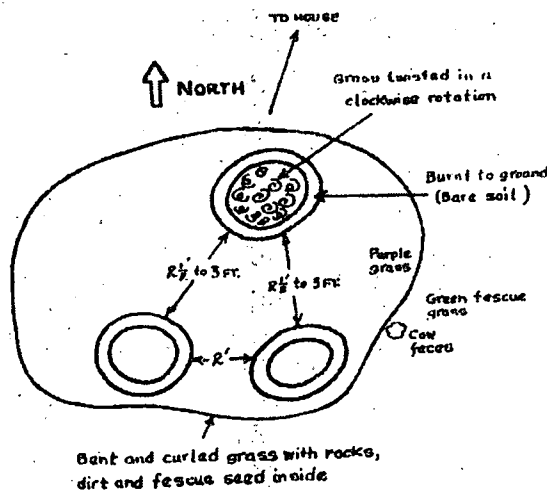
Francis: "If it was, it wasn't doing much moving."

Phillips: Could you see any wings or vapor trail?

Francis: "No, and there was no sound at any time. It was just there."

Phillips: When the smaller object reached a point near the larger, what happened?

Francis: "Both of them went to the



Sketch of site.

right. Pretty soon they just got smaller and disappeared. They left together as one object."

Phillips: The area here is very quiet. Could you have heard sound from an airplane at the same distance from you?

Francis: "Yes, there was none."

Raymond Morgan and Bruce confirmed the flight and the description of the second object, and that it hovered until the smaller object went to its side and they moved away.

It should be noted that Norman Sturgell was at the barn and viewed the object from the same vantage point as his father. Jean, his soon-to-be wife, also witnessed the event. They would not discuss the event, but did confirm it took place as stated by the other family members.

The landing site

Raymond Morgan was the first to go to the site, running directly to it when the two objects had disappeared in the distance.

"I felt the ground," he said. It seemed normal, not warm or cool to the touch. The plants at the site and around the edge were scorched and discolored."

Francis Morgan called the sheriff when she returned to the house. Deputy Sheriff Steve Breeden received the call. As he was on duty at the office, he couldn't leave until 1530.

Breeden contacted Lassiter, who lives near the Sturgell farm, and he (Lassiter) arrived at the farm before noon and took Polaroid photographs of the site.

Deputy Breeden arrived with Paul McNabb and took measurements, photographs, and plant and soil samples.

When Breeden reached the farm, Raymond, Francis, and Bruce Morgan had already left for their home in Kansas City. The Deputy took a statement from Marlett Sturgell for his official report.

Breeden: "It looked like a tripod had been resting inside the area of scorched grass. There were three 6 to 8 inch diameter circular spots in a nearly equilateral triangle.

The two closest to each other were separated by about 2 feet, edge to edge. Both were 2.5 to 3 feet from the third (north) mark. The outer edges of each tripod mark had the fescue grass removed exposing the bare and very light colored soil. The inner area of each circle had the burnt grass twisted as if it was caught in some kind of an auger or looked like someone had set an eggbeater down there and just twisted the grass in a clockwise rotation."

Phillips: This is very important, as you saw it while the area was quite fresh. Please try and remember as many details as possible.

Breeden: "Well, the fescue grass was entirely removed in a doughnut shape about 3 inches in diameter on the outer edge of each tripod mark. The grass in the remainder of the disturbed area had turned a dark purple-black color. It was not burned, but rather it was very dried out. The pasture around the area was a lush green, as this was before the first frost in the area."

The Polaroid photographs taken by Deputy Breeden clearly show the bare vegetation and the purple color of the grass in the site area.

Breeden: "I have known Marlett all my life. He seems to be an honest man, raised in an honest family, and he sure has better things to do on his farm than to make up something like this if it wasn't true. The evidence I've compiled at the Sturgell farm leads me to believe that there has definitely got to be something. I don't know what."

Deputy Breeden made a detailed drawing while at the site and was ex-

tremely helpful during my investigation a few days later. After leaving the site, he filed his report and contacted the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) in Chicago, reaching Allen Hendry, who asked him to place a tarp over the site to protect it from animals and weather.

I received a call from CUFOS at 2230 on Oct. 9, 1978. I placed a call to the Barry County Sheriff and to the Sturgell residence on Oct. 10, advising them that I would arrive at the site on Oct. 14.

I arrived at the Sturgell farm at 0900 and talked with Marlett and Dora and went to the site. I took a series of photographs and measurements of the site, and photographs from the site toward the positions of the witnesses.

I set up a transit just south of the site, which was still quite visible as a slightly oval area of dead grass and plants. The site was very much in contrast to the surrounding thick dark green grass around it. I checked the field for any additional areas, but there were none to be found.

Two circular areas within the site displayed no grass or plants. These two spots were extremely dehydrated and light in color. These areas are visible in the photographs taken by Breeden and Lassiter. The outer edges of the site were clearly defined.

Site dimensions: N - S 45", E - W 42", NW - SE 50", NE - SW 43", along flight path bearing 49.5".

I photographed the site with 35mm color print and color slide film from south to north, west to east, east to west, and north to south. Close-up photographs of the site edge and plants located just outside the site were taken.

Photos were taken across the site toward the house and along the flight path. All photos and measurements were taken before disturbing the site.

Bearings were taken with the transit along the line from the site to the house, along the flight path, and along the direction in which the objects disappeared. Relative elevations were taken from the site to the house and along the flight path.

A north-south line was projected by transit just west of the site and a grid was constructed over the site. Measurements were taken within the grid, and

soil samples were then taken and documented by location and depth within the site.

Radiation measurements were taken with a Detectron Model DG-2 with the meter setting of 0.2 multiplier for full scale. An extensive set of readings was made and tabulated within the landing site and extending 44 ft in each direction beyond the site. Readings were also taken along the flight path. All measurements were made in MRHR.

Statistical average of the readings, sigma, and three sigma values were computed, and upper and lower control limits established. Based on the individual readings and computations made, no significant radiation was detected.

Moisture samples were taken SW 1/4, grid 23: 19.2%; SE 1/4, grid 14: 19.0%; Control moisture sample 10 ft north of site edge: 20.8%. The samples were processed for moisture determination using an MC-320 in the field, and later at a laboratory at the University of Missouri.

Compression tests indicated no weight greater than 300 lbs on the site surface using a CL-700 field penetrometer. Area scan with a metal detector was negative.

I contacted Raymond Lassiter after conducting a taped interview with Marlett, Dora, and Raymond. He brought his Polaroids to the farm and allowed me to take them to copy. I talked at length with Deputy Breeden and Paul McNabb, and copied the Breeden photographs.

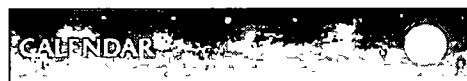
I contacted Dean Woodin, F.A.A. Flight Service for Southwest Missouri at the Joplin Airport and Lonnie Nine of the National Weather Service in Monett, MO. I checked for weather conditions and balloon data at these two sites.

Allen Hynek, at my request, did a wider check for any possible balloon flights over the area. There were none.

It should be noted that 0.31" of precipitation had fallen on the site in the period between the 3rd and the 8th.

With cool temperatures during that period the soil would have been fairly damp and certainly not dehydrated as the areas within the site were.

Next month: Conclusion.



April 8, 2006—Ohio MUFON and The Cleveland Ufology Project (CUP), Oberlin College Science Center, West Lecture Hall, N174 119 Woodland St., Oberlin, OH, featuring Richard Dolan, "UFOs, National Security, and You: What's Going On and Why It Matters," 4-6 PM with book signing to follow. Contact Richard Lee, 330-928-1355, rlee@neo.rr.com or CUP website <http://www.clevelandufo.com/home.html>

April 14, 15, and 16—18th Annual Ozark UFO Conference, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR, featuring Timothy Good, Linda Moulton Howe, Wendelle Stevens, Nancy Talbott, Joe Lewells, Paul Von Ward, Dr. Rudy Schild, Norman Oliver, and additional speakers, plus Sunday morning mini-sessions. web1f123@webtv.net ozarkufo.com

May 13-14—CPRI Paranormal Conference, Richmond-Koger South Conf CTR, Richmond, VA, featuring Jason Hawes, Dr. Sally Rhine Feather, John Zaffis, and Mark Nesbitt. http://virginiaghosts.com/paranormal_conference_06.php

May 19-20—McMenamins UFO Festival, McMinnville, OR, 503-223-0109, www.ufofest.com.

June 16-18—SGRA conference, Howard Johnson Motel, Milford, CT, featuring Jeff Belanger, John Zaffis, Stacey Jones, Stephen Wagner, Nick Roesler, Diane Bajorinas, Jon Nowinski, Todd Bates, Dr. Jimmy Lowerey, and Mark Mihalko. www.sgra-media.org.

July 14-16, 2006—The 37th Annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel, Denver, CO. "Unconventional Flying Objects: The Best Evidence." Featured speakers include Brian Boldman, Carl Feindt, Linda Moulton Howe, David Marler, Ted Phillips, Ron Regehr, Steve Reichmuth, Kenneth Storch, Ruben Uriarte, and Ryan Wood.

State & local newsletters

If your group is not currently sending your newsletter to the *Journal*, we would appreciate receiving it.



PERCEPTIONS

By Stanton T. Friedman

Extraordinary Claims

Frankly, I am sick and tired of people making the extraordinary claim that extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence.

Rarely are definitions given. Usually the context indicates that the notion that aliens are visiting Earth is an extraordinary claim followed by claims that there is no evidence, extraordinary or otherwise. Often Carl Sagan's name is invoked with regard to the phrase.

Why extraordinary?

Why should the notion of ET Intelligent life coming here be considered extraordinary? Surely there is no question that there are billions and billions of galaxies, each with billions of stars, and the universe is about 13 billion years old.

It is interesting that less than one century ago many astronomers thought there was only one galaxy and that the Sun was less than 50 million years old, rather than the more accurate figure of 4.5 or so billion years.

There is no question that we have found no reason to say there is anything special about our solar system or about planet Earth, though less than a century ago there were astronomers telling us the process that produced planets was related to two stars coming close enough to each other to tear out pieces of one.

Since stars are very far apart, that would be a very rare event, indeed. Now we know that there are loads of planets, even though no earth-size ones have yet been found around nearby stars because our search techniques from the surface of the earth are not yet good enough.

Are we foolishly to assume that since astronomers have no pieces of a spaceship made somewhere else that such pieces don't exist?

Or because they haven't been asked to attend conferences of local galactic neighborhood astronomers, that no such

conferences take place and no such neighborhood astronomers exist?

Absence of evidence is NOT evidence for absence. It can mean we haven't looked yet or our observing techniques aren't yet good enough.

It takes very little studying of the technology in almost all areas of human inquiry to note the incredible improvement in techniques for observing



Stan Friedman

almost anything either in very deep space or inside the atom or molecule.

Another truly extraordinary claim, again usually made by astronomers, UFO debunkers, and psy-

chologists like Susan Clancy, is that there is no compelling evidence about UFOs.

When I lectured on the Queen Elizabeth 2, Dr. Seth Shostak was present. After I discussed each of five large-scale scientific UFO studies, I asked how many here have read this volume? He never raised his hand once.

Dr. Jill Tartar has claimed there is no compelling evidence. Based on what? Neither she nor Seth nor Frank Drake ever mention the large scale scientific UFO studies... as though they didn't exist. At least they could say, "I have studied these studies and find them lacking"... Nope. Ignorance is bliss.

Can't get there?

Another extraordinary claim made by debunkers in general and astronomers in particular is that the laws of physics prohibit man from ever reaching another star, and therefore nobody can possibly get here.

Einstein's speed of light limit is usually mentioned, though often there is

charismatic hand waving associated with a clever sounding fact—such as that the Voyager spacecraft is our fastest spacecraft, and it would take 70,000 years to get to the nearest star.

How ridiculous! That spacecraft hasn't had a propulsion system on it since it left the Earth. It is coasting, and has had some cosmic freeloading from the gravitational field of Jupiter.

There is every reason to believe that all astronomers are well aware that nuclear fusion is the process that powers the stars and hydrogen bombs. Of course, they were not involved in examining the possibility of using fusion to propel a rocket.

That was done in industry more than 40 years ago. It is doable, if one wants to spend the money—lots of it. One can emit charged particles having 10,000,000 times as much energy per particle as can be managed in a primitive chemical rocket.

Outmoded science?

Are these guys still using slide rules as opposed to modern computers to do their astrophysical modeling? I really don't think so.

Surely they are also well aware that Einstein also said, and it has been proven, that time slows down for things moving close to the speed of light, compared to the pilot's brother left at home. Funny they don't mention that.

Another extraordinary claim is that there would be no reason for data about aliens to be withheld! After all, the SETI people have said they will make public the data they obtain from listening for signals from other civilizations.

It is kind of hilarious to see how they have slowly increased the distance from which the signal must come, as their searches prove fruitless—undoubtedly because their techniques are primitive compared to those used by any civilization even only a few hundred, no less a million years, more advanced than we are.

It shouldn't take much imagination

to recognize that there are obvious national security considerations associated with technologically-advanced visitors, as opposed to receiving signals from a distant (hundreds or more light years away) civilization. The astronomers "know" we can't expect visits from or to them.

Can they really not be aware of the security implications of very high performance relatively small "peopled" vehicles zipping around in the atmosphere, landing and taking off from wherever they please?

Ordered to shoot

Certainly in 1952 they were considered a threat, and military pilots were ordered to shoot them down if they didn't land when instructed to do so, as noted in my 2005 MUFON paper "Government UFO Lies."

I have good reasons, from stories quietly told to me, to believe that the visitors have taken out aircraft trying to destroy them.

Obvious security questions include: How do these things work? Can we duplicate them? What weapons do they have? How can they sometimes disappear from radar? What do they want? Are they allied with other civilizations on Earth?

I guess astronomers don't need to worry about such things. The huge mother ships carrying the small Earth excursion modules and apparently able to get here from other nearby solar systems pose an entirely different problem in terms of the energy requirements they must have.

We know huge aircraft carriers use far more energy for traipsing around the oceans for decades with their dozens of small aircraft than do the little planes they carry.

Another supposedly extraordinary claim is that not only would there be no reason to keep UFO data secret, but there is no way secrets can be kept for, say, the 59 years since Roswell.

Such silly claims usually come from either people who have never had a security clearance or a need to know for highly classified material, or who believe that they would have known if saucers were flitting around, being back engineered, because they are so smart and so important, etc.

Such naiveté. The annual US black budget has been estimated at well over 40 billion dollars. Do they have a need to know? Who has time to read all the paper work? Let us not forget that the breaking of the German WW 2 military codes was not publicly discussed until 25 years after the war, even though 12 thousand people were involved at Bletchley Park in England translating and decoding those messages.

In 2005 the National Reconnaissance Office admitted, for the first time, that from 1962-1971 they had launched several Poppy satellites for listening to Soviet ships at sea.

In 1995 the Naval Research Lab, in a 75th anniversary celebration booklet, noted for the first time that they had launched the Corona electronic intelligence satellites starting in 1960. Twelve failed before one worked... all in secret.

The first obtained more data about Soviet radar and other electronic systems than all the U-2 flights that preceded it. Satellite programs are NOT cheap and involve hundreds if not thousands of people.

Secrets were kept

The secrets were kept for these "Black" programs. Surely there are others about which we have not been informed

Another extraordinary claim was put to me by one of the people working for the very distressing and grossly misleading "documentary" called "UFOs: Seeing is Believing" hosted by Peter Jennings.

After an hour+ interview was completed with me, it was suggested that if these things were real, surely half the academic scientists in the country would be working on related research. More ignorance.

I pointed out that almost all large-scale technological development programs are carried out in industry and at National Laboratories.

The total annual budget of just the three top nuclear weapons labs (Los Alamos, Livermore, and Sandia) exceeded the total annual budget of the National Science Foundation.

I almost suggested that those who can, do; those who can't, teach. Academics generally don't design and build

high performance aircraft, nuclear submarines, laser weapons, sophisticated microcircuits, nuclear rockets, etc.

Another aspect of the extraordinary claim business is deciding what qualifies as extraordinary evidence. In a courtroom, eyewitness testimony that can withstand close scrutiny by defense attorneys is considered extraordinarily important.

Physical evidence

Fingerprints, footprints, forensic examination of blood, tissue samples, skid marks, tire treads, and fibers are also used. Documents are carefully gone over.

I deal with documents in a detailed fashion (I have been told "too much detail") in my *TOP SECRET/MAJIC*, as compared to the proclamations by the armchair theorists.

Another line of fire comes from those who say that abduction stories, which include people being taken through walls without being injured (usually immobilized), must be false, because these are extraordinary claims.

Isn't the witness testimony extraordinary evidence? Look back to 1850 when there were no TV sets, no microwaves, no radio or radar, no nuclear energy, no awareness of DNA or antibiotics, no internet, no computers, no airplanes or rockets, and no CDs or iPods.

These are commonplace...now that technology has advanced. We must, I think, allow for more advancement and extraordinary capabilities taken for granted by the aliens, but about which we primitives are, so far, ignorant.

The evidence for alien visitations is truly extraordinary. It would be nice if some of the scoffers would do some extraordinary investigation instead of armchair theorizing.

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Case reports

Investigators and State Directors. Please send a copy of your case reports directly to the *MUFON UFO Journal*, including copies of any photos and drawings.

Director's Message

(Continued from page 2)

petition and lower the fares. Frontier, United, American, Delta, and others are offering special fare packages to compete with the entry of Southwest into the travel mix in Denver. Travelers have a lot more choices this year.

Position Announcements

Bengt Ivarsson of Bethlehem, PA, has accepted the position of Consultant—Vascular Medicine.

Colin Gillis of Framingham, MA, has accepted the position of Consultant—Law.

Tracey Nicolosi of Methuen, MA, has accepted the position of Research Specialist—Counseling.

Joseph Jordan of Cocoa, FL, has accepted the position of Research Specialist—Religion.

Michael Blackwood of Seoul, Korea, has accepted the position of Foreign Representative for Korea and Translator for the Korean language.

MUFON Leadership Positions Available

MUFON is pleased to announce the availability of two voluntary leadership positions. At the present time we need a Membership Director and a Chief Investigator.

Interested candidates need to submit their resume and a short statement of their qualifications to MUFON Headquarters, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369.

All applicants will be contacted for a detailed discussion of the requirements of the jobs. E-mail access is mandatory for conduct of these jobs.

In addition, we have a few states that lack a State Director. If interested, contact John Schuessler at MUFON Headquarters.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director for Field Investigator Training, has announced that **Michael Chapman** of Port Barre, LA; **Jeff Cochrane** of Charlotte, NC; **James Adam Mason** of Millstone, KY; and **Connie Watson** of San Jose, CA; have passed the

MUFON Field Investigator's Exam and are now MUFON Field Investigators.

All Field Investigator Trainees are urged to self-study the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* and take the exam. State Directors, Assistant State Directors, State Section Directors, and State Chief Investigators are good sources of help and training for the exam.

The manual is available from MUFON Headquarters for \$25 plus \$3.50 p&h in the U.S. The total price outside the U.S. is \$32.50. It may also be purchased via the Internet at www.mufon.com using PayPal.

Media by MUFON Members

Nevada State Director **Mark Easter** has announced that his company,

easterfilms.com, has partnered with FilmBaby.com to distribute "ROSWELL: The Naked Truth Revealed," an award-winning documentary that tells what happened at Roswell in 1947 and why it happened. To find out more, log on to www.filmbaby.com.

MUFON E-News

MUFON publishes a free E-Newsletter on the Internet. Anyone may join the free newsletter distribution list on the MUFON website at www.mufon.com. All that is required is listing your name and email address.

The address list is handled by ListBot, and is not used for any other purpose. You may withdraw from the list at any time by clicking on "unsubscribe" at the end of the newsletter.

Strange animals in the Ozarks...

(Continued from page 10)

it, sat down on the seat, drew her left leg inside the cab and slammed the door shut.

The second the door closed she heard and felt the animal's impact against the outside of the door. She frantically started the engine and raced through the property to the main entrance gate.

She opened the gate and hurriedly drove to Edgin's home, not remembering whether or not she had closed the gate to prevent the cattle from leaving the pasture. She then found the driver's side door was bent from the animal's impact.

The ferocious appearance and lack of fear of humans which Ms. Wyers observed were also noticed by an Ozark businessman who had a close encounter with one of the animals in Johnson County.

The man stated he was in his pickup truck and stopped at a highway intersection north of I-40 when one of the animals walked closely past the driver's side of the truck, around the front of the truck, and back down the other side.

The animal reportedly stopped just past the end of the truck where it was

brightly illuminated by the truck's tail-lights and brake lights where the driver was able to see it in his passenger side mirror.

According to the driver the animal remained at the rear of the truck for nearly a minute, but it would turn its body to shield its eyes from the vehicles that were passing on the highway in front of the truck.

This particular witness stated he clearly saw both upper and lower canine teeth outside the mouth of the animal. He said the animal's body and head were massive, and the jaws appeared to be wide and powerful.

He stated that the top of the animal's head was just below the bottom edge of the window openings as it walked past the truck.

His description of the animal generally matched those given by Ms. Wyers and Edgin, although there was one notable exception. This witness estimated the animal's weight to be close to five hundred pounds.

The animals seen by the other witnesses were estimated to weigh about 250 pounds.

(Continued next issue)

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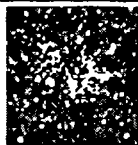


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The Night Sky

By Gavin A. J. McLeod

April 2006

Moon Phases:

First Quarter April 5

Full Moon April 13

Last Quarter April 21

New Moon April 27

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mars: (magnitude 1.2 to 1.4). Moving from Taurus to Gemini. In the Northern hemisphere Mars will stand nearly 40 degrees high in the west at the end of evening twilight and will set near 12:30 AM in the northwest.

For less favored southern hemisphere observers Mars will be about 25 degrees high in the northwest at the end of evening twilight and will set near 9:30 PM in the west-northwest.

Jupiter: (magnitude -2.4 to -2.5). In Libra. For northern hemisphere observers Jupiter will rise near the end of evening twilight in the east-southeast, transit about 30 degrees high near 1:30 AM, and will stand nearly 25 degrees high in the south-southwest at the beginning of morning twilight.

For southern hemisphere observers Jupiter will rise during evening twilight in the east-southeast, transit about 75 degrees high near 1:30 AM, and stand about 40 degrees high in the west at the beginning of morning twilight.

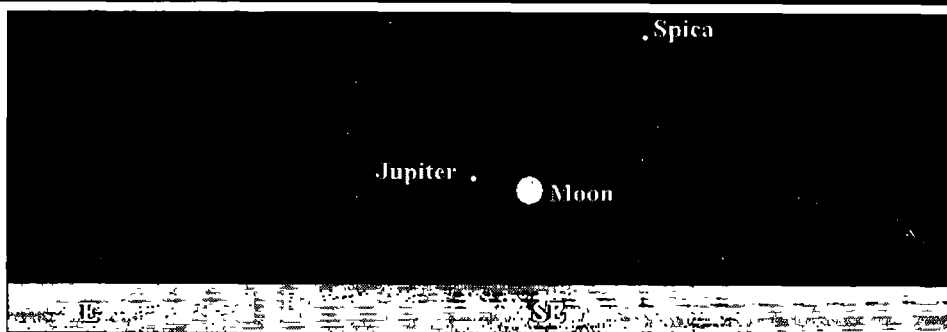
Saturn: (magnitude 0.1 to 0.2). In Cancer. For northern hemisphere observers Saturn will stand nearly 60 degrees high in the southwest at the end of evening twilight and will set near 2:30 AM in the west-northwest.

For less favored southern hemisphere observers Saturn will stand about 40 degrees high on the meridian at the end of evening twilight and will set near midnight in the west-northwest.

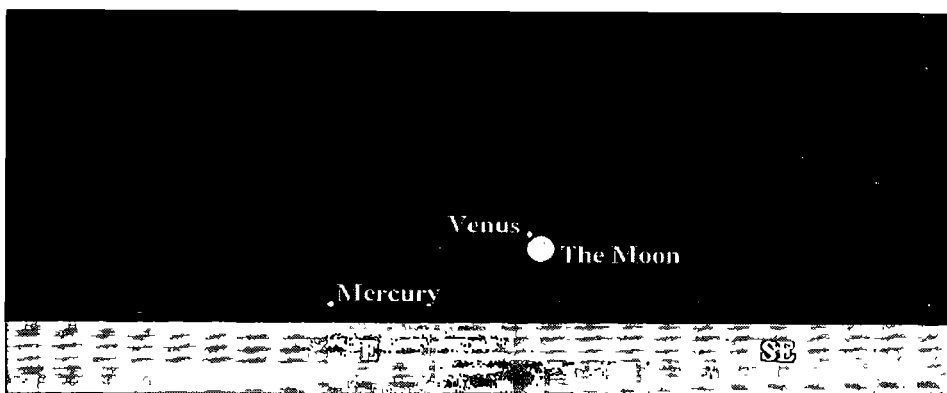
Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mercury: (magnitude 0.6 to 0.0). Moving from Aquarius to Pisces. Mercury will be difficult to see for observers in the northern hemisphere. Mercury will become lost in the glare of the Sun by about midmonth very low in the east before sunrise.

For more favored observers in the



The Moon, Jupiter, and bright star Spica near 10 PM on April 14.



The Moon, Venus, and Mercury just before dawn on April 25.

southern hemisphere Mercury will be visible all month. By midmonth Mercury will stand about 10 degrees high in the east at the beginning of morning twilight.

Venus: (magnitude -4.2 to -4.0). Moving from Capricornus to Aquarius to Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Venus will rise less than one hour before the Sun and will only be visible during morning twilight low in the east-southeast.

For more favored southern hemisphere observers Venus will rise about 3.5 hours before the Sun and will be about 25 degrees high in the east at the beginning of morning twilight.

Other Celestial Phenomena:

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, April 2.

Planetary Conjunctions

Planetary conjunctions, especially when the brighter planets and/or stars are involved, can be a source of sightings reports as observers unfamiliar with the night sky notice the group-

ing of bright lights in the sky.

Conjunctions and Occultations:

April 15th. Jupiter 5 degrees north of the Moon.

April 17th. Antares 0.2 degrees north of the Moon.

April 24th. Venus 0.5 degrees north of the Moon.