



**THIS DOCUMENT WAS OBTAINED FROM 'THE MUFON ARCHIVE' IN THE BLACK VAULT ENCYCLOPEDIA PROJECT.
THIS SECTION IS A JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN THE MUTUAL UFO NETWORK (MUFON) AND THE BLACK VAULT
TO OFFER AN UNPRECEDENTED FREE RESOURCE FOR UFO HISTORICAL RESEARCH.**

PART OF THE BLACK VAULT INTERNET ARCHIVE, YOU CAN CHECK IT OUT AT:

[HTTP://WWW.THEBLACKVAULT.COM/ENCYCLOPEDIA](http://www.theblackvault.com/encyclopedia)

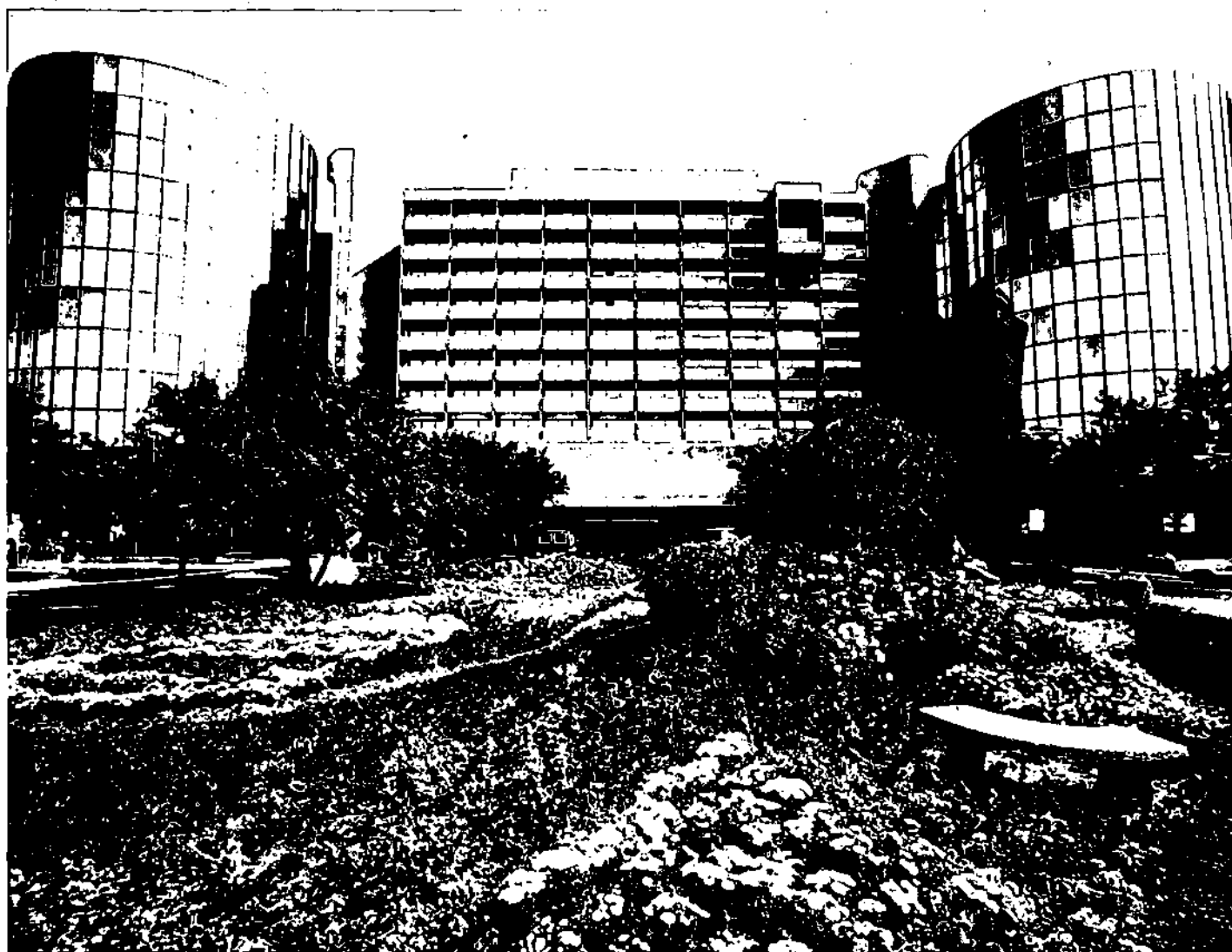
**ALSO, VISIT MUFON FOR THE LARGEST PRIVATE ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE STUDY OF UFOS
FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY:**

[HTTP://WWW.MUFON.COM](http://www.mufon.com)

Mufon UFO Journal

Official Publication of the Mutual UFO Network Since 1967

Number 277
May 1991
\$2.50



HYATT REGENCY O'HARE HOTEL

At O'Hare International Airport
Rosemont, Illinois

Mufon UFO Journal

May 1991

Number 277

CONTENTS

CLOSE, BUT NO SAUCER.....	Barry E. Taff	3
UTAH UFO SIGHTING	Mildred Biesele	8
HOAXES AND A WHOLE LOT MORE.....	Dennis Stacy	9
NEWS'N'VIEWS	Andrus, Hopkins, Jacobs, Maccabee	12
SWISS AWARD	Prof. Theodore Auerbach	14
CALENDAR OF UFO CONFERENCES.....		15
LOOKING BACK	Bob Gribble	16
THE UFO PRESS	Dennis Stacy, Robert J. Durant	18
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	Robert H. Bletchman, George Wingfield	21
THE JUNE NIGHT SKY	Walter N. Webb	22
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE	Walt Andrus	24

EDITOR
Dennis W. Stacy

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Walter H. Andrus, Jr.

COLUMNISTS
Walter N. Webb
Robert Gribble
Lucius Farish
Dan Wright

MUFON UFO JOURNAL
(USPS 002-970)
(ISSN 0270-6822)
103 Oldtowne Rd.
Seguin, TX 78155-4099
Telephone: (512) 379-9216

Copyright 1991 by the Mutual UFO Network.
All Rights Reserved.

No part of this document may be reproduced in any form without the written permission of the Copyright Owners. Permission is hereby granted to quote up to 200 words of any one article, provided the author is credited, and the statement, "Copyright 1991 by the Mutual UFO Network, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, Texas 78155," is included.

The contents of the MUFON UFO Journal are determined by the editors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Mutual UFO Network.

The Mutual UFO Network, Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. MUFON is a publicly supported organization of the type described in Section 509 (a) (2). Donors may deduct contributions from their Federal Income Tax. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers or gifts are also deductible for estate and gift purposes, provided they meet the applicable provisions of Sections 2055, 2106 and 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The MUFON UFO JOURNAL is published monthly by the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., Seguin, Texas. Membership/Subscription rates: \$25 per year in the U.S.A.; \$30 foreign in U.S. funds. Second class postage paid at Seguin, TX.
POSTMASTER: Send form 3579 to advise change of address to:
MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155

CLOSE, BUT NO SAUCER

By Barry E. Taff

Parapsychologist and Ufologist Taff is also a Hollywood screenplay writer.

In the period from 1974 through 1977, few if any Ufologists believed that extraterrestrials were literally waltzing into people's homes within densely populated cities and abducting them for examination and experimentation. Even after books like *The Interrupted Journey* by John G. Fuller and its TV movie, "The UFO Incident," starring James Earl Jones and Estelle Parsons, and Budd Hopkin's *Missing Time* (1981), most UFO researchers found it difficult to accept or even believe that E.T.s were so bold and brazen as to literally come directly into one's home and kidnap them right out from under their family's noses. It was extremely hard for investigators to even come to grip with the notion that large numbers of people might be being abducted to begin with, never mind why it always seemed to occur in remote, desolate locations, far from major population centers.

However, by 1990, things have substantially and radically changed regarding UFO abductions and our perception of the possible magnitude of their occurrence. For one, most Ufologists now generally agree that abductions may, in fact, occur, and appear to be transpiring at an ever increasing rate, and that such events may have been transpiring for many decades. In fact, of the various types of Close Encounters, I-IV, IV being an abduction, it now appears as if CE-IV's may be the most common variety.

With the publication of Budd Hopkins' second book, *Intruders*, and Whitley Strieber's *Communion*, its subsequent motion picture, his following books, *Transformation* and *Majestic*, not to mention the plethora of motion picture and TV movies dealing with UFOs and a seeming wave of abduction reports from around the world, the entire UFO research community is well aware of the fact that these forces, or beings, may, in fact, frequently



©SRV+1 1991

violate our most sacred privacy to serve their own needs. Unfortunately, the closed-minded attitude existing more than a decade ago pervaded my own mentality and caused me to overlook what might have been two very significant abduction cases; one in 1974, another in 1977 where I was actually present during the abduction!

In the summer of 1974, while working out of UCLA's Parapsychology Laboratory in the Neuropsychiatric Institute (since disbanded), I was referred by Dr. A, a psychiatrist at the NPI, to one of his patients, Ann, who complained of strange, diminutive night visitors who did horrible things to her, one of which included impregnating her and eventually taking away her unborn fetus. Under normal circumstances Dr. A would have assumed (with good reason) that Ann's fears were the result of paranoid delusions of supernatural persecutors, however, her stories had a strange ring of reality and truth about them which is why I was consulted. Dr. A felt that as he could be of no assistance to her, perhaps I and our lab could be. Was he wrong on that account!

Needless to say, when I first met with Ann and heard her stories I was very skeptical of her claims regarding nocturnal presences. I spent several hours talking with her about her experiences, her personal background and any and all associated matters. My conclusion was that Ann was unquestionably suffering from acute trauma and anxiety brought on by some unknown stimuli. Her background revealed no evidence of any childhood abuse or neglect that might lead to nightmares or fantasies of being manipulated and sexually violated. Similarly, there were no other relationships in her past or present that would even suggest that her "visitors" were the product of a stigmatized imagination.

When Ann finally felt more comfortable talking with me, she confided more details than she had to Dr. A, perhaps because I was about the same age she was at the time, twenty-six. Her story, now quite common by abduction accounts, was that several small humanoids (my word usage) appeared

out of nowhere within her bedroom and before she could put up a struggle rendered her semi-conscious through some form of paralysis.

The next thing Ann recalled was lying on her back on some type of metallic table in a roundish room, also metal-looking, that was emitting brilliant light from the walls and ceiling. Around her were either three or four humanoids. Her description of the "funny-looking men" is again very reminiscent of what we are now very used to hearing: 3-4 feet tall, hairless, slim with very large, inverted pear-shaped heads with no outer ears, no apparent nose except for two vertical slits and no lips except for another horizontal slit where the mouth should be.

Ann's most disturbing memory of their physical appearance was their eyes. Large, dark, reflective and almond-shaped, angling up away from the horizontal about 15 degrees. Sound familiar?

While these humanoids were "examining" her she never heard them audibly speak, but seemed to sense their words in her mind, as if telepathic in nature. Though she said it was as clear as if they verbally spoke, their slit-for-a-mouth never moved. Their skin, according to Ann's recall, was greyish brown and was leathery in its texture. They did *not* have five fingers. The shape of their hands, which included webs between their three fingers and an opposing thumb-like digit, looked reptilian to Ann, who still found herself in a state of total muscular paralysis, except for her autonomic nervous system.

As the humanoids began a more detailed examination of Ann, her memory began to cloud over as the beings kept repeating to her that she had nothing to fear, she would feel no pain and would not remember these events. Ann's memory concluded at this point with the apparent insertion of some type of probes into various bodily orifices: nasal, mouth, ear canal, rectal and vaginal. These probes were quite painful and caused her to scream and cry. At that point, just before Ann lost consciousness, she remembered one of the humanoids placing its hand over her

head, telling her not to feel any pain and to simply relax. Ann then blacked out. While conveying these details to me, her emotional state became more intense, eventually ending in a crying binge that lasted for quite some time which required immediate attention to calm her down as she was on the verge of hysteria.

Finally calmed, Ann said that she knew the beings or whatever they were, were going to come back and get her again.

After hearing the above story, I was startled and really didn't know what to believe. Ann was a well-educated, intelligent, emotionally balanced woman who, other than her supposed dreams, demonstrated absolutely no overt or covert signs of emotional disorders. In fact, everything in her life up until that point was as normal as apple pie.

However, her level of fear and anxiety was so acute that I reluctantly agreed to spend several nights on the sofa in case the humanoids reappeared. After several nights on a very uncomfortable couch with no visitations, I convinced Ann that everything would be fine and to call me if anything unusual occurred.

About two months or so later she called back, saying that the humanoids had again reappeared in her bedroom and basically repeated the same procedures they had performed originally. However, this time Ann said she was pregnant but couldn't account for it as she was using birth control which up until then proved very reliable. The last thing Ann wanted was an unplanned pregnancy, especially when she hadn't been sleeping with anyone in many months!

Upon hearing this update, I was very reserved in my opinion regarding this entire affair as it was extremely "strange" and I felt more than likely could be explained very prosaically. The real shocker came several weeks later when in literal hysteria, Ann called late one evening to inform me that her fetus had disappeared from her womb, and that the little humanoids were the ones who removed it.

After visiting with her again and calming her down, I tried to convince Ann that perhaps she had nothing more than a hysterical or false pregnancy, which is not that uncommon. However, Ann was not dissuaded by my attempt at logic, especially as she swore that she didn't have an abortion, that she really was pregnant, with tests to clinically prove it, and couldn't explain who fathered her child.

During another lengthy session Ann told me of her encounter in which the little humanoids took her unborn fetus away. It again had all the earmarks and keynotes of what is now being reported quite frequently by Budd Hopkins and others. There was little I or anyone else could do to bring peace to Ann's mind. Eventually we were able to convince her that none of these events were in fact real, but simply the products of night terrors and that she would eventually overcome her anxieties and fears regarding them. Well, she never really recovered in full.

Her present life, what little is left of it after three failed marriages and numerous jobs she was unable to keep, is primarily due to a dramatic change in her personality. Ann was not the recipient of any form of therapy regarding her possible encounter with whatever phenomena she experienced. Had such therapy been received, there's a good chance that her life today would be far more stable and rewarding. I have not heard from or of her since late 1979 and have been unable to locate her. I cannot help but wonder as to what we might have learned and how her life and emotional make-up might have evolved had I been less nearsighted in my a priori judgment of her experiences?

The second case occurred in July of 1977 and was far more personal as it involved a young woman, Margie, who was a close friend I originally met during an investigation of poltergeist activity within the apartment her and her boyfriend resided in. The thirty-year-old woman was a model and an aspiring actress who bore a striking resemblance to a cross between a young Elizabeth Taylor

While these humanoids were "examining" her she never heard them audibly speak, but seemed to sense their words in her mind, as if telepathic in nature. Though she said it was as clear as if they verbally spoke, their slit-for-a-mouth never moved.

and Joan Collins.

After my initial investigation of her case in the West Los Angeles area during which we recorded some audible phenomena, Margie and I grew to become quite close friends, during which time I discovered that she was extremely "gifted" in the sense of being overtly telepathic, clairvoyant and precognitive, which allowed her to work with us in our UCLA lab. Over time, our relationship blossomed into a romantic affair and everything was going along smoothly. About the only oddities were Margie's occasional intrusions into my own inner thoughts when she would literally tell me what I was thinking about although she had no knowledge of such information through our relationship or our current conversation. This happened with such frequency that I began accepting it as normal. Her psychic talents were multi-faceted in the respect that she was very helpful in looking for missing persons and/or property, cases which we investigated many times every year.

Another interesting phenomena occurred while I was massaging Margie's lower lumbar region which always gave her pain. In the midst of attempting to rub out the pain, a ball of brilliant light, similar to ball lightning and about the size of two large male fists, literally emerged from her lower back and headed straight up.

The ball was self-illuminating and lit up the otherwise dimly lit room. Both Margie and I bolted at the appearance of the glowing sphere which disappeared into the ceiling of the room without so much as a sound.

As time moved on, more phenomena continued to occur while I was around Margie. Several times while visiting her apartment in the Hollywood hills, all the clocks in her house, which normally

kept perfect time, suddenly and for no apparent reason began desynchronizing. Each clock was keeping its own special time, none of which were accurate. In fact, one of the clocks in the den actually jumped off the wall, landing several feet from the location where it hung. As I first met Margie under conditions and circumstances strongly suggesting the manifestation of recurrent episodes of spontaneous psychokinesis, or what's more commonly referred to as poltergeist activity, I felt that this might just simply be another outbreak of this phenomena. However, nothing could be further from the truth as I was soon to discover.

Having first met Margie in February of 1977, we had now known each other for approximately five months as it was July. She had a personal background of enduring emotional hardship and stress related to the untimely death of her older beloved sister from lung cancer and the very early death of her biological father from alcoholism. Needless to say, these are heavy burdens for anyone to bear, but even more so for Margie as her mother didn't really help raise her, but supplied her with a governess. Margie's stepfather worked for one of the U.S. government's intelligence agencies and was never really around. Therefore, Margie grew up essentially without any real parental guidance.

Given all this, Margie displayed exceptionally normal patterns of behavior and appeared very well adjusted and balanced in terms of her interaction with others. Whatever emotional scars remained from her youth, they seemed well healed.

However, in mid-July of 1977 all of Margie's sense of reality, well-being and peace of mind was forever shattered. She woke up one morning and was very disturbed by a dream she had that eve-



ning. At least she first thought it was a dream.

Margie turned toward me in bed and began telling me of her nightmare. She remembered being somehow levitated out of bed, ending up in a strange round metal room bathed in blinding white light. Suddenly, she found herself lying on some sort of pedestal-like metal table in the middle of this room, surrounded by small men with big heads and large dark eyes without lids. The men were very strange looking according to Margie, as they didn't have ears, nose, lips or hair.

Margie became very frightened and attempted to get off the table, only to discover herself paralyzed and restrained at her neck, waist, wrists and ankles by some sort of invisible mechanism. The next thing she recalled was one of the little men bringing a large, round eye-like device down over her body and running it from her head down to her toes. During this strange "scanning" procedure, Margie could see different colored lights going on and off on a wall near her. Then another

one of the tiny men brought out a device and began inserting it into her nasal orifice, her ear, mouth, rectum and finally her vagina. The insertion of this "probe" or whatever it was, was extremely painful and Margie began crying, even while relating the dream to me. After the pain subsided she lost consciousness and finally woke up back in her bed.

My first question to Margie was whether or not she was at all familiar with any UFO stories or literature, or had ever seen "The UFO Incident" on TV or read *The Interrupted Journey*. Her reply was "no" and that she never really had any interest whatsoever in UFOs or even believed in them (this was before *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* came out). Margie asked me why I was asking her about UFOs after having such a weird dream or nightmare. I answered that I was just curious, that's all.

As soon as Margie got out of bed my curiosity turned into shock and hers into terror. For around Margie's wrists, ankles, waist and neck were black-and-

blue bands of discoloration as if she'd been held in tight restraints for some time. Equally disturbing was the fact that Margie was bleeding from her nose, left ear canal and her uterus, although she was *not* menstruating.

Were these the remnants or scars of a physical examination performed by extraterrestrials who abducted her while she slept and her interpretation of the event was a nightmare? Or was it a form of stigmata? More puzzling is that we were sleeping right next to each other in the same bed and I slept the entire night through undisturbed. How could any agency have removed her from the space directly adjacent to me without waking me? To say that these wounds and scars strongly suggest mishandling by someone not that familiar with human anatomy and physiology, and that the experience was traumatizing, would be the greatest understatement of the century.

Even as someone who had been studying Ufology for more than 16 years, I couldn't bring myself to accept the possibility that an alien entity, or entities, may have entered her house in the middle of the night within the densely populated Hollywood Hills and abducted her right out from under my arms. Fourteen years ago, no serious Ufologist believed that such events occurred, especially right in front of them.

In that I didn't take Margie's "dream" or encounter seriously and felt that it might be a form of psychogenic reaction formation, Margie did not receive or seek any form of therapy for her experience. Since 1977, Margie's personality has almost completely disintegrated into a vegetative state in that she's become a religious zealot who literally lives to worship Sai Baba, a supposed East Indian avatar. She now believes it was he who actually visited her on the night of her encounter.

Supposedly, Margie has had repeated nocturnal visitations by this being/entity/avatar and it has performed somewhat similar procedures on her again. Her emotional state is so fragmented and disassociated from reality that she has been unable to hold down

any form of employment, keep any close friends or relationships (except of course for those others who are also Sai Baba devotees), and has gone through numerous interpersonal relationships and a failed marriage. Margie is obsessed with the notion that she must live and breathe only for Sai Baba. Following her first encounter with whatever affected her physically and emotionally back in 1977, her psychic abilities became so tainted and distorted by her deluded sense of spirituality that they became virtually useless for all intents and purposes of research and law enforcement.

Interestingly, following Margie's abduction and continuing for some time, she has experienced repeated outbreaks of poltergeist activity and apport phenomena, which she naturally assumed was due to Baba.

The most intriguing event to follow Margie's initial abduction was when one of her close friends, also a Sai Baba devotee, also claimed to have had an abduction-like experience totally independent of Margie's. This also launched her into total spiritual zealotism. Later, she desired to have a child with her husband. She went to visit Sai Baba in India to literally ask his permission in order to have the child (both Margie and her friend[s] went to India at least once a year "to be one with Baba"). Nevertheless, Baba gave Margie's friend his blessing and of course told her to have a child if that is what she desired.

Several months after Margie's friend conceived, she went to have a routine examination during which a sonogram was performed. The ultrasonic image revealed that there was no fetus in her womb, although she manifested every physical symptom of pregnancy!

What's particularly interesting about this missing fetus is that it followed closely on the heels of what appeared to be another alleged abduction as described by Margie's friend, who of course, believed it was all the work of Baba, who took away her child due to some sin or infraction on her part. It is incredibly coincidental that another incident of an abduction-like scenario wherein a woman's fetus may have been

Her emotional state is so fragmented and dissociated from reality that she has been unable to hold down any form of employment, and has gone through numerous interpersonal relationships and a failed marriage.

removed from her by what might have been extraterrestrial intelligences is related to a woman who very likely was abducted in 1977 while sleeping inches away from me in the same bed.

There may not be any direct proof or hard evidence that alien entities were in any way involved in the aforementioned experiences, but the circumstantial evidence in terms of the vestigial scars certainly speak for themselves and there isn't the slightest indication that any of these women discussed here inflicted any of their bodily wounds or scars upon themselves, nor would they have desired to.

In conclusion, one might say that if it weren't for the close-minded attitude of this author back between 1974 and 1977, we may have actually come a lot closer to possibly understanding the nature of this phenomena, especially as this was all transpiring in our own backyards, so-to-speak.

It was only my own limited belief system, which unfortunately was shared by many others at the time, and ig-

norance, that disallowed me from following up on what might have been three very rewarding cases of E.T. abduction.

Moreover, the most important loss is the personalities of the three women who will never again be the same or lead a normal life. It hurts to realize that we came so incredibly close to actually linking up with this phenomena. But, the pain of allowing these women to go untreated, without therapy, will be a burden I and other colleagues of mine will have to bear for many years to come. No amount of knowledge or acquired information is worth their peace of mind, sanity and emotional well-being. Only now do we perhaps have our sense of priorities and responsibilities straight. Thank God.

UFOs, MJ-12 AND THE GOVERNMENT

**A Report on Government
Involvement in UFO
Crash Retrievals**



**Grant Cameron and
T. Scott Crain, Jr.**

Published by
Mutual UFO Network, Inc.

1971 Midwest UFO Conference Proceedings Still Available

Theme: UFOs — Defiance to
Science, 115 pages

Speakers: Walter H. Andrus, Jr.,
Hayden C. Hewes, Sherman J.
Larsen, Ted Phillips, William H.
Hunkins, Stanton T. Friedman and
Leonard H. Stringfield.

(A limited special reprint.)

\$8 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling. Order from: MUFON, 103
Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155

**UFOs, MJ-12
AND THE GOVERNMENT
\$19.95**

UTAH UFO SIGHTING

By Mildred Bieseke

Mildred Bieseke is the Utah State Director.

This UFO sighting occurred in West Jordan, Utah, September 16, 1990, at 7:52 p.m. The witnesses, Denise and Steven Haddenham, were on their way home from eating Sunday dinner with Steve's brother and his family at a Greek restaurant on 3rd West at 2750 South. Steve and Denise and their two children, Courtney, 6 and Joshua, 5, were in their car, and the brother and his family were following in their car.

As they left the parking lot of the restaurant, Denise's attention was drawn to something moving in the sky. Looking from the passenger's seat out the right front window toward the west, she saw what she first thought was a gray wisp of cloud; but as she focused on it, she could see that it was a silver, disc-shaped object with a dome and top moving at a rapid speed from north to south.

She quickly pointed it out to her husband. He said, "What the hell is it?" and pulled the car over to the curb and stopped. The street is a commercial thoroughfare at this point, used largely by trucks avoiding the central business district a few blocks to the east, and at this time on a Sunday evening it is nearly deserted.

They both jumped from the car, admonishing the children to remain in the back seat. From where they were standing, they watched the object fly at about a 60° angle above the horizon, passing from the northwest to the southeast, and disappearing behind a grove of tall trees on the opposite side of 3rd West, about a half mile to the south. I drive from 39th South to 21st South on 3rd West every week to work as a volunteer at the State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Coming home today, I checked my odometer for the distances involved in this sighting. At

the restaurant the odometer was halfway between .1 and .2, at the place where they stopped it was at .7, and when I passed the grove of trees where they lost sight of it the reading was .9.

The object was moving so rapidly that by the time Steve's brother pulled up behind them and he got out to ask what was the matter, the object was already out of sight. Unfortunately, the other family members did not see it.

Two Full Moons

From where the Haddenhams live in West Jordan, a Salt Lake City suburb southwest of town, they have a view of planes approaching Salt Lake International Airport for landing. They estimated the speed of the object as three to four times faster than an airplane.

As to the size, I first asked them how it compared with a full moon. They both said "bigger," and after some discussion agreed it was as big as two full moons. Next, I asked how it would compare in size to a coin held at arm's length. Again they agreed that it was bigger than a coin. Holding out their arms and circling fingers and thumb, they suggested it would be more like the size of a yo-yo. "It was the size of a city block," they said.

They saw no lights, but what appeared to be a gray metallic disc with a dome on top reflected light from the sun below the horizon. Although the sun had set, the sky was still blue and clear except for two thin clouds to the south. These clouds were not moving and there was no wind. A shimmer of air seemed to follow the object, like heat rising from a hot surface.

They estimated that it was in view for about 30 seconds. In my opinion, this may be a little low, considering that Denise saw it first as they left the restaurant, showed it to Steve, and they were about two blocks down the road

before they stopped the car and got out.

Steve recalled later that as they stood watching the UFO they heard dogs howling. (We heard no dogs when we visited the site.)

They were both excited about the sighting. Denise's mother was visiting at the Haddenham's apartment when Mara Ullis, Les Beard and I were there for the interview, and she told us that when Denise called her that evening to tell her about it she had never heard so much excitement in her daughter's voice.

After calling her mother, Denise called the county sheriff, the Hanson Planetarium, the Salt Lake airport, and Hill Air Force base near Ogden. No one had received any UFO reports that day, and no one offered a possible explanation. The officer she spoke with at Hill gave her the Seattle number for the National UFO Reporting Center. Robert Gribble took the information and forwarded it to Walt Andrus in Seguin. I received it two weeks later. I phoned Denise and talked to her on the phone, then made an appointment to visit her with Mara and Les the next day.

We talked with the couple, her mother and the two children. After filling out the General Case Form, we followed the Haddenhams to the place where they stopped to watch the UFO. They showed us where the object was when they first saw it, how it moved, and where it went out of sight behind the trees. Les shot pictures.

The Haddenhams impressed me with their sincerity. He is a plumber; she is a crossing guard for the Jordan school district. They are both members of the Mormon church and do not smoke, drink or use drugs. Their eyesight is good; she was wearing contacts needed for distant vision. The children are bright, and both claim to have watched

Continued on page 15

HOAXES AND A WHOLE LOT MORE

By Dennis Stacy

The new Crop Circle season is almost upon us and anticipation is in the air. Journals and magazines are gearing up for the expected summer onslaught as are, too, no doubt, numerous news organizations and the local landowners themselves. Look for roadside concession stands selling Guinness by the pint and T-shirts by the dozen. Look for loads of new explanations and "translations," too, while a rationale as to why any self-respecting "non-human intelligence" would want to waste its time writing circles in wheat fields goes wanting.

Look for more hoaxes, too, and then look for the role of the latter in this whole mystery to go largely overlooked. A case in point demonstrates the pitfalls of taking each and every Circle at gospel face value. According to an article by John Haddington (Earl of Haddington is the patron of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies), "Doons Law, The Whitsome Pictogram," which appeared in the April/May 1991 issue of *Global Link Up*, an English New Age journal, three Circles appeared over two nights last August in Scotland, near the village of Duns. Doons Law is an old burial mound.

Two Circles 32 and 31-feet in diameter were found, along with a smaller Circle 16 feet in diameter. Without a plan of the formation itself to go by, working out the exact arrangement is hard to do, but apparently two of the Circles (one large and one small?) were connected to the other by flattened pathways like those seen in the giant dumb-bell formations found in Wiltshire and southern England last summer. The latter, however, were flattened along their length, whereas these were flattened perpendicular to their long course and each in a different direction. "A new development, and one that should be carefully noted," Haddington writes.

More oddities were found. One of the Circles was swept flat in an anticlock-

wise direction, while the other two lay swirled clockwise. Moreover, the two pathways, each some 16 and ½ feet long, if I read right, were angled 67 degrees to one another. One pathway pointed straight toward the old burial mound and beyond, to either the kirk (church) at Swinton or Norham, the other to the kirk at either Norham or Swinton. Needless to say, I'm working here without a map.

Weirder still, the distance to both kirks is identical, creating an isocetes triangle, and a 14th century knight is buried at each. Moreover, Haddington adds, "a line drawn from Doons Law in a Westerly direction towards the Eildon Hills, goes through a "Bastle" which is an ancient defensive tower at Charterhall, the standing stone at Whiteside on Mellerstain Estate, and finally through the Eildon tree stone which marks the spot where in the 13th century Thomas the Rhymer met the beautiful Faery Queen wearing green and riding on a white horse. She took him away for seven years into the Eildon Hills where he was entertained by the little people all that time ... He was duly sent home with the gift of prophecy and healing and became famous for his divination. All of his pronouncements have to date come to pass."

Again, without a map, it's hard to know exactly what a "Westerly line" really means, and how precise all these alignments actually are, although Haddington assures us that three years ago he "dowsed a twelve bar ley line running from (the fallen monolith at Whiteside) down the field side in an easterly direction but had only traced it as far as Hume Crag. However since this latest development (the three Circles), the full extent of this line can be traced from the Witches Knowe (another hill) at Mordington to Doons Law and through the Whiteside Stone to the Eildon Hills."

That this all seems *too* neat and nice

never seems to have entered into Haddington's calculations, and the reason why is probably partly explained by his intention in writing the original article, which was to refute the claims of "coincidence" lodged against similar alleged triangles and alignments in Wiltshire and southern England, where known ancient archeological sites are much more numerous than in Haddington's native Scotland. Thus, this latest isolated and spectacular alignment, in the form of an isocetes triangle yet, can be held up as "proof" positive that something exceedingly strange and wonderful is indeed afoot within the Circles.

"Maybe," Haddington continues, "this is the start of a series of circles in the Scottish borders. Certainly the pattern is the same as in the south with sites of historical importance linked with ley lines, being chosen by the circle makers. I cannot help but feel that this event of the arrival of a crop circle at this particular spot, Doons Law, is of great importance. Does it not show quite clearly to all who previously doubted, that there is a connection between ley lines, burial mounds and the Circles?"

"It is easy in Wiltshire to think such a connection to be purely coincidental, as there is a great proliferation of burial mounds within the region. Not so in the Borders, they are relatively scarce here and are far apart geographically. Besides the Doons Law circle anchors itself in the landscape with the triangle connecting it to the two churches, and points significantly at the Eildon tree stone and the Lady in Green. Plasma Vorticans take note."

"Captain Kirk"

The rest of us would do well to take note and learn from Haddington's experience as well. Apparently the Circles to which he refers are the same ones which a trio of pranksters ad-

mitted hoaxing in the *Glasgow Herald* of February 14 of this year. I haven't seen the original article as yet, although I've written for a copy, and so am referring here only to excerpts and comments made by Jenny Randles in the latest (April 1991) issue of *Northern UFO News*. The internal descriptions, however, leave little doubt that the hoaxed formation is the same one reported by Haddington. The hoaxers spoke only pseudonymously as "Captain Kirk," but told how they entered the farmer's field along the ubiquitous tram (tractor) lines and went to work, "using a 16-foot wooden batten, and a three-foot steel pin and a few pints (of beer)!"

I'm not sure exactly what a wooden batten is, but we'll presume here it's a plank 16 feet long in this case, and perhaps a foot wide. The metal pin was inserted into the ground and then through a hole in the middle of the plank, which swept out the first 16-foot diameter Circle. Repositioning the pin at any point around the perimeter and using it as an anchor point for either end of the 16-foot plank then results in a roughly 32-foot diameter Circle. (Try it! It works.) The pathways between Circles were next created by shuffling the board back and forth, or from side to side.

Notice that *all* the dimensions of the formation, including the two pathways and the three Circles, are exponents of 16 feet, which would seem to support "Captain Kirk's" collective confession. But there is something a little too glib about the latter, too, or at least the shortened version as I have it. A few questions remain, and depending on their answers, the hoaxers were either extremely prescient and prepared, or unerringly lucky in their first nocturnal (?) attempt at concocting a complicated 'pictogram' formation.

Quick Complications

For one thing, why the 67-degree angle between the two pathways at the outset? Admittedly, this could be a simple artifact of the way "things went down" at the time of creation. On the other hand, it's curious enough to raise

an eyebrow or two, too, not in terms of the actual angle degree itself, but in regards as to how the pathways themselves actually met their end Circles. If they met both satellite Circles at the same angle, and presumably at the Circle's "midpoint," for example, then things become fairly complicated fairly quickly.

In other words, how did the hoaxers know precisely where to position the centers of the two outlying Circles so that they would be connected to the original Circle by pathways of the same length? Certainly they need not have been worried by alignments that surfaced later (and which, at any rate, were supplied by Haddington himself).

But the problem may be trickier than it first appears. Say, for example, we've laid down a single 16-foot diameter Circle according to the scheme outlined above. Now, using the only available "ruler," the 16-foot long plank, how do you determine a distant center point for the second and third Circles? If you extend the wooden plank from the outer perimeter of the first Circle, for instance, and then use that end point as the center of the next Circle, then obviously the result is adjoining Circles whose perimeters intersect one another. By way of a visual analogy, think of a Mickey Mouse cartoon in which the central Circle consists of the head and two adjacent Circles now constitute the ears.

If you use your 16-foot plank to separate the distance between the Circles, however, all you've arrived at is a *perimeter* point, not the center point which is necessary for establishing the separate diameters of the second and third Circles. Furthermore, the latter two Circles need to be precisely positioned in regard to the center point of the first Circle so that the resulting pathways equal 16 feet in length and presumably approach the two outer Circles at the same approximate angle.

In other words, there is an information flow involved here which works automatically in one direction, but which involves at least a minimal amount of forethought and calculation in the other direction. Think back again to the original first Circle. Now if you

go to its outer perimeter and plunk down your plank so that its far end lies 16 feet away, a Circle drawn using that point as its center will intersect the perimeter of the Circle you've just drawn by definition. A second plunk, or "throw," of the plank *along the same line*, is required in order to determine the center of a Circle that will be separated from the first by a distance of 16 feet. And that Circle can only be 16 feet in diameter. A *third* throw is required if the adjunct Circle is to be both 32 feet in diameter *and* separated from the first Circle by 16 feet of virgin, undisturbed wheat. Am I making myself clear? No? Then you begin to appreciate some of the minimal difficulties involved with interpreting the Circles phenomenon itself in the absence of precise plans, maps and other relevant data.

Both "sides," in other words, are almost equally at blame for the present state of confusion and I, for one, somewhat resent being stranded between two worlds and asked to choose allegiance on any other basis than the available data itself.

The fundamental problem with cereology, and much of the same criticism could easily be extended to include contemporary ufology, is that the original data is being hoarded and secreted away and only publicly disseminated as seen fit by opposing sides of the argument, both "supernatural" and scientific, and only in support of their own prevailing point of view.

Haddington, for example, seems blissfully willing to accept any formation on face value, without so much as a backward glance at the possibility of a human hoax or mundane explanation, meteorological or otherwise. What this means in real world terms, though, is that having committed to the marvelous and mysterious point of view, the Earl of Haddington is no longer interested in garnering meteorological data as any field investigator should, whether relevant or not, because he himself is now obviously convinced that the latter cannot in any way apply to the phenom-

enon at hand. Thus, for example, we have no way of knowing whether the pathways in the Scottish Circles purposefully point in the direction of the burial sites of 14th century knights or merely along the direction of the prevailing wind flow because no one on the 'supernatural side' of the equation is now willing to admit of any meteorological correlation or influence whatsoever.

If you don't think, *a priori*, that a certain correlation appertains or even conceivably applies, then you certainly won't go looking for it. And by virtue of not finding what you are not looking for in the first place, you can only obviously conclude that your pre-existing world view is being reinforced at every turn. Meanwhile, potentially relevant data is consigned to the junk heap, not because it wasn't worth gathering at the time, but simply because it wasn't seen as worth gathering at all.

In this particular case we can see that Haddington never once even considered the notion that wind flow, air temperature or frontal movements, never mind a human hoax, might have had anything remotely to do with what was found on the ground. Since we don't know the angle of prevailing wind currents in the 'afflicted' area, for example, how do we know that the pathways, hoaxed or not, weren't aligned with isobars or not?

This would be fairly easily obtainable information, too, one would think, were one so inclined. Instead, we are treated to information that is even *more* easily obtainable, and certainly more digestible, when mixed with the overall aura of excitement the Circles inherently possess, namely the mythological landscape and folklore of any area that can be found in almost any local library.

If the Earl of Haddington indeed wants to inform himself and his readers about the Circles phenomenon, rather than regale both parties with cultural correlations that may or may not have anything to do with what's at hand, then it would behoove him and his to consider all avenues of approach, including the meteorological and human hoaxers, rather than face the prospect of having

to consume a rather large facial omelette later. I believe it was a Professor Schiller who once warned that "Nothing is more likely to impede investigation than premature 'explanation.'"

The same could be said of some of his critics as well. Certainly as I have it, "Captain Kirk's" account of having confabulated these particular Scottish circles reeks almost as much of scotch as it does of reality.

But isn't there an easy way out? With the promise of a few more pints couldn't Captain Kirk and crew be induced to replicate their infamous and presumably nocturnal escapade for all to see? The exercise, as I see it, would be both exciting and illuminating. We could finally find out the time frame under which human hoaxes could be perpetrated, and whether or not the latter can be convincingly distinguished and eliminated from the ongoing Circles data base by professional cereologists like the Earl of Haddington. If the local rowdies couldn't reproduce their clever performance of a fortnight or two ago, however, then we could also look upon their claims with some askance. Rather than trying to establish the paranormality of some Circles, perhaps the Centre for Crop Circles Study should be trying to prove their normality, perhaps by hosting weekend contests with cash prizes for the best hoax? Publicity would accrue, and who knows, it might even turn out to be a fund-raiser of the first water.

At the least it would let us know how easy it is to distinguish a manmade hoax from the real thing. As it is, we are usually told that the experts on the scene can readily tell the difference between the two, but exactly how is never made clear. Most times, we're simply left to take the investigators' word for it, as if some sort of inherited sixth sense were at work. There must be a better way. Hoaxing an elaborate Circle or two on our own would at least establish a few known benchmarks by which subsequent formations could be judged. Is it always true, for example, that a clever hoax breaks off seed pods and/or damages the existing stalks?

Does it take "hours" to carve out a hoax, or can it be accomplished fairly rapidly, in a matter of minutes? Strange as it seems, hoaxers have even been *filmed* in the act with night-vision cameras; yet not one of the filmers, by all accounts, so much as considered the possibility that a mundane hoax — rather than something exceedingly strange and wonderful — was in progress. No one went to investigate at the time.

"Translations"

What should be clear by now is that, unlike a good UFO case, Crop Circles are relatively easy to hoax, or at least easier to hoax, and that their numbers are likely to increase incrementally this coming summer, given the numbers of gullible investigators and tabloid media people likely to be on hand. For the rest of us to have even a vague idea of which formations are genuine and which are not, we need better guidelines than those of "feel" or intuition.

This is especially true when it comes to "interpreting," or "translating," the complex "pictogram" formations, which is rapidly becoming a small cottage industry in its own right. Why an unknown "non-human intelligence," ufonauts, or much of anything else, would want to spend its time carving complex patterns in cereal crops is just sort of blithely assumed on the basis that the patterns are simply *too* fundamentally complex, *on their face*, to have sprung fullblown from nature, however complex or a prisoner of patterns the latter might be in other areas.

Hurricanes are fairly complex systems, too, ones that have their origins hundreds and thousands of miles away from where they do their destruction, yet only a few fundamentalists run around claiming that the sky is falling or that hurricanes are a "warning" from above. Yet without fairly recent innovations in aerial and satellite photography, we would probably have no really good idea of just how complex the structure of an average hurricane or tornado really is. But we feel,

Continued on page 15

News'n'Views ...

Call for Abduction Cases

In 1964 the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) issued a compendium of information about UFOs called *The UFO Evidence*. This enormously influential and useful volume drew together the various aspects of sightings and witnesses into a systematic and powerful testament to the reality of UFOs. It was used to educate congressmen and the public alike and it helped change the direction of UFO research.

Now we have the opportunity to proceed with a project that promises to be even more powerful and influential. Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs have been named project directors of a major effort to bring together into one volume the complexity and variety of the abduction phenomenon. The project calls for a compilation of abduction cases from around the country investigated by as many UFO and abduction researchers as possible. It is hoped that new patterns will be identified, new questions can be asked, and new directions for research can be developed. A compendium of this type can provide authoritative evidence of the reality of the phenomenon for UFO researchers, scientists, members of the therapeutic community and skeptics.

Obviously this type of endeavor depends on the cooperation of the entire UFO research community. Without your help it cannot be done. Therefore I would like to make a special request to you. The project would like to publish the abduction cases that you have collected over the years. If your report is used, you will be given full credit in the compendium and your by-line will be on the case. In effect, this would be a refereed publication that can be added to your UFO resume. If you are planning a book on your case, and you want to have only a part of the case used, your wishes will be respected. This is a non-profit endeavor. Proceeds from the final publication will be used

to further the study of UFO abductions.

The time has come now to work together in a cooperative effort for the good of UFO research. It is only together that we can make substantial headway into deciphering the mysteries of this most important phenomenon. Both Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs will be contributing their cases and I feel sure that you will want to make your own contribution so that you can be a part of this historical undertaking.

— Walter H. Andrus, Jr.

Instructions

The cases should be as complete as possible. Short fragments are acceptable, but we would prefer comprehensive cases. "Multiple" cases, in which abductees see others abducted, nonabductees see others abducted, or two or more people are abducted at once, are important for inclusion.

Documentation should accompany reports. Names (or pseudonyms) along with the age, sex and pertinent information about the abductee, e.g., physical infirmities, ethnic background, etc., should be sent. Include the time, place and date of the abduction. All names and addresses will be confidential. It is also important to send supporting material like how the abductee first suspected that he/she was involved with the abduction phenomenon, where the abductee went for investigation and so on.

If possible, please send a transcript of the hypnotic regression and/or non-hypnotically recalled interview. If it is not possible to provide a transcript, copies of audio and video tapes will be accepted. If a taped account is used, transcripts will be made by us and given to the investigator at the project's conclusion.

Please include your name, address and phone number, along with information about your years of investigative

experience and any other biographical data that you deem appropriate. If your cases are used, you will be asked to sign a release allowing us to publish them.

Either Budd Hopkins or David Jacobs will be happy to provide their professional opinion about the methodology employed in your case, if you so desire.

Please send your cases either to: Budd Hopkins, 246 W. 16th Street, New York, NY 10011 or David M. Jacobs, 607 E. Gravers Lane, Wyndmoor, PA 19118.

We are looking forward to working with you on this most important project.

— Budd Hopkins
David M. Jacobs

Japanese UFO and Space Symposium

The first International UFO and Space Symposium took place on November 23-25 of last year, in Hakui City on the west coast of Japan, several hundred miles from Tokyo. The symposium ran concurrently with a space exhibit which opened on November 17 and closed on the 25th.

The UFO portion of the symposium was unique in that it was supported by both the local city and national governments. Although Japan's Prime Minister, Toshiki Kaifu, did not attend in person, he did send a message read in his absence which said that he thought it was time to take the UFO problem seriously. The Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture, Yoichi Nakanishi, did attend, as did Mayor Kazuo Shiotani and the Hakui city council.

Others who labored long and successfully so that the symposium could take place included Mr. Josen Takano, a name probably familiar to many American ufologists, ably assisted by Trudy Nodahara of Los Angeles, and a number of local helpers.



Entrance to the UFO town of Hakui City, Japan

The advance planning was more than evident. Widely advertised ahead of time, the UFO and space exhibits occupied several floors of the city's main cultural center. One floor, devoted to space exploration, was decorated with numerous displays of manmade spacecraft, from the early astronaut days to the moon landing. These included two actual moon rocks and a mock-up of a proposed moonbase. Another floor contained a large UFO photo exhibit featuring sightings from around the world. "Space Girls" in special uniforms served as guides.

Nearly one thousand people attended the opening ceremonies. The Mayor welcomed the crowd while the speakers were presented with large bouquets of flowers presented by ladies dressed in beautiful traditional *kimonos*. Then the symposium split in two, the space half probably highlighted by Skylab 4 astronaut Dr. Gerald Carr, who addressed over 15,000 school children in the first two days.

The UFO portion of the symposium consisted of lectures, and a question and answer session directed at invited ufologists. Dr. Bruce Maccabee, Chairman of the Fund for UFO Research and

MUFON State Director for Maryland, represented the United States, as did Major Coleman Von Keviczky (Hungarian Army, Ret.), a resident of New York and Director of ICUFON. The Soviet Union was represented by Dr. Vladimir Azhazha, director of the newly formed "SoyuzUFOsentr (Unified UFO Center), and by Dr. Marina Popovich, who holds over a hundred world records as a woman test pilot. She is also the wife of cosmonaut Pavel Popovich, head of the commission on Abnormal Atmospheric Phenomena. Representing Taiwan were Hong-Yung Chiang and Kai-Chi Chang. Finally, representing Japan, were Dr. Mikio Naganobu, a geophysicist, and Jun-ichi Yaoi.

The latter should be familiar to many American ufologists, too. During the past decade, Mr. Yaoi has traveled extensively in the USA, making UFO and environmental documentaries that have been widely and well received in his native Japan.

Japanese Cases

Dr. Maccabee opened the UFO lectures by discussing several cases, in-

cluding three of special interest to Japanese citizens (Japan Airlines Flight 1628 of November 1986; the December 1978 New Zealand sightings; and the Hamazaki video case of July 1989). He also discussed the Roswell case research, pointing out that these sightings, and many others like them from throughout the world, demonstrate that UFOs are real. Now the major problem is to get the world to treat the subject seriously, as suggested by the Prime Minister.

Mr. Von Keviczky addressed the information contained in government documents available worldwide, and addressed his efforts to get the United Nations to recognize ufology as a legitimate subject of serious scientific inquiry.

Dr. Popovich discussed a few Soviet sightings, but spent most of her time describing her activities as a pilot. Dr. Azhazha discussed several Soviet sightings and the official reaction to them, including the establishment last spring of a center to coordinate the more than one hundred small groups of scientists and civilians currently scattered throughout the country.

Hong-yung Chiang presented a very interesting study he had performed of ancient (mainland) Chinese sightings. Reviewing the records of several dozen cities, dating back many hundreds of years, Chiang found numerous references to odd things seen in the sky.

Kai-Chi Chang discussed sightings in Taiwan. Dr. Naganobu spoke about two sightings made from Japanese ships in the Pacific Ocean. He was an observer during one of the sightings.

Finally, Mr. Yaoi surveyed several Japanese sightings, ufology in general and the sorry state of the environment throughout the world. His talk demonstrated that the study of UFOs often leads to a wider, more holistic view of world affairs than the limited earthbound perspective that normally prevails.

During the closing ceremony on November 25, the speakers presented the city with a signed statement reiterating the need for such a global outlook, and particularly addressing the

consequences of an encounter with another intelligent lifeform from outside the solar system.

— Bruce Maccabee

(Left to right) Dr. Vladimir G. Azhaza; USSR AF Colonel Marina Popovich; Colman S. Von Keviczky, MMSE; Bruce S. Maccabee, Ph.D.; and Johnsen Takano, Hakui City Symposium Organizer.



SWISS AWARD

The Dr. A. Hedri-Foundation for Exopsychology and Epipsychology Zurich hereby bestows the AWARD FOR EXOPSYCHOLOGY 1991 with 20,000 Swiss Francs to:

PROF. THEODORE AUERBACH

in recognition of his investigation into the theory of ball lightning and for his work on antigravity.

This award was presented on February 15, 1991 in connection with the GV of the Swiss Association of Parapsychology, Bern/Biel in the University of Bern.



Prof. Theodore Auerbach

The Mutual UFO Network is extremely proud to announce that this is the second consecutive year that one of our foreign representatives in Europe has received this prestigious recognition and monetary award. Dipl. Phys. Illobrand von Ludwiger, West Germany was the recipient in 1990 in recognition for his long standing, exact scientific exploration of the UFO phenomenon and for his publication of the deserving and elaborate ten volumes of MUFON-CES. Herr von Ludwiger became MUFON's Representative for

Germany in 1974 and is the coordinator of Mutual UFO Network-Central European Section (MUFON-CES), the German speaking nations in Europe. During a business trip to the U.S.A., Illobrand visited MUFON in Seguin.

In 1980, Theodore Auerbach, Ph.D. was appointed Representative for Switzerland where he was also a member of MUFON-CES. Dr. Auerbach is now a retired professor of physics from the University of Bern in Zurich, Switzerland, residing in Gebenstorf. In addition to his interest

in UFOs, his major hobby is model engineering. He has a well-equipped machine shop in the basement of his home and is presently building a steam tractor. Your International Director had the privilege of meeting Ted Auerbach at a London UFO Congress. Dr. Auerbach will be attending the Sheffield, England UFO Congress in 1991.

Both Dr. Auerbach and Dipl. Phys. von Ludwiger are an asset to MUFON in Europe and raise the scientific credibility of the organization.

UTAH SIGHTING, Continued

the UFO from the back seat of the car. Les talked to little Courtney alone, and there were no discrepancies in her story. She was very serious about it.

Estimates of speed, distance, size and duration in this sighting are "guestimates," but there is no question in my mind that the Haddenhams did see a large, apparently metallic object moving at great speed across the sky over Salt Lake Valley.

HOAXES, Continued

without the slightest shred of evidence other than their 'miraculously' impressive, seemingly symbolic appearance, that the Circles *must* be "saying" something to us, something they apparently didn't feel compelled to say in the Sixties or Seventies, or at least not in such numbers or complexity. Strange, isn't it?

Meanwhile, we *do* agree that the Circles are an intriguing phenomenon, and the *Journal* will continue to review and address them in that light. It may be naive to think that the mystery will be resolved to everyone's satisfaction as early as this summer, or even next, but it doesn't hurt to hope.



Colin Andrews
Crop Circles Researcher

Calendar of UFO Conferences for 1991

June 27, 28 & 29 — 12th Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigations - University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

July 5, 6 & 7 — MUFON 1991 International UFO Symposium - Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel at O'Hare International Airport near Chicago, Illinois

August 16, 17 & 18 — Sixth International UFO Congress - Central Library Theater, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England

September 7 & 8 — The UFO Mystery - Sebel Townhouse Hotel, Elizabeth Bay, Sydney, Australia

September 13 & 14 — 28th Annual National UFO Conference - Holiday Inn, Cleveland/Airport, Cleveland, Ohio

October 3-6 — International UFO Congress - Sponsored by European UFO Network, Belgium

October 12 & 13 — The UFO Experience - Holiday Inn, North Haven, Connecticut

October 12 & 13 — Fourth Symposium on Ufology and Exobiology - Sao Paulo, Brazil

October 19 — Show-Me UFO Conference III - Holiday Inn Airport-West, Bridgeton, Missouri. Near St. Louis Airport



POSSIBLE DECODING

Our first attempt at decoding one of the English crop glyphs was performed on a pictogram which appeared at Hazeley Farm Fields in August of 1990, and which gave the reading, "This is the place of the devil, an evil place." The above agriglyph was found at Barn Field, near Hazeley Farm, and suggests a similar "interpretation." The decoding technique employs the Old Norse/Tuareg-Berber pictographic language known as Tifinag (2000 B.C.), as discussed in *Bronze Age America* (Little, Brown, 1982) by Barry Fell, an avowed Crop Circle skeptic. Of course the decoding is tentative and speculative, but goes as follows:

	Vee Shape, Circle	Circle Holding Two Bars	Circle, Vee Shape
In Tifinag:	D ___ R	L ___ L	R ___ D
Vowels:	Dire (Old English)	Liki (Norse)	Red (Norse)
Added:	Darlig (Danish/Norse)		
Translation:	bad, dangerous or evil	is, is like	roadstead, anchorage

"This roadstead (or anchorage) is a dangerous place to camp."

— Jon Erik Beckjord

Looking Back

Bob Gribble

May 1956 ■ Several UFOs were observed by members of the Pueblo, Colorado, Ground Observer Corps, stationed at the courthouse observation post. They said the objects had flashing lights, were "baseball size," fluorescent, and traveled at rapid speeds. "They saw nothing other than ordinary celestial activity," said Col. John M. White, commanding officer of the 4602nd Air Intelligence Service Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colorado. His men checked reports called in on six successive nights beginning on the first. Sgt. Gilbert Nelson, a member of the intelligence squadron, was sent to Pueblo to investigate. He reported observing six appearances of the objects. "They were dull, more or less fluorescent glows, faint but bright enough to see. Most of them were triangular in shape, but one was round and brighter than the rest." Nelson said the objects were visible for only five or six seconds at a time, so great was their speed. (*The Star-Journal*, Pueblo, CO, 5/4/56; *The Free Press*, Colorado Springs, CO, 5/12/56; *The News Tribune*, Tacoma, WA, 5/10/56)

■ In dead seriousness and with some reluctance, the Air Force confirmed an eerie tale of UFO sightings over Pratt, Kansas. Some two dozen people, including Ground Observer Corps members on duty in the observation post, saw the objects and were interviewed by Air Force officers. The objects, described as resembling two saucers rim-to-rim, were seen three times the night of May 8-9. Four were "flying in formation" in the first incident, at 8:30 p.m. A single disc was seen at 12:30 a.m., and two more at 1:30 a.m. (*The News-Herald*, Hutchinson, KS, 5/27/56)

■ Four members of the Columbia,

Tennessee, Ground Observer Corps spotted four UFOs at 4 p.m. on the 20th. Major Cecil Gullett, director of the post, said the filter center reported back to him that a radar check had been made of the area and the only thing that showed up on the radar screen was a jet that the Air Force had in the area "looking around." The observers described the objects as being oval-shaped and resembling two plates put together rim-to-rim. After four minutes in the area, the objects disappeared. (*The Herald*, Columbia, TN, 5/30/56)

■ **1961** Skyquakes and UFOs plagued Long Beach, California on the 19th. Area residents reported two aerial explosions about 3 p.m., and the sighting of 12 shiny objects playing tag over the city at 3:50 p.m. At 4:30 p.m., three jet interceptors flying in formation swept in from the ocean and the shiny objects "just disappeared." Five minutes later, six of the objects reappeared and continued their maneuvering before abruptly fading from sight at 4:45 p.m. (*The Independent*, Long Beach, CA, 5/20/61)

■ For 90 minutes in the early hours of the 20th, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, was under observation by a strange round object, glowing orange-white, which maneuvered over the Drone (pilotless aircraft) Launching Site. During this time, the UFO was tracked by two Air Force radar stations. Its prolonged maneuvers were observed by members of the 4756th Air Police Squadron and the assistant to the base UFO officer. After attempted interceptions by a jet and a helicopter, the UFO climbed away from the base and disappeared. The simultaneous visual and radar reports, including double confirmation by two Air Force radar stations, completely ruled out any possibility of mirages or refractions of distant stars.

(*The UFO Investigator* (NICAP), July/August 1961)

■ **1966** A Mentor, Ohio man reported seeing a UFO which appeared to pick up 10 smaller objects before streaking out of sight "at a fantastic rate of speed." Richard Goldthorpe, a design engineer who worked on the Lockheed C-138 aircraft project, said the sighting occurred at 3:05 a.m. on the 17th. He was looking out the bedroom window and saw a white to bluish-white object "for an estimated three to six minutes." It stopped twice in its slow, westerly course to pick up first four, then six "very, very dim objects." The larger UFO would brighten when picking up the smaller objects and then dim when the smaller objects were aboard, he said. Goldthorpe said the larger object accelerated at a "fantastic rate of speed" northward after the 10 smaller objects were aboard and after it changed its westerly course. (*The News Herald*, Willoughby, OH, 5/17/66)

■ About four hours later and about 2500 miles west of Mentor, Ohio, a similar incident occurred. Mrs. Jim Grant of Madras, Oregon, was returning home from Portland when she spotted a large UFO and seven smaller ones during the early morning hours. She was one of four witnesses who saw the objects from the high plateau west of Warm Springs Indian reservation. They first spotted the objects about 4 a.m. and watched them for an hour and a half. During the pre-dawn watch, Mrs. Grant said that at one time seven tiny specks of bright light appeared in the northeast moving rapidly toward the south. When reaching the large craft, the smaller ones appeared to circle around it, dip below it, and then three of them swooped under the hovering vehicle, went up over it and appeared

to disappear into the top of the craft. Some time later the four pin points of light that had disappeared to the south appeared to return, fly under the larger object and then disappear into the top as did the three earlier ones. (*The Pioneer*, Madras, OR, 5/19/66)

■ A disc-shaped craft with a dome on top, "as clear as seeing a Cadillac drifting by," was observed in bright daylight on the 21st by an experienced pilot and his passenger. At 3:15 p.m., William Powell, a chief pilot for Sears Roebuck on the east coast was flying north-northwest at 4500 feet, three miles from the Willow Grove Naval Air Station near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Ahead of him were four Navy jets split into groups of two. While watching the jets, Powell noticed a solid, bright configuration at his 11 o'clock position, apparently at his altitude. The weather was excellent and the disc stood out clearly. Moving from left to right, the craft approached one group of jets from the rear, then made a sharp turn and came directly toward Powell's plane at moderate speed. Passing within 300 feet, it was seen to be a disc with a glistening white dome on top. Powell estimated the UFO's diameter at 20 feet. The vehicle disappeared after passing the plane. (*The UFO Investigator* (NICAP), March/April 1967)

■ **1971** On the afternoon of the 16th, three teenagers, Mike, Bill and Dave, had set-up a campsite adjacent to a pond east of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Two of the high school students set about exploring the area. Mike remained behind with his German shepherd dog and began to walk away from the pond towards the other end of the field. "I felt like something was following me and I turned around and there wasn't anything there. In a split second I turned around again and there was this huge object, just like it was floating." The craft, when first spotted by Mike, had been hovering almost directly above the high voltage power lines near the pond. It slowly began to move in his direction. Mike, shocked by what he had already seen, laid down in the high grass to avoid detection.

The vehicle approached to within 100 feet of where he was hiding and began to descend.

"Legs came out under it and it bounced as it hit the ground," Mike recalled. "I couldn't move, I was stunned. I kept watching it and finally a door came down. Finally I saw this man, he had long arms and everything. Finally he started walking ... he looked around. He had some type of object in his hand — I don't know what it was — like a little small box that was glowing. He looked at me, put his hands up and started coming at me. Finally I told my dog to 'sick em' and he went after him." The being turned around and in a stiff, bouncing fashion returned to his craft. The door of the vehicle closed "and about 10 minutes later it just lifted off." Mike's companions found him a few minutes later lying down in the grass "moaning" and obviously frightened. All three quickly returned to their homes.

■ While Mike's experience went unreported outside of the immediate family, another incident that occurred in the vicinity of his home on the 18th received considerable attention, including an extensive police investigation. That evening, two of Mike's sisters, Cathy, 18, and Susie, 14, were returning home from the house of a friend. They were driving up the family's long winding driveway when they became aware of a humming sound and red lights around them and apparently coming from above the car. Almost immediately, the car's engine stalled, the headlights went out and the car radio quit. They tried frantically to start the engine but it would not respond. According to the girls, they could see a gigantic disc-shaped craft, glowing white with four red lights beneath it, hovering about 50 feet above their car. After about five minutes, the car finally did start and Cathy, the driver, raced up the driveway and the "thing" continued to follow them.

The sound of the car racing up the driveway, throwing rocks and pebbles in its frantic search for safety, attracted the attention of Mike, who was inside the house at the time. Mike stepped

outside the front door of the house and observed his sister's car racing up the driveway with "this gigantic disc-shaped craft following them" When they arrived, Cathy jumped out of the car and ran to the house, while her younger sister remained inside the car, too terrified to move. The disc had followed the car up to the house and continued to hover above it while Mike and an older brother watched. Cathy, meanwhile, called her parents who were visiting nearby relatives. Before they arrived home, the vehicle moved away. (*The UFO Investigator* (NICAP), May 1972)

■ **1976** Huge chunks of earth weighing hundreds of pounds were mysteriously cut from the ground, moved intact, then arranged like giant pieces of a jigsaw puzzle in a remote Canadian farming region where glowing UFOs were reported. At least five people claim vivid, close-up UFO sightings. Others reported hearing strange beeping sounds in the night. But the most puzzling part of the mystery remains the holes in the ground. "There has been no explanation for them," Police Constable Robert Bruce said. No tracks from excavation equipment have been found near any of the digs. And scientists are at a loss to identify a natural cause for the holes.

Bruce investigated one case in which three triangular pieces of earth and grass, about eight inches thick and weighing up to 600 pounds each — like huge chunks of sod — were neatly cut from the ground and moved intact 16 to 21 feet from their original locations. One piece was 11 feet by seven feet by six feet along its three sides. The other two were seven feet by five feet by four feet. "The sod was placed in the same triangular pattern as the holes and could have fit back into them like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle," Bruce said. The "puzzle" was discovered in a hayfield on a hilly, rocky farm near the hamlet of Cooper, 112 miles northeast of Toronto, Ontario. "My son found the holes on Sunday, the ninth," said the farm's owner, 68-year-old Reginald Trotter. "I'd been in the field the Friday before and there was nothing wrong

then. I don't have any idea how it could have happened," Trotter said. "I've lived on this farm all my life and I have never seen anything like that before."

According to Trotter, no one could have gone into the field with excavation equipment without his knowledge. "There's absolutely no way to get in there except to go right past my house. Any vehicle would have to go right through my yard," he said. Similar holes were also found on two other nearby farms. And in each case, the earth and grass were moved intact. "One of the pieces I found must have weighed at least 600 pounds, and it was 30 feet from the hole," said farmer Glenn Rollins. "There were no signs of machinery tracks," he added. Bob Reincke, a spokesman for Fiat-Allis in Milwaukee, a firm that manufactures construction equipment, said: "I can't think of anything that would do that without leaving some kind of tread mark or track." He and other experts also agreed that no machinery they know of could move such large pieces without breaking them.

Lightning was discounted by Dr. Frank C. Creed, a high voltage engineer and lightning expert employed by the Canadian government. "When lightning strikes, it's the equivalent of an explosion. It would scatter the sod, not move it intact," he said. Dr. John Westgate, a geologist at the University of Toronto's Scarborough College, said "I can't think of any natural process that could have done this." One of the most spectacular UFO sightings in the area was reported by Mrs. Pauline Dudgeon, who said she saw a brilliant object in the road near her home two miles south of Cooper. "It was just a huge big thing sitting out there on the road..." (*National Enquirer*, August 17, 1976, by Bob Pratt)

■ **1981** William Hummer, a middle-aged security guard in Danville, Pennsylvania, was so intrigued by what he saw on the afternoon of the fourth that he couldn't help but tell others. But later he was sorry he did. "You're marked as a looney as soon as you say something." He happened to glance up at the sky and spotted something, fair-

ly high, but the sun was overhead and it was hard to see. Stepping into the shadows of the house, he got a better look. Then he got a pair of binoculars. When he looked up toward the sun, he saw what appeared to be a giant circular object with a dome on top. Small disc-shaped craft were being launched from the larger vehicle and they moved off in different directions in groups of three. While this was going on, a wispy material like cobwebs came floating down.

"This stuff was coming down continuously," Hummer said. "I went after

some of it but it was like you wasn't touching anything. It just disappeared." It appeared that the silk-like strands were coming from the small disc-shaped craft. He said he and about six of his neighbors witnessed the objects. Hummer's sister, Marie, came home from work about 2:30 p.m. "I could see silky-like cobwebs and they were in great big strands," Marie said. "I watched that stuff flying around for a long time. I could also see these things like flying discs." (*The Daily Item*, Sunbury, PA, 5/5/81; *The Enquirer & News*, Battle Creek, MI, 12/28/81)

The UFO Press

The UFO Silencers

By Timothy Green Beckley, Introduction by John Keel
Inner Light Publications, paperback, 160 pages, illus., \$12.95

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

If Timothy Green Beckley didn't already exist, ufology would probably have to invent him all over again, a thought sure to send shivers down the spines of many. But he does exist, and in many ways he is his own best invention. He is, if nothing else, remarkably irrepressible. Others may dream about editing their own UFO magazine, of having their own publishing platform, but Beckley simply goes out and does it, year after year after year. The results are not always on firm footing with facts, but why let little things like that get in the way of a rip-roarin' yarn? On occasion, public service is even performed, as with the publication in this country of Jenny Randles' *Alien Abductions*, also from Inner Light Publications, Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

The UFO Silencers, however, is pure unadulterated Beckley, from the garish cover art outside, to the equally garish contents inside, in this case an examination of the myth and lore of the now infamous Men in Black, or MIBs (Beckley even includes a photograph of one,

or at least of someone in a dark suit).

Form meets function, but the fault, dear reader, is hardly wholly Beckley's own, for nothing else about ufology is quite so garish or outlandish as the tales told of mysterious MIBs, those shadowy strangers who drive black Cadillacs and supposedly spy on UFO investigators and witnesses, pilfering pictures and other evidential data, while posing as low level bureaucrats straight out of Monty Python's Ministry of Strange Walks.

Nothing funny about this latest crop of Kafkaesque kids, though, in fact, far from it. Beckley's dark visitors strike terror into the hearts of men (and women) everywhere. Occasionally, they even cut loose with a machine-gun. But mostly, they just hang around and make a nuisance of themselves, exuding a sense of dread and otherworldliness. For all their assumed nefariousness, instances of actual alleged damage to persons and property seem relatively few and far between, hardly the results one would expect of sinister supernatural CIA or KGB agents.

Beckley traces such stories back to medieval times and themes, but psychological and psychosocial commentary are not the author's strongest points. Nor is he fabricating these tales out of whole cloth, either. Although Beckley rarely meets a footnote or reference he likes, unless it happens to have an address and a dollar sign in it, he is, after all, only reporting what others have told him or written. Typically, but not always, these others are a "reliable" or "well-known" UFO investigator who no one else has ever relied on or heard of. But if verifiable facts aren't allowed to get in the way of a good yarn, why should reliable sources fare any better? If abducting Grays and Nords are believable, why not MIBs?

Black Choppers

The latter category, in fact, has taken on a new twist with the advent of the black helicopter, which seems to be well on the way to replacing the worn-out dark sedans of the early days of ufology. Whether this represents a psychological undercurrent of fear of modern technology, or merely an increase in the MIB's black budget, Beckley fails to note. Such stories continue to surface in the serious literature, however, most recently in personal Epilogue of Ed Conroy's *Report of Communion*, and once started, they burn like grass fires, tenaciously and almost impossible to put out.

Few seem to notice or care that once you start being aware of black helicopters, the more black helicopters there are to be aware of. Flying back to San Antonio not too long ago, for example, I glanced out of the window in time to see a shiny, new black helicopter on the ground in front of a small hangar, its rotar blades slowly turning. Curiously, the chopper bore no obvious markings. Equally curious, perhaps, my inflight reading had been Conroy's *Report*. Now, was it a mere coincidence of perception on my part, or an act of persecution or surveillance on the part of the MIB? Your choice not only reveals a good deal about how you think about UFOs, but also about how like-

ly (and possibly even entertaining) you're apt to find *The UFO Silencers*.

The author stirs in all sorts of disconnected bits and chunks before the book not so much concludes, as simply ends with the last episode. As documentation of the MIB phenomenon itself, or as an attempt to analyze what, if anything, it might mean, *Silencers* is fairly thin gruel. But both as source and

example of the ongoing diaspora of rumor, myth, folklore and paranoia within the UFO community, it represents a thick, chunky stew. And of course as the latest chapter in Beckley's own lifelong biography, it comes with its own collector's item status built-in. Not bad for thirteen dollars in today's market.

Of Wolves And Aliens

THE WILD

By Whitley Strieber

Tom Doherty Associates, NY, paperback, 378 pp, \$5.95

Review by Robert J. Durant

Whitley Strieber is by far the best known abductee. His *Communion* was on the best-seller charts for six months, and the sequel, *Transformation*, also sold very well. Fans of horror fiction made him a star in that field long before *Communion* appeared. Now Strieber has produced a new book, *The Wild*, which I picked up in the supermarket, a certain signal that he has become a genuine mass media fixture.

On the surface, the book has nothing to do with abductees or ufos. It is instead a return to his bread and butter horror fiction, and once again deals with a favorite Strieber theme — sentient, almost supernaturally powerful wolves. And like his previous horror fiction, this one is gripping and hard to put down.

But the book is worth reading on a deeper level, too, as part of the search for the "real" Whitley Strieber and the true nature of his bewildering abduction experiences.

The central figures are Bob Duke, a man given to poetry but a failure in the practical world of business, his wife Cindy, and their 12-year-old son, Kevin. Prior to embarking on a career as a writer, Strieber worked in advertising, apparently with indifferent results. The rest of the description of the Duke family is plainly true to life, a thinly veiled biographical sketch, in-

cluding the Greenwich Village apartment, the Ulster County cabin, and much else of both a concrete and personal nature that Strieber-watchers have picked up in one place or another over the years about Whitley, Anne and Andrew Strieber.

One day Bob Duke turns into a wolf, abruptly metamorphosing right in front of his family. This absurd, impossible event launches the story. The fact that Strieber makes everything following the metamorphosis perfectly logical, and indeed fascinating, is a tribute to his skill as a writer.

But the book is far more than just a horror thriller. The nature of a universe that can permit sudden dramatic upheavals in the laws of physics and in everything that we thought was "true" and "right" is repeatedly questioned in the text. It quickly becomes obvious that Strieber has used the metamorphosis as a metaphor for the nearly equally absurd and impossible abduction experience. Yet, he is telling us, through the cleverly contrived medium of a man-to-wolf story, it happened. And the event demands explanation.

A consistent theme of profound puzzlement and distress runs through Strieber's formal and informal commentaries on his dealings with the aliens. Lately he has turned his back on ufologists, denouncing them as useless at best in the quest for mean-

ingful interpretation of the abduction experience. Like most abductees, he feels abandoned by his own civilization. Neither science nor religion has provided answers or solace: *"He has no way of explaining himself, not even in his own mind. His only thought was that ours is an age at the far limit of time, and it is at limits and extremes that the impossible can happen. Or maybe the mysterious fifth force that physicists speculate about had something to do with it. Maybe it was a disease, psychological or otherwise."*

The wolf that had been Duke/Strieber enters the world of unadulterated nature, where higher and more universal laws beyond our ken control existence. His wife and child metamorphose and join him in the new life, closing the personal ring. Our human culture is left far behind without regret.

It is troubling to watch an acute intellect such as Strieber's struggle helplessly in the face of "the phenomenon." Even more unsettling is the picture of a man of truly refined instincts and immense erudition embracing wolves, primeval enemies and competitors of man, as models for both the aliens and a regenerated (Transformed?) mankind.

Ufologists can propound convincing arguments for the reality of extraterrestrial visitation. But for them the subject remains abstract and sterile, an armchair exercise, and that is something that enrages abductees, for whom the experience is overwhelmingly real and personal: *"What eats us? We can't understand it any more than the chicken can understand Frank Perdue. There is something out there."*

In addition to his wife and son, the metamorphosis was witnessed by Monica, a psychiatrist and friend of the family: *"The woman was slowly coming undone, tortured by her inability to understand what had happened to Bob, and unable to enlist the aid of any of her fellow scientists and doctors in her research. Monica was now a haunted woman, her practice in ruins, her wealth disappearing into the well of what the rest of her profession saw as*

an insane quest." Sounds painfully familiar. Like "Bob" and "Cindy" and "Kevin," Monica is a figure based on a very real person. Indeed, most of us who toil in this perplexing field of ufology can sigh agreement with this description. Aren't we all, researchers and abductees alike, victims?

And in a passage reminiscent of his writing in *Communion* on the social nature of the aliens, Strieber speaks thus of the "wolves": *"How could anybody have ever thought that these were simple beasts? Bob was faced with the shocking realization that the wolves had evolved an intelligence and a sense so great that it was literally incomparable, and yet so different from man's intelligence that it was all but invisible to the human mind."*

We suppose that the alien intelligence laughs at us, carrying on a sort of cosmic Keystone Kops routine that makes hilarious sense to them, but leaves our pythagorean sensibilities stupefied. One is reminded of the extraordinary elaborations of last year's Crop Circles. Surely this is an intelligence at work, and surely something like communication is the purpose. And there is a delicious irony in the use of cereal crops as the medium of communication, the same cereal agriculture that founded our human civilization.

Dr. David Jacobs, a leading abduction researcher, once told me that the common denominator of abduction experiences is what he called "the stare." That is, the experience begins with the onset of what we would call hypnotic trance, and the trance is produced by a steady gaze from the awesome eyes of the aliens.

In the final pages of *The Wild*, Cindy has been metamorphosed and the son, Kevin, is being asked to join his parents, completing the family transition to the new world. A native American Indian has accompanied Cindy and Kevin, providing guidance from the rich store of his race's mysticism. Cindy, now a wolf, is standing with her paws on Kevin's shoulders, looking into his eyes: *"They do it to you," the Indian shouted. "Kev, they do it with their eyes!"*

UFO NEWSCIPPING SERVICE

The UFO Newscipping Service will keep you informed of all the latest United States and World-Wide UFO reports (i.e., little known photographic cases, close encounters and landing reports, occupant cases) and all other UFO reports, many of which are carried only in small town and foreign newspapers.

Our UFO Newscipping Service issues are 20-page monthly reports, reproduced by photo-offset, containing the latest United States and Canadian UFO newscippings, with our foreign section carrying the latest British, Australian, New Zealand and other foreign press reports. Also included is a 3-5 page section of "Fortean" clippings (i.e., Bigfoot and other "monster" reports). Let us keep you informed of the latest happenings in the UFO and Fortean fields.

For subscription information and sample pages from our service, write today to:

UFO NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE
Route 1 - Box 220
Plumerville, Arkansas 72127

MUFON Amateur Radio Net

80 meters — 3.990 MHz
Saturday, 10 p.m.

40 meters — 7.237 MHz
Saturday, 8 a.m.

10 meters — 28.460 MHz
Thursday, 8 p.m.

10 meters — 28.470 MHz
Sunday, 3 p.m.

All times Eastern Standard
or Daylight



Letters to the Editor ...

Dear Editor:

Larry Bryant, a civilian writer for the Pentagon, has seen his lawsuit against the Secretary of Defense et al, finally come to an end.

That suit, filed in the mid '80's, claimed an abuse of his constitutionally protected right of speech and press. As most know, Bryant's exemplary performance ratings plummeted (jeopardizing his career) when he refused to cease placing his "UFO Whistle-blower" ads in military base papers. The suit sought to prevent Base Commanders from arbitrarily refusing to allow publishers to place Bryant's ads and to restrain his supervisors from further harassment. The Government agreed with Bryant on his claim of prior restraint and stipulated it would not recur. Those ads continue to be published. Bryant lost on his harassment claim, however, the reasons buried in legal esoterica.

My reason for this letter is to thank Bryant as a U.S. citizen and ufologist. A letter to Larry from his attorney, James H. Heller, dated February 28, 1991, says it better:

"... You fought a long principled fight. I'm sorry it did not come out well in the laws books, but I do expect they'll leave you alone henceforth. If not, you let me know. I mean it when I say you have the stuff of which constitutional heroes are made. I'm very proud to know and have represented you."

— Robert H. Bletchman
Manchester, CT

Dear Editor:

The letter from Hilary Evans in the January 1991 *Journal* promotes Dr. Meaden's "Plasma Vortex" theory of Crop Circle formation as "the best approach — because it is the only scientific approach." I doubt that Mr. Evans, if he is a scientist, can have studied Meaden's theory for there is little that is scientific about it. Those who have read Meaden's book, *The Circles Effect and Its Mysteries*, will know that he ascribes the origin of his vortices to the

lee effect of hills, which divide the airflow of the geostrophic wind: "Something energetic takes place to disturb the relative tranquillity of the dynamic stability of the spinning column or trailing vortex and forces a component of its energy, probably concentrated into a small volume, to follow a path that eventually leads to self-destruction at the ground or in the air."

Something energetic indeed! If we are to accept this line of reasoning, we must abandon the Law of Conservation of Angular Momentum, which physicists have never previously queried. Circles frequently form on completely still nights when the atmosphere is extremely stable; so, from tiny initial velocities, Dr. Meaden would have us believe, localized speeds of over 200 km/hr or so, needed to flatten crops, spontaneously develop. Nowhere does his book suggest any rotational velocities for these mythical vortices or offer any equations to show how they form and act. His vortices are something quite different from whirlwinds and dust-devils since these are produced by separate (understood) processes and are ascending vortices, rather than ones that press down on the ground. And somehow Dr. Meaden's vortices, without any lateral movement, miraculously disperse leaving geometric patterns with sharply defined edges!

Having abandoned one well established law, Meaden then has no qualms about jettisoning another. His vortex, which has sprung energetically from nowhere, can assume, he says, an "internal structure" which is highly organized: observe for example the pattern, supposedly produced by a "plasma vortex," which formed the Alton Barnes pictogram shown on the cover of the December *Journal*. He ignores the fact that such a process would contravene the well established Second Law of Thermodynamics, which states that entropy (a measure of the probability of degree of disorder) of a system either remains constant or increases.

If disregard for the established laws of physics were insufficient reason for rejecting Meaden's theory, its other

glaring failure is that it simply does not account for the facts. There is no explanation for the vast increase in the numbers of Circles, the increasing complexity of the patterns and the occasional precise "revisitation" of the existing formations, all of which are now beyond doubt. In the past Meaden has denied that any of this was even happening! Anyone with scientific training, who is aware of the facts, has to discard Meaden's theory and think again. Most Circles researchers rejected it long ago.

Dogmatic insistence that the Circles are a natural phenomenon and are not produced by a intelligence, is what has lead to the tacit acceptance by some people of this very unscientific theory. Few would deny that some kind of energy (whether intelligently directed or not) produces the Circles. If we lack scientific instruments at present which are able to record and explain this energy, are we to say that it doesn't exist and settle for explanations which are clearly at variance with the facts?

Finally, what I labelled "stupid" was the statement by Randles and Fuller that "UFO research in its own right is now dead and has become part of meteorology." Perhaps, with the permission of the Editor of the *Journal*, I could canvas readers' views on this issue?

— George Wingfield
Director of Field Research
Center for Crop Circle Studies
Somerset, UK

MUFONET-BBS Network
Electronic Bulletin Board
8-N-1 300-14,400 Baud
901-785-4943

Have a Viewpoint to Express?

The Journal welcomes
clips and comments.

Send to:
MUFON
103 Oldtowne Rd.
Seguin, TX 78155-4099

The Night Sky

Walter N. Webb

June 1991

Bright Planets: (Evening Sky)

This month Venus overtakes Jupiter and Mars, while Mars catches up with Jupiter, creating a rare tight grouping of three naked-eye planets against a dark sky on the 17th. The crescent Moon joins the beautiful spectacle on the 15th. The events involving the four objects are as follows:

- June 6 & 7 Mars passes through the Beehive cluster.
- June 12-15 Jupiter and Mars less than 1° apart.
- June 13 Venus at greatest elongation 45° east of the Sun.
- June 13 Mars 0.6° north of Jupiter.
- June 15 Crescent Moon near the planetary trio (4° below Jupiter). In case it's cloudy, the Moon is also in the region on the 14th and 16th.
- June 16-19 Venus and Jupiter less than 2° apart.
- June 17 Rare compact massing of three naked-eye planets. Venus (magnitude -4.3), Jupiter (-1.8), and Mars (1.7) all fit within a 1.8°-diameter field in Cancer. Venus 1.2° north of Jupiter.
- June 20-26 Venus and Mars less than 1° apart.
- June 23 Venus 0.2° north of Mars.

Keep in mind that Venus will be 250 times brighter than Mars, while Jupiter is 25 times brighter than the red planet. Nevertheless, the changing spectacle is worth watching and perhaps photographing throughout June. The three planets won't set until about 11:15 PM daylight time in midmonth.

Saturn (0.3), in Capricornus, rises in the east shortly before 11 PM in mid-June.

Bright Planets: (Morning Sky)

Saturn lies low in the south at dawn.

Moon Phases:

Last quarter — June 5



New moon — June 12



First quarter — June 19



Full moon — June 26



The Stars:

As we near the summer solstice, the stars of a new season ascend the eastern sky led by the Summer Triangle — the stars Vega (in Lyra the Harp), Deneb (in Cygnus the Swan), and Altair (in Aquila the Eagle).

Look for the four-sided "Keystone" of Hercules, almost overhead after evening twilight ends. About a third of the way down the western side of the Keystone is a dim "fuzzy star." Actually, this object isn't a single star at all but rather a sphere of hundreds of thousands of stars called a globular cluster. A four-inch telescope is needed to begin resolving a few of the stars. The Hercules Cluster is 21,000 light years away.

Low in the SE the scorpion Scorpius, with its bright red heart star Antares, and the archer Sagittarius emerge along the horizon.

MESSAGE, Continued

Director. **Jorge Aquiles Alfonso** (Asuncion) is the new Representative for Paraguay.

Virgil C. Staff, State Director for northern California, has appointed the following new State Section Directors: **Michael D. Jamieson** (Napa) for Napa County; **Nicholas R. Rotermund** (Pleasanton) for Alameda County; **Vince T. Migliore** (Petaluma) for Sonoma and Lake Counties; **Randall O. Littlejohn** (Mariposa) for Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties; **Jeffery S. Tarbell** (Chico) for Butte County; and **Josh Goldstein** (Aptos) for Santa Cruz County.

Charles D. Flannigan, Florida State Director, made the following new appointments or reassignments of State Section Directors this past month: **Larry S. Nelson** (Gibson) for Hillsborough County; **Gary D. Dunn** (Clearwater) for Pinellas County; **James G. Spring** (Panama City) for Bay, Gulf, Washington and Calhoun Counties; **Jon Brunson** (Tallahassee) for Leon, Wakulla, Gadsden and Jefferson Counties; **Fearon L. Hicks, Jr.** (Auburndale) for Polk and Osceola Counties; **Thomas G. Hawn** (Avon Park) for Hardee and Highlands Counties; and **Philip M. Biancone** (Titusville) for Brevard County.

Bruce A. Widaman, Missouri State Director, revised his State Section Directors' assignments in the following manner: **Barry R. Ballinger** (Liberty) for Clay and Ray Counties; and **Kerri L. Murphy** (Parkville) for Platte County. **Jeff Ballard**, State Director for Alabama, selected two new Co-State Section Directors for Cullman and Morgan Counties. They are **Kathy D. Puckett** (Eva) and **Jerry W. Woody** (Cullman).

Other new State Section Directors volunteering their talents were: **Charles R. Dills**, Ph.D. (Liverpool, New York) and Consultant in Instructional Development for Onondagua and Oswego Counties; **Thomas J. Carey** (Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania) for Montgomery, Philadelphia and Bucks Counties; **Ricky D. Monroe** (Vidalia, Georgia) for Toombs, Montgomery,

Appling, Jeff Davis, Tattal, Candler, Treutlen and Emanuel Counties; **Robert L. Schuman** (Winthrop, Iowa) for Buchanan and Delaware Counties; and **Richard D. Niemtzow**, M.D. (Clovis, New Mexico) for Curry, Quay, De Baca, and Roosevelt Counties. Dr. Niemtzow is also a Consultant in Radiation and a member since 1977.

New consultants this month are: **Solomon V. Weinstein**, J.D. (Southampton, PA) in Law; **William H. Jervis**, M.D. (Walnut Creek, CA) in Plastic Surgery; **Thomas D. Yarnell**, Ph.D. (Biloxi, MS) in Clinical Psychology; **Harvey Goodman**, J.D. (Miami, FL) in Computer Science; and **Dr. Dieter Staschewski** (Stutensee-Buchig, Germany) in Physical Chemistry. Dr. Staschewski has been a member of MUFON-CES since 1985.

Nine new Research Specialists recently volunteered their expertise to MUFON and Ufology. They are **Hiroshi Kubota**, M.S. (Nagoya City, Japan) in Physics; **Robert T. Bowker**, U.S.A.F. Retired (Payette, ID) in Electronic Engineering (also Amateur Radio K6QT); **Rudy A. Landry**, M.S. (Winchester, MA) in Mechanical Engineering; **Kent M. Graham**, M.S. (Ft. Monroe, VA) in Computer Science (ham radio operator K6UKZ); **Helen Baker**, Ph.D. (Cape Coral, FL) in Counseling; **Rolf-Dieter Klein**, M.S. (Munich, Germany) in Computer Science; **Roslyn Stronger**, M.S. (Little Neck, NY) in Counseling; **Denise C. Breton**, B.A. (Wilmington, DE) in Philosophy; and **Edward J. Cichorek**, M.A. (New Brunswick, NJ) in Human Development. **Irene Hantke**, R.N. (Mitchell, SD) volunteered to be translator for German.

The "UFO Intelligence Summary," a monthly updated computer listing of U.S. sighting entries, along with graphs and commentary is available for \$11.50 per year from the UFO FILTER CENTER, 618 Davis Drive, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620. Sample copies may be obtained for \$1 and a self addressed stamped envelope. Please make checks payable to **Francis Ridge**.

MUFON 1991 INTERNATIONAL UFO SYMPOSIUM

SPEAKING PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JULY 6 — MORNING SESSION —

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome to Chicago Thomas P. Stults
Illinois State Director, Downers Grove, IL
- 9:05 a.m. Greetings from the Mutual UFO Network Walter H. Andrus, Jr.
International Director, Seguin, TX
- Introduction, Master of Ceremonies Forest Crawford
Illinois Asst. State Director, Collinsville, IL
- 9:10 a.m. "Crop Circles: Brief History and Overview" Dennis Stacy
Editor, MUFON UFO Journal, San Antonio, TX
- 10:00 a.m. "The 12th Planet - Key to the UFO Enigma" Zechariah Sitchin
Author, New York, NY
- 11:00 a.m. "Modern Biology, Close Encounters, and the ETH" Michael D. Swords, Ph.D.
MUFON Consultant and CUFO Board Member, Kalamazoo, MI
- 12:00 noon LUNCH - (Place of your choice)

— AFTERNOON SESSION —

- 1:30 p.m. "Further Evidence Linking Animal Mutilations and Human Abductions to Alien Life Forms" Linda Moulton Howe
Film Producer and Author, Huntingdon Valley, PA
- 2:30 p.m. "Tissue Changes in Unexplained Animal Mutilations" John A. Altshuler, M.D., Hematologist, Englewood, CO
- 3:30 p.m. COFFEE OR COKE BREAK
- 4:00 p.m. "Has Science Something to do with UFOs?" Prof. Jean-Pierre Petit
CNRS Senior Researcher, Pertuis, France
- 5:00 p.m. DINNER - (Place of your choice)

— EVENING SESSION —

- 7:30 p.m. "The Reality of the Abduction Phenomenon" John S. Carpenter, M.S.W.
Clinical Hypnotherapist, Springfield, MO
- 8:30 p.m. "Update on Crashed Saucers in New Mexico" Stanton T. Friedman, M.S.
Nuclear Physicist and Researcher, Fredericton, NB, Canada
- 9:30 p.m. "English Crop Circles" Colin Andrews
Author and Researcher, Andover, Hampshire, England

SUNDAY, JULY 7 — MORNING SESSION —

- 9:00 a.m. "Theses for a Pre-Paradigm Science: Cereology" Michael M. Chorost, M.A., Researcher, Durham, NC
- 10:00 a.m. "Government UFO Connections" C. B. Scott Jones, Ph.D.
Researcher, Falls Church, VA
- 11:00 a.m. "What Can We Believe in Abduction Accounts?" David M. Jacobs, Ph.D., Author and
Abduction Researcher, Wyndmoor, PA
- 12:00 noon LUNCH (Place of your choice)

— AFTERNOON SESSION —

- 1:30 p.m. "Insights Into the Ancient Astronauts Theory" Gene M. Phillips, J.D., President of
Ancient Astronauts Society, Highland Park, IL
- 2:30 p.m. "Gulf Breeze Without Ed" Bruce S. Maccabee, Ph.D.
Chairman, Fund for UFO Research, Sabillasville, MD
- 3:30 p.m. COFFEE OR COKE BREAK
- 4:00 p.m. Question and Answer Panel, Composed of all Speakers Forest Crawford, Moderator
- 5:30 p.m. Invitation to MUFON 1992 International UFO Symposium in Albuquerque, NM
Hosted by New Mexico MUFON.
- 5:35 p.m. Adjournment Mrs. Judy Stults
Chairperson, MUFON 1991 Symposium

Director's Message

Walt Andrus

1990-1991 Award

The Annual MUFON Award plaque for the most outstanding contribution to Ufology for 1990-91 will be presented at the MUFON 1991 International UFO Symposium in Chicago, Illinois on July 6, 1991. The actual contribution or work is not restricted to the calendar year of 1990-91, but may include significant accomplishments during the past five years. In addition to presenting the plaque to the recipient, the Fund for UFO Research will provide a \$500 cash award in memory of **Isabel Davis** as in previous years. A special runner-up cash award of \$500 will be presented by the Mutual UFO Network in memory of Dr. **Dan C. Overlade**.

Four candidates have been nominated for this prestigious award. In alphabetical order, they are **Charles D. Flannigan**, Florida State Director; **Robert J. Gribble**, Western Regional Director; **Howard J. Hoffman**, Fund for UFO Research and **Dan Wright**, Deputy Director, Investigations. A ballot is enclosed with this issue of the Journal so all members and subscribers may vote for their choice from the candidates nominated. This is your opportunity to not only recognize the fine work of these gentlemen, but to express your personal thanks to the person you feel has contributed significantly to the progress of Ufology. All ballots must be received in Seguin, Texas by June 26, 1991, so adequate time is available to engrave the plaque.

1991 MUFON Symposium

"UFOs: The Big Picture" is the theme for the MUFON 1991 International UFO Symposium to be held July 5, 6 and 7 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel at O'Hare International Airport near Chicago. A complete agenda of events and the speaking program is

published in this issue of the Journal. A flyer advertising the symposium and an advance registration form were enclosed in the April 1991 edition of the Journal for the convenience of people planning to attend.

Special rates at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel have been contracted at \$68 per night for single or double occupancy, triple occupancy \$78 or four people at \$88. Hotel reservations may be made by calling (708) 696-1234 or toll free (800) 228-9000 and advising the desk that you are attending the MUFON 1991 UFO Symposium. The Auditorium will seat 1500 people so we will have adequate room for everyone planning to attend. Six hundred rooms have been reserved at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare.

Reservations for the symposium are now being taken. The special advanced price for all five sessions is \$45 before June 1, 1991 or \$50 thereafter and at the door. Individual sessions are \$10 each. College students may secure admission to all five sessions for \$40 if they present their I.D. cards. A reception with hor d'oeuvres will be held Friday evening, July 5th at 6 p.m. for \$5 with a cash bar. Reservations for the reception must be made before June 1, 1991. Your tickets and reservation packet will be held at the symposium registration desk for your arrival. Advance reservations may be made by writing to: **Paul Fisher**, 3952 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60613 and enclosing a check made payable to "MUFON 1991 UFO Symposium."

A contract has been signed with American Airlines to be the official carrier for the symposium which also includes American Eagle flights to Chicago from the contiguous 48 states, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. To obtain American's *Meeting Saver Fare Discounts* call toll free 1-800-433-1790 to the Meeting Services

Desk and give the Star File #S-0171K6 for the 1991 MUFON International Symposium. Your International Director is looking forward to meeting many of our new members in person for the first time and renewing old friendships with everyone else in Chicago.

National UFO Information Week

The Seventh National UFO Information Week has been scheduled for August 10-18, 1991. This will be an ideal opportunity for State and State Section groups to set up photo exhibits, displays, booths for receiving UFO sighting reports from the public and closed circuit TV showing of UFO documentaries, etc., in shopping malls and libraries. Advance planning is required in order to reserve space in these facilities and to construct the exhibits and displays. MUFON endorses this program as a Public Education project in order to take advantage of the resurging interest in UFOs by the public, printed media, radio and television. **Stan Gordon**, State Director for Pennsylvania, is again planning for a large exhibit at a shopping mall in Greensburg, PA, as he has done in past years.

New Officers

Stephen P. Johnson (Lincoln) has been promoted to State Director for Nebraska to fill the vacancy created when **Scott N. Colborn** decided to relinquish this position. Mr. Colborn appointed **John C. Kasher**, Ph.D. (Omaha) to become the Assistant State Director. **Ruth L. Walde** (Regina) volunteered to become the Provincial Director for Saskatchewan. **Hal Starr** recently selected **Robert O. Dean** (Tucson) to serve as his Assistant State

Continued on page 22