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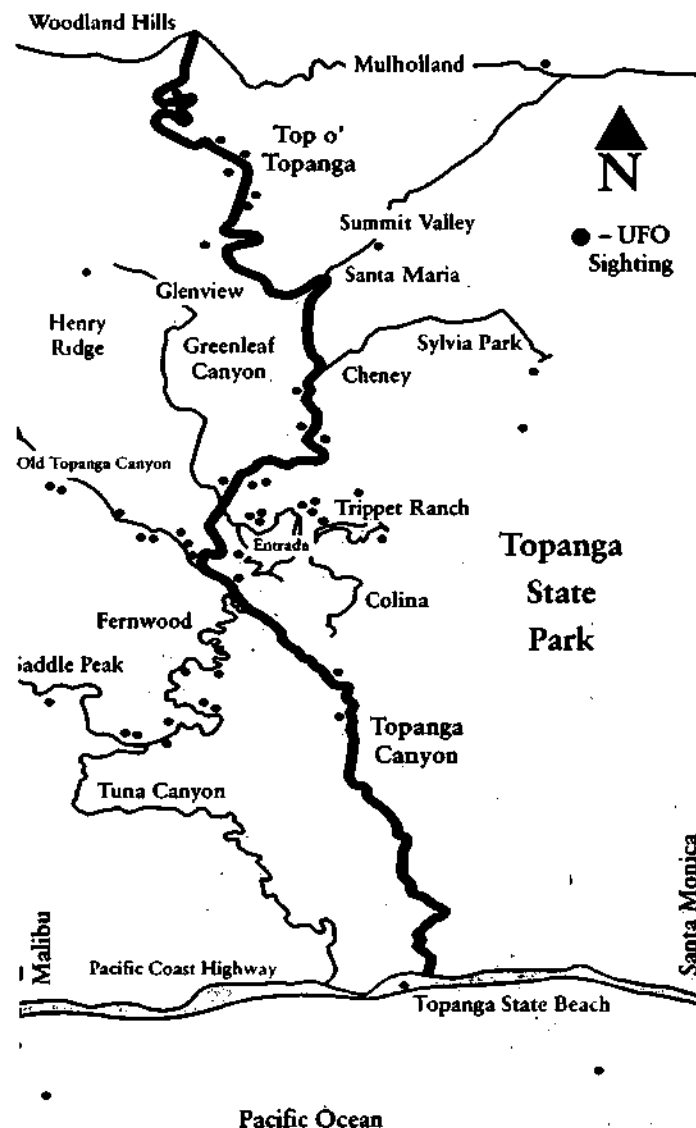
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Map of Topanga Canyon area and sightings. From *UFOs Over Topanga Canyon*. Copyright 1999 by Preston Dennett. See article on page 3.

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Topanga Canyon data continues to grow

By Preston Dennett

As many of you may already know, on June 14, 1992, Topanga canyon experienced a UFO wave of immense proportions, witnessed by numerous observers, as described in my 1999 book, *UFOs Over Topanga Canyon*. Recently an additional witness has been located.

First revealed by Colin Penno (former editor of the local newspaper, *The Topanga Messenger*), the wave put Topanga Canyon on the UFO map. On that night, calls reporting UFOs flooded the local police station.

The first call came from a couple who said that they became uneasy after noticing that a glowing object was following their car. "Suddenly, it was over us; we lost control of the car and it lifted us up off the ground."

A second couple also reported an object following their car. They got out and saw three "...flying discs, high up in the canyon ... they were saucers, they were following us above the car and we stopped to get out. We watched them and within three seconds, they were gone..."

A third call came from a canyon resident. "My wife and I were woken up by a very bright light above our home coming in through the windows ... we went outside to look at it ... Damnedest thing I ever saw in my life."

Yet another caller complained that he was chased down the road by UFOs. "I'd say they tailgated me from above, but I couldn't see anything because it was so damned bright."

While the police handled the above calls, the office of *The Topanga Messenger* newspaper received more reports. One witness, Dr. Murray Clarke, saw "an intense yellow-white light ... traveling south-to-north very fast in a horizontal path."

Another witness who called *The Topanga Messenger* said, "I saw a brilliant ray of light outside through my window ... like nothing I'd ever seen."

Having lived in Topanga Canyon for more than twenty years, I was able to locate additional witnesses to that night's events.

One report came from a couple, Phillip and Mandy,



About the Author

Preston Dennett has served as a field investigator for MUFON, is the author of three books, has written numerous articles, and has worked with "Sightings," "National Geographic Explorer," and "Encounters."

who were driving through the canyon around midnight on that night. As soon as they pulled off Entrada and on to the boulevard, they saw numerous objects in the sky. As Mandy says, "Five or six huge bright lights moving at all different angles ... We were followed halfway down the mountain ... I thought they were helicopters except they were totally silent. These brilliant lights were just all over us as we were driving down the mountain."

As they pulled up towards Top O' Topanga, the driver, Phillip, described "three craft coming over the hill ... they were craft. As a matter of fact, there seemed to be lighting on the craft ... my first impression was that they were flying saucers."

I was also able to locate another couple who witnessed strange activity on that night. They live high on Saddle Peak—one of the tallest peaks in Topanga—and described numerous oval glowing objects that rose from below the ridge near the coast.

Says Daniel, "It was an oval ... we kept trying to see what shape they were because they seemed just like a light moving ... twice, one started out, it would stop, change at a ninety-degree angle: 'zoom-zoom-shew!' And it would move fast ... there was a number of them. This went on for quite a while, in a kind of rhythmic way."

The other witness, Katherine, says, "Sometimes twenty of them would come. Sometimes we'd see four or five ... but the lights were so bright they would call our attention away from the television to the porch. And there were so many of them." The witnesses eventually counted dozens of objects over a period of at least two hours.

I was unable to locate any other witnesses to that night. However, with a total of thirteen adult witnesses reporting UFOs, it becomes difficult to deny that something very unusual happened on that night. The encounter of June 14, 1992, was listed in Timothy Good's book *UFO Update* as one of the outstanding UFO events of that year.

The full story of what happened on that night is told in my book *UFOs Over Topanga Canyon*. However, since publication, I have received a number of new high quality reports. What isn't in the book is the following testimony.

In case thirteen witnesses isn't amazing enough, I have recently located yet another witness to the events of June 14, 1992. His report adds another piece of the puzzle to the mystery of that night.

Bill Boshears is currently a resident of Ohio, and is the

host of the hugely popular radio program Sci-Zone. The program is syndicated across the United States and remains one of the largest weekend radio talk shows in the nation. So when I found out that Mr. Boshears was also a Topanga UFO witness, I couldn't have been more delighted.

Boshears was also surprised to find that he wasn't the only witness to the amazing events of the night in question.

On June 14, 1992, Boshears had attended a birthday party in the San Fernando Valley. Around nine or ten o'clock in the evening, he and two passengers headed into Topanga Canyon. It was to be a night they would not soon forget.

No sooner had they pulled onto the straight-a-way south of Top O' Topanga when Boshears saw a large oval object streak quickly across the sky, followed immediately by another.

"All of a sudden, I saw a streak of light," Boshears explained. "Then I saw another streak of light to the north. It went up over the mountains, very high up. And at first I thought it was a rocket launch. It was very bright, and it literally lit up the sky to the point that it might be a firestorm or something. So I stopped, got out, and it got brighter. By that, I mean, you could literally see the shadow of the car on the ground as this thing played and moved over the canyon ... it was almost like daylight."

As Boshears stood next to his car, he tried to figure out what he was seeing. What looked like a gigantic straight bar of light hovering at about three-thousand feet was ejecting smaller glowing football-shaped objects which began to dart back and forth across the sky.

"I was not the only person to see this. There were several people that saw it. And I thought it might have been a dirigible because earlier I had seen a blimp, a Fuji blimp that was moving around over the ocean. Then I thought maybe Hollywood is making a movie. You have to think that to maintain stability. And for the next twenty minutes, I was looking straight up to the point that my neck started aching. And I literally laid down on the hood of the car and watched it for twenty minutes."

Boshears and his two passengers watched as the long glowing object ejected smaller oval-shaped craft which maneuvered across the Topanga skyline.

Says Boshears, "First [there was] the light, then the objects and the lights going in and out of the object and around it. Silvery dish-shaped objects, lights changing colors, and it began to play in that area. And I say play, not that I could orchestrate it. The thing that I can relate it to most often, have you ever been to a fireworks display and you suddenly look around and you notice that you're looking up in the air, and when you look back down, the light from the fireworks has light all over the ground? You can see everything as bright as if it were day. I lay there

for twenty minutes.

"And the people that were with me—we just couldn't talk. I mean, every time you'd go, 'Did you see that?' you didn't want to look to say anything. Everyone was going, 'Look at that! Here they come again!' You know what it put me in mind of? 'Close Encounters.' Do you remember a scene in the movie when they're all on the hillside? And I thought, how ironic! because I am watching this, and seeing this."

Boshears and his friends were awe-struck. The large glowing object just hung in place while as many as six or seven objects danced about in the sky. "The lights came out of it, back and forth and then back to it, and then would hover in the distance and back ... they'd move out; hover, and back. But in coming out, [they] couldn't make their mind up, and would go either left or right and then decide to go over here and stay, and travel toward Santa Monica and back."

Boshears tried in vain to get his other passengers to exit the car, but they remained inside. They all talked about what was happening throughout the entire ordeal.

Interestingly, they never used the word "UFO" during the entire experience. They said, "Look at that! Look at that!" "Do you see that?" "Yeah." "What is that?" "What does that look like to you?"

After fifteen minutes, the display ended and Boshears' passengers said, "Let's go. Let's get out of here. Let's go."

Strangely, they didn't even discuss the incident on the way home. As Boshears says, "I didn't say anything about it to anyone else ... there was no comment. I think we were more startled, and then later on, saying, 'Did we really see that?' ... It's easy to deny. You know what? It doesn't stop it from happening. I didn't talk about it."

"The next day, all my friends, we were talking. They said, 'Bill, what time did you get home last night?' I said, 'Well, I got home about, you know...' I sort of shuffled and passed it off. But the friends who were with me happened to be at that same house—we're sitting on the patio talking. And we all looked at one another like, 'Are you going to tell them, or am I going to tell them?' And we just blew it off, let it go."

For those who have already read *UFOs Over Topanga Canyon*, much should sound familiar. However, Boshears' testimony adds yet another piece of the puzzle to the strange mystery that surrounds the night of June 14, 1992, bringing the total number of witnesses to an astounding sixteen.

As can be seen, Boshears' testimony corroborates with the other accounts that evening. For whatever reason, the UFO activity did not stop that night, and continues to this day. The number of Topanga UFO witnesses has now risen to more than a hundred.

The number one question remains: why Topanga?

Is there a connection?

Marilyn Monroe & UFOs

By Donald R. Burleson, Ph.D.

A great deal of controversy has always surrounded the death of actress Marilyn Monroe, which was reportedly a suicide, and which supposedly occurred on Sunday, August 5, 1962. Almost immediately, rumors began to circulate that Marilyn had actually been murdered, and that this was probably because of her entanglements with the Kennedy family.

There may well be a lot more to it than that.

For some time a CIA document dated August 3, 1962 has been circulating, a document describing FBI wiretapping of a conversation between reporter Dorothy Kilgallen and Marilyn Monroe's friend Howard Rothberg. According to the memo, the wiretaps reveal Rothberg's telling Kilgallen about Marilyn's keeping a "diary of secrets," stemming from her romantic interludes not only with President John Kennedy but also Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

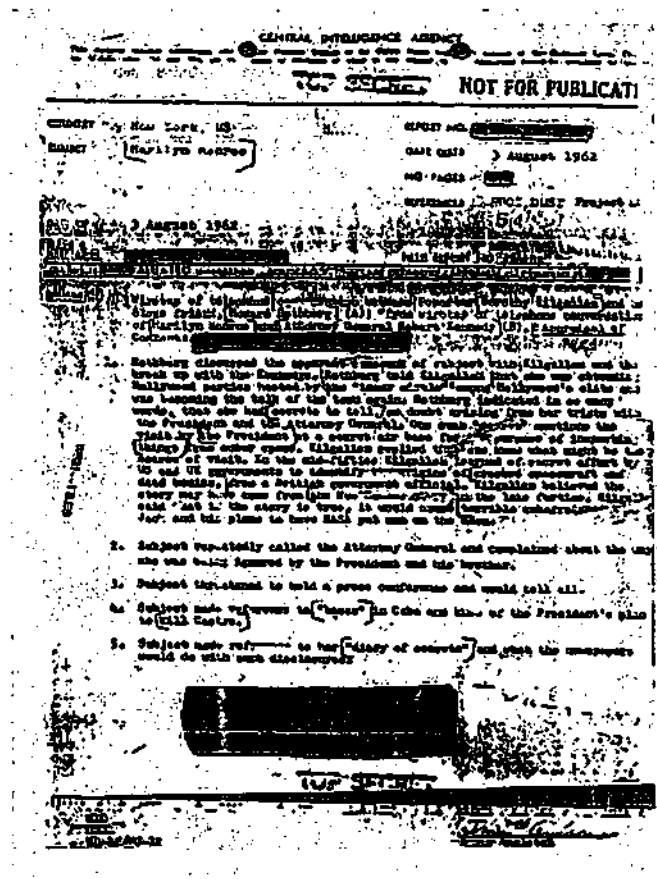
The memo quotes Rothberg as saying that Marilyn had "secrets to tell," including "the visit by the president at a secret air base for the purpose of inspecting things from outer space." Supposedly Marilyn also knew about JFK's plans to have Fidel Castro assassinated, and various other state secrets, and was threatening to hold a press conference and "tell all."

Several other things are intriguing about this document. For one thing, it says that Kilgallen was overheard remarking that the "things from space" reference might stem from "the New Mexico story in the late forties."

The memo also mentions that Kilgallen, in the mid-fifties, "learned of secret effort by US and UK governments to identify the origins of crashed spacecraft, and dead bodies." (Kilgallen herself would die mysteriously a few years later.) The subject line of the memo, interestingly enough, carries a reference to Moon Dust, a project whose existence has been vigorously denied by government and military agencies for years, though documents do exist showing that Project Moon Dust was established for the purpose of retrieving and examining extraterrestrial debris.

Also, in routing data near the bottom, there would appear to be the characters "-J-12" preceded by some other characters that are not entirely clear. Is this a reference to the ever-controversial MJ-12? It's hard to say, but not beyond the realm of possibility.

Now, this CIA document has been reproduced in a number of places, including the Hesemann and Mantle book *Beyond Roswell* and, more recently, Donald H.



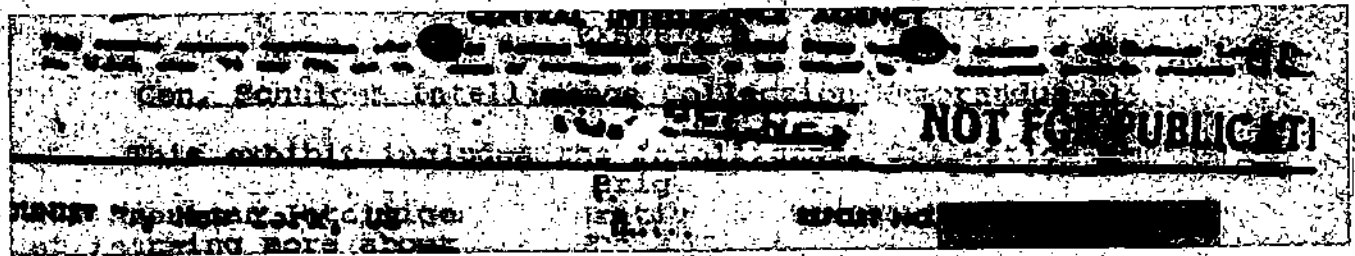
Wolfe's biography *The Last Days of Marilyn Monroe*.

But there's something else on the document that is completely invisible in those published reproductions. And that something is of immense importance.

One day when I had the memo on a screen in my computer lab at Eastern New Mexico University/Roswell, Jane Shoemaker, a student worker in the lab, remarked that there appeared to be a kind of shadowing near the top, as if something else were written there. At the time, none of us could see anything in particular in it, but I ran the memo through a number of image enhancement software treatments, and was able to bring out and read, or mostly read, the "extra" writing.

Just below "Central Intelligence Agency" at the top there is a faint inscription reading "Exhibit B," and between this and the Top Secret stamp there appears another faint inscription reading, so far as it is visible, "Gen. Schulgen Intelligence Collection Memorandum 19-."

Just below that one can faintly make out: "This exhibit includes the Intelligence Collection Memorandum..." A little further down there is the faint word "Brig." and some other very fragmentary words including "learning more about." These faint words are all in typescript.



Schulgen as a reference to Brigadier General George Schulgen, who in 1947 was Chief of the Air Intelligence Requirements Division of Army Air Corps Intelligence.

He was the general who, five days after the Roswell crash, appealed to the FBI to help the Army Air Corps investigate UFO reports, the idea essentially being to discredit witnesses as "communist sympathizers" and the like.

In the exchange of memos that followed, it became clear that the FBI would want to see any recovered UFO debris, something the military would not be prepared to let them do. And it is easily established that Schulgen, for a period of years, was up to his ears in UFO-related matters.

So here we have Schulgen's name impressed on the top of a CIA document that speaks about Marilyn Monroe, her "diary of secrets," and "things from outer space." Even if the extra writing near the top of the memo occurs only because someone thought it fitting to file such a CIA document in close association with Schulgen-related documents, the implications are strong and clear. We now have more reason than ever to suspect that Marilyn's death may well have had a lot to do with what she had learned from John Kennedy about UFOs. It appears that she knew some truly dangerous things, and that diary of hers must have been dynamite.

Oddly enough, Donald Wolfe, though he reproduces the CIA memo in an appendix to his book, does not go into the "things from space" angle in the book. But when one thinks about the Schulgen connection, which to my way of thinking rather plainly connects Marilyn's death to the UFO question, one reads a great deal of Wolfe's book with an enhanced sense of the ominous and the eerie.

For example, he cites tapes from an audio surveillance of Marilyn's house revealing that Bobby Kennedy was there on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, Aug. 4 (the real date of Marilyn's death), and that the two of them were engaged in a frightful argument, with Bobby Kennedy screaming over and over again, "Where the * * * is it?" in tones so frantic and screeching as to be almost unrecognizable.

Clearly, he was looking for the diary. And one has to ask oneself: what could there have been in that diary so tremendously important and so sensitive as to send the

Attorney General of the United States into frothing fits of uncontrollable shrieking? State secrets about Cuba? The fact that Marilyn slept with both Jack and Bobby Kennedy? Hardly. The real secret must have been something much more profound.

This is especially clear when one reads the rest of the story of Marilyn's death, a revolting nightmare of rifled autopsy reports, stolen telephone records, death threats to investigative reporters, and a helicopter hovering near Marilyn's house that night while some woman screamed, "You murderers! Are you satisfied now that she's dead?"

Author Donald Wolfe pulls no punches here: "The evidence points to premeditated homicide. In the presence of Bobby Kennedy, she was injected with enough barbiturate to kill fifteen people."

And what could be important enough for high-ranking government officials to act that way? Marilyn's friend, screenwriter Jose Bolanos, spoke with Marilyn on the phone less than an hour before her death, and later would only remark that she had told him "something shocking, something that will one day shock the whole world."

With the "Schulgen" imprint on the Marilyn Monroe CIA memo, and with what it implies about the UFO connection, I think we can make some very reasonable speculations about what Marilyn had to tell that could have been so "shocking."

One could argue, of course, that maybe the CIA memo isn't genuine, but it certainly has every appearance of being so, and the fact that the "Schulgen" imprint is invisible on printed versions of the memo but visible when one does computer enhancements, makes it all the more likely that the memo is real.

So, a reasonable hypothesis? President John Kennedy, in moments of intimacy, told Marilyn not only about such things as Cuba, but about UFO crashes and retrievals as well. And when she threatened to open her "diary of secrets" to the press and "tell all," it was her undoing, because the secrets she was threatening to reveal were the most significant secrets in all of human history. Such things have long been speculated about, but the Schulgen connection makes this theory all the more plausible.

Did Marilyn Monroe die because of Roswell? Could be. Stranger things have happened.

Appeal to spiritual personages works in resisting abductions

By Ann Druffel

Defense techniques represent a totally new aspect in the abduction field, but attempts to start a dialogue in the abduction field with certain high-profile researchers who contend that resistance is impossible or inadvisable have met with no success.

In my recently-published book, *How to Defend Yourself Against Alien Abduction*¹, nine mental and physical techniques are described, which many abductees have used to end traumatizing visits by so-called UFO entities. I have come to think that the specific technique I term "Appeal to Spiritual Personages" may be causing researchers like Mack, Hopkins, and Jacobs to dismiss the "defense" idea. Since many equally-qualified researchers such as Bert Schwarz, M.D., Raymond Fowler, Philip Mantle, Donna Higbee, Irina Frowning and others understand the value of "experiencers" having access to techniques that can free them (at least temporarily) from trauma induced by the abducting phenomenon, I became curious about those researchers who dismiss this aspect.

Could it be that researchers who dismiss the idea of "defense" are essentially humanists who do not believe in God, Heaven, and "inhabitants of Heaven" and that discussion of this one technique (among nine) disturbs them? If this is the case, they would not be inclined to work with any abductee who tries to tell them that appealing to a favorite spiritual personage brings about the departure of the traumatizing creatures.

Yet the idea of "spiritual personages," in which the experiencers themselves have faith, gives abductees the self-confidence that seems to contribute to successful resistance. They may not have sufficient self-esteem and self-confidence within themselves to believe that they can protect themselves from traumatic experiences, but they have faith that "heavenly" sources can provide protection for them. The phenomenon may return another night, but if the same appeal is made by the experiencer, the "entities" back off again.

Eventually, if the experiencer continues to have faith in the spiritual personage they appeal to, the entities do quit coming, or come only rarely and are easily disposed of, according to reports given me by these experiencers.

Many abductees who have been traumatized and/or abducted report that they have told the "creatures" to "Go away" while calling upon God, Allah, or other spiritual personages to protect them. In many cases, the creatures do depart, the "experiencer" returns to full waking consciousness, and the abduction scenario ends. Perhaps some researchers consider such experiencers "over-religious." But "over-religious" is not a term which should enter into this. A person either believes in God, or not.

About the Author

Ann Druffel has been studying the UFO phenomenon for 44 years, working first with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), then as a field investigator for MUFON and CUFOS. She co-authored with D. Scott Rogo *Tijunga Canyon Contacts*, and has prepared a comprehensive biography detailing Dr. James E. McDonald's work. She will be one of the featured speakers at the MUFON Symposium in July.

They either believe that saints, angels and the like can help them, or not. What does it matter to a humanist researcher if an experiencer uses "appeal to spiritual personages" or not? If something works, use it.

Still, humanist abduction researchers continue to dismiss accounts of successful resistance, even though the data are growing. The number of resisters in my own database grows monthly, and cases are being reported in the UFO literature and on the Internet. Even though humanist researchers may not "believe" the accounts of resisters, they should be willing to consider the psychological implications of resistance.

They should respect the fact that these experiencers' own psychological makeup allows them to believe that they can chase off intrusive entities and, furthermore, that they as human beings are allowed to chase them off. Most resisters, also, do not think the abducting "creatures" are technologically superior extraterrestrials, but, rather, some otherworldly "order of being" that has no real right to harass human beings.

Another basic fact is that these intrusions occur in an altered state of consciousness, and that, at best, these creatures are only temporarily physical in the earth plane. The vast majority of objective researchers, humanist or not, have come to this conclusion. John Mack, for instance, writes about the "Trickster" whom some shamans believe embroils mankind in its badgering machinations. The evidence that the altered state in which abductions seem to occur is probably akin to shamanic trance is growing, and the findings of John Mack in particular have proved valuable in understanding the abduction phenomenon.

However, when writing of "spiritual" beings contacted by shamans in this altered state, Mack seems to make no distinction between the "Trickster" and "higher types of beings" which shamans describe as consistently benevolent. This distinction must be made if the theory of "shamanic trance" is to benefit our field. For the "Trickster" realm seems akin to the concepts of "jinns," "Sidhe," "Bunians," and a multitude of other otherworldly, abducting creatures described in historical, philosophical, religious, and folkloric texts in numerous world cultures.

On the other hand, the spiritual realm is not simply otherworldly, non-physical creatures as described by

Mack. Traditionally, the term "spiritual" means "higher orders of creation" as described in historical, philosophical and religious texts. In these world writings, they are described as essentially benevolent toward mankind. They are never described as deceptive, harassing abductors.

It should be emphasized that the definition of "spirituality" as defined by Mack in his *Passport to the Cosmos* differs widely from the idea of "spirituality" held by more than two-thirds of the world's population.

In the absence of scientific proof of God and a heavenly realm inhabited by truly benevolent creatures, we need to determine personality traits of successful resisters as contrasted to those who do not resist. If these could be determined, it might clarify the abduction phenomenon significantly. Already, twelve years of research indicate that their personalities differ in significant ways.

Early on in my study, it seemed that the level of an individual's self-esteem or their level of self-confidence is at work here. As noted above, the individual's confidence need not necessarily spring from their own mind. Resisters who depended on "spiritual personages" of their own-choosing, for example, feel protected because they believe a "higher power" is helping them.

The reader might ask: What is the difference between self-esteem and self-confidence? A wise colleague, Dorothy Shapiro, has suggested that self-esteem is earned and that self-confidence is the personality trait which enables a person to earn it. It is important to point out here that Budd Hopkins' continuing research indicates that abductees he works with seem to have a diminished level of self-esteem.

On the other hand, many resisters' self-esteem seems sufficiently high to give them a firm conviction that they have an inherent right to privacy and that they can demand to be left alone. In some cases, this confidence comes from having knowledge of techniques that they have instinctively, and successfully, used in the past. Or they gain a sufficient level of confidence from having friends or family members describe resistance techniques.

It is in this particular situation that researchers can impart a valuable gift to traumatized abductees who come to them for help. They can tell them of the nine simple mental and physical techniques which have worked for others and suggest they try them. What would be gained? Most abductees need assurance that human beings are not helpless against the abducting phenomenon. Confidence will build as the technique begins to work. If one resistance technique doesn't seem to work too well, others can be tried.

Regretfully, this is not being done by most researchers in the abduction field because of the common, but totally unproven, assumption that the "abductors" are superior to us. Above all, it should be stressed that a combination of techniques should be ready at hand, for very often a variety of resistance techniques need to be used in com-

bination. This is because the abducting phenomenon (whatever it is) is very strong and also deceptive. All researchers seem to agree on this.

If the human being it chooses to traumatize decides to fight the entity, it can alter its approach, sometimes presenting a more pleasing shape, sometimes a more frightening one. This is one of the crucial points which experiencers need to know: i.e., the "alien" presents itself in whatever form it thinks necessary.

This fact of "shapeshifting" is commonly reported, but has apparently been disregarded by some researchers, and by most abductees. Thoroughly deceived by the phenomenon, they assume that the "alien" appears as it actually is in its own world. As a consequence, there are reports of various types of "aliens" coming from different sources, and these reports are taken as truth by many without any scientific validation.

Some cases have come to light which demonstrate this shapeshifting aspect. One case discussed some years ago in the literature concerned a young male abductee who recalled being taken down to an apparent underground base where members of the U. S. military seemed to be working with "aliens." He noticed that something was not quite right with the uniform of one of the "U. S. military men" standing near him. From his own experience he knew precisely how that particular uniform should look. As soon as the question came into his mind, the uniform shifted to meet his expectations.

In my book *How to Defend Yourself*¹ I discussed the case of Melissa MacLeod, who used Mental Struggle initially against invisible "presences" who terrorized her at night. She later instinctively appealed to God when a black-robed entity woke her in the middle of the night, standing silently at her bedside. The altered state in which she saw it broke immediately. As invisible creatures continued to terrorize her at night, she shifted her appeals to the Archangel Michael. Mental calls for help to St. Michael worked much faster than Mental Struggle, and the visits decreased in frequency.

Two years ago, Melissa determined to rid herself once and for all from the visits. She obtained an eight-inch high statue of St. Michael and placed it by her bedside on a bookcase. She now prays nightly to St. Michael, asking him to "keep me safe from all strange things that happen in the night." She goes to sleep each night with complete confidence in St. Michael's protection, and is now entirely free from the intrusions.

The fact that "Appeal to Spiritual Personages" reportedly aids many abductees to break the altered state(s) in which the abducting phenomenon appears should be taken seriously by all in the field. Resisters exist, and there is a growing need for researchers to share evidential data about them.

¹*How to Defend Yourself Against Alien Abduction*, Three Rivers Press/Random House, NY, 1998, 242 pgs, \$12.00

Filer's Files

By George A. Filer
Director, MUFON Eastern Region

INCREASED UFO ACTIVITY in Connecticut, Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, California, Alaska, Portugal and Australia. There are a regular series of sightings of UFOs emerging from bodies of water and splashing down into them. Frequently, lights and other activity are observed and recent reports from the former Soviet Union have been released indicating alien activity under water.

Connecticut UFOs

HAMDEN - The witness returned from shopping on March 20, 2001, when her eight-year-old son, who was in the car, pointed up to a large bullet-shaped object at 4:00 P.M. "We got out of the car to watch a thick stream of pinkish smoke or (gas) rise vertically on the horizon," she said. "A few seconds later we saw a large bullet-shaped flying object. It was very shiny and silver with one circular ring around its middle."

"The craft started to rise vertically. We had great difficulty in not paying attention to it. I did not seek the attention of any other people in the lot. It flew to altitude and then flew horizontally to the left of us. There were no flashing lights or sounds to be heard. We then got in the car to follow as best we could in the direction it was headed. We traveled approximately one-tenth of a mile to see only a grayish line of smoke or gas in the sky."

Peter Davenport spoke with this witness, and found her story rather interesting. We do not know what she saw, but the case is now in the hands of MUFON/CT for investigation.

HAMDEN — Two hours later, at 6:00 P.M., another Hamden woman reported that her son heard a very loud propeller sound over their house. He ran to the bay window, where he said he saw a large missile-shaped object which was hovering just above the treeline. He was quite certain that the object was oblong, with two lights shining in an alternating fashion, one blue, the other red, and that the object was green and black.

HARTFORD — Two days later, on March 22, 2001, at 4:30 A.M., a couple living on a residential street in the state capital of Connecticut "were awakened by a light that lit up the entire house. This lasted for a minute, then



George Filer

suddenly we heard a whooshing sound, and it was all over." Thanks to Peter B. Davenport of the National UFO Reporting Center. A HREF="http://www.ufocenter.com/NUFORC/A A HREF="http://www.ufocenter.com/">National Reporting Center/A

Large object reported in Virginia

SPRINGFIELD — "I'm writing to report a sighting of an unusual craft on March 23, 2001," says the witness. "At about 8:40 p.m., I drove to a nearby gas station from my home to get a pack of cigarettes. As I was driving back home I noticed a very large craft of some kind flying relatively low in the sky. It was about the size of an audio tape long-wise, at arm's length."

"I saw two lights, at first thinking that it was two airplanes flying side by side in unison. Then I realized it was one large object when I saw a small red light beside the far right light. As the object went out of view behind some trees, I followed in my car for about a minute and caught a better look from the rear."

"It was three lights in a line, with the small red light just a bit lower to the right. As I watched the object trying to see if there was any discernible shape to it, I noticed that there was absolutely no noise coming from it. I live in an area between Reagan National and Dulles International Airport and am familiar with the types of planes and helicopters that fly in this area. For any plane to have been that size in my field of view, it would have been making a recognizable deep rumble sound."

"This object was higher up in the sky and was bigger than anything I have ever seen fly anywhere. It seemed to glide though the sky heading south when it went out of view. I was surprised that nobody else saw this in my area, given its large population. Whatever it was, I think it was intended for people to see it since it was so large and flying so low."

Thanks to Peter Davenport Director A HREF="http://www.ufocenter.com/">NUFORC/A

Florida fisherman reports sighting

DESTIN — "This happened a while back when I was shark fishing late one night about two miles off the East jetty," says the witness. "I saw a small greenish-colored light on the horizon. At first I thought it was the running light on another boat, but it was coming close in to the shore at a pretty good rate of speed. When it was about a mile out from me parallel to the shore, it suddenly just stopped and stayed in one spot."

"After a few minutes, it suddenly shot straight up into the air faster than I have ever seen anything move. It shot up 2000 feet and just stopped again. I went to get my camera out of the cabin, but when I came back I did not see it. I looked all around and saw it again on the opposite side of the boat about a mile away. It was hovering at 50

feet or so. There is no way a plane can travel that fast and that far in only 15 seconds.

"I watched for half an hour as it seemed to play leap frog with me. It would shoot up and over me, back and forth from one side to the other. Sometimes it moved so fast that the light would look like a blur moving across the sky. I spent a lot of time commercial fishing, and some of the things we saw out over the Gulf were downright weird. I asked my father if he knew what they were and all he said was, 'I hope that Eglin Air Force Base is testing something.'

"I saw something similar about 100 miles off the coast one January night at 3:00 AM. I was up in the bridge of my dad's boat when I saw the light. I looked at the radar to see if it was a boat on the horizon. There was a small blip on the screen that disappeared from the radar and reappeared behind us. I looked out the cabin door and there was the light behind us that played leap frog for about 30 minutes before it disappeared. Numerous times fishing out there we saw lights in the sky doing strange things."

Cylinder shape in Ohio

CANTON — The witness was casually observing the starlit night sky outside while at work on March 24, 2001. He observed 3 or 4 airplanes in the night sky at 8:50 P.M. "A regional airport is five minutes from my observation point," he explains. "I observed two faintly visible, white, dim, non-blinking lights moving to the east-northeast at what I thought was an impossible rate of speed for even a military jet.

"It was a fairly long object with one dim, non-blinking light forward and one dim, non-blinking light at the rear. No wing lights were visible, although between the front and rear lights a very slight dim, white illumination seemed barely noticeable along the edges of its body. The object was at about 60 degrees from my vantage point and covered about two-thirds of the sky within five seconds or so.

"Suddenly the object slowed down so very rapidly it barely seemed possible. It seemed to just 'coast' slowly for a second and it then just vanished. Although sounds from the nearby airplanes could be heard, when the object I saw darted across the sky, I thought I could hear a faint, steady sound like a hum of some sort, but unlike that of an airplane or jet engine." Thanks to Peter Davenport Director of the National UFO Reporting Center.

California chevron reported over witnesses

GRANITE BAY — "While driving home on March 24, 2001, we saw a very white bright point of light up in the sky, and realized that it was coming towards us," says one of the witnesses. "The object had seven or eight blinking lights on the side. As we got closer at 1:24 A.M., it

became apparent that it was either close to the ground or very large. There were seven lights on the front in a chevron formation. An eighth white, blinking light was in the back, located two inches from the front most light in the front.

"The front lights were various sizes of circles with a red light at the 'nose' of the object. The size of the circles were in no apparent order, but were symmetrical in placement, i.e., a medium was across from a medium, and a large light was across from a large light.

"Once the object moved over the road, it slowed down to a nearly complete stop and shot out what looked like a faint spot light on the shoulder of the road at an angle of about 45 degrees from either the center or one side of the chevron. After the spotlight went out, the craft sped up, crossed the road diagonally, and continued to move away from us.

"I phoned my friend to tell him to get outside and see if he could get a look. Thirty seconds later I spotted another object shaped like a classic saucer. Sort of cigar, but more saucer-shaped. It was moving over a field in the distance, complete with blinking lights. It stopped and started and followed the first object. My friend thinks it was a helicopter, but I haven't seen helicopters with that many lights. I was very excited yelling into the phone. I couldn't shut up about it, while my friend didn't say much. I kept asking him if he had seen that first one shoot out the spotlight, and he would say, 'Yea, he thought so.'" Thanks to A HREF="http://www.ufocenter.com/"NUFORC/A

Red UFO appears to land in Australia

QUEENSLAND — A woman rancher says she saw a glowing red UFO land in a paddock close to Beenleigh and Redland Bay Road near Logan the night of March 28, 2001. According to the Logan, newspaper, "Dogs barked, birds squawked and horses bolted when a mysterious bright object streaked across Logan's night sky, shining red light over a rural property at 11:30 p.m.

"Seeing the silent red UFO has frightened and mystified property owner Tashma Hosking, who said she heard it hit the ground minutes after it disappeared over a hill, but her search of the area the next day found nothing." Thanks to Diane Harrison of the Australian UFO Research Network.

Ground jolted in Portugal

AMARES — J. M. Mariojouis writes that RTPi, Portuguese International Television, reported on April 10 that the small village of São Vicente do Bico in North Portugal was awakened by a strange phenomenon. On March 18th, at 4:05 AM, one of the witnesses said, "It was like a big earthquake, we jumped through the windows to get out of the house." Another saw the whole phenomenon from outside: "The sky was like daylight, everything was lit like

during the day, but it was a strange light, like fluorescent, with a bit of blue/purple.

"It lasted for about three minutes and then it all joined into a small light ball, like the moon. It floated for four seconds and then it disappeared. I don't know how to explain the way it disappears but it was very strange. After the ball disappeared, there was an explosion, and the ground shook very hard."

Thanks to JM Mariojouis jm.mariojouis@wanadoo.fr
SI France

Sitchin, the Bible, & genes

Zecharia Sitchin writes, "In whose image was The Adam—the prototype of modern humans, Homo sapiens—created?" The Bible asserts that the Elohim said: 'Let us fashion Adam in our image and after our likeness.'

"But if one is to accept a tentative explanation for enigmatic genes that humans possess, offered when the deciphering of the human genome was announced in mid-February, the feat was decided upon by a group of bacteria!

"'Humbling' was the prevalent adjective used by the scientific teams and the media to describe the principal finding—that the human genome contains not the anticipated 100,000-140,000 genes (the stretches of DNA that direct the production of amino-acids and proteins) but only some 30,000+—little more than double the 13,601 genes of a fruit fly and barely fifty percent more than the roundworm's 19,098.

"What a comedown from the pinnacle of the genomic Tree of Life! Moreover, there was hardly any uniqueness to the human genes. They are comparative to 99 percent of the chimpanzees, and 70 percent of the mouse. Human genes, with the same functions, were found to be identical to genes of other vertebrates, as well as invertebrates, plants, fungi, even yeast.

"The findings not only confirmed that there was one source of DNA for all life on Earth, but also enabled the scientists to trace the evolutionary process—how more complex organisms evolved, genetically, from simpler ones, adopting at each stage the genes of a lower life form to create a more complex higher life form—culminating with Homo sapiens.

It was here, in tracing the vertical evolutionary record contained in the human and the other analyzed genomes, that the scientists ran into an enigma.

"The 'head-scratching discovery by the public consortium,' as *Science* termed it, was that the human genome contains 223 genes that do not have the required predecessors on the genomic evolutionary tree. How did Man acquire such a bunch of enigmatic genes?

"In the evolutionary progression from bacteria to invertebrates (such as the lineages of yeast, worms, flies or mustard weed—which have been deciphered) to verte-

brates (mice, chimpanzees) and finally modern humans, these 223 genes are completely missing in the invertebrate phase. Therefore, the scientists can explain their presence in the human genome by a 'rather recent' (in evolutionary time scales) 'probable horizontal transfer from bacteria.'

"In other words: at a relatively recent time as Evolution goes, modern humans acquired an extra 223 genes not through gradual evolution, not vertically on the Tree of Life, but horizontally, as a sideways insertion of genetic material from bacteria.

"Now, at first glance it would seem that 223 genes is no big deal. In fact, while every single gene makes a great difference to every individual, 223 genes make an immense difference to a species such as ours. The human genome is made up of about three billion nucleotides (the "letters" A-C-G-T which stand for the initials of the four nucleic acids that spell out all life on Earth); of them, just a little more than one percent are grouped into functioning genes (each gene consists of thousands of "letters").

"The difference between one individual person and another amounts to about one "letter" in a thousand in the DNA "alphabet." The difference between Man and Chimpanzee is less than one percent as genes go; and one percent of 30,000 genes is 300. So, 223 genes is more than two-thirds of the difference between me, you and a chimpanzee.

"An analysis of the functions of these genes through the proteins that they spell out, conducted by the Public Consortium team and published in the journal *Nature*, shows that they include not only proteins involved in important physiological but also psychiatric functions.

"Moreover, they are responsible for important neurological enzymes that stem only from the mitochondrial portion of the DNA—the so-called 'Eve' DNA that humankind inherited only through the mother-line, all the way back to a single 'Eve.' That finding alone raises doubt regarding the 'bacterial insertion' explanation."

Sitchin continues, "The Role of the Anunnaki Readers of my books must be smiling by now, for they know the answer. They know that the biblical verses dealing with the fashioning of The Adam are condensed renderings of much much more detailed Sumerian and Akkadian texts, found inscribed on clay tablets, in which the role of the Elohim in "Genesis" is performed by the Anunnaki—"Those Who From Heaven to Earth Came."

"As detailed in my books, beginning with *The 12th Planet* (1976) and even more so in *Genesis Revisited* and *The Cosmic Code*, the Anunnaki came to Earth some 450,000 years ago from the planet Nibiru—a member of our own solar system whose great orbit brings it to our part of the heavens once every 3,600 years.

"They came here in need of gold, with which to pro-

tect their dwindling atmosphere. Exhausted and in need of help in mining the gold, their chief scientist Enki suggested that they use their genetic knowledge to create the needed Primitive Workers. When the other leaders of the Anunnaki asked: How can you create a new being? He answered: 'The being that we need already exists; all that we have to do is put our mark on it.' The time was some 300,000 years ago.

"What he had in mind was to upgrade genetically the existing hominids, who were already on Earth through Evolution, by adding some of the genes of the more advanced Anunnaki. That the Anunnaki, who could already travel in space 450,000 years ago, possessed the genomic science (whose threshold we have now reached) is clear not only from the actual texts, but also from numerous depictions in which the double-helix of the DNA is rendered as Entwined Serpents and often depicted in Sumerian drawings (a symbol still used for medicine and healing)

"When the leaders of the Anunnaki approved the project (as echoed in the biblical 'Let us fashion the Adam'), Enki with the help of Ninharsag, the Chief Medical Officer of the Anunnaki, embarked on a process of genetic engineering, by adding and combining genes of the Anunnaki with those of the already-existing hominids.

"When, after much trial and error breathtakingly described and recorded in antiquity, a 'perfect model' was attained, Ninharsag held him up and shouted: 'My hands have made it!' An ancient artist depicted the scene on a cylinder seal. And that, I suggest, is how we had come to possess the unique extra genes.

"It was in the image of the Anunnaki, not of bacteria, that Adam and Eve were fashioned. Unless further scientific research can establish, beyond any doubt, that the only possible source of the extra genes are indeed bacteria, and unless it is then also determined that the infection ("horizontal transfer") went from bacteria to Man and not from Man to bacteria, the only other available solution will be that offered by the Sumerian texts millennia ago.

"Until then, the enigmatic 223 alien genes will remain as an alternative—and as a corroboration by modern science of the Anunnaki and their genetic feats on Earth."

Thanks to ZECHARIA SITCHIN (c) Z. Sitchin. Reprinted with permission.

New York blimp-shaped UFO reported

ONEIDA — The witness states, "In the early summer of 1972, I awoke around 1:00 AM with my room aglow from what I thought was a forest fire. Black airplanes and helicopters were silhouetted against the red-orange sky. I thought the planes were dropping flame-retardants on the pines.

"I watched for about 20 minutes, when a HUGE blimp-shaped object, bright red with orange tinge at the bottom,

rose slowly and majestically above the pines. As it hovered, I saw it was several acres big, as it overlapped the east and west borders of the pine grove. I was stunned and then realized I was watching a UFO. The planes and helicopters had disappeared.

"By now I was kneeling on my bed with my face plastered against my window in complete awe. After hovering for about three minutes, it suddenly shot upwards, and within a second it was gone.

The pines leaned to the west as it left, as if huge wind was blowing them at once. Seeing that thing shook the perception of reality I had up to that time. I was too afraid to talk about it and had bad dreams about it for years." Thanks to Pat and Larry Clark pathoyt@mediaone.net and nymufon@nycap.rr.com

Strange things reported in Florida

OCALA NATIONAL FOREST — K. T. Frankovitch reports many strange occurrences in the forest where she lives. Goats have been found dead with rectum removed and blood drained. Twelve rabbits were also found dead by their owner drained of blood with two small puncture wounds on their neck.

A baby calf was found wandering in the forest without her mother many miles from any farm or cow. A horse was found dead near the top of a 15-foot Palmetto tree, seemingly air dropped to its position.

UFOs, generally disc-shaped, have been seen regularly in the area. The local people call them space ships. The area is exceptionally dry and is ravaged by fires. Thanks to K. T. Frankovitch.

House shaken by UFO in Illinois?

TAYLORVILLE — "It happened so fast, it made my house shake," says the witness, "and I looked out the window and saw a triangular-shaped object with lights on it. On March 22, 2001, at around 10:00 PM, I was in my bedroom on the computer and talking to my friends, having a good time. All of a sudden, I felt a sudden vibrant movement of the house.

"I quickly darted for the window. I looked out and saw a triangular-shaped object traveling in a straight line at what looked like 150 mph. This triangular object also had lights on the bottom of it and red lights along the back of it.

"It wasn't flat, it was three-dimensional. It made a huge roaring noise. Just before I lost sight of it I could still see it, hovering, just sitting in mid-air. All I could see at this time were the lights, though.

"And, all of a sudden, it vanished. This is definitely no plane, helicopter, military base test flight, or anything else normal. It is the weirdest thing I have ever seen in my life and I'm still shocked over it. We're located 200 miles south of Chicago."

MUFON FORUM

Letters to Mufon UFO Journal

Adamski & Sen. Smith

Richard Hall questions George Adamski's 1960 meeting with Margaret Chase Smith (Perspective, *MUFON UFO Journal*, April, 2001).

In 1965 I wrote to Margaret Chase Smith to verify whether George Adamski had visited her and whether she had introduced him to other members of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, as some of his supporters believed. Her reply, characteristically direct, courteous, and politically correct, was as follows:

Dear Mr. Sherwood:

I never introduced Mr. Adamski to any members of the Senate, and I never expressed myself on his record or gave him any endorsement, and I never read any statement of his into the *Congressional Record*. You have been misinformed.

He and others asked to see me in my office and I granted their request and listened to them. I made no comment one way or the other as to the validity of their assertions.

Sincerely yours,
Margaret Chase Smith
United States Senator

—William T. Sherwood

Original exposure

As always, Dick Hall's "Perspective" column in the April JOURNAL was most interesting, informative, and thought provoking.

As for the latter, among others, it provoked these in my mind: First, Hall refers to the "recent 'revival' of George Adamski." What revival? Is he referring to Tim Good's continuing apologia or, perhaps, Colin Bennett's long article in *THE ANOMALIST* (#8, Spring 2000) about Adamski's 1959 world tour? I hope Dick will enlighten us in a future column.

If there is an Adamski revival going on, the more contemporary ufology is informed about the old fraud the better. There aren't many old timers like Hall and myself left who remember the facts from being around back then.

Second, speaking of old timers, I was disappointed Dick didn't give credit to the person who first unmasked Adamski for the phony he was, vigorously pursuing the truth from those who allegedly witnessed the 1952 desert chat between "the Professor" and Space Brother Orthon, supposedly snapped a confirming photo of a Venusian scout ship, etc. This, of course, is James Moseley, editor

and publisher of SAUCER SMEAR and one of ufology's most interesting and controversial figures since the early fifties.

The expose first appeared in the January 1955 issue of Jim's NEXUS (later SAUCER NEWS and finally transmuted into today's SMEAR). There were follow-up stories, and everything was compiled in a special October 1957 issue of SN. The full Adamski story—including a facsimile reproduction of the entire special issue—and much more fascinating, never-before-told ufological history and mysteries revealed will appear in Jim's and my forthcoming book SHOCKINGLY CLOSE TO THE TRUTH! (Prometheus Books, spring 2002).

—Karl T. Pflock, MUFON-NM SSD Placitas, New Mexico 505/867-0893

Differs with Westrum

Subject: *MUFON UFO Journal*, April, 2001, "The Promise of Ufology" by Dr. Ron Westrum

I must seriously disagree with a number of the comments made by Dr. Westrum.

He says, "Ufologists have not connected with the scientific community." I have, over the 34 years since I began speaking and writing about UFOs, made many connections with the scientific community. There have been lectures at Engineering Societies of Detroit, Cincinnati, Baltimore, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (twice), Gulf Research Labs; National Management Association Chapters at 5 different Lockheed groups, McDonnell Douglas, North American Rockwell, General Dynamics, Motorola, etc; half a dozen sections of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers; the Engineering Alumni Association at Harvard, etc.

Within the past year I have spoken to the Association of Professional Engineers of New Brunswick, as well as the Association of Professional Engineers of Prince Edward Island. At many of my college and University programs I also meet with science classes, physics seminars. Etc etc etc. Other scientists and myself have participated in two UFO conferences sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, as well as in the Congressional Hearings on UFOs. I have published in *Physics Today*, *Aeronautics* and *Astronautics*. There are loads of references to scientific papers in my publications.

Ron says "We don't see any continuity between what the SETI Community is trying to do and what we are doing. We don't try to answer questions for SETI and, in fact, you have to try very hard to find any reference to SETI research in the UFO Community." Balderdash! Try harder, Ron.

Some of us have been taking on SETI for decades.

Might I suggest my 1973 MUFON paper "Ufology and the Search for ET Intelligent Life," my 1974 MUFON paper "Flying Saucers and Physics," my 1977 MUFON paper "Science Fiction, Science and UFOs," my 1979 MUFON paper "The Case for the ET Origin of Flying Saucers."

Of relatively recent vintage I discuss SETI in my 1993 paper SETI, SAGAN, SCIENCE, at length in my 1996 book TOP SECRET/MAJIC, in my 1999 MUFON paper "Star Travel? YES!" in which I deal at length with the anti-UFO rantings of Dr. Lawrence Maxwell Krause (author of Physics of Star Trek) described by his employer, Case Western Reserve University, as the new Carl Sagan.

I debated him on the Jeff Rense radio show and had correspondence after that. I published a rejoinder to Carl Sagan's *Scientific American* article "The Search for ET Life" in *Houston Sky*. An article the "Pseudoscience of Antiufology" in *Pursuit* deals with Sagan's views. I instigated Terence Dickinson's article about the Zeta Reticuli Incident in *ASTRONOMY*.

Perhaps it needs to be noted that the scientific community consists of far more than the academic world. *PHYSICS TODAY* in April, 2001, p 37, notes that there are only 13,000 PhD physicists in Academia, but about 24,000 in industry, government research labs, etc.

Ron says we like our isolation. Who? Dr. Bruce Maccabee has published in the *J. of Optical Sciences*, Dr. Robert Wood was heavily involved with AIAA groups. At every opportunity I try to engage scientists in the classroom, on radio and TV and in correspondence. More than 700 lectures dealing with flying saucers should certainly demonstrate that.

I think part of the problem may be that not enough academic ufologists pay attention to what non academics are doing. Jim McDonald's work was certainly mainstream. He did a lot more than take his lumps for his UFO work at the Congressional SST hearings. He reached out and spoke to many professional groups.

Ron says, "We have not tried to put the work we do in the context of the mainstream scientific literature." My publications noted above are loaded with references. It is the SETI Cultists who don't mention the UFO literature, not the other way around. Sagan in "Demon Haunted World" has as his primary source of UFO info the tabloid "Weekly World News" and doesn't even refer to "UFOs? A Scientific Debate" which he edited and was published by Cornell University Press.

If aliens are visiting earth, as the evidence so overwhelmingly indicates, who needs a Silly Effort To Investigate as represented by SETI? I certainly haven't ignored them as anybody who reads my material, will note.

—Stanton T. Friedman, non academic nuclear physicist and proud of it.

California woman observes semi-transparent triangles

Reported by Virgil C. Staff
Western Regional Director

In recent years, there have been numerous reports of UFOs in the region of Sebastopol, CA. Jo Ellen Kelly lives in Sebastopol, and on Aug. 22 and 23, between 12:00 and 13:00 hours, she sighted a number of unusual configurations crossing the sky above her home.

These "objects" typically drifted in a straight-line path from south to north, or west to east, although she has watched them move from east to west, or from north to south. With the naked eye, they have appeared to be "white elliptical things," and she initially concluded they might be birds. But unlike birds, she noted that they drifted in straight lines.

Jo Ellen reports that she first believed them to be seagulls and balloons, "but I found out they fly higher than seagulls, especially when I saw a couple of seagulls flying one-half the altitude these triangles were flying." She usually watched them from her back porch, where she studied them intently on Aug. 22 and 23.

But she has watched them at other times, and noted that they occasionally stop, hover, and ascend or descend. She first viewed them at 45 degrees elevation, and lost sight of them at 90 degrees when the overhang of the roof blocked off any further view. She has no idea of their size or height, but notes that they traveled through the clear sky from 45 degrees elevation to 90 degrees in approximately six seconds.

Employing 7x35 binoculars she noted that what had, by the naked eye, seemed to be approximately five times larger than a star, now became what she believed to be essentially the size of an airplane. Each configuration now took a "white, fluffy outline, semi-transparent triangle shape" that was sky blue in the center.

On both days, she observed six of these triangular shapes follow each other at approximately five minutes apart. Direction of wind speed at this time is unknown, but was recorded as about 10 miles per hour. Direction of flight was from south to north.

These incidents are of some interest since there have been occasional discussions concerning unusual flying phenomena where blue sky was reportedly seen within the perimeters. A MUFON Form I is on file.

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The UFO PRESS

***The Golden Age of UFOs* by Donald R. Burleson, Ph.D., Black Mesa Press, Roswell, NM, 2001, 5X8 paper, 75 pages, \$9.95.**

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

This little book is more impressive than many which are five times its size. Dr. Burleson, director of one of the computer labs at Eastern New Mexico University, focuses on just five cases: the famous Roswell "memo" held by Gen. Roger Ramey; the Rhodes photo at Phoenix; the Great Falls, MT, photo; the Lubbock, TX, lights photo; and the Tremonton, UT, photo.

Burleson, a research specialist for MUFON, deals with these specific cases for two reasons: all five involve photos he has personally analyzed, and all five occurred in the period of late 1940's to the early 1950's, a period he calls "The Golden Age" of UFOs.

Why was this period the "golden age"? First, there were numerous sightings, 1500 or more in 1950 alone. Secondly, Burleson notes that pictures shot during this time period are more likely to be authentic, since today's sophisticated technology which can be used for hoaxing photos was not available then.

The major case dealt with is the Ramey "memo," a topic familiar to *Journal* readers through Burleson's timely articles as he reports on his utilization of special computer software to enhance and decipher the images. He refers to this letter or memo as "a smoking gun if ever we hoped to see one," adding, "Essentially, for those with eyes to see the truth, the cover-up is over." Included with the detailed analysis are representative images.

Burleson also enhanced the photos shot at Phoenix, AZ, on July 7, 1947, by William A. Rhodes, which Burleson calls "one of the finest UFO photos ever taken, if not the finest." He notes that the heel-shaped object "with evidence of something like a canopy on top," is "in all likelihood highly similar, even possibly identical, to the craft that crashed near Roswell." According to Burleson, Kenneth Arnold looked at the Rhodes photos and "commented that the pictured objects were identical in form to the nine

objects he had seen near Mr. Rainier" in his famous sighting.

The Great Falls, MT, spots of light turned into what appear to be spinning round objects under Burleson's enhancement techniques. The photographer, Nick Mariana, had earlier taken close-up motion pictures of the object, according to his son, but this section of his movie film was not returned by Air Force investigators, who labeled the objects as F-94's.

The Lubbock, Texas, lights were reported by several reliable observers, and photographed by Carl Hart on Aug. 31, 1951. Burleson's enhancement techniques show the wing formation of 18 lights to be round with a "beehive" hexagonal cellular structure on the underbelly. According to the author, this corroborates with the memory of "Roswell crash retrieval witness Frank Kaufmann, who told me when I interviewed him on Sept. 14, 1999, and showed him my enhancement of one of the Lubbock objects that the 'hex' cells were what he remembered."

The Tremonton, UT, 45-second 16mm footage shot by Navy Warrant Officer Delbert Newhouse on July 2, 1952, shows objects that flew high and fast, and moved independently of each other. Burleson's computer analysis indicates "a disk-shaped and probably spinning craft." The Robertson Panel and Condon Committee claimed the objects were seagulls riding a thermal air current.

Dr. Burleson has utilized modern computer technology well, and this little book would be a nice addition to every ufologist's library—as well as an appropriate gift.

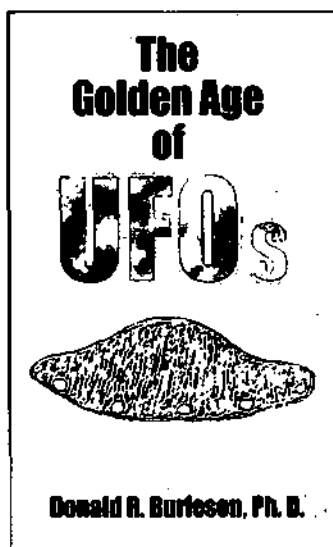
***Unearthly Disclosure* by Timothy Good, Century, Random House Group Limited, 20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2SA, 2000, hardback, 6X9, 287 pages, 16.99 British pounds (not available in U.S.).**

Reviewed by Dwight Connelly

Whether or not one likes this book depends on the perspective of the reader. Those who enjoy entertaining stories and accept all manner of interesting contactee accounts should enjoy it. Those interested in a more "nuts and bolts" style of reporting in which compelling evidence is emphasized will be disappointed.

In the Foreword, Lord Hill-Norton, former Chief of Defence Staff and Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, states, "Readers [new to the field or experienced] cannot fail to be impressed—as I was—that virtually every incident reported by the author is corroborated by more than one independent witness." Unfortunately, most of Good's accounts in *Unearthly Disclosure* fail to meet this standard.

Nearly a quarter (seventy pages) of this 287-page book are devoted to a questionable 1993 case from Italy involving photos of an alleged strange creature with some human-like attributes—a case which the photographer at one point admitted was a hoax, then changed his mind.



He seems to have the means (professional painter and ceramics artisan) to have created the "creature" to be photographed, plus the motive (he sold his photos to the highest bidder), yet Good feels the case is worth a significant portion of this book.

Good did travel to Italy and attempted to determine if the case was indeed a hoax, but the results were inconclusive.

There were two additional witnesses, including the photographer's grandmother, who in the photographer's own words "was still sleepy and her sight wasn't so good," and the photographer's father, who reportedly had a fleeting look at what may have been the creature-or may have been his imagination.

Despite the length of this account, the author does not directly quote either witness, except indirectly through the photographer. It is also surprising that the photographer depended on nothing except a Polaroid camera to record his alleged interactions with this creature, despite the fact that they supposedly occurred over a significant period of time and would have made excellent video footage-if real.

Good seems to find support for this case by noting that two white "tubes" protruding from the creature are similar to a 1995 case in Puerto Rico, suggesting that this tends to corroborate the 1993 photos. But he does not describe the 1995 Puerto Rican case, despite the fact that he was in Puerto Rico gathering information on other cases, nor does he entertain the possibility that the Puerto Rico report may have been generated by the 1993 Italian case.

An additional 47 pages of *Unearthly Disclosure* are devoted to Enrique Castillo Rincon, who spins an undocumented story of contact with entities which allegedly began in 1963. The account is interesting, but could just as well be fiction as fact. There are no additional witnesses to this report.

Then there are the 11 pages devoted to Julio Fernandez, who in 1978 reportedly had contact with entities and was supposedly (with his dog) taken on board a craft. The author bases this account on a hypnosis of the witness, as reported by Spanish investigator and author Antonio Ribera, and as translated by Gordon Creighton. Fernandez died in an auto accident in 1992, so Good could not question him directly. Again, no independent witnesses, no information on the hypnosis, and no additional evidence.

Another 12 pages are devoted to an account from an unnamed "senior reporter" who supposedly has access to an unnamed "senior Air Force officer" as a source of information about alien bases on Earth and bodies from crashes. Again, documentation is lacking, and Good ad-

mits that the material may be disinformation.

There is a great deal of material related to Puerto Rico ("Island of Enchantment"), and Good personally talked to some of the witnesses. However, he seems to have placed a good deal of reliance on Jorge Martin, a veteran researcher and prolific writer on the island, in making contact and in talking with Spanish-speaking witnesses. Martin has a mixed reputation as a researcher, and if there are indeed as many strange occurrences in Puerto Rico as are reported by him, it has to be the hot spot of the world (some people do have that opinion).

To Good's credit he checks out some information allegedly supplied by Martin's supposedly secret sources, and in a couple of instances determines that the information appears to be unreliable. He also utilizes other sources in addition to Martin.

Also included in *Unearthly Disclosure* is a chapter entitled "Soul Vampires," which, despite the title, told little about this topic. Good recounts the classic case of Kelly Cahill in Australia, which is an excellent close encounter and probable abduction case, but which fits into "soul vampires" only because Kelly suggested that

she felt the aliens might be more interested in her "life force" or soul than in her physical body.

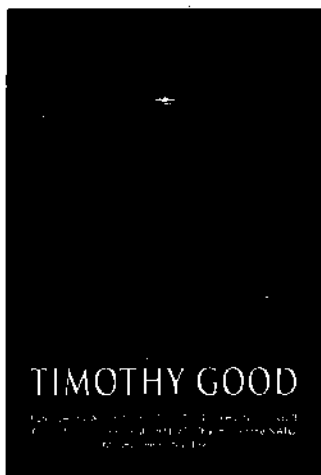
The Cahill case seems wasted in discussing only the "soul vampires" angle, since it is far superior to most of the other cases in this book, and the available drawings and photos which would have added so much to the credibility of the Cahill case are absent.

Good does include the very interesting case of the disappearance in 1980 of two pilots while flying from the Dominican Republic to Puerto Rico. Although that event is more than 20 years old, Good publishes for the first time portions of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) accident report obtained by Graham Sheppard, Good's principal research associate.

This report details the Mayday transmission of the pilot of the Ercoupe: "...a weird object in our course that made us change course about three different times, we got it right now in front of us at 1 o'clock, our heading is 070 degrees." Contact was lost with the light aircraft, which was never located, much as in the Australian case involving Frederick Valentich in 1978.

Another situation involving aircraft reported by Good is the strange and interesting "lateral displacement" reportedly experienced in Puerto Rico by his researcher, Sheppard, in March of 1993. Sheppard was attempting to fly from the Arecibo telescope to Mayaguez Airport, a relatively simple journey, but found himself unexplainably flying over the wrong coastline.

Good also recounts the well-known sightings and pos-



sible capture of creatures in and around the city of Varginha, Brazil, in 1996, a case much better documented than the Italian report, and far more deserving of space in the book.

Despite the generally poor choice and treatment of cases for this latest book, it is clear in talking with Good that he is an honest reporter of events as he sees them. He just seems never to meet a case or contactee he doesn't like.

***The Allies of Humanity—An Urgent Message About the Extraterrestrial Presence in the World Today*, by Marshall Vian Summers. The Society for The Greater Community Way of Knowledge, P.O. Box 1724, Boulder, Colorado, 80306 (303-938-8401), 8x11, 87 pages, \$14.95 plus \$3.00 postage.**

Reviewed by Virgil Staff

In a noteworthy article in the *MUFON UFO Journal* of February, 2001, Elaine Douglass ponders the question of "what is the reason for the aliens' cover-up?" This very question, answered and published by Marshall Vian Summers in the previous year, is known as *The Allies of Humanity—An Urgent Message About the Extraterrestrial Presence in the World Today*.

In this reviewer's opinion, this is the most significant book on ufology that has been published to date, and it will be ignored at great cost to ourselves and our civilization.

The material of this document was channeled through Marshall with great sacrifice to his previous plans and economic expectations. The message is a powerful one, and should not be rejected because of the means by which it was received.

Those who have studied the tomes of Hopkins, Jacobs, Strieber, and others will find little here that is inconsistent with the presentations of these authors. What the reader will find is a brilliant statement of why the aliens are here, what they want, their intentions for mankind and for the world, and how they are presently striving to achieve their goals.

Marshall makes it clear that the aliens are here, and that the scope of their activities increases year by year. He acknowledges that our civilization, and our very souls, are in danger of what is coming on us. Those who believe that the aliens will bring nothing but sweetness and love tend to be terribly shaken by this information. It is against the grain, but it is so reasonable, and so in tune with previous studies that these folk find difficulty emotionally in facing up to the real meaning of the UFO phenomenon.

In a note to readers, Marshall writes: "The source of information describe themselves as physical beings from other worlds who have gathered in our solar system near the earth for the purpose of observing the communications and activities of those alien races who are here in

our world interfering in human affairs. The source refers to themselves as the 'Allies of Humanity.' The Allies' stated purpose is to alert us to the risks of emerging into a Greater Community of intelligent life and to assist us in successfully crossing this great threshold in such a way that human freedom and self-determination can be preserved." He also states: "If you can become informed, then fear is transformed into concern and concern is transformed into constructive action. We know of no other way to describe this."

This is not a detailed record. Rather it is a positive and transformational message to make evident the purpose of the alien intervention. It is aimed at helping us to become aware of our challenges, and how they can be met. The Allies assure us that "those who engage in space travel do not represent the spiritually advanced."

In their contact with the earth, they participate in "four fundamental activities in order to gain in-

fluence in your world." These activities, described in considerable detail, are as follows: (1) the influencing of individuals of great power and authority; (2) the "manipulation of religious values and impulses"; (3) the establishment of their presence here; and (4) the establishment of themselves through interbreeding. The re-education and pacification program is discussed in much detail, as are the means by which it renders earthlings helpless and unable to resist.

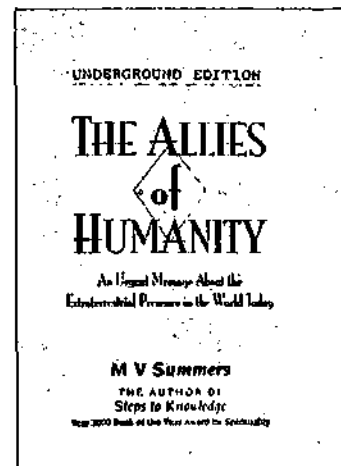
But the message of the Allies is one of hope. It is most importantly a guide to preparing for the onslaught. Those who fail to study this material surely do so at their own risk.

Strieber plans internet conference

Whitley Strieber, author, experimenter, and radio host, has scheduled a live conference on the internet for May 12, which can also be viewed the following week. The fee is \$9.99.

Highlighting the program, according to Strieber, will be a debris sample, "apparently from Roswell," which he says "is proving to be the most profoundly strange thing" he has ever analysed. Strieber says the debris sample has been impossible to photograph clearly, using either analog or digital cameras.

Scheduled guests for the program include Stanton Friedman, Dr. Roger Leir, Robert Dean, Jaime Maussan, and Clifford Stone.



View from Britain

By Jenny Randles

My last column seems to have generated some reaction. On the one hand I had several people who contacted me to agree with the idea that we should consider a new type of conference that sets out to ask and answer specific questions. I only hope that it proves possible to translate this enthusiasm into action.

However, the other responses to my piece picked up on the attitude of British skeptics that I was describing in relation to car stop cases. How could they be so dismissive on the basis of one (undisclosed) incident I was asked?



Jenny Randles

And did I support this nonsense, because my own stance as regards to UFOs was not made clear. Some thought I was by inference supporting the denial of this UFO evidence.

Perhaps a look at my perspective on UFO investigations will provide some background. In a succeeding column I will discuss some of my own conclusions.

The ways of the UFOlogist

There are four paths to UFO investigation that I have identified.

(a) The way of the skeptic:

With some this path is through reason and reduction. To them UFOlogy is best perceived as a series of logic puzzles to be solved. All cases will have answers. We simply have to find them. Very often skeptics follow this code because it is how they view life—and UFOs are merely a part of life to be judged in the same way.

(b) The way of the scientist

Others regard life as a quest for answers, whatever they may be and wherever they may lead. They are able to accept that not all things are soluble. Some cases may never be so within our lifetime. So UFOlogy becomes a quest that may lead to pre-existent knowledge or may lead us into the discovery of new knowledge.

(c) The way of the witness:

Witnesses, very often, are pushed a little further by virtue of the experience that they have had. They can skip the reductionist path and whilst they may give credit to the search for answers, deep down they will often feel,

“Well, I know this thing happened to me. I cannot honestly deny it. I respect the views of others who were not here. But I know what I saw and I know what the most likely explanation is.”

(d) The way of the mystic:

There is even a fourth path that is actually stronger in the UK than I suspect it is in the US. This accepts the veracity of the experience, rejects as a total explanation the path of reduction and reason (although accepting its applicability to some cases), but then confronts the evidence as part of a broader context.

Rather than say, “Yes, UFOs are real; where do they come from?” this approach is fascinated by the human dimension. It sees a close encounter as an experience that happens “to” a witness, rather than an event that is observed “by” them. It seeks links with what we might call psychic phenomena—notices patterns that see close encounters (for example) mirroring the NDE (near death experience) as well as clues that point towards UFO events sometimes occurring during altered states of consciousness.

The quest for answers then becomes a personal crusade for spiritual enlightenment, of which the UFO phenomenon is simply a part.

I suspect that all of you reading this will be able to place yourself into one of these approaches to the UFO mystery. None of them is right. None is wrong. All are viable ways of interpreting the data, and they are what they are because we as human beings are what we are.

We need to show more tolerance for alternative viewpoints and accept that all methods have things to say, and that the ultimate truth could be a synthesis of parts of each. But I guess it would not be fair to avoid placing myself into this framework and explaining where I stand.

It has been advantageous to think this matter through, because I have been able to apply elements of all four “ways” to my UFO investigation work. And I think that has benefited me.

The way of the skeptic

The way of the skeptic serves its purpose well during the early stages of any case investigation. I find that it genuinely helps to go into a case expecting to find a simple answer. About 95% of the time this expectation is vindicated. And focusing on the maxim—this case probably can be solved—aids in your necessary task of checking and double checking every option. You really can gain from studying the methods of the skeptic because in the real world explaining away a case is often what we as UFO investigators have to do.

However, I find that the trick is knowing when to say that enough is enough. With hard line skeptics this methodology is flogged to death, and no case is left unstoned. They are so sure that the 95% can become 100% IFOs that no point will ever be reached where the balance of

evidence seems to favor something other than a mundane answer.

Not so for me. When you have battered at a case hard enough in search of an answer and no credible answer has emerged, it is time, in my view, to stop that approach and move on, for one of the three other ways to do UFOlogy will likely prove to be more effective.

However, as a caveat, I would always remind that later (maybe many years later) a clue might emerge that will return you to the skeptical approach with a particular case. No case ever should be considered immune from possible explanation, however unlikely that may seem.

The way of the scientist

But having moved on from the initial phase of rigorous skepticism, I often find that the way of the scientist is the next best step.

I find that in this second phase of case study you can concentrate on two things: collating evidence broadly and looking for patterns and comparisons with other cases. You should never accept a case as "over" because you have "solved" it as a UFO. Terming a case a UFO is not a statement of success, for a UFO is still "unidentified," and we must try to go beyond that if we possibly can.

Collecting evidence as a scientist would in this next phase involves thinking beyond the norm—asking potentially relevant questions, such as were there any odd atmospheric events that night? Did astronomers record any coincident anomalies? What if I surveyed the traffic police? Would they have cameras on the highway that might have recorded this area of sky? The variations are endless. The questions to ask differ from case to case.

As for seeking out comparative cases, I often find this the best part of the scientific methodology, because by that approach I quite often dig up old cases from my own work or the work of others that seem very like the one under present scrutiny. It is by no means uncommon for these old cases to point towards new questions to ask, or new lines of enquiry to follow. The old case might even have been solved and thus kick you back into "skeptical mode," looking anew at the possibility of an explanation that you had previously overlooked.

Either way, too few UFO investigators pay attention to previous cases, and yet this is a rich treasure trove of resource material built up by UFOlogy. We owe it to those who came before us to not behave as if the world started anew when we became a UFOlogist. If you want those who follow to care about the evidence over which you are now sweating blood and tears then you should apply the same principle to those who preceded you.

The way of the witness

The third approach to UFOlogy—the way of the witness—is not one that I follow quite so much. It is, of course, the hardest to apply because you cannot just become a witness simply when you would like to be. However, it

has its part to play, even for the most hard bitten researcher.

It is essential, for example, to familiarise yourself with what is visible in the sky. There are lots of things that people never see because they rarely look upwards at night. Practicising this, perhaps at the site where your current case has happened, is an excellent method to adopt from time to time—not so much in hope or expectation of seeing the UFO coming back, but because sooner or later you will see something interesting by chance as a result of doing this.

It might be a fireball meteor or an unusual aircraft or a space junk re-entry or a stellar mirage. I have seen three of these things simply by following this advice (as yet I haven't seen a space junk burn up!) The big advantage of such an approach is that it places you in the frame of the witness. You now have seen something that others have not. They may well confront your story in the same way as you will confront a UFO witness.

It is very important to get this personal insight of the other side of the fence, since it brings empathy and understanding to those you must work with, and it instills an awareness of the power of actually seeing rather than merely believing. Moreover, on more than one occasion following the way of the witness has helped to solve a case. Because by being there in the same environment, the "UFO" just might return. And when in past cases it has, the investigator has been able to figure out what it was that the witness must have seen.

And, of course, in today's technological age it is possible to follow this route towards investigation in a wholly new way. Say your witness has seen a UFO over an adjacent mountain. You don't know what it is. You can go and stand on the mountain and look skyward and hope. But equally you can more easily locate a camcorder pointing out of the witness' house towards the mountain and film every night for say two weeks, reviewing the footage of the sky here at your leisure.

Maybe nothing will show up. But maybe it will. By following the way of the witness you have hope of making progress. There are always going to be possibilities to combine the way of the witness with, as here, the way of the scientist. And sometimes that can be the key to a case.

The way of the mystic

Finally, there is the way of the mystic. This is certainly the most controversial of my four suggested approaches. Obviously it will come more easily to those who have a spiritual outlook on life, and I often find myself pulled towards it by the consequences of the most strange cases with which I get involved.

I am not advocating holding a seance to try to commune with the aliens, although I know some people would even say this works for them! Rather, when the ways of

the skeptic, scientist and witness have all failed to progress a case (as they sometimes do) then it is worth considering the possibilities beyond.

A simple step to take in this regard is to probe into the background of the witness. Have they ever had what we might call psychic experiences? I am no longer surprised how often this proves true. The vast majority of close encounter witnesses in my experience have had a track record of out-of-body experiences, precognitions, poltergeist outbreaks and so on.

Because I have found this pattern so often, adopting the way of the mystic has proven to be a valid approach. Learning about the spiritual dimensions of a case does supply new data that you will not get by any other means. And who knows what importance it might have?

Similarly, it is in this way that I often find close encounter witnesses describing to me "the Oz Factor." This is just my term for a set of symptoms reported by witnesses during close encounter cases, and that seems to infer that they are in an altered state of consciousness. They report how time stands still, how they lose touch with reality (all ambient sounds vanish, traffic disappears, etc) and how they also seem to enter a peculiar state of reverie.

Most often witnesses do not mention this oddity lest you consider them as "weird" should they do so. You have to find a way to let them tell you these things without leading them on—to make them feel at ease enough to share out-of-the-ordinary things that might have happened.

I find the Oz Factor often because I am alert to its existence. I am not surprised that many other investigators hardly ever come across it. But I doubt that this is because it is not there in many cases. By virtue of adopting the way of the mystic I think that I have uncovered aspects to close encounter cases that would otherwise remain hidden. So I believe I am closer to the quest for truth as a consequence.

British Flying Saucer Bureau closes after half century

The British Flying Saucer Bureau, founded in 1953, has ceased operations, according to the *Times* of London. Denis Plunkett, 70, said there have not been enough recent sightings to justify continuing the group.

"I'm just as enthusiastic about flying saucers as I always was," he said, "but the problem is that we are in the middle of a long, long trough. He says the end of the Cold War is partly to blame. "The number of sightings always rises at times of international tension and declines in times of peace," said Plunkett.

He also suggested that perhaps the extraterrestrials have finished their study of Earth, which he speculates may have begun after the explosion of the two atomic bombs on Japan in 1945.

At one time the British Flying Saucer Bureau claimed 1,500 members worldwide, and reportedly averaged 30 sightings reported weekly.

Discovery of dark energy changes view of universe

**By Ray Villard, Special to SPACE.com
& Robin Lloyd, Science Editor**

A strange repulsive force of "dark energy" pervades every nook and cranny of the universe, a team of scientists has announced, but the force not only pushes against the master force of gravity—it also has astrophysicists' heads spinning.

While gravity gently binds planets, stars, and galaxies together, dark energy tugs on the fabric of time and space, pushing galaxies apart ever faster and faster into the farthest reaches of the universe.

The evidence came in a recent Hubble space telescope observation of the most distant supernova (exploding star) ever detected. The record-breaking supernova appears brighter than it should if the universe had been expanding at a steady rate. The new finding suggests that a decelerating universe holds galaxies relatively close together and objects in them would have appeared brighter because they would be closer.

The trouble is that with this finding and others in the past three years, the universe is beginning to look like a complex witch's brew of dark energy, normal matter, and dark matter (an invisible exotic form of matter).

"This starts to look incredibly ugly and complicated," says Mario Livio of the Space Telescope Science Institute. "I even wonder if we are asking right questions."

The dark energy confirmation comes on the heels of other closed loopholes that have shaken up the astrophysics world and lent more support to the accelerating universe idea. For instance, in the past three years, scientists have discovered that the universe is basically flat. This finding and others are knocking down an explanation for variations in the brightness of supernovae—that some type of cosmic dust simply absorbs the light.

Saul Perlmutter, who headed up the first group to publish its findings on the accelerating universe three years ago, said the confirmation of dark energy will spark an entirely new brand of physics.

"Dark energy is something we have no clue as to what is causing it, and it doesn't fit into current physics theories, and they have to develop new approaches to explain it," said Perlmutter, an astrophysicist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. "That's exciting. It's rare that we get to do this."

Newsletters appreciated

The Journal staff appreciates receiving newsletters from local MUFON groups. Not only does this keep us better informed, but occasionally there will be news from the local groups that deserves national coverage.

Perspective

On a Program for Ufology

By Richard H. Hall

Ron Westrum notes in the April 2001 issue that we (Ufology) are slack in carrying through systematic investigations and verification of what we believe to be true, often speculating without justifying or supporting our speculations. His summary comments include a pretty good shorthand blueprint for progress:



Richard Hall

"We have lots of raw data from which we have very strongly speculated," he says. "We need to check the inferences we have made. We need to marshal the genuine facts that we have in a more coherent and logical way. We need to connect up the stuff we are doing with mainstream science."

Of course, there are some good reasons why we have failed to be thorough and complete (mainly lack of research funds and manpower). But there are also "bad reasons" at times: A lack of professionalism; a poor understanding of scientific procedures; and a failure to weed out the fraud, opportunism, and pseudoscience which is rampant in the field. This latter hodgepodge is the primary image of "Ufology" seen by important persons and institutions in society.

There also is a certain pretense in Ufology that we ("we" encompassing both our strongest and our weakest links) in our spare time—how much full-time Ufology is there?—are smart enough, and capable enough, and have the necessary resources to figure all this stuff out and establish the truth all by ourselves.

In my estimation, this is self-delusion of the worst sort and it is hurting our cause severely. What is "our cause," by the way? I am assuming that we all more or less agree that we want to find out the truth about UFOs, to get the important institutions of society to take the subject seriously, and if they are hiding important information from us, for governments to tell us everything they know.

If this, or something like it, is really what we are trying to achieve, then we badly need far more human and financial resources than the thin ranks of "weekend warriors" that presently constitute "Ufology" can possibly bring to bear. We also need to adopt a new attitude and

shed the pretense that "we" can do everything by ourselves and try to make the connection with mainstream science that Westrum recommends.

The scientifically oriented members of "Ufology" can (and perhaps should) think of ourselves as torch bearers, trying to keep the flame burning until those fully qualified and better informed members of the scientific and military communities can do the job that needs to be done, with full support from government and society.

But we shouldn't think of ourselves as able to do all these things by ourselves. How many years have "we" been trying to do that, and where has it gotten us?

In *The UFO Evidence, Volume II* I lay out the "Elements of a Scientific Study" in the last section that could resolve the UFO controversy for once and for all. It is based on a lot of data presented in the previous sections and provides a blueprint for progress in obtaining some meaningful answers.

Never forget that there are those among us, also considered to be "Ufologists" since that is such a poorly defined and arbitrary term, who have a vested interest in maintaining mystery and intrigue rather than resolving the issues because they find it personally profitable and/or ego-satisfying to be the resident priests.

We need to decide clearly what our ultimate goal is, how it can best be accomplished, and what we need to do as individuals and organizations to expedite the process. My views are strongly on record that we need to do a lot of housecleaning, expose fraud, practice science, and assemble a credible and coherent case to persuade science and society to take a hard look at the solid facts, not at the unfortunate tabloid image that is the curse of Ufology.

When does my membership/subscription expire?

The answer to this question appears on the mailing label on each *Journal* (see example below)

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The first line on the label provides the answer. The first two numbers show the year of expiration (01=2001, 02=2002, etc):

The two numbers after the slash show the month of expiration and show the last issue that will be mailed (05=May, 08=Aug, 11=Nov, etc.).

The NIGHT SKY

Walter N. Webb

June 2001

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Mars, retrograding now in Ophiuchus, is opposite the Sun on June 13 and nearest Earth on the 21st. Our red-faced neighbor is brighter and closer than at any time since 1988. It shines at a maximum magnitude of -2.4, with an apparent diameter of 21" of arc. Mars rises in the SE around sunset and then remains in view in the southern sky all night long.

Though the planet lies rather low in the sky for northern observers, telescope-users still should take this opportunity to glimpse such dark equatorial features as Syrtis Major, which will face our Western Hemisphere during the first half of June and the first half of July. The S polar cap should stand out prominently.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Venus reaches its maximum point (elongation) W of the Sun on the 8th. At magnitude -4.4 then, its bright disc resembles a half moon through a small telescope. The imposing planet rises about 3 AM in mid-June and stands low in the E at dawn. It pairs up nicely with the crescent Moon on the 17th and 18th.

Mars advances across the southern sky to a point low in the SE at dawn.

Saturn (-0.3), in Taurus, emerges in the ENE about 4 AM late in June. The ringed world lies near the lunar crescent on June 19.

Moon Phases:

- Full moon—June 5
- Last quarter—June 13
- New moon—June 21
- First quarter—June 27

The Stars:

On June 21 the Sun arrives at an invisible point in the sky known as the summer solstice (midway between the equinoxes). At that moment summer begins in the Northern Hemisphere.

The arrival of summer means the ascendance in the E of that seasonal sky symbol, the Summer Triangle (the stars Vega, Deneb, Altair), and the waning in the W of the spring symbol, Leo the Lion.

Look for the little crown of Princess Ariadne, Corona Borealis, on the celestial meridian in the S. It is a semi-circle of 7 stars.

And on the meridian near the southern horizon can be found the trio of stars marking the head of Scorpius the Scorpion. From his head, follow the string of stars that extends eastward (to the left) through Antares (the creature's red heart) and then around his curling tail to the stinger at the end. To see the tail, choose a clear unobstructed horizon. The later in the evening the better. And the farther S you are, the higher the constellation.

Calendar

May 5-6, Fortnite '01, College Park, MD. Speakers: John Anthony West, Philip Imbrogno, Michael Glickman, John A. Keel, Tracy R. Twyman, and Dr. Bruce Maccabee. 301-294-4315, email fortfest99@yahoo.com

May 11-13, Journeys Beyond Conference, The Radisson Hotel, Sabal Park, Tampa, FL. Speakers: Dr. Bruce Goldberg, Dr. Carlos Watter, Dr. Ron Reid, Colleen Johnston, James Courant, William Henry, and Franceen King Workshops. Check out www.journeysbeyond.com, call Pat Crumbley at 334-621-5750, or for a free a program guide write 7262 Highpointe PL E, Spanish Fort, AL 36527.

May 25-28, First Annual Northwest UFO/Paranormal Conference, Seattle, WA 206-329-1794 email philiplipson@hotmail.com

May 26-27, Conspiracy Con, Santa Clara, CA. Speakers: Jordan Marnell, David Icke, William Thomas, Leonard Horowitz. 408-266-4749.

July 20-22, MUFON 2001 International UFO Symposium, Hyatt Regency Irvine, Irvine, CA. Theme: Joining the Cosmic Neighborhood. (See Director's Message on page 24 for details.)

Sept. 14-16, 38th Annual National UFO Conference, Austin, TX. Jenny Randles, Constance Clear, Patrick Huyghe, Karl Pflock, Kenn Thomas, Greg Bishop, Eugenia Macer-Story, James Arthur, David Perkins, James Moseley, Dennis Stacey, Ed Conroy, Tom Deuley, Mack White, Bruce Lanier Wright, Russ Dowden.

Sept. 15-16, Third Annual Bay Area UFO Expo Santa Clara, CA. Steven Greer, Michael Hesemann, Ian Christopher, Robert Dean, James Gilliland, Anna Hayes, Michael Heiser, Phillip Krapf, Roger Leir, Melinda Leslie, Jim Marrs, Dea Martin, Jordan Maxwell, Edgar Mitchell, Sean David Morton, & Marshall Summers. www.bayareaufexpo.com > or contact Victoria Jack, isis777@earthlink.net, (408) 266-4749

Oct. 27, A 2001 Space Odyssey: Explorations into the ET Question. Annapolis, MD (near D.C. & Balt.). Speakers: Dr. Tom VanFlandern, Dr. Paul LaViolette, Richard Hall, Rob/Sue Swiatek, Anna Jamerson, and Dr. S. Peter Resta (organizer). email: SPR100@aol.com

Nov. 9-11, Journeys Beyond Conference, Mobile, AL. 334-621-5750; e-mail journeysbeyond@hotmail.com; e-mail crumble2@bellsouth.net.

Nov. 17-18, Third Annual International UFO & New Age Symposium of Eastern Europe, Balkans, & Istanbul. Phone 90-216-36992.

Director's Message...

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ing with seasoned investigators to obtain practical field training, studying the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual*, and taking the Field Investigator's Exam.

The main tool for Field Investigators is the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual*. The manual is organized for easy self-study and provides the guidelines for conducting MUFON field investigations. The manual may be ordered for \$25 plus \$3.50 P&H from MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369.

The final step in the process is for the trainee to request a Field Investigator's Exam from MUFON Headquarters. The exam is an open-book self-administered test and may be ordered whenever the Field Investigator Trainee has completed the prescribed field of study and is ready to be tested.

Alan Vaughan dies

Alan Vaughan passed away on April 8. His Memorial Gathering was April 20 at the Chapel of the Hollywood Forever Cemetery, Hollywood, CA. The announcement was made by his companion, Carolyn Koch.

Author Desmond Leslie dies

Desmond Leslie, co-author with George Stransky of *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, has died at the age of 79 in the south of France.

Leslie wrote both non-fiction and fiction, including *Space Race* (with astronomer Patrick Moore), *The Jesus File*, *Suzy Saucer*, *Ronnie Rocket*, and *The Incredible Mr. Lutterworth*. None, of course, is as well known to ufologists as *Flying Saucers Have Landed*, which has been translated into numerous languages.

Leslie was working on *Pandora*, a novel about the women in his life, when he died.

Article used without permission

The article "A comparison of the pre-war cryptanalysis of Japanese ciphers to the Majestic-12," by Paul B. Thompson, which appeared in the January, 2001, issue of the *Journal*, was used without the permission of the author. Murray Bott, MUFON National Director for New Zealand, who submitted the article, has asked us to "convey to those people concerned my regret at having been party to the problem." We also apologize for the oversight. In communications with Mr. Thompson we are happy to report that the situation has now been resolved to everyone's satisfaction.

Nova Scotia city marks UFO visit with postage stamp

Les Perreux National Post-Residents of Shag Harbour, N.S., will be mailing an image of a flying saucer with every letter and package after Canada Post approved a new postmark commemorating a visit 34 years ago by an unidentified flying object.

The crash has become the subject of popular lore, including a book, and has also made the town a tourist draw. The locally designed ink stamp, used to mark and date outgoing mail, depicts a flying saucer hovering over water with a lighthouse and boat beneath it.

The scene refers to an incident in 1967 in which an apparent UFO plunged into the bay near the town and sent the RCMP, Coast Guard, and townspeople on a fruitless search-and-rescue mission.

At about 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 4, 1967, Laurie Wickens and three friends were driving home when they saw an orange light heading toward the water, and called police. "At first the cops didn't want to believe us, but then we found out another cop had seen it too," Mr. Wickens recalls. He and several witnesses, including RCMP officers, watched the light floating on the water until it sank.

An all-night search found nothing except a 600-metre strip of floating, yellow scum. No official explanation has been offered for the lights, but theories at the time had a Cold War influence and involved a Russian spacecraft or submarine. Some believe it was a U.S. military plane.

"There are so many people coming in who are interested in having their picture taken here or having their mail stamped, I thought we needed something with a UFO design," said postmaster Cindy Nickerson, who came up with the idea for the stamp two years ago. The design is also being used on T-shirts, hats and commemorative wooden nickels.

Canada Post has created many postmarks for communities, including a teddy bear hugging a heart for Love, Sask., and Anne of Green Gables for Cavendish, P.E.I. "It's a concept that goes over very well with collectors," said Tim McGurkin, spokesman for Canada Post. The ink stamp will be officially unveiled in May.

MUFON Merchandise

Wear official MUFON T-shirts (royal blue printing on white cotton), sizes S, M, L & XL. Two styles of baseball caps (royal blue with white logo or dark blue with blue logo on white front). T-shirt price \$12.00 and baseball caps \$8.00. S/H for each is \$3.00 or if both ordered together is only \$3.00. MUFON, P.O. Box 369, Morrison, CO 80465-0369. (Check, money order, travelers check, or cash, all in U.S. dollars.)

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By John Schuessler
MUFON International Director

New State Officers

Mark Gilley, State Director for Tennessee, has named **Marcia Prince** as Assistant State Director for Tennessee.

Bland Pugh, State Director for Florida, has assigned **Mel Tennis** the State Section Director for Okaloosa county and Walton County. Mel was active in the Miami area before moving to Northwest Florida. He will replace **Jakie Miller**, the departing SSD.

Jim Bouck, State Director for New York, has assigned **Peter Benjaminson** as State Section Director for Manhattan County.

William E. Jones, State Director for Ohio, has assigned **Charles E. "Captain Chuck" Eppolito** as State Section Director for Lake County. He will replace **Rick Dell'Aquila** as SSD for Lake County, who will still be responsible for two counties as well as being Assistant State Director.



John Schuessler

MUFON 2001 UFO Symposium

An all-star cast of speakers will participate in the MUFON 2001 UFO Symposium at the Hyatt Regency Irvine Hotel in Orange County, California, on July 20-22. The theme of the event is "2001 - Joining the Cosmic Neighborhood."

You will not hear the "same old stuff" from the speakers this year. Each one will address the topic of joining the cosmic neighborhood, but in different ways. Their topics will range from abduction research to interstellar propulsion, backed by the amassed UFO evidence from various parts of the world, including very important South American and Mexican research results.

Confirmed speakers are: **Budd Hopkins**, **Dr. John Mack**, **Joe McMoneagle**, **Daniel Sheehan**, **Dr. Steven Greer**, **Dr. Barry Downing**, **Stanton Friedman**, **Bob Pratt**, **Ann Druffel**, **Ryan Wood**, **Dr. Bob Wood**, **Dr. Eric Davis**, **Jaime Maussan**, and **Dr. Roger Leir**.

MUFON has reserved a block of rooms for symposium attendees at \$89/night from Thursday, July 19, team-

through Tuesday, July 24. The usual rate for these same rooms is \$205 per night. Hotel reservations may be made by calling the Hotel's Reservation Department at (949) 975-1234 or by mail to the attention of the Reservation's Manager, 17900 Jamboree Road, Irvine, CA 92614. Ask for the MUFON block of rooms. The hotel is conveniently located near Orange County's John Wayne airport.

The admission price for the whole conference is \$99 per person prior to July 1, 2001. Admission at the door will be \$109 per person for all speaker presentations. Tickets for individual sessions will be \$35. Admission to the Friday night Buffet Reception is \$25 per person.

Please send your registration to MUFON Orange County, 19744 Beach Blvd., PMB 264, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

The 2001 symposium is hosted by MUFON Orange County. You may contact them at www.mufonoc.org or 714-520-4UFO.

MUFON 2002 UFO Symposium

I have just received commitment from New York MUFON to host the 2002 symposium. The date is not yet firm, but will be announced in the June *Journal*.

MUFON 2003 UFO Symposium

Richard McVannel, Michigan State Director, has finalized plans for the MUFON 2003 UFO Symposium. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn Hotel in Dearborn, MI, on July 4-6, 2003. Congratulations Richard.

New Field Investigators

Kathleen Marden, Director of Field Investigator Training, has announced the following Field Investigator Trainees have successfully completed the Field Investigator's Exam and are now certified as MUFON Field Investigators: **Michael J. Mauro**, Fountain Hills, Arizona; **Linda L. Hauptman**, Harlingen, Texas; **Steve Oglesby**, Albuquerque, New Mexico; **Sam Marant'o**, Lockport, Illinois; **Abdul Aziz Khan**, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada; **Noreen Bellio**, Melrose, Massachusetts; **David Twitchell**, Trenton, Michigan; and **Ruben J. Clinger**, Toquerville, Utah. Congratulations to all of our new field investigators.

How to Become a MUFON Field Investigator

MUFON members may become a Field Investigator by attending training classes offered by state directors,

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