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# THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL

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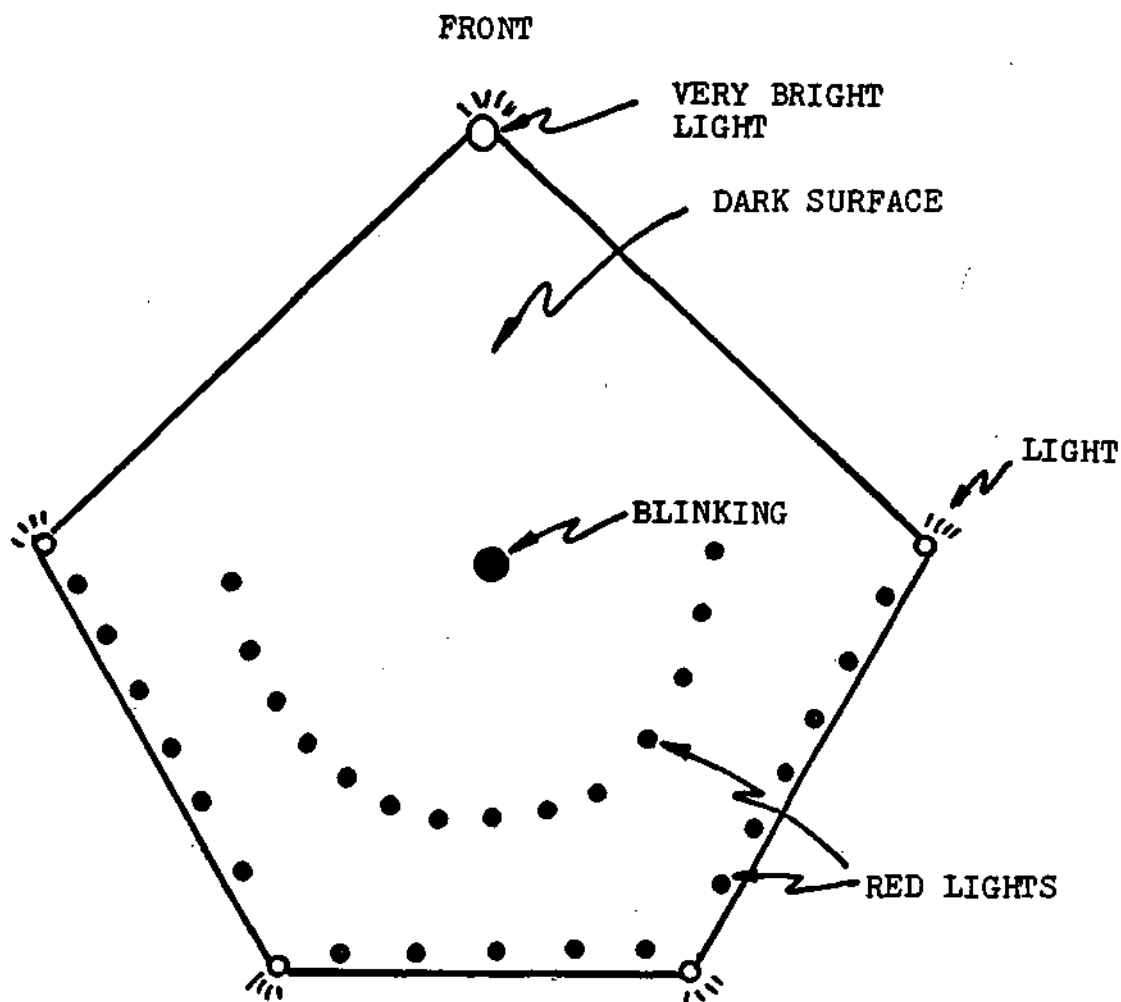
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**MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS, UFO, SEPTEMBER 1976**  
(See Story, page 10)

# FROM THE EDITOR

*The MUFON*  
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The CUFOS Conference September 25-27 provided the season's finale, so to speak, of UFO symposia in the U.S. It was a fitting conclusion to an extraordinary year of UFO conferences. We are indebted to Tom Deuley for the information provided to the Journal.

In the interest of continuing to upgrade the quality of the Journal, we invite members or subscribers to do two things: (1) If you attend UFO meetings or conferences (or have other information, including sightings), please submit your impressions or a descriptive article (typed and double-spaced) along with any photographs; (2) Please send a postal card to MUFON evaluating the contents of this year's Journals in terms of types of information or articles that you would like to see more of or less of. Your critical comments will be helpful.

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# KAL KORFF AND THE "MEIER HOAX": A RESPONSE — Pt. 1

By Wendelle C. Stevens

The following comments are intended as rebuttal to accusations made in Kal K. Korff's article, "The Meier Incident: The Most Infamous Hoax in Ufology," published in the December 1980 issue of *MUFON UFO Journal*.

Critics such as Korff have the advantage, in that it takes much more space to adequately respond to one-line unsupported accusations than it takes to make them. One thing which puzzles me is the fact that experienced researchers have allowed a relatively immature newcomer to become their collective spokesman in this case. Kal Korff raises so many misquotes and obviously unsound conclusions that I will have to take them in the order in which they appear in his article.

Korff's first mistake, or deliberate distortion, appears in the first five lines of his article, "recording over 3,000 pages of quotes from them" (Pleadians). The book he refers to clearly says, on page 35 of the First Edition, "over 3,000 pages of notes on Mr. Meier's phenomenal encounters."

In the same paragraph, he suggests that we have said the rock and metal specimens "defy conventional explanation." The correct phrasing in our book is, "that, in reference to our present technology, was not immediately explainable." Nor do we declare, anywhere in the book, that all, or even any, of Meier's claims are genuine. The closest we came to that was on page 43 of the First Edition (page 45, Second Edition), where we said, "This could very well be the first authentic evidence-supported case of ongoing extraterrestrial contact with Earth humanity . . ."

In the third paragraph, we are also misquoted about Meier's "first experiences with extraterrestrials." Again, the quote actually reads, "first evidence of a man's ongoing encounters . . ."

We chose to start this book about the encounters with the Pleiadian contact team at the point where *those* contacts began. Space was our limitation.

There were *no* press releases of any kind *ever* indicating that Jim Lorenzen, or APRO, "endorsed the book as being a genuine representation of the facts." The statement, furnished in Jim Lorenzen's own handwriting, still on file at Genesis III Productions, reads, "At least the preponderance of material is too much for an objective mind to ignore in good conscience" (signed, Jim Lorenzen). This was used on our own pre-publication flyer for the book. After the flyer was printed and in mailing envelopes, Jim (because of flak at home) wanted to add another line to say that at this time, he considered the photographs in the category of excellent art, not science. We agreed to make the change if he wanted to bear the cost of reprinting the flyers; he declined, so we retained the original statement.

I am not a one-fourth partner in Genesis III Productions, as Korff alleges, but I do insist that Meier sought no publicity from anyone concerning his experiences. He had already survived four assassination attempts by gunfire and certainly didn't seek any more attention. He refused to accept any money for the material he gave me and signed a rights agreement without accepting any money, believing that whatever we did in the United States would be a long time in coming back to him. When I asked him about the statement Korff attributes to Wilfried Falk ("that he planned to write a book about his experiences as early as 1977"), Meier said that Falk asked him if he planned to write this up as a book and that his reply to Falk was, "Perhaps . . . some day."

In that same paragraph, Korff quotes Lorenzen as saying that I

described Meier as "a sort of person who gets great satisfaction out of fooling authorities." That is also completely untrue. The correct statement, which Jim Lorenzen never published, is this: "I had mentioned that Meier was from a very poor family, and his poor clothes and lack of ability to participate in events at school, for lack of money, set him apart from the other boys, and that he was often made the butt of pranks, and was frequently punished for things he did not do. The statement was, 'Meier learned to smile inwardly when he had to suffer for things he had not done.' " He considered the inability of the teachers to see through the set-up as a deficiency on their parts. How Lorenzen, or anyone else, got the other completely different inference from that, accidentally, is difficult for me to see.

The book does not say, anywhere, that any of the photographs of the UFOs are authentic. It says, "Nothing was found" to indicate trick photography, models, or other suspicious techniques. Nothing was found to indicate a hoax. Distance and size measurements are proper in relation to location measurements taken by the investigators and the reported size of the craft is appropriate to the calculations done with computers. Work on the photographs is continuing and we still have not found any way to successfully duplicate them with small models.

We did not say, nor does the book imply, that De Anza Systems "did some of the analysis." They aren't even mentioned anywhere in the book. We have stated elsewhere, however, that we used De Anza Computer Graphics equipment because it was the best we had found

(continued on next page)

## Meier Photos, Continued

for this kind of work. They also had the best "edge identification man in the business" working there at the factory and we consulted him. We did the testing. We were looking for the best equipment available for a model laboratory for this particular work, to be financed by a production company who was then interested in making a documentary film on this case. We turned in our report, but the project was later superceded by something else and the lab didn't get funded.

We have never demonstrated the photographs to be *authentic*. Scientifically, that cannot be done to any UFO photograph, short of having the ship at hand, with *proof* of its origin (which would also be unprovable, without going to its supposed point of origin for verification). We said only that we have eliminated the possibility of all known methods of trick photography and lab techniques known to modern photographic science.

I have no unpublished paper mentioning thorough analysis of "several" of the Meier photos by Dr. Neil Davis of Design Technology in Poway, California. I have Neil Davis' written report of the analysis of one photograph, which I furnished. The analysis was thorough and well done, but it didn't *prove* the photograph authentic. It *did* eliminate many lab tricks and hoax techniques. It concluded with a statement that, "Nothing was found in the examination of the print which could cause me to believe that the object in the photo is anything other than a large object photographed a distance from the camera."

There are actually *ten* photographs of the Swiss Army *Mirage* jet fighter making passes at the UFO, with the ship high and low, nearer and farther. They are all in a correct sequential order. We have only released one.

There is a total of 23 witnesses to the various events described by Meier, each participating in some way at different times. We have taken statements and depositions, both written and oral (and on video tape), and have especially inter-

viewed six of the main ones on audio tape for Psychological Stress Evaluation testing. They were analyzed by two different PSE agencies using different equipment and all were found to believe the answers they gave to the prepared list of questions. Lack of space prevented inclusion of these data in Volume 1.

The Pleadians did not say "that they originated from the star system of 'the Pleiades.'" They told Meier they came here from the *direction* of the constellation *we call* the Pleiades. They have an entirely different name for it. The Pleiades are not "only some tens of millions of years old." Mr. O. Richard Norton, formerly director of the Flandreau Planetarium at the University of Arizona in Tucson, says that the latest calculations show the basic Pleiads are considered to be between 500 million and one billion years old, still relatively young stars, and not old enough to have produced mature life-bearing planets by the same evolution as ours. However, if they were helped from outside, there are other possibilities. The question is still open. The gaseous nebulaosity seen around the Pleiades, as shown in the book, has been especially revealed by filters and special exposures. That effect is not clearly visible to the naked eye.

As for the quotes from the alien cosmonauts, *we* selected them, not Meier, and we selected the ones that seemed short enough and appropriate to most of the questions being asked, the most popular of which is, "Do they believe in Jesus Christ?" They do not advocate any particular belief. They were simply comparing their beliefs to ours.

The quotes attributed to James Hurtak have either been copied wrong by Korff or Hurtak doesn't read German as well as he claims, as the aliens contacting Meier said, first of all, that they do not count time the way we do, and secondly, that if we could compare evolutions, it might be said that theirs is about 3000 years ahead of ours, according to the way *we* count time. The aliens also suggested in another contact that, because of the curve of the growth of

knowledge, we *might* be able to achieve many of their capabilities within 300 years of our time, if we would sufficiently concentrate the energies of our planet. They didn't see any possibility of us doing that at this time. They observed that we can't even get along with each other, or nation with nation, very long, and that must be overcome before we can marshal the resources of the world.

Korff's next statement is also wrong. The book does not claim that Meier's camera was jammed for several years. This is an assumption made by Korff from my own statements that Meier's camera was jammed just short of the infinity setting, maybe 1/32nd of an inch on the rotating index, for most of the photos which were taken. What he also failed to consider is the fact that all of those photos were made over the first fifteen months of contacts with the aliens. For the first eight months, they did not let the secret out of a very small group who had only the broken camera *that could be held and operated by Meier with his one hand*. He had become familiar with it. Also, he never expected to get a second or third set of pictures. He thought each opportunity would probably be his last one. It would have taken weeks to have his camera repaired and he had no money for such expenses. The remainder of Korff's statement on camera optics fails to conform to the facts, as anyone with a basic knowledge of photography will know.

The metal samples were actually analyzed at three different laboratories by three different methods, one of which was the analysis done by Marcel Vogel. What Korff failed to note, or deliberately omitted, is that Vogel only analyzed *one single specimen* of metal. My very brief summary in the book on Vogel's work with the metal specimen was abstracted from two hours of videotaped analysis and three hours of recorded discussions involving dozens of photographs. All of this is in Mr. Vogel's own words and the tapes are in my possession. We did not release anything other

(continued on next page)

## Meier Photos, Continued

than the preliminary steps, because we agreed that Vogel should be the one to release any particular details at his own pleasure in his own choice of forum. He evidently did not consider Korff an appropriate spokesman.

We should not overlook the fact that Marcel Vogel is one of our most brilliant scientists who, as a chemist, has no peers. He is a senior research chemist at IBM's main research laboratory. He pioneered luminescence technology, including the development of fluorescent and phosphorescent products, did major research on liquid crystals, optical microscopy, magnetic films, etc., and invented the "floppy disc" so essential to modern electronic technology. He has pioneered new experiments in man-plant communication and also in energy transference using prepared crystals. He chose not to share his research findings with Kal Korff.

OMNI magazine arranged for a fourth analysis of a specimen of metal, to be conducted at MIT. The letter carrying the piece of metal for analysis took 29 days (First Class Mail) to get from Tucson to OMNI's offices in New York City. Harry Lebelson, an assistant editor of the magazine, advised me that he personally delivered it to MIT. The scientists who received the metal from Lebelson later told him that they *lost* it before getting a good look at it! We should not forget that MIT is a contract university used by many agencies of the government, including various intelligence agencies. Frankly, I felt from the beginning that if they did find anything interesting, we would be the last to know about it.

We did not connect the great structures of history to the Pleiades. We only reported a few of the connections which had already been made by others. There are, in fact, scores of such connections in our files. The references were identified with quotes from these other sources. Korff seems to take special issue with the reference to the Devil's Tower in Wyoming. Perhaps he is unaware of the extensive relationship of UFO

sightings with this landmark. There is even an old report of a UFO landing on top of the Tower. It is reported that Steven Spielberg's movie company had an actual UFO experience there while filming scenes for "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," but that he played this down to avoid being accused of staging it.

Korff's facetious references to Meier having met Jesus Christ stem from a misstatement by Colman von Keviczky, whose distorted views were acquired during his very limited (one day) "investigation" of the Meier case. He did not go to the Meier property, did not interview any of the current witnesses or civil and military authorities. He did not check or view any of the evidence available at the Meier property, only visited one of the "contact sites," and did not visit any of the photo processing agencies that developed Meier's film.

We have heard and are more inclined to accept for study, some of the claims to having flown in the spacecraft and to have traveled in time, but these are still only stories unfounded in demonstrable fact and we are unable to test their validity. We have reached no conclusions on such stories at this time.

Korff gives me far too much credit when he alleges that I have masterminded this development for some personal reason.

To summarize our feelings on the Korff article, it is our opinion that the analysis released by GSW is no more than subjective interpretation of Polaroid photos of non-specific tests, made by Spatial Data Systems from a standard catch-all program on file at SDS for the testing of all UFO photos sent to them by GSW. The results of such tests are neither scientific nor substantive and it seems obvious that Korff does not know the difference. (A discussion of the GSW analysis will be in Part II, next issue.)

There is one puzzling thing about this article. I have called a number of the individuals listed in the acknowledgements and they tell me that they did not give Korff the information he attributes to them in this article. Some, in fact, were quite angry to

## Letter

### OMNI Veritas

MUFON readers of the November 1981 OMNI magazine will conclude I have lost my marbles. A "UFO Update" I wrote on the Betty Hill star map has been editorially rewritten and now contains inaccurate and unwarranted statements that I neither authored nor approved. I did *not* write anything about the Hill case being "reveal(ed)" as the "most elaborate UFO hoax ever perpetrated." This editorial insertion grossly misrepresents my outlook on the matter. The breakdown of the Fish interpretation of Mrs. Hill's alien star map returns the abduction claim to unsupported anecdotal testimony . . . but not a deliberate hoax.

Other inaccuracies were introduced into my original text. I did not describe the Hill's UFO as "starlike"; they claim they saw it with large angular size. Also, Mrs. Hill never expressed a "belief" in which stars were the aliens' home. Finally, the sentiments of Terry Dickinson, precisely stated to me for OMNI, were not presented here. I regret that these problems seem attributed to me as the author.

Allan Hendry  
Stone Mountain, Ga.

### STAMP CONTRIBUTIONS

We acknowledge receipt of cancelled foreign stamps from the following:

Bill Banks, Oakland, Calif.; Larry W. Bryant, Arlington, Va.; Don Berliner, Alexandria, Va.; Jerome Clark, Lake Bluff, Ill.; Dr. Robert C. Davis, Dallas, Tex.; R. Bruce Jordan, Palo Alto, Calif.; and Mr. & Mrs. Rex Stanford, Jamaica, N.Y.

A collector compensates MUFON for the stamps, and proceeds are applied to international exchange of UFO information. Send contributions in any number to Richard Hall, 4418 39th St., Brentwood, MD 20722.

find that their names had been used. Is Kal name-dropping again? Or do some of these people really believe Kal is correct in his statements? □

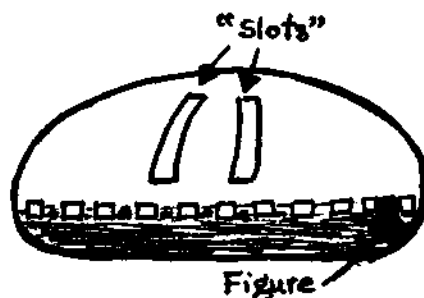
# CAR PACING, PILOT SIGHTING, BUZZING UFO

By Richard Hall

Several 1981 sightings of unusual interest were received recently by MUFON. A car pacing case in New Zealand during July was investigated by Fred and Phyllis Dickeson, Timaru, New Zealand. (An account of the sighting also appeared in the *Timaru Herald*, July 31.) During April, a pilot in Nevada saw a small disc (a relatively rare but not unknown type of report), and another small disc was seen by an engineer in Minnesota that month. And during March, in South Africa, a businessman was attracted to a cigar-shaped UFO by a buzzing sound from overhead. Details of his sighting contain possible clues to UFO propulsion.

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Thew, with their three young daughters, were returning home to Temuka, N.Z., from Pleasant Point at 12:50 a.m., Sunday, July 12, 1981 along a back road. They suddenly became aware of a brilliantly lit green-gold-red object approaching them from the opposite direction (east). The object stopped abruptly, about 200-300 yards away, then changed direction and began pacing the car. As they approached an intersection, they noticed that the UFO was descending even lower, and Mrs. Thew, driving, became frightened and sped up from 45 m.p.h. to 65 m.p.h. in an effort to reach the illuminated area of Temuka township away from the open country. The UFO accelerated to keep pace with the car.

Mrs. Thew said the extreme brilliance of the light emanating from the UFO made the car headlights appear very dim. After a while the UFO came nearer and the family was able to see considerable detail (see sketch). Ken Thew, a mechanic, said the object was completely silent and "... it was quite apparent that it was a controllable flying object." The top part changed from a dark green to a light-



New Zealand UFO

er shade as the UFO approached; the bottom was red, with a gold tinge in between. On the upper surface were what appeared to be slots or box-like partitions, and square apertures like windows became visible beneath. Mrs. Thew said, "One could look through them, across a white area within." Near one end, on the outside of the object, they saw a sort of figure-eight shaped thing which they described as a "fat person" in configuration.

Further along the road the UFO suddenly shot away to the east. "One moment it was at point A," Ken said, "the next, at point B. You didn't see it move between the two points, it was just there." Reaching the outskirts of Temuka, the Thews elected not to go home right away but instead to try to observe the UFO further. However, it remained off in the distance to the east, so they continued home, arriving at 1:20 a.m. There they were surprised to see the UFO hovering about 1,000 feet overhead, but it soon headed away to the east and remained visible in the distance, finally disappearing at 2:00 a.m. When the UFO moved, it displayed a fan-like tail of yellow red, as if exhaust; the tail was not visible while the UFO hovered.

## Pilot

On April 20, 1981, a pilot approaching Cannon International Airport, Reno, Nevada, about 10:15 a.m. sighted a small UFO, estimated to be 3-5 feet in diameter. Interviewed by Bob Neville, MUFON State Director, Walter Austin, 42, said he and his wife, Judy, were on a landing approach at about 6,000 feet in their Cessna 210 when they saw an apparently stationary shiny object at their 2 o'clock position and about 100 feet below them. The object then fluttered or tilted, accelerated rapidly, and disappeared on a heading of about 190 degrees.

"When first sighted," Austin said, "we were above the object and saw it below the horizon. As we descended, we viewed it from the same altitude, and then from below it, giving a comprehensive view of an unmistakable solid object which appeared to be shiny metal." His sketch shows the UFO edge-on, flat on the bottom and slightly rounded on top, in the general proportions of a frisbee.

Austin broke off the landing and circled back to try to see the UFO again, but without success. It had disappeared toward cloud-shrouded mountains to the south-southwest. Visibility was excellent during the sighting. Upon landing, Austin checked with the ATC approach controller and was told that nothing had appeared on radar. The temperature was about 50 degrees F. with little or no wind. Austin has been a licensed pilot for 5 years, with about 300 flying hours per year. He is an electrical contractor and real estate salesman.

## Buzzing UFO

In Uitenhage, South Africa, March 11, 1981, at 7:40 p.m., businessman H. E. Thatcher observed a dark, cigar-

(continued on next page)

## BOOK REVIEW

**Memory**, by Elizabeth Loftus (Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1980) 207 pp., \$5.95 paper, \$10.95 hardcover.

This book is a thorough summation of research on how memory operates, compiled by a professor of psychology at the University of Washington. While it does not specifically mention UFOs, it provides useful insights for weighing the testimony of witnesses who describe UFO encounters, and particularly where information is sought from many years back, or where hypnosis is used.

Many people believe that memories last forever; although some details might not come to mind immediately, many think that with hypnosis or some other technique we can recover that material from a "permanent storehouse" in the deepest part of the brain.

Not so, the author says: "New studies suggest that our memories

are continually being altered, transformed, and distorted." In recalling an experience, we remember some aspects of it, and "using these facts we construct other facts that probably happened." These fragments are then integrated into a logical sequence and a new "memory" is created. "Our biases, expectations, and past knowledge are all used in the filling-in process, leading to distortions in what we remember."

She states flatly that hypnosis "doesn't work." In one study a group of people were shown a videotape of an accident, then some of them were hypnotized and others were not, and all were asked to describe the accident. The study showed that "... hypnosis does not reduce retrieval difficulties. Quite the contrary, people appear to be more suggestible and more easily influenced."

Another study relates to situations where the hypnosis seeks to recall material from many years before. College students were regressed under hypnosis back to their

sixth birthday, and to relive the events of that day. "The students gave lengthy descriptions, peppered with numerous tiny details. Unbeknownst to these students, the psychologist had gotten descriptions from the students' parents and other sources to compare with the students' memories. The result: Although the 'memories' were rich in detail, they were hopelessly inaccurate."

Her conclusion on hypnosis and memory:

"No solid studies exist that show recall during a state of hypnosis is any more accurate or complete than recall under ordinary waking conditions. What is worse, people under hypnosis have been known to 'recall' events from their past confidently and to fabricate future scenarios with the same confidence."

She specifically rejects hypnosis as a means of recovering memory of "lost time" in a blackout. Although she was referring to alcoholic blackouts, the findings presumably would also apply to time-lapse blackouts from the shock of a close UFO encounter. —Robert Wanderer

### Sightings, Continued

shaped UFO after hearing a sound like the humming of bees. He was interviewed on behalf of MUFON by Sgt. Christopher M. Powell of the Uitenhage police. Thatcher had just finished pumping water from an underground tank into his water tower and had switched off the electric pump when he became aware of the odd noise emanating from above. Looking up, he saw the dark UFO against the background of light cloud, moving slowly toward the southwest at an altitude of about 600 meters. It appeared to be about 120 m by 30 m wide.

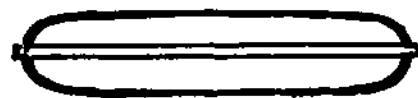
"While I stood looking at the object," Thatcher said, "I noticed a very intense white light at the extreme front end of the object (in the direction it was moving) flash on and then off. Only once. It appeared to increase speed at a phenomenal rate and it disappeared in the southwest in a matter of 5 seconds." When the light flashed on, the sound stopped abruptly. When it flashed off, the sound resumed.

"I have a number of geese on the farm," Thatcher noted, "and throughout the duration of the sighting they were silent. Before and after the sighting the geese were making their usual noise."

Sgt. Powell checked with authorities and determined that no aircraft or helicopters were in the area. He also checked on Mr. Thatcher's reputation, determining that he was considered to be of "outstanding character." The sighting lasted 10-15 seconds. No other witnesses could be located.

### Small Disc

Another small disc, estimated to be 2 feet in diameter and 6 inches thick, was observed on April 12, 1981, in Goodhue, Minnesota, about 1:30 p.m. on a bright, sunny day. R. E. Schenk, 56, a civil engineer from Waterloo, Iowa, was driving south on Highway 58 with his wife, when they saw the object hovering a few feet off the ground about 40 feet away. Schenk stopped to investigate but had no place to park safely, so he drove



### Small disc: Minnesota

on to a place where he could turn around and headed back north. Mrs. Schenk continued to keep the UFO in sight.

They stopped the car and Schenk got out for a better view. At this time the UFO was at an estimated 2,000 to 4,000 feet and climbing rapidly, heading northwest toward Minneapolis. It was finally lost to sight in the distance.

The UFO appeared to be like aluminum, slightly wrinkled at the rounded surfaces at each end, with a seam at the equator. (See sketch.) Mr. Schenk was a Navy pilot for 5 years and now operates his own company in Iowa. The case was investigated for MUFON by Forrest R. Lundberg, State Director for Iowa.



# CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES CONFERENCE

By Richard Hall

(Information and photographs supplied by Thomas P. Deuley.)

The Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) convened a wide-ranging conference September 25-27, 1981, at a downtown Chicago hotel. Although not large in numbers of attendees, the conference was widely praised for the serious level of discussion and the high quality of papers presented, including a number of technical analyses. Among the speakers were Bertil Kuhlemann of Sweden, and Roberto Pinotti of Italy, with other countries also represented in the submitted papers. The proceedings will be published. (For information, write to CUFOF, P.O. Box 1402, Evanston, IL 60204).

In a continued spirit of cooperation, MUFON officers — including International Director Walt Andrus, Research Director James McCampbell, Associate Director John Schuessler, and Western Regional Director Paul Cerny — attended and participated in the discussions. Schuessler presented an update report on the December 29, 1980, Betty Cash radiation injury case near Huffman, Texas, in which more than 20 "mystery helicopters" were involved. One helicopter pilot was located who acknowledged participating in an operation fitting the general time and location, but he subsequently refused to talk about it. Betty Cash continues to have medical problems as a result of the incident, and the effects will be monitored by the investigators, including radiologist Peter Rank. Mrs. Cash, her friend Vicky Landrum, and Vicky's grandson Colby all suffered apparent radiation sickness after being confronted by a brilliantly glowing UFO that hovered above the road in front of their car.

The technical papers included:

- Analysis of a recorded UFO sound by acoustical expert Howard R. Schechter and J. Allen Hynek; the sound was established to be unlike

any known aircraft or vehicle and apparently artificial in nature.

- Review of the 1950 McMinnville photographs by optical physicist Bruce S. Maccabee.

- Re-examination of the November 1966 Oregon UFO photograph taken by a PhD biochemist, previously dismissed as a hoax for the less-than-scientific reason that it didn't "fit" our knowledge. An explanation of the photographic effects was presented in terms of current physical principles.

- "Size, Distance, and Duration Parameters of the Ignition Interference Effect," a statistical study based on UFOCAT computer catalogue data by Donald A. Johnson.

- Another statistical analysis of vehicle interference reports by Mark Rodeghier.



Donald Johnson

The most controversial paper, presented by English professor Alvin H. Lawson, argued that some abduction reports might be a psychological phenomenon based on revivification of birth trauma (BT). Lawson asserted that abduction narratives include images and events from several recognized psychological processes, including BT, hallucinations, and near-death experiences. He cited extensive abduction/BT parallels from the literature. His view was later disputed by Budd Hopkins, author of *Missing*



Budd Hopkins

*Time*, who presented a paper on "The investigation of Abduction Reports."

Bertil Kuhlemann described Project URD (Box 454, S-101 26, Stockholm, Sweden), a UFO reporting and data system utilizing formatted report forms and computer analysis to help establish UFOs as a serious scientific problem. Kuhlemann also made a presentation on behalf of the Provisional International Committee on UFO Research (PICUR), a newly formed international group in which MUFON participates, which hopes to establish international standards of investigation and reporting. At the conference, Dr. J. Allen Hynek was appointed President Emeritus of PICUR in recognition of his leadership in the UFO research field. The concept of a "United Nations" of Ufology has great appeal to serious UFO researchers, but many practical problems remain (including finances). However, PICUR and Project URD have captured the imagination of U.S. researchers and could provide a vehicle for improved international cooperation.

In the sphere of sociological studies, J. Gordon Melton presented an analysis of contactee claims from the 1950's through the somewhat dif-

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## CUFOS, Continued

ferent 1970's abduction reports, and Dr. Ron Westrum presented "A Sociology Workshop on UFOs," including analysis of opinion polls, press coverage of UFOs, and the sociology of reporting. Roberto Pinotti presented a survey of UFO sightings and related events in Italy.

The conference illustrated an important point counter to the skeptical scientific view that "There is nothing in UFO reports to investigate." To the contrary, well-qualified analysts demonstrated the existence of tape recorded UFO sounds, photographs, physical effects data, and sociological phenomena, all of which lend themselves to systematic study by recognized scientific methods. The fields of acoustics, optics, radiology, sociology, statistical analysis, and computer processing all have been brought to bear on aspects of the UFO phenomenon and have yielded significant information. It only remains for more scientists with appropriate qualifications to become aware of the "embarrassment of riches" of UFO data, and to lend their skills in a concerted effort to study the problem. The CUFOS conference was a positive step in this direction.

Among the submitted papers not presented in person, but to be included in the Proceedings, was one by NASA scientist Richard F. Haines titled "Results of Sound Spectrum Radio Transmission Between Cessna VH:DSJ and Melbourne Flight Service." (The paper is scheduled for publication in Vol. III of the *Journal of UFO Studies*.) It promises to be of extraordinary interest, since it refers to the October 21, 1978, disappearance of pilot Frederick Valentich over the Bass Strait of Australia after being confronted by a UFO. The final sound on the tape of Valentich's communications with air traffic controllers was 17 seconds of "... an unusual reverberating metallic type of sound." Dr. Haines somehow has obtained a copy of the tape and summarizes the results of a spectral analysis of this final period on the tape in comparison to "control" sounds recorded in a similar aircraft



Dr. J. Allen Hynek observes proceedings



John Schuessler, Walt Andrus, left, confer with other attendees on international cooperation

under comparable flight conditions.

Other submitted papers to be published in the Proceedings include "The UFO Phenomenon in Argentina," a survey by Guillermo Aldunati; Keith Basterfield's hypothesis on UFO imagery (reported elsewhere in MUFON UFO Journal); "UFO Maneuvers and Radiation: A Theoretical Perspective," by Alan Holt; paranormal aspects of UFO reports, by Joan Jeffers; a method of mathematical analysis of UFO reports, by Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and Miguel Guasp of Spain; and a paper on investigation method-

ology, by Barbara Schutte.

Altogether, the conference dealt with almost every aspect of the UFO problem except the controversial claims that the U.S. government has in its possession the bodies of dead aliens retrieved from UFO crashes. Privately, it also dealt with this question since Leonard Stringfield was one of the attendees, and he held private conferences with others to discuss ways of obtaining proof or disproof. We commend CUFOS for the high quality and comprehensiveness of this extraordinary conference.

# PENTAGONAL UFOs

By John F. Schuessler

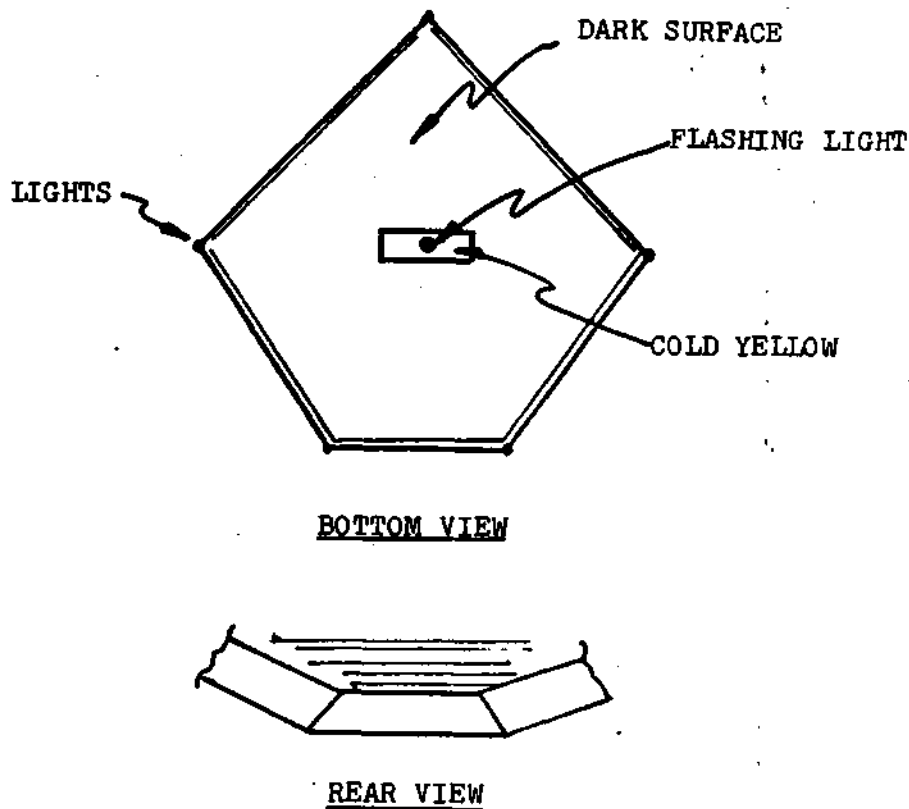
One of the more puzzling aspects of the UFO problem is the variety of shapes reported by the witnesses. Predominant are the saucer, cigar, and ball. However, since 1973, there have been an ever increasing number of triangular and diamond shaped objects and a few witnesses have reported objects with five or more sides.

Statistically, the number of reported UFOs having five sides is insignificant; but that fact has not eliminated such sightings. The offsetting factors are the high strangeness of the incident and the high reliability of the witness.

Two separate reports from near the city of Houston, Texas, bring the pentagonal UFO problem into focus. Interestingly, both of the incidents took place to the southwest of Houston, and were separated in time by only 9 months.

The first incident was reported to MUFON State Section Director Dave Kissinger by an Alief, Texas, high school senior. It was December 1975 and the time was 10:30 p.m. when the young woman observed a bright flashing light approaching her home. Immediately, she ran to the window to get a better view and then went outside. The UFO was moving in a northerly direction at an estimated speed of 100-150 mph. It passed directly overhead at no more than 1,000 feet altitude. The view was spectacular as the witness watched the unusual pentagon-shaped object move along flying point forward. In her words, "...it appeared solid with a sharp outline." She described lights on the points and a flashing light in the middle of the bottom surface. As the UFO flew away she could see it was not just a flat plate, but had a definite thickness. The only sound detected was a steady hum.

Investigation of the Alief case included visits to the local airports, the Goodyear Blimp operations, and



Pentagonal UFO, Alief, Texas, December 1975

advertising airplane businesses. No explanation for the sighting was found.

A similar incident occurred during September 1976 when a Missouri City, Texas, oil company executive and his son saw a pentagon-shaped UFO. It was first observed as a steady bright light hovering about one mile to the southwest of the observers' home. After a couple of minutes the object seemed to rise upward and come toward them, flying directly over their heads. Because their home is located on a golf course, they had a wide open area for viewing the strange sight. Their initial reaction was to accept the possibility the object was a star. Once it started to move they revised the identification to helicopter, and finally to aircraft. However, as the UFO went overhead

they could see only a crisply outlined pentagon shape — no wings, tail, or engines.

Each point of the pentagon contained a steady white light. A blinking light marked the center of the bottom and 30 to 50 red lights ringed the edge and bottom of the vehicle. Once the UFO began to move it was overhead and out of sight in about 30 seconds. The witnesses estimated the speed to be 200 mph at an altitude of 1,500 feet. The only sound was a "whoosh" like a jet engine that had been throttled back.

At first only the bright light on the point could be seen. As the object approached, other lights came into view and as it went overhead the total lighting pattern was visible. Then as it

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## Pentagonal, Continued

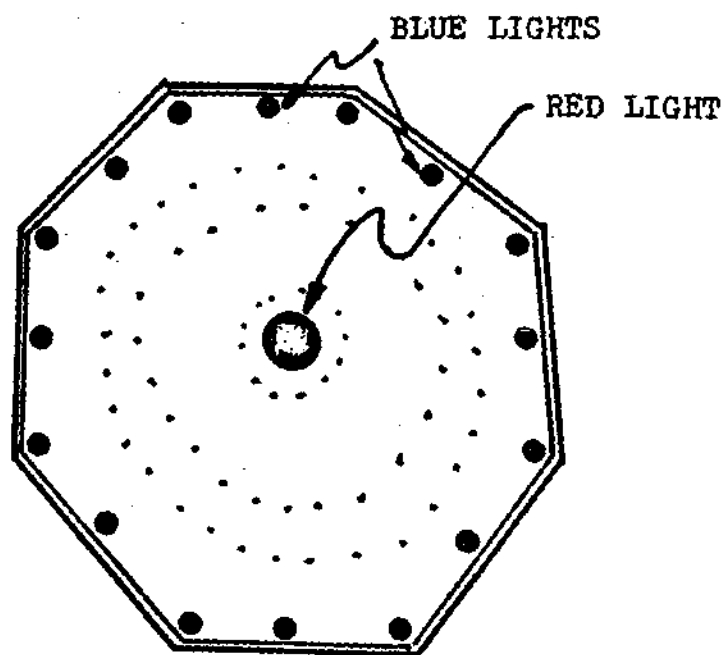
flew away only the two aft point lights could be seen. Although the witnesses were still skeptical, they notified the Mutual UFO Network.

Pentagon-shaped UFOs have been noted in other parts of the world as well. On July 1, 1979, one was sighted over Vigo and Puertos de Morrazo, Spain. A greenish-yellow light emanated from the middle of the bottom surface. Hundreds of people in both cities observed the strange sight. In addition, the crew of a DC-10 airplane flying over the area spotted the same UFO below their aircraft and about 12 miles away. The official explanation given was the American Skylab satellite.

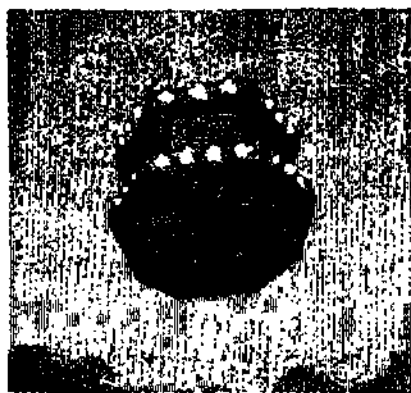
Three pentagonal UFOs were seen over West Germany on September 17, 1979. Workers at the Ingolstadt, Bavaria, Audi-NSU car manufacturing plant were the first to report the UFOs. Eyewitnesses said, "... they were very big and beamed brightly. They flew very fast and without engine noise. In doing so, they flickered yellow and red." Ten off-duty police officers watched the three objects as they flew over Ingolstadt in a north-westerly direction toward Eichstaett.

Several minutes later Eichstaett police said two of the UFOs flew on to Weissenburg, where police verified their overflight. One of the UFOs hovered at an altitude of 1,500 feet before it flew off at high speed. An Ingolstadt police spokesman said, "... the observations made by our officers are beyond any doubt." Although a nearby air base and the Munich air traffic controller were alerted to the incident, they had no explanation for the phenomenon.

A slight departure from the pentagonal shape is the octagonal UFO. According to the Watford City, North Dakota, newspaper, local citizen Barb Johnsrud and her son Kent saw an eight-sided UFO go over their house on November 2, 1978. Each witness claimed the UFO was first seen as a bright light that quickly came down from the sky like a bad storm. It passed overhead just 60 feet



Hexagonal UFO, Watford City, N. Dak., November 1978



W. Sussex, Eng. UFO, Jan. 1981

above ground and was moving quite slowly — only 25 mph. The UFO was 40 feet across, with a large red light in the middle of the bottom surface. Blue lights ringed the whole vehicle. It had no tail, nose or propellers. After the UFO disappeared to the northeast each of the witnesses made independent sketches.

The pentagonal UFOs remain a mystery. No satisfactory explanation has been found. To aid in this investigation, additional reports and data should be sent to John F. Schuessler, Mutual UFO Network, P.O. Box 58485, Houston, Texas 77058.

## 1981 SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

Theme: UFOs — The Hidden Evidence; Cambridge, Mass.

"Ufology as a Profession," by Dr. J. A. Hynek.

"What the Government Would Know About UFOs If They Read Their Own Documents," by Peter A. Gersten.

"Faith, Theory, and UFOs," by Dr. Barry H. Downing.

"UFO Abductions — The Invisible Epidemic," by Budd Hopkins.

"The Human Factor in UFO Sightings," by Dr. Ron Westrum.

"Missing Time: A Psychologist Examines the UFO Experience," by Dr. Aphrodite Clamar.

"African Encounters: Case Investigations," by Cynthia Hind.

"Close Encounters of the Second Kind: Physical Traces," by Ted R. Phillips.

"The Roswell Incident: Beginning of the Cosmic Watergate," by Stanton T. Friedman and William L. Moore.

\$11.50 including postage & handling from MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155.

## *"California Report"*

By Ann Druffel

### **The Corner of Barbara's Garden**

On June 10, 1981, Barbara Mathey departed from this earth. She lived in Los Angeles and was friend and correspondent to many UFO researchers and investigators throughout the world. She worked closely with a group of us in Los Angeles who regularly exchange UFO news, ideas, and labor together on chosen projects.

A veteran in the field, having read, studied, and contributed for over two decades, she subscribed to almost every UFO publication and read all the latest books. She gave generously to the Fund for UFO Research and other worthwhile projects. She contributed liberally of her time, money, and intellect.

For the past year she assumed the duties of International Coordinator for Africa in the Mutual UFO Network. Her time spent on UFOs had been snatched piecemeal between responsibilities to home and family in earlier years. For the past year, however, she was able to spend a few uninterrupted hours each day on research and correspondence. She reveled in this freedom — translating reports from other countries, corresponding with African UFO researchers and others worldwide, writing book reviews, reading the voluminous literature, and attending conferences on UFOs and various metaphysical branches of study.

Her eyes and voice always held a smile. Her personality was a magic blend of formal and friendly. You would never hear her speak a harsh word about anyone. When controversies arose, she always maintained an objective attitude, helping work out problems with her own quiet style. Significantly, this objective, quiet attitude was the same which she



**Barbara Mathey, on couch, talks with APRO members at Los Angeles research group meeting**

maintained toward UFOs and other world mysteries. Her mind was open to all points of view, and she sought proven Truth.

Although basically a private person, she extended herself into pursuits of knowledge she felt were important — the nature and motives of UFOs in particular. We in Los Angeles feel her loss deeply. We cannot afford to lose people like Barbara Mathey.

We attended her service on Saturday, June 13th at St. Alban's Episcopal Church. It comprised a series of selected readings from St. Paul, Exodus, and other portions of the Bible, all with the theme of human life beyond death in the care of a loving God. We learned later that she had chosen the readings herself. Although she died unexpectedly from a brain hemorrhage with no

prior illness, she had taken the time, shortly after her mother's death in 1975, to anticipate her own passing. Barbara was organization itself, even when it came to that.

The members of our UFO group tried to comfort each other, but could not accept the sudden loss. She seemed still near and would not approve of senseless grief. Although she died much too soon — considering the contributions she still had to make to her family and to research — she was one of those rare people who had determined the purpose of human life. Her attitude was that life on this material world is merely a preparation for a transformed, immortal life beyond earth's plane.

Still I could not accept or under-

*(continued on next page)*

## California Report, Continued

stand her loss. I wanted to write about her, to share her with others who had not had the privilege of knowing her well, for this would help. But common words seemed insufficient; the thoughts would not flow.

On that sorrowful Saturday I went into my garden — a quiet wooded spot where the best of nature's beauty rambles untamed. Everything is welcome there but weeds. Tangled wildwood and flowering vines are mixed with transplants of anything which takes my fancy — an infant fig tree, a beavertail cactus from Tujunga, wild carnations.

Some of us tend to think in symbols, especially when something important is at stake. When phrases do not flow easily, symbols can relate to what has happened so that the experience can be adequately expressed. Symbols flow from the subconscious when the mind is at rest, and the mind rests well in the midst of beauty. There in the garden I found a symbol which helped me understand Barbara's death.

It was on a sunny slope, filled with debris and ancient weeds. This slope adjoins our garden but is on our neighbor's property. He cannot see the corner, therefore does not attend to it. Because it needs care, and prevents my own garden from looking its best, I have slowly cleared, replanted, and cared for it. That Saturday, amidst high, dried weeds, a clump of sturdy African daisies were struggling upward, toward the cleared level ground above. Here, some straggling oleanders and other African daisies were attempting a comeback, for they once grew profusely there.

Barbara, in her generous contribution to all phases of UFO research, had extended herself into a wilderness of controversy — weeding out animosities, planting seeds of knowledge among her friends, encouraging new growth among young investigators. In a way, she was cultivating a neglected corner of a neighbor's garden. And was it mere coincidence, or some thrust of meaningful synchronicity, that African

daisies were symbolically concerned?

Barbara, although she never discussed it openly, believed that this material world did not occur by itself but had been created to delight our five senses by an organized, loving God. In a symbolic sense, our world is a garden. Her deep searches into UFOs, psychic phenomena, and metaphysical studies gave clues to this, but only those who had the opportunity to talk at length with her realized the firmness of her beliefs. She *knew* that the material world — the physical world which most scientists insist is the only knowable reality — was only a mere portion of a vast Reality beyond. Her own life experiences, which were a blend of objective and subjective truths, had convinced her of this.

A few weeks before she died, we met at a research foundation to discuss a current project. Afterwards we talked in the car for a very long time. The car was perched high over a long slope filled with ancient weeds, slanting down to the busy street below — a scene now strangely reminiscent of the slope where the hidden African daisies lay waiting to be uncovered.

We spoke of life and death, of existence beyond the present, of time and space blending into an infinite Now. She was happy and healthy and looked forward eagerly to full participation in exciting research.

We can learn something from Barbara Mathey. From her private life she built a bridge, extending herself through laborious study into worlds beyond this one. She knew something that many scientists seem fearful of knowing — that as human instrumentation and detection devices evolve, science will discover more and more of the invisible realms of being beyond our material world, gathering clues to non-material realms and to their Creator. Though some of these realms will then be scientifically analyzable, other detection processes will necessarily come from the subjective recesses of our human minds. With her intelligent, objective approach, Barbara wondered what holds back scientists from admitting a Final

## GEPAN NOTES

In our exchange program with Centre National D'Etudes Spatiales or GEPAN (Groupe D'Etudes Des Phenomenes Aeronautiques Non Identifies) that was arranged during a personal meeting in Houston, Tex., with Dr. Alain Esterle, MUFON recently received the following six booklets published in French with the titles:

Note D'Information No. 2 Les etudes de phenomenes aeronautiques non identifies aux Etats-Unis "Iere Partie: L'enigme des OVNI." (This is the Marcia S. Smith bibliography published March 9, 1976 for U.S. Congressmen.)

Note Technique No. 3 Methodologie D'un Probleme: Principals and Applications. (Methodologie-Isocelie-Information.)

Note Technique No. 4 Recherche statistique d'une typologie des descriptions de phenomenes aeronautiques non identifies.

Note Technique No. 5 Compte rendu de l'enquete GEPAN No. 79/03.

Note Technique No. 6 Enquete GEPAN No. 79/07 "A propos d'une disparition."

Note Technique No. 7 Compte Rendu De L'Enquete 79/05 "A propos d'une rencontre."

MUFON is indebted to Dominique Keller of GEPAN for mailing us these copies. John Timmerman advised your Director that CUFOS plans to translate each of these from French to English. Anyone interested in securing copies should write to: Dominique Keller, GEPAN-CNES, 18 Avenue Edouard Belin, 31055 Toulouse-Cedex, France.

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Cause, a Creator. They seem to fear recognizing orderly purpose behind all those things which exist.

In that realm of being where Barbara now exists, does she reach back to help nurture the "African daisies," quiet controversy, and spread her generosity over all of us? If only one "scientific" researcher would speak forth his conviction concerning invisible Creation and its Creator, this would be a fitting memorial to her.

# RELIGION AND M.I.T. '81

By Barry H. Downing, PhD

Ted Phillips and I had already given our presentations to the 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium at M.I.T., in Cambridge, Mass., as we sat down together to hear the next speaker. Ted said to me, "How have things changed since you were in Akron in 1974?" Ted and I had met for the only other time at that conference.

Ted's question has led me to a more specific question, which I think needs to be answered for all our MUFON members: What are the religious dimensions to our current UFO quest? And how were these dimensions exhibited at the M.I.T. conference?

## The Current Scientific State

Before reflecting on the religious dimensions of the conference, let me make some observations concerning the scientific state of our quest for the truth about UFOs. At a press conference, our Director Walt Andrus said, "I don't believe in UFOs. It is not a question of belief. It is a fact. We have the facts and data that UFOs do exist."

I think this statement not only reflects Walt's views, but reflected the general scientific consensus of the conference participants. Beyond this, I think it was the consensus that UFOs represent some kind of advanced technology, not of earthly origin. Beyond that, however, I think the consensus would begin to break down.

The basis for this consensus has many roots. It comes in part from the accumulation of hard evidence of landing traces, as documented by Ted Phillips. It comes from the work of Stanton Friedman, who can give a good set of scientific reasons, as opposed to Dr. Carl Sagan and others, of why you can get here from there, wherever "there" is. It comes from the obviously careful style of Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who keeps his professional skepticism right up front.

One of the new pieces of evidence, since Akron, comes from the excellent work of Peter Gersten, who through his legal work has obtained access to government documents which prove, at least in courtroom language, that the United States Government not only knows about UFOs, and has been hiding the evidence, with the "big lie" and the Cosmic Watergate as the technique, and that the general view of the government agrees with our MUFON view — that UFOs represent some kind of advanced other-worldly technology.

The result of this consensus is a developing "inner confidence" in MUFON members that we have not been chasing a "myth," however wide ranging the psychological implications of the UFO reality may be.

In the past, the scientific consensus has been, "we are not sure what UFOs are, but we think they may be important." Now we do not know exactly what they are, but they are very much like an advanced technology from another world, and the U.S. government knows this. At this conference, as Walt Andrus said, there was no scientific "apology" for "believing" in UFOs. Now we "know."

## They Are Real — Real What?

In the past our UFO evangelists, like Stan Friedman, have devoted much of their public work trying to convince the public that UFOs are real, as the title of Stan's film suggests. But as the public has come more and more to believe with us that UFOs are real, it is now time to ask the next question, UFOs are Real What?

It was in this atmosphere that I attended M.I.T. '81, and it was here that I found a big contrast with Akron '74. At Akron, we were still so unsure of our scientific base that the religious questions which I asked seemed to cast doubt on the scientific validity of

UFOs. There was much fear at Akron that I might be part of the "cult nut fringe." (I may be, of course.) But at M.I.T. '81, I found among all the participants a serious interest in exploring the religious dimensions of the UFO issue, and a general understanding that good science demands that we look at the religious issues, because they are clearly right there, often at the center of our best and most difficult modern UFO cases, as in Raymond Fowler's work in the Betty Andreasson case.

There is as yet no consensus about the abduction cases, and there probably will not be one for some time. But the message of Budd Hopkins in his excellent talk, "UFO Abductions: The Invisible Epidemic," gave us a clear picture of the size of the "iceberg" we may be dealing with. UFOs appear to have the ability to abduct humans, use semi-hypnotic techniques to block out memory, and having "programmed" these humans, then release them back into society without conscious memory of the experience. Under hypnosis, we can discover the evidence — probably. Or maybe. In any case, there may be thousands of Betty Hills and Betty Andreassons all over the world.

That leads us quickly to consider very seriously the developing theory of Jacques Vallee, as in his book *Messengers of Deception*, that UFOs are a "control" mechanism. They control and direct the unconscious beliefs of the human race. Or as Quazgaa said to Betty Andreasson, "All things have been planned." (Fowler, *The Andreasson Affair*, p. 111). Whoever they are, they think they are in charge.

In the past, we have called the one in charge God. Now what do we do? At M.I.T. '81, the new scientific consensus has led to an openness to this question, to a realization that we cannot keep "scientific" UFO questions

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## Religion, Continued

and "religious" UFO questions separate. With a view toward opening up more dialogue between the scientific and religious disciplines, especially from my own Christian point of view, I gave as my talk, "Faith, Theory and UFOs."

### The Sectarian Problem

After one of our evening meals, I sat down with Dr. Hynek for a few minutes and asked him, "What has the CUFOS group done with the issue of UFOs and religion? And he said, "Not much." He also said, in effect, that he was concerned about the overall impact of UFOs on all religions, not just the Christian religion.

This is a serious concern, and it hides a rather more negative question which might be, "How do we keep UFO groups like MUFON or CUFOS from being taken over by Christian evangelists?"

I think that Dr. Hynek, and many other "scientists," are rightly concerned that people like myself, with a very specific religious point of view, may turn our UFO groups like MUFON into sectarian religious groups, or maybe even nothing more than sophisticated scientific cults. In other words, how can we, from a scientific point of view, ask religious questions without "selling out our science?"

The tension is there, I felt it during the conference, and it cuts both ways. I spent quite a bit of time talking with John Oswald, who has written a huge manuscript, which uses a system of logic to prove that the Christian view of reality, and our current UFO view of reality, are logically identical, and MUFON ought to be able to see this, and announce it to the world. While I agree with John that the Christian reality and the UFO reality are basically "one," that is my "faith," at the same time, I can see many other "options" or "theories" and so I am not as frustrated as John with the current state of MUFON "unbelief." But John has expressed his frustration openly, and the "scientific" side of MUFON has to worry about this evangelical Christian view.

The tension was also there during the question period following the presentation by Ray Fowler and Betty Andreasson on Sunday morning. Betty had said that she believed she was chosen by God for her abduction by the angels of God to help prepare the human race for the Second Coming of Christ. A woman in the audience, who was an obvious child of our secular age, did not want to hear Betty placing such an obvious Christian message right at the center of her experience. And in Ray Fowler's book on the abduction, he keeps offering the option of saying, "This is no longer scientific fact. This is Betty imposing her Christian beliefs on the experience." When we arrive at Betty's eagle, it seems like a good place to draw the line "scientifically." Yet, there are really no good scientific reasons to draw the line there, only reasons imposed by the skepticism of our secular age.

What are we to do about the "sectarian" problem? That is, how are we to listen to Betty Andreasson's message about the Second Coming of Christ, and yet remain "objectively scientific"? Maybe we cannot.

But one thing the MUFON community can do is to learn to "objectify" the religious UFO stories, such as Betty's. Christian scholars do this all the time. What do I mean? The Christian doctrine of the Second Coming of Christ is basically a doctrine of coming Last Judgement. It is a doctrine that says that there will come a time in human history when Christ, acting for God, will judge every human.

All the major world religions have a teaching concerning a Day of Judgement. It is central to the Jewish religion, and to Islam, which is an offshoot of both Judaism and Christianity. Although the Jewish religion does not see Christ as judge, it does believe all humans will be held accountable to God, and likewise to Islam.

In regard to Hinduism, and its child, Buddhism, the law of Karma is similar to the biblical religion of judgement. In other words, we live under spiritual laws, and if we "do well," we pass on to a higher form of

life, and if we do badly, we are reincarnated into a "lower" form of life. So far as I know, there is a concept of "judgement" at the center of every major world religion, and we may very well expect that UFOs, as a world-wide reality, have left this mark in every religion.

Indeed, it is central to my own view of what "life is about." In my M.I.T. talk I spoke of "God's game" being a faith game, and at the end of the game, God adds up our score. We are now living in God's laboratory, going through a series of tests, and our future beyond death depends on how we meet these tests.

### Can Science and Religion Live in Peace?

I believe we in MUFON know that the religious questions must be faced. It will not be easy. First of all, the Jewish-Christian community, which represents the religious cultural matrix in which MUFON operates, is not a unified matrix, and will not present a unified response as the UFO religious questions are asked.

After Betty Andreasson's presentation, a woman in the audience came up to me — an evangelical Christian — and she was in great fear. She was literally shaking as she talked to me, and she had some tears. She had been told that UFOs were of the devil by her church. If her church was right, Betty Andreasson was an agent of the devil — a surprise to Betty, who believes (as I do) that she is an agent of God.

But a very large segment of the Protestant — and perhaps Roman Catholic — community, as Cynthia Hind explained of her African Encounters, will see UFOs as of the Devil. And Jacques Vallee seems to make a good "secular demonic" case to support this view (see my article, "Demonic Theory of UFOs," in *The Encyclopedia of UFOs*). The devil-angel theory will not have a quick painless solution in the years ahead.

I can well understand why the MUFON scientific community (like Dr. Hynek) would not want to be-

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Only when the last book-length treatment of the subject of unidentified flying objects reaches print will the world see an end to what is known as the UFO hoax. Put another way: as long as there's a UFO controversy, there'll always be someone ready, willing, and able to try his/her hand at contriving a tale, or otherwise putting one over on the not-so-unsuspecting public.

Fact is, right now, there's enough hoax-related substance in UFO lore to produce an *Encyclopedia of UFO Hoaxes*. Lavishly illustrated with examples of hoaxed UFO photography, alphabetically keyed to biographical studies of the world's foremost (admitted) UFO hoaxers, and laced with just the right amount of wit and wisdom from the compiler, such a reference work would be warmly received by so-called Ufologists, social scientists, and, yes, those legions of future hoaxers waiting for inspiration.

If it's inspiration they need, they ought to find plenty in a recent case study that would represent the essence of the encyclopedia. We could call it the *Alien Intrusion Hoax* or the *Ellsworth Humanoids*. Whatever we call it, you can be sure it will serve as a model for hoaxed extraterrestrialism for many years to come.

The Ellsworth Hoax came to light presumably as a "leaked" document, directed to the editors of a nationally circulated tabloid that's known for its sensationalized treatment of UFO encounters. We can speculate endlessly about the motive of the alleged hoax-

## Religion, Continued

come any part of this religious (and sectarian) warfare. But in the name of scientific objectivity, the battle will have to be fought. The UFO facts, as they now stand, will not let good scientists ignore the obvious, that there are huge religious dimensions to the UFO problem. And now that we know that UFOs are real, we have to face what may turn out to be a much tougher question: Real What?

er: he (and it is a *he*, I'm told) might have a grudge against the U.S. Air Force (who employs him at Ellsworth Air Force Base, S. Dak.); or he might be a megalomaniac seeking a permanent place in history; or a self-appointed media-reformer bent on teaching the tabloids a lesson in responsible journalism; or any combination of the above. Perhaps some day he'll tell all, and by so doing join the ranks of such legendary hoaxers as Clifford Irving (the pseudo-Howard Hughes biographer) and that occasional medical doctor whose celebrated written findings prove bogus upon independent testing.

In the meantime, all we can do is savor the meat, juice, and spice of his gem of a put-on. The three-page document in question — typed single-spaced on a blank form titled *Incident/Complaint Report* — is at first glance a typical account of an atypical event. All the names, dates, and places are there. All the identity factors of the principals (including social security numbers) are there; all the particulars of who-did-what-to-whom are spelled out in the chronological narrative of the "Remarks" section of the form. In short, it makes a neat package. Too neat. For on the second glance I'd given it upon receipt of my copy, I couldn't help concluding that this cleverly crafted account was reveling in the chance to insult my intelligence.

In the first place, logic tells us that no document containing the details of an official "close encounter of the third kind" would bear a security classification lower than TOP SECRET. As it is, it's stamped "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY," which technically isn't a classification.

In the second place, the narrative itself seems too good to be true: the intruders on that night of November 16, 1977, sporting exotic dress and weaponry; the challenging security guards mounting a feeble attack/counterattack; the "evidence" of the

UFO landing and nuclear-missile tampering being turned over to the F.B.I. and the AF Office of Special Investigations; and the intimation that the incident will undergo follow-up investigation and high-level classification of the results. Finally: to anyone with a working knowledge of the garden variety of official UFO documentation that's been made available to the public, this alleged incident report simply fails to fit the mold.

Perhaps lacking that degree of knowledgeability, and at the same time giving the "leaker" the benefit of the doubt, the recipient tabloid chose to launch a thorough check into the document's authenticity. I'm told by a source close to the investigation that the officials at Ellsworth have bent over backwards to assist in the gathering of testimony and other data leading to a resolution of the issue. Everything thus far produced — including voice-stress analysis — points to a deliberate, well-engineered hoax, brought off with as much chutzpah as any hoax in history.

If the perpetrator in this case bemoans his having been so prematurely exposed, he might take some comfort in knowing that he has indirectly performed a public service. For example, his feat of foolery puts the UFO-research community on notice that they are ever vulnerable to such a trap as this. It also reminds officialdom of the extent to which their indifference to the perennial "UFO problem" can backfire at the hands of resident clowns.

But perhaps the ultimate value of the Ellsworth Hoax lies in its inadvertent contribution to the sociology/psychology of the hoax phenomenon in general. In this connection it might be useful for one or two hoaxologists to acquire (via the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, of course) all government records pertaining to the investigation of the hoax. That material ought to provide fascinating insight into the anti-hoax mentality of the "authorities." □

# Letters

## Abduction Effects

Editor,

In response to Arkansas State Director Bill Leet's letter in the May 1981 issue (No. 159) pointing out the enlightenment that might be gained by follow-up investigations into the effects resulting in the lives of those reporting abduction by or other contact with the alien operators of UFOs, and noting no such reports of such studies have come to his attention, I would like to call attention to one such attempt, of recent publication, namely:

*Direct Encounters: the personal histories of UFO abductees* by Judith M. and Alan L Gansburg, published by Walker & Co. (720 Fifth Avenue, New York City 10019) in 1980.

This appears to be a first endeavor to determine the effect on the lives of a number of individuals in well-known cases of abduction and to be carefully and objectively done.

It may very well be that more of value will be learned about the UFO phenomenon and its significance by investigating the influence UFO contacts have on the individuals involved than all the inquiry into behavior, motive power, physical characteristics and the like of the reported craft. It would seem, after over 30 years of investigation, that these visitors are not likely to give us clues to their superior technology, knowing to what aggressive use we would surely put it, and instead are trying to awake us to values we must first acquire for the sake of our own evolution. In any event, we can get some inkling of their intent through follow-up investigations of those most directly affected (and perhaps chosen) — the abductees themselves.

**Robert S. Camburn**  
Glenside, Pa.

## Had Your Phil?

Editor,

Three cheers for Quentin Fogarty, our "Down Under" friend involved in the New Zealand photo case, for his

excellent and revealing article, "A Klassical Encounter," in the March issue (No. 157). His interpretation of the resulting heated session is so typical of the rude, crude, and twisted distortions routinely belched out by our great hero of the debunking world. We should all be reminded that this mere handful of "Klassics" is only outnumbered by about 10,000 to 1. At least the positive side can boast no government funding. And what a pity; think of all we could do for scientific UFO research if we had some.

Mr. Fogarty's article in my estimation, should have had a subtitle — "Or, How to Insult a Guest in our Country." Mr. Fogarty should be highly commended for having the courage to stand up to the "scorn, innuendo, sarcasm, and attempted character assassination" for which Mr. Klass is so famous.

Whenever I read anything about Klass & Co. ridiculing credible witnesses such as Fogarty and Larry Coyne plus many others, it encourages me to redouble my efforts into more intensive accelerated research. I would heartily recommend the reader to do likewise. The one thing that bothers these absurd gentry more than anything is to have their fanatical efforts and clumsy attempts at debunking *completely ignored*, especially by the news media and any exposure to the general public.

Now we have Mr. Fogarty's junior agitator, Bobby Schaeffer. He is referred to here in our area as the "Sorcerer's Apprentice," a sort of "yes man" for P. K. Mr. Schaeffer has recently turned up here in San Jose, California from the Washington, D.C. area and has already begun his seemingly obvious plan within this *most active* pro-UFO area group by infiltrating Tom Gates' college lecture, visiting MUFON's Research Director, Jim McCampbell, and appearing as a guest on a KGO radio talk show, M.C'd by a complete and admitted disinterested communicator.

Remember folks, the key word is IGNORE! As Dr. James McDonald used to say, "Klass dismissed!"

**Paul Cerny**  
Western States Director

## Response to Greenwell

Editor,

This is a response to Greenwell's retrieval rebuttal (No. 161, July 1981). Greenwell's anecdotal materials fail to provide convincing rejoinder to the testimony of individuals most of whom were not acquainted. The crux of this argument lies in failure to admit that the testimony of so-called "junior specialists" may be as significant, and at least as ethical, as the silence of so-called "senior specialists." Greenwell must know that failure to testify is not recognized as evidence.

Greenwell believes that junior specialists may be less likely to maintain the secrecy of controlled data than one might expect of those higher on the totem. Indeed, the list of Stringfield's witnesses indicates that Greenwell might be correct. But such admission does nothing constructive for Greenwell's thesis. Does Greenwell really believe that junior specialists are more likely to lie than those who have ascended higher into the academic apex? What would be the basis of such assertion?

The extended reference to senior specialists as "outside contractors" is a subterfuge since essentially the same controls exist for classified material in government as in industry or in university work. Government funding of numerous experimental studies is well known. Support of these programs produces jobs. A senior specialist who is milking the cow, certainly does not want it to go dry. Neither does the institution being funded. The more dependent one becomes on such funding, and subject to departmental and administrative pressure, the less likely is one to compromise.

Greenwell has indicated that the controls sometimes break, and it is this writer's view that Stringfield's witnesses may be an excellent example. So, as one might expect, the hole in the dike has appeared not amongst those who have the most to lose but out of the broad circle of those who have the least.

**Virgil Staff**  
Berkeley, Calif.

## HISTORICAL MT. SHASTA CASE

By Steven Adams

*In an interview on May 27, 1967, Paul Cerny, then Chairman of the Bay Area Subcommittee of NICAP, learned that Captain Jack Brown of the Mount Shasta, California, Police Department, had encountered a peculiar craft-like object in the early morning hours of a July morning in 1966. The following article is based on Mr. Cerny's report.*

At 3:00 a.m. while on duty and patrolling the northwest city limits of Mount Shasta, Capt. Brown first observed the object through his car's windshield. The UFO closed with him rapidly, apparently on a collision course with the patrol car. To avoid a crash, Brown swerved violently, barely missing a ditch, and came to an abrupt halt. Fear and plans to escape by foot in case the UFO exhibited any further hostilities prompted the police officer to get out of the car and lean on the open door, one foot planted on the door frame.

The alleged craft, a smooth disc, approximately 30 to 40 feet in diameter and 10 to 12 feet thick, hovered silently 20 to 30 feet above the car and emitted a blue-white glow which seemed particularly bright at the disc's rim. The intensity of the light hurt Brown's eyes as he gazed upward at the disc. The object had no visible windows or openings; however, on

its underside were two thick tubular protrusions, curved and tapered, about eight inches around at the ends, skid-like in appearance, but with no perceived function. Also, Capt. Brown commented that he detected no exhaust trails coming from these structures.

Brown stated that after the apparent craft lingered for 3 or 4 minutes, it drifted off, moving erratically across the road and adjacent fields "as if nonchalantly surveying the immediate area." Suddenly the object shot off toward the slopes of Mt. Shasta where it stopped and hovered again before accelerating a second time. It climbed eastward over the mountain and disappeared.

The patrol car's headlights and two-way radio functioned normally throughout the encounter. In fact, Brown contacted his dispatcher, David Vacari, who after dashing to a window sighted the glowing object in Brown's reported vicinity. Furthermore, Officer Mazzeri, 8 miles north of Mount Shasta in the town of Weed, spotted the UFO heading for the mountain but did not observe the object hovering over the car because the terrain blocked his view. (Mr. Cerny saw fit to point out the absence of electro-magnetic effects on Brown's body and automobile: the captain experienced no paralysis or tingling sensations, and as previously stated, the car performed as usual during the incident.)

According to Mr. Cerny, Capt. Brown, 42 and a family man, seemed well above average intelligence, physically fit, in good mental health, and, in short, a competent observer.

Capt. Brown claimed that he would be reluctant to report any future sightings because of the way the Air Force had handled his first report. Evidently, the Air Force insisted on his completing many tedious and irrelevant forms and report sheets before informing him that what he and his fellow officers had seen was something other than what they had described.

### CORRECTION

A printing error appeared in Jennie Zeidman's comment (No. 160, June 1981) on the Klass-Fogarty exchange about the New Zealand UFO movie films. The word "disclosure" was substituted for "discourse." The sentence should read:

"I would no more attempt discourse with him (Klass) than with a tantrum-throwing, hysterical 6-year-old."

## MUFON

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### Director's Message, Continued

investigator training courses.

(c) The State Section Director or his/her assistant to cultivate the police agencies (city, county, and state), radio and television stations, airports, Federal Aviation Administration, control towers, etc. to report cases locally. Distribute UFO hotline number of the local group.

(d) Public Relations director to cultivate in a favorable manner the newspapers, radio and television for potential publicity.

(e) Develop a list of speakers that are qualified to speak at schools, service clubs, churches, radio, television, and organizations seeking a program on UFOs. (Speakers Bureau)

(f) A librarian to systematically accumulate UFO books and publications. (Suggest that the local group purchase an annual subscription to the MUFON UFO Journal as a contribution to the public or school libraries.)

(g) Utilize CB radio for local communications.

(h) A Newsletter Editor to keep members advised of meetings, UFO sighting reports being in-

vestigated, and applicable local UFO news.

7. Require MUFON membership as a condition for participation in a State Section or local UFO Study Group.

8. Wherever a state section group is organized and functioning, UFO sighting reports from Phenomena Research, the Center for UFO Studies and MUFON will be directed to the State Section Director for assignment, in conjunction with the Chief Investigator.

9. Local groups may elect to have membership dues to support their own activities, such as postage, stationary, UFO hotline, library, etc.



Lucius Farish

# In Others' Words

An article on "space ghosts" (beings who seem to dematerialize at will) is featured in the August 25 issue of *National Enquirer*. Dr. Leo Sprinkle and Brad Steiger are two of the researchers quoted in this report. The September 1 issue told of a giant UFO dropping balls of fire, seen over Portland, Oregon, on April 3, 1981. This is perhaps Bob Pratt's last UFO article for the *Enquirer*.

*UFO Report* has finally made its reappearance on the newsstands. It is now to be published quarterly and it seems that no subscriptions will be accepted. The fall issue contains articles by Dwight Whalen, James Oberg, Wayne Laporte, Joseph Trainor, and others.

Harry Lebelson's "UFO Update" column in the September issue of *OMNI* has some very interesting reports from the vicinity of Pine Bush, New York. This area seems to

be another of those regions where UFOs are seen on a more-or-less regular basis. One photograph of anomalous lights in the night sky is included with the column.

The August issue of *Discover*, Time, Inc.'s science magazine, has an article taking Dr. J. Allen Hynek to task for having "tainted" the pages of *Technology Review* with an article on UFOs. There are, without doubt, any number of legitimate criticisms which could be aimed in Hynek's direction, but this is hardly one of them.

The No. 23 issue of *True Outer Space & Paranormal World* has relatively little of interest to offer, UFO-wise. Most of the magazine is taken up with other topics, the most interesting of which is a report on a Bigfoot researcher who seems to have done his homework (and fieldwork) without a lot of publicity.

British researcher Hilary Evans contributes an article to October issue of

*Fate*, in which he says that UFO activity in Wales' "Terror Triangle" (the scene of an alleged flap in 1977) has been exaggerated, to put it mildly. Though there may have been genuine sightings in the area, Evans' research failed to confirm the startling claims made by others who have written numerous articles and books on the supposed flap. This issue of *Fate* also contains a revealing article on the committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, written by a former member of the group.

## UFO DATA MART

(A service for MUFON members, except commercial enterprises.)

### Wanted

MUFON member conducting study of patterns in electromagnetic (E-M) effect cases requests that Field Investigators send copies of MUFON Forms 1 and 3 or equivalent reports (deleting confidential information as necessary). Explained cases also useful as control group. Patricia McMahon, 2725 Lury Lane, Annapolis, MD 21401.

### Trade

MUFON member building UFO literature collection at Ohio State University Library for posterity will trade first 12 issues of *Cosmic Search* for a copy of the 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium Proceedings and any mis-

cellaneous UFO items or bulletins that you would like to donate for his "cause." William E. Jones, 2256 Zollinger Rd., Columbus, OH 43221.

### Sale

Autographed copies from the author, *The Melchizedek Connection* (blend of fact, speculation, and fantasy) \$7.50 plus \$1.00 shipping. Total \$8.50. Now in soft cover at 15% discount, *Casebook of a UFO Investigator*, \$5.00 plus \$1.00 shipping. Total \$6.00. Other titles also available. Raymond E. Fowler, Box 19, Wenham, MA 01984.

Alleged unexplained phenomena on the Moon in NASA photographs. Two volumes of five 8" x 10" photos, plus summary, \$15 per volume. Also three Viking mission Mars photos including the "statue face," plus summary, \$12. Lunar Photos, P.O. Box 2186, Van Nuys, CA 91404.

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# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE by Walt Andrus

On Sunday, September 20, 1981, Mrs. Idabel Epperson and her daughter Marilyn were hosts in their home to an important MUFON Southern California meeting. William "Bill" Hassel, State Director, presiding officer, introduced Joseph Kirk Thomas as his replacement as State Section Director for Los Angeles County. Joe resides at 2220 South Beverly Glen No. 114, Los Angeles, CA 90064, telephone: (213) 556-2192. Holding a Masters Degree in physics, he has been a research specialist in electromagnetics for MUFON. As Chairman for the 1983 MUFON UFO Symposium, to be hosted by Southern California, Bill Hassel utilized the occasion to initiate planning for this prestigious event.

A unique feature of their meeting was an invitation by Marilyn Epperson to J. Allen Hynek and Walt Andrus to participate from Evanston, Ill., and Seguin, Tex., via a telephone loudspeaker amplifier. Each passed along greetings and an appropriate message for this auspicious occasion. Your director answered questions from the assembled group in the Epperson living room. Other MUFON officers present were Willard D. Nelson, State Section Director for Orange County; Melvin Podell, State Section Director for San Diego County; Mrs. Ann Druffel, Associate Editor of the MUFON UFO Journal; and Mrs. Idabel Epperson, Advisor to the Southern California group.

The Center for UFO Studies Scientific Conference on September 25th through 27th at the Midland Hotel in downtown Chicago was a memorable event for all of us who were fortunate to attend. We were especially proud of the numerous MUFON members who spoke at this distinguished affair. They were Alan Holt, Dr. Bruce Macabee, John Schuessler, Dr. Irwin Wieder, Dr. Alvin H. Lawson, Dr. Ron Westrum, and Budd Hopkins. Other qualified speakers were Bertil Kuhlemann (Sweden), Gordon Melton, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Roberto

Pinotti (Italy), Barbara Schutte, John Timmerman, Donald Johnson, and Mark Rodeghier. Mark Rodeghier is to be congratulated for his outstanding job in organizing and planning this conference. A San Francisco Bay Area group of six was headed by Directors Paul Cerny and Jim McCampbell.

Another media for communications was used on September 13th, when your director had the privilege of visiting with Jane Thomas (LU6DSM) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, via amateur radio station K5RF in Seguin. Robert Florstedt (K5RF) has a schedule with Jane Thomas for every other Sunday at 1:00 PM C.D.S.T. or C.S.T. on 28.916.3 megahertz. Jane had responded by letter to our inquiry to set up an international MUFON amateur net. We invite others to join us on ten meters. Jane is best known for her work in translating UFO accounts published in Spanish to English for the Journal, Lou Farish, Ted Bloecher, and others. Her schedule is October the 11th and 25th and November 8th and 22nd.

Dennis W. Stacy, Director of Publications, represented MUFON at the recent Second London International UFO Congress as reported in the August 1981 issue of the Journal. He also substituted for Michael Sinclair, International Coordinator, who was accepted as MUFON's permanent delegate to the Provisional International Committee on UFO Research (PICUR). Bertil Kuhlemann (Sweden) proposed the international adoption of Project UFO Research Data (URD), a two-fold program designed to coordinate in-the-field data gathering with computer analysis of the data. James McCampbell, MUFON Director for Research, will meet with Mr. Bertil Kuhlemann and Stan Lindgren, both representing Project URD, to discuss inputs and applications of the proposal for potential MUFON utilization. Since we are in the process of composing the third edition of our Field Investigator's

Manual, this would be an appropriate time to evaluate and consider the Swedish (URD) proposition.

In the August 1981 issue of the Journal, your International Director elaborated on five steps to expand the subscription distribution of the Journal and MUFON membership. In subsequent "Director's Message" columns, other ideas will be suggested that will help to develop MUFON as a worldwide UFO investigative organization. Frequently new members ask the question, "What are the duties of a State Section Director?" In this edition of the Journal, we will concentrate on procedures and proposals that will strengthen our state organizations.

1. Organize state groups, headed by a State Director.

2. State Director to select an Assistant State Director to cover a portion of the state or actively assist the Director in administrative functions.

3. The State Director should seek and appoint State Section Directors for one county or a group of counties depending upon population density or geographic square mile area. The qualifications should be based upon leadership, interest, and time to devote to Ufology.

4. State Section Directors are advised to conduct monthly meetings. (In many cases this is already being done in a local MUFON-affiliated UFO group.)

5. State and State Section Directors should be constantly searching for competent, interested people to recruit as Field Investigators, Research Specialists, and Field Investigator Trainees.

6. Each State Section Director should select and appoint members to serve in the following capacities:

- (a) A Chief Investigator to coordinate investigations assignments in conjunction with with the State Section Director.
- (b) An instructor for Field In-

(continued on page 18)