

# THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL

NUMBER 158

APRIL 1981

Founded 1967

\$1.50

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF



MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.



◆ Betty Cash

Vickie and Colby  
Landrum ◆



VICTIMS IN UFO RADIATION CASE (SEE STORY, PAGE 3)

*The MUFON*  
**UFO JOURNAL**  
 (USPS 002-970)  
 103 Oldtowne Rd.  
 Seguin, Texas 78155

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# FROM THE EDITOR

The Cash-Landrum case reported here appears to be an especially significant case of physiological injury caused by a UFO. Since this preliminary report was written, more medical evidence has been obtained indicating clear-cut radiation injuries of a presently unknown nature. The possibilities include ionizing radiation or microwave radiation. Investigation is proceeding and a follow-up report will be printed as soon as possible.

Readers have responded heavily to Stuart Campbell's UFO hypotheses article (No. 156, Feb. 1981), and we will begin printing letters of comment and rebuttal statements in the next issue.

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# RADIATION INJURIES FROM UFO

By Richard Hall

## Preliminary Report

What promises to be one of the most significant physical evidence cases in modern UFO history occurred December 29, 1980, near Huffman, Texas, northeast of Houston. Two women and a young boy suffered various degrees of injury, largely attributable to radiation poisoning and radiant heat, after watching a luminous object hover low over the road ahead of their car. MUFON Deputy Director, John Schuessler, and members of Project VISIT are investigating. They are seeking to obtain the full set of medical records.

Betty Cash, 52, was driving her 1980 Cutlass Supreme from New Caney to Dayton, Texas, on Highway 1485 about 9:00 p.m. With her were a friend, Vicky Landrum, 60s, and Vicky's grandson Colby, 7. Suddenly a luminous, fiery-looking object descended to treetop level over the road ahead of them and they heard a beeping noise that persisted throughout the sighting. From its underside, flames (red-orange) were emitted toward the road periodically, with an audible "woosh." Betty stopped the car, afraid to drive beneath the object; they opened the car doors to stand beside the car and watch. The glow was brilliant, and they could feel strong heat and hear a loud roaring noise.

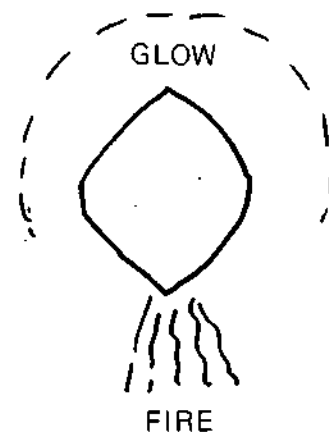
Colby became terrified and he and Vicky got back in the car, but Betty remained outside for a longer period of time. (Probably significantly, Betty's injuries were the most severe.) Finally, the object started to rise and move away to the right in a southwesterly direction with a large number of helicopters (20 or more) seemingly in pursuit. The evening was cool and the car

heater had been turned on, but now the car was so hot that Betty turned on the air conditioner.

Later Betty dropped Vicky and Colby off at their house and drove home, feeling ill. She arrived home at 9:50 p.m. Numerous symptoms appeared almost immediately: swollen neck, head and facial blisters, swollen earlobes, and swollen eyelids. Her eyes closed completely and she could not see for several days. Four days later, unable to eat, and suffering nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, Betty entered the hospital where she remained for 15 days. She also suffered severe loss of hair. After being discharged, she continued to suffer swellings, headaches, and lack of appetite. A little over a week later, she returned to the hospital for additional treatment. As of February 22, she remained constantly tired, headachy, and unable to work.

When they arrived home that night Vicky and Colby also felt ill; Colby's face was "sunburned" and he had eye problems, a condition that still persists to a mild degree. They spread large quantities of baby oil on their faces for three days. Both had stomach aches and diarrhea for several days. Vicky experienced some loss of hair and a sensation as if her scalp were "asleep." During the sighting, she had placed her left hand on top of the car, and the fingernails on that hand showed odd line-like indentations across their width.

Colby had nightmares for 2-3 weeks, and since has displayed extreme anxiety and fear at the sight of a helicopter. The large number of helicopters itself poses a mystery, since no obvious source of that many helicopters is known in the area, especially on short notice if they were pursuing the UFO, as they



## General appearance of Huffman, Texas, UFO

appeared to be. The date also was during the holiday season when military bases typically would be on "stand-down" with reduced personnel.

Although they remain to be fully documented, the medical symptoms suggest both radiation sickness and physical burns; both ultraviolet and infrared radiation may have been involved. Full details will be reported as soon as the investigation is completed, and the future health of the witnesses will be monitored.



## UFO REPORTS FROM CHINA

(Three articles published in November 1980 in Dagong Bao of Hong Kong received by Stanton T. Friedman December 23, 1980 from Xinhau News Agency, New York, NY. Translated by Joseph Tin-Chong Yiu.) Seguin, Texas

1. It has been reported recently that China has successfully obtained a photograph of an unidentified flying object, known by some people as "flying saucers." This may be the first time that any picture has been taken in Chinese territory. However, the earliest record of a "UFO" recorded by the Chinese can be dated back to 1056 A.D. It was recorded that an object as bright as the sun with a golden line at its center appeared at the providence of "Young."

The more recent report is from a science student. He reported "On December 25, 1979 (night), my friend "Lim Young" and I were studying and the time was 8:00 at night. The sky was clear. We saw a bright fireball about 26" in diameter at the horizon where the sun normally sets. The color was almost bloody red with the perimeter appearing white. I said to him "Have you seen a moon like this?" and he said "No, that is not a moon. It is a sun." I replied "At this time? It is impossible." The object picked up tremendous speed and rotating anti-clockwise headed in our direction. It changed to an elliptical shape as it got closer to us, and rotated in various directions. The object finally got smaller as it flew past us, and the reddish color disappeared. The entire process lasted about 5 seconds."

2. It all happened on September 23, 1978. There were several hundred air force personnel watching a movie in open air at Jin Sho. The time was 8:04 p.m. All of a sudden an object with two big head lights appeared 6,000 meters above them. The object also had a big bright whitish tail, moving at an incredible speed. The size was very big, occupying about 35 degree of vision.

3. Another report is from Mr. Cheung Chou Shun, an astronomer. On July 26, 1977, at 10:00 p.m. he saw a bright spiral object with yellowish center. The brightness was about that of a class 2 star. Extending from the center to the outer perimeter were circles of spirals. The rings were bluish in color. The number of rings were about 3 to 4. The object was about a 60 degree angle above the horizon. The object moved in a straight line with the horizon. Five seconds later, the object disappeared. There are various reports from different walks of life in China concerning UFO, mostly in recent years. The area of sightings is widely ranged from different provinces. It may seem strange that all of the reports are mostly after 1977. This is because until then the research and activities had not been permitted. It was considered "crazy" or "ridiculous" to suggest UFO existence. It is hoped that we can catch up with the western world and solve this mystery together.

### CORRECTION

We sincerely regret that in the January issue (No. 155) the review of a major UFO publication (*Encyclopedia of UFOs*) failed to include the name of the reviewer. The name was accidentally dropped off in the printing process. The reviewer was Isabel Davis, alternate to the Executive Committee of the Fund for UFO Research, former staff member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), and former member of the Research Committee of CSI of New York. Given her extensive background in the UFO field, the review loses force without knowing who wrote it. We suggest you write in her name in the blank space where it should have appeared at the conclusion of the review.



**MAJOR KEYHOE JOINS  
MUFON BOARD**

**By Walt Andrus**

It is a distinct pleasure to announce that Major Donald E. Keyhoe, U.S.M.C. Retired, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Mutual UFO Network as Director of Government Affairs. Major Keyhoe is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and the Marine Corps Officers School. He retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1945 at the end of World War II. He served as Director of NICAP, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, from 1957 to 1969. As a pioneer in UFOlogy, he is best known for the books he has authored; *Flying Saucers: Top Secret*, *The Flying Saucer Conspiracy*, *Flying Saucers From Outer Space*, and his most recent, *Aliens From Space*.

Richard H. Hall, Editor of the MUFON UFO Journal, was privileged to work with Major Keyhoe as Assistant Director of NICAP during the period when NICAP was the world's largest and most active UFO organization. Don and his wife Helen receive their mail at P.O. Box 502, Luray, VA, 22835. It is an honor to welcome this distinguished gentleman to the MUFON Board of Directors.

# THE ANDERSON EVENT

By Donald Roberts  
(Acting MUFON State Director)

*(Note: Assisting in the investigation were Wanda Jones and Margaret Pine; Allan Hendry investigated for the Center for UFO Studies. All quotes are taken verbatim from the interview taped on Sept. 14, 1980, with Jerry and Faye McAlister. Tape available for statement verification).*

On a warm, clear night in early September of last year, Jerry McAlister, 40, was listening to the report of a wreck on I-85 on his police scanner at his home in Anderson, South Carolina. His wife, Faye, 34, was sleeping beside him in the couple's back bedroom, their five daughters asleep across the hall. McAlister, an electrician by trade, had been laid up with a broken ankle and listened often to sideband and C.B. transmissions as a hobby.

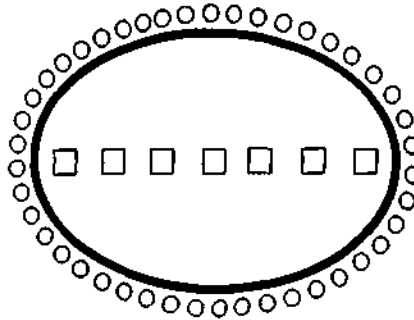
At 4:20 a.m., September 11, McAlister was suddenly startled by an extremely loud noise coming from his backyard, described as "like a helicopter crashing," and, accompanied by a "high pitched whine." That same moment, lights "bright enough to light up the entire back yard, the house, and everything" flooded through the windows.

McAlister got his crutches, moved to the bedroom window and, looking up, saw what he described as a brightly lit object as "high as a two story building" and roughly 70 feet in diameter, hovering approximately 50 feet in the air, and over a group of pines in his back yard.

At this point, McAlister awakened his wife with one of his crutches and called her to the window, whereupon she remarked, "Oh, my God, how beautiful," and went to wake their daughters. Only the oldest, Shirley, 17, arose and returned to the window with her, in time to view the object still hovering.

The object was described as having a row of very bright, white,

stationary windows across the center of the structure, with a row of even brighter white lights rotating horizontally in a clockwise motion around the perimeter. (See sketch.) There was additionally, an oscillating, or "wobbling," motion of the entire object, revealing "grayish-black steel under the windows" when it tilted upwards, this angle diminishing the extreme brightness. McAlister said it appeared to be made of "slick metal," and, was seamless. His wife stated that she saw black between each window, and, all three complained of the lights hurting their eyes during the observation.



At this moment, the horizontally rotating lights around the object's perimeter tilted to a vertical position, like a ferris wheel, the windows remaining horizontal as before. The "flying saucer," as McAlister described it, then "went like a streak of lightning — the sound left, and everything." He estimated that the entire aforementioned sequence of events, described exactly as was told during the interview, lasted approximately 3 minutes.

As the object rapidly moved off, to the NNE, McAlister, his wife, and five daughters, all of whom were now up, left the house through the carport door, turning on the outside light, the first turned on during the occurrence. They all watched from the yard as the receding lights came to a stop at a distance estimated by

McAlister to be approximately 8 miles, this having been covered in roughly 2 to 3 minutes.

## Secondary Events And Witnesses

For the next 2 hours and 45 minutes, until 7:05 a.m., the object remained at its distant location, and was viewed by a number of people, these including the seven members of the McAlister family, four next door neighbors, two from several miles away, and, four deputies of the Anderson County Sheriff's Department.

The deputies, who had been called twice by the McAlister's before their arrival, watched for 2 hours, 10 minutes through binoculars and a 60-power telescope provided by one of the neighbors. Everyone present had ample opportunity to view the objects through both instruments.

McAlister and his wife stated that the windows and rotating lights were still plainly visible and that the wobble was the same as before. The light was still bright enough to hurt his eyes, even at that distance, said McAlister. In fact, he stated that they were "so bright, they still blinded you!"

During this entire period, McAlister said that the object was gradually rising in the distance until 7:05 a.m. when, as he put it, it "shot out of sight and, was gone — a beautiful sight."

## Deputies' Comments

The four Anderson County Deputies who witnessed the event had various statements to make on their observations of the far-off light source.

Mike Burton said that he observed the object rising and turning constantly for over an hour, but, could

(Continued on next page)

(Anderson, continued)

not make out a definite shape. He also said that he observed it changing colors from red, to hazy blue, to bright white, and to yellow! He stated that he thought it was not an aircraft, and, that the object was smaller than the moon, but much larger than a star.

Rock Nation said that he didn't know what it was, and Lt. Joseph Simmons was an observer but has not been questioned as of this writing.

The Department contacted the local Anderson Airport and Greenville Aviation, a little after 5:00 a.m. while the event was in progress, but neither was open. However, the Greenville-Spartanburg Jetport was, but Air Traffic Control there said that radar noted nothing unusual.

A strange note involving only one of the Deputies (who, it is not yet clear) and McAlister's daughter Shirley concerns the observation of a red light, or lights, coming out of the bottom and top of the object. Shirley saw hers on the bottom; the Deputy saw his on the top. McAlister said that the Deputy kept saying he saw red lights, though no one else, save Shirley, did.

(Further statements and comparisons, whether of significance or not, are made here, in the event of their possible future use in this case, or others.)

One of McAlister's more interesting comments, at least to this investigator, was that there was no question in his mind that, as soon as he initially saw the object, he knew that it was a "flying saucer." How he arrived at this conclusion so rapidly is anyone's guess. He also stated that he wasn't scared, just thrilled by his experience.

Saying that he had never believed in UFOs, he interestingly added that his wife's sister did, and that she had read extensively on the subject, and had told him and his wife all about UFOs prior to their sighting.

McAlister also said that he knew it was not a balloon, helicopter, nor any type of known aircraft.

As to the extreme loudness of the initial encounter, described as like a

"helicopter crashing," and "loud as a helicopter starting to take off," he had no explanations as to why such a noise didn't wake his wife or children, though his ears "roared" for 3 days afterwards. From the distance of 110 measured feet from his bedroom window, it must have been awesome, indeed.

The next door neighbor described what he heard as a "muffled" sound, and the cross-street couple said they were awake at that hour yet heard nothing at all.

McAlister said his dog, which was sleeping at the foot of McAlister's bed, didn't bark during the incident, as he could recall, though in the excitement, he wasn't sure.

Questioned as to any time loss, either by any individual or clock, there was none, McAlister stated.

Physiologically, in addition to the previously mentioned effects of the bright lights and intense sounds, McAlister complained of a "terrific headache" all the next day with swollen glands in his neck through the day after that, and burning, reddened eyes. As for the burning eyes, it must be considered that McAlister had been up for a considerable time both prior to and after the event.

A possible EM effect occurring after the event was over, was that for 7 hours, according to McAlister, no modulation (transmission) could get out on his C.B. unit, though his signal was detectable by others. He could receive normally, but only a buzz came through when he attempted to transmit. Further, McAlister's antenna was located almost directly underneath the object's position in his back yard, and if his estimates of its altitude are correct, only a few feet away from its bottom.

The factor of Venus in its relative position at the time of the object's distant hovering is another interesting aspect of this case, as it appeared to rise as Venus did and was only approximately 15 degrees away from the planet's position at the time. Both were visible until approximately the same time that morning when they were lost in the brightening sky.

When questioned about these facts, both McAlister and his wife were sure that Venus was to the right and below the object and was considerably brighter.

### Radiation and S.B.I.

S.B.I., or the "Scientific Bureau of Investigation," based out of New York, and represented by Pete Mazzola, a N.Y. police detective, and Jim Fillow, a retired New Jersey policeman, descended on the scene the day after the event, calling it one of the best documented cases they had come across. Apparently involved to some degree with the popular "That's Incredible" T.V. program, they brought a PSE "lie detector," and some type of geiger counter, leaving behind many more questions than the event itself caused.

McAlister, himself, said that they checked his eyes with a pen-light type flashlight, detecting a glazed effect, and called it "radiation burns." No qualified medical personnel had yet, however, checked anyone for anything at the time of this interview several days later.

Various reports of the McAlister's themselves being radioactive by some vague amount, and even increasing that radioactivity sometime later, as well as radioactivity considerably above normal background levels in the back yard, surfaced after S.B.I.'s visit or visits, whatever the case may be. Mazzola was quoted in one news article as saying that there was a "decided jump on the geiger counter."

Thanks to Allan Hendry of CUFOS, who, upon hearing of all this, brought a counter to the site, he and this investigator finding no levels higher than background, though our readings were made, in all fairness, 3 days after the event.

As for myself, I found the statements made concerning all this somewhat less than agreeable, having worked in nuclear weapons for several years in the U.S. Army and having undergone extensive training in radiation handling and detection procedures.

(Continued on next page)

# ABDUCTED BY AN ARCHETYPE

by Hilary Evans

(Reprinted from *Fortean Times*\*, No. 33 Autumn 1980 by permission of—and with minor corrections by—the author, and with Americanized spellings for our largely U.S. readership.)

Abducted by a UFO. That it could happen in fact would have been unthinkable until some 30 years ago (and still is for perhaps a majority of us) and if it occurred in fiction, only the most courageous story-tellers dared envisage it. Yet here we are, sober citizens of 1981, seriously sitting down and considering the possibility that dozens of alleged abduction reports could be based in reality.

We know the pattern. The abductee is walking or driving along, or even sitting at home, when there's this weird compartment; his hosts what he's doing and go to investigate; he meets these weird people who take them on board this weird craft of theirs, where he is put into this weird compartment; his host give him some kind of physical examination, then let him go, telling him he won't remember a thing. But he does, if not consciously then under hypnosis.

We've read that account, or something like it, so many times that we'd hardly be surprised if it happened to us and

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(Anderson, Continued)

As of this writing, it has been relayed that "That's Incredible" has visited the McAlister's twice now, with one national T.V. airing already.

Information concerning additional sightings in at least five different locations and towns later the same day as the original will be forthcoming as soon as logistically possible, including statements from a number of persons involved, supporting the McAlister's description of the object.

would surely experience a sense of *deja vu* as they laid us on their inspection table. And yet, we still don't know whether stories like that have any basis in fact.

Charles Fort believed in explanations. His four books, though they contain many attacks on scientists who conducted themselves non-scientifically, are monuments to the scientific method. Yes, you may say, and look where it got him: four fat volumes packed with anomalies still awaiting explanation, the biggest pending file of unsolved mysteries outside of Scotland Yard.

If that's the scientific method, some say, we'd all be better off sitting at the feet of some Eastern guru, trying to imagine the sound of one hand clapping rather than trying to find cause-and-effect patterns in phenomena which are manifestly outside the scope of human reason. It's possible they're right, that there are some areas of experience which aren't amenable to logic-systems that we're acquainted with. But that's a desperate conclusion to come to; before that, we need to be convinced that old-fashioned cause-and-effect thinking has failed us. Personally I don't think we're anywhere near that point.

What scares people off is the seeming paradoxes inherent throughout the UFO problem, and found at their most extreme in the abduction reports. But Charles Fort delighted in paradoxes because he recognized that when you've reduced a problem to a paradox, you've got to the heart of the problem. I suggest, and I think Fort would have agreed with me, that it is precisely the outrageous character of the abduction reports which gives us

our best hope of isolating their true nature.

## A Clue

On 26 July 1978, 37-year-old "Gerry Armstrong" was hypnotically regressed to when, as a 12-year-old schoolboy in England, he was taken aboard a UFO and examined by its occupants. His account is more or less the standard scenario outlined above, but from what he said under hypnosis I note the following:

In a room...ain't no electric light bulb. Can't see a bulb...I can't see any bulbs. And then one go through the wall. I didn't...can't see a door.

And later, going over the material in the wakened state, he said:

I'm being put in a room...I think it's a room. I'm trying to understand where the light is from. It's very, very interesting. We seem to walk through a wall, but there must have been a door.<sup>5,7</sup>

In 1977, 40 year-old Betty Andreasson was hypnotically regressed to when, 10 years earlier, she was taken aboard a UFO and subjected to a number of astonishing experiences during a sequence of events which largely conformed to the standard model. From her account I note:

B: Whoosh! Another door opened. And you can't even see those doors. They just go up when they open.

Q: Can you see the source of the illumination?

B: It comes from all over the place.

Q: Can you see any welded seams on the wall or some type of seam?

B: No, it seems smooth all the way around.

---

\**Fortean Times*, 9-12 St. Annes Court, London W1, England (\$10/yr)

Let's check the tape at that point and ask ourselves, why do the lights and the doors seem of such particular interest to both subjects and, consequently, to their questioners? An answer is that doors and lights are things which all human homes and vehicles possess, so they're something we can relate to in an alarming situation. But so are lots of other things: why, when something so extraordinary as going on board a UFO is happening, do such trivial details loom so important?

Personally, I'd be interested enough to go aboard Concorde, let alone a UFO; but I can't imagine my chief concern would be for the lighting system. Yet, it's a fact that this preoccupation is almost a standard feature in abduction reports. Antonio da Silva (Brazil 1969) reported, "... the lighting in the compartment was intense, of the mercury vapor type, but he was unable to detect any sources for the light, nor any openings or salient parts on the smooth surfaces."<sup>2a</sup> Antonio Rubia (Brazil 1977) found himself in an interior lit by an intense blue light which came from the ceiling, but he couldn't determine the source because it seemed to come from the ceiling as a whole.<sup>1</sup>

And so on, and so on. All I want you to note, for the moment, is that so many witnesses pick out this particular aspect of their experience. The lights and door things are only two of many; they just happen to be the ones that set me thinking, the clues that led to the question which is the starting-point for this inquiry: Why do the abductee's reports—not their experiences, but their *reports*—echo one another so closely?

#### Four Kinds of Report

Reports of alleged encounters between humans and non-human entities fall into four classes:

1. Stories told by real humans who describe what they allege, and seemingly believe, to have really happened to them, in which they met

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*"I think we must accept that there is a real basis for a proportion of UFO reports, and that they relate to an actual phenomenon outside anything yet classified by science."*

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alien and apparently non-human entities.<sup>1-6, etc.</sup>

2. Fictional stories on the same lines, mostly dating from the pre-UFO period of the 1920s-1930s.<sup>9</sup>

3. Myths, usually non-specific though occasionally including purported names and locations, describing events containing remarkably similar features.<sup>10</sup>

4. Accounts produced experimentally in which subjects with no particular UFO background describe supposed UFO abductions under the influence of drugs or hypnosis.<sup>8</sup>

Study of the references indicated above reveals astonishing correspondences between these four kinds of report with such widely differing origins. For example:

• European science fiction writers in the 1920s described imaginary situations which are so close to alleged abduction reports of the 1970s as to make coincidence well nigh unthinkable. Meheust's book<sup>9</sup> is devoted to these parallels; thus he cites a French SF yarn whose hero finds himself in a small room, lit by a green diffused light emanating from no discernible source but rather from the material of the vessel itself; there are seemingly no doors or windows, but these appear when required. Compare this with Higdon<sup>2b</sup> who found himself in a small room, brightly lit but with no obvious source of light, or with Diaz<sup>9</sup> who could see no light and felt that the walls were translucent; like the SF hero, he was in a small room without furniture of any kind. (to get the full impact of these parallels, of course, the accounts should be read at length.)

• Vallee<sup>12</sup> has devoted a book to the parallels between UFO reports and myth. Whatever we think of his thesis, his basic point is well made: it is hard not to presume some com-

mon source when Vallee bombards you with such parallels as this: Betty Hill<sup>4</sup> reported that during her examination a long needle was inserted into her navel.... The 15th century Calendrier des Bergers shows demons piercing their victims abdomens with long needles. One such parallel might be coincidence, but not this many....

• The encounters induced under hypnosis, experimentally, by Alvin Lawson and his team<sup>8</sup> astonished the experimenters by their close similarity to allegedly factual accounts. This is the more remarkable since the subjects had first been screened to include only those with minimal ufological knowledge. (Clearly, as Hendry<sup>6</sup> has pointed out, nobody these days can be expected to be completely ignorant of UFO's!) The subjects described their imaginary experiences in terms which were virtually indistinguishable from those used by the people who claimed to have actually undergone the experiences: again you need to study the scripts at length to get the full force of the parallels, but here's a sample:

A. They seem to have brought me to this...it almost seems like a tube. The ceiling is about 20 feet high.

B. I can see the sky up there... it's like a long tube, jagged...

C. It's sort of like a tube, like I sort of feel that I'm at the bottom of a tube looking up...

In fact, A is an experimental hypnosis subject, B is a "real" abductee, and C is a drug-induced-hallucination subject.

In short, what we have is a situation where four kinds of report, emanating from wholly different origins, produce correspondence of coincidence-defying similarity. This argues that they are either deriving from one another, or all deriving from some common substratum, some widely—if not universally—available image bank.

It is hard to see how they could be deriving from one another. To



(Archetype, Continued)

suppose a linear or sequential development, myth to SF and SF to alleged fact, leads to absurdity: how could a Brazilian farmer have access to SF stories in French of half a century before—and even if it happened by a strange chance once, how could it keep on happening?

### The Significance of Myth

The view of Paul Misraki,<sup>10</sup> subsequently elaborated and irresponsibly extended by Von Daniken and others, was that mythical accounts are similar to allegedly factual accounts for the simple reason that they *are* factual accounts, which have been blurred by time. However, while it may be the case that UFO abductions have been taking place throughout history, there is no good evidence to that effect, and to assume it would be highly question-begging. For one thing, the supporters of the theory need to show why we have reports from the distant past, and reports from our own day, but virtually nothing in between—why were there no abductions in the time of Shakespeare or Dr. Johnson or the Victorians, periods when, though the critical apparatus of our own day wasn't available, at least we could have expected a fair standard of reporting which would help us gauge the authenticity of the account? In the absence of any such continuing tradition, I surmise that the mythical accounts are something quite different from the factual accounts of our own time.

For our present purpose, the significance of the mythical accounts is that they were what people wanted to tell and hear. Far from being accounts of actual happenings, it is more probable that they describe precisely what does *not* happen in real life. Real life is untidy and unsatisfactory; things happen and nobody knows why, things start and don't finish, loose ends proliferate. To impose some pattern on reality is a basic human instinct, which is what keeps story-tellers and myth-makers in business.

The relation of myth to reality is that myth represents the filling of gaps in reality. Fairies and angels, and their equivalents in later cultures, are "needed" to complete our world picture; they and encounters with them, are things which we feel, consciously or unconsciously, some or most or even all of us, that reality should somehow contain. If super-human entities don't exist, mankind must invent them.

I think we must accept that there is a real basis for a proportion of UFO reports, and that they relate to an actual phenomenon outside anything yet classified by science. Even if we set aside all material or photographic evidence, it remains the case that we have thousands of well-presented reports, by persons apparently of sound mind and in no unusual emotional state, describing physical objects rationally and lucidly, and frequently with multiple confirmation. To dismiss such evidence is quite simply perverse.

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*"...these percipients are clearly dredging up, from somewhere within themselves, aspects of what they expect or wish or fear to see...."*

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At the same time, I think, we must accept that whatever reality UFOs possess, it is different from any reality we know. Their ability to change shape, to respond to individual percipients, to be seen by some and not by others, taken along with so many other logic-defying features of their behavior and that of their occupants, means that we are up against something totally different from anything previously experienced by mankind (with the significant exception of certain categories of psychical phenomena).

If, however, we accept that the typical unexplained UFO report has some correspondence with reality, we really paint ourselves into a corner as regards the abduction reports; for we must choose between saying, "Ah, but they are exceptions" without any good reason for so saying, or

accepting that they, too, are based upon reality. Which means we have to explain how it comes about that real reports should correspond so closely with parallel accounts which we know to be total fabrications. We have already discounted the likelihood that they derive from one another; but what is left?

### Paradox to the Rescue

At this point we have to take into account another complication which at first sight seems to make matters even worse, if possible, though as we shall find, it actually gives us the vital clue we need, which shows how right Fort was to be so fond of paradoxes!

The new horror we have to face is this: both Michel Monnerie<sup>11</sup> in France, and Allan Hendry<sup>6</sup> in the U.S. have established that many detailed sightings relate to IFOs, not UFOs. Percipients have described windows on the planet Venus and ascribed purposeful maneuvers to the moon! Monnerie suggests that what is happening in such cases is that the sight of something unplaceable induces in some people a "waking dream"—a state in which the subconscious overrides the conscious. This may or may not be the case; what concerns us is the fact that these percipients are clearly dredging up, from somewhere within themselves, aspects of what they expect or wish or fear to see, and plastering them onto the innocent Moon or whatever. The thing seen plays no part in the process; the percipient does it all.

Now you see why this apparent complication is so significant. For it shows, beyond question, that some people *do* possess inside themselves the do-it-yourself kit necessary for transforming reality into fantasy. And if IFO observers can do it, then so can UFO observers; so perhaps, can all of us!

I suggest that we are justified in concluding that some, perhaps all, of us carry about, in our subconscious

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# UFO CRASH/RETRIEVALS: A CRITIQUE OF GREENWELL'S CRITIQUE

By Virgil Staff

Leonard Stringfield's use of the word "syndrome" provides J. Richard Greenwell with the opportunity, in paragraphs one and eleven of his "Critique" (No.153, November 1980) to guess that the syndrome may be a "clinical entity" deriving from "several kinds of socio-psychological phenomena, influenced by media imagery, and facilitated by a receptive target individual." It is the view of this writer that Greenwell provides no data to support this conclusion, and that the "Critique" should be considered as little more than a statement of his own views without benefit of stated support.

Initially, Greenwell admits that he does not believe in the authenticity of such reports. In the second paragraph he tells us that he doubts the presence of any government interest in UFOs. Either Greenwell

does not read the literature with care, or he interprets it differently from most Ufologists.

We are told that "recovery" incidents would require hundreds of specialists all of whom would be unlikely to remain silent. This may well be, and Stringfield's informers may be an initial indication that Greenwell is correct. We are uninformed concerning the size of the force that governmental agencies might have employed in studying the alleged crash/retrievals, but certainly this force could have been smaller than Greenwell apparently believes should such agencies have concerned themselves with only limited aspects of what was believed might relate to national security.

Greenwell asks if "any of these specialists stepped forward to identify themselves publicly?" Does he really expect these individuals to

jeopardize their positions and their futures? And does he believe, after retirement, that these same individuals would be likely to expose what some, may have concealed for 20 years or longer? Would the reader, in the same position, and considering the possible penalties, make a public expose? It can be guessed that some might but that many would not. Greenwell then asks: "None have had doubts about their secret involvement? Nobody has been tempted by the subsequent fame and fortune? The answer to these questions, regrettably, is 'no'." How does Greenwell know the answers to these questions? How can he speak for others than himself? Did any of these specialists inform Greenwell of the extent to which they had possessed pangs of conscience over their activities? Does he expect these to publicly acknow-

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(Archetype, Continued)

or wherever, all that is needed to fabricate an abduction report. What varies is the form and the circumstances. From the distant past the material survives as myth, with fairies, angels or demons as the agents. SF writers regurgitate it in the form of adventure stories: in the 1920s they tended to attribute responsibility to Mad Scientists seeking to dominate the world. We, if we are subjected to hypnosis or drugs in a lab, will regurgitate the material in the form of an imaginary encounter, now with extraterrestrial humanoids playing the leading parts.

If we experience a real-life trigger situation, whether IFO or UFO doesn't greatly matter, some of us—whether we do or don't presumably

depends on our psychological makeup—may regurgitate the material in the form of an encounter decked out in the cultural clothing of the day. In Bernadette Soubirous' day it was the Virgin Mary, as was appropriate to a pious teenage girl in a Catholic culture; earlier it would have been religious-type flaming crosses in the sky; in our own day it is extraterrestrial humanoids. Onto the public skeleton we drape our private preoccupations: Betty Andreasson<sup>3</sup> undergoes mystical experiences personal to her personal situation, while Sandy Larson and Judy Kendall<sup>8</sup> suffer types of medical operations repeating real-life episodes.

I still don't know why the abductees are so preoccupied with the lights and doors. But I think we can guess that if we want to know, we are more likely to learn from the psychoanalyst than anyone else. For

whether or not there is any reality underlying the abductee's stories, their characteristic features derive from some widely if not universally diffused scenario, which in its turn is made up of elements deeply embedded in all our subconsciouses.

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(Critique, Continued)

ledge their guilt? And what would be the likely "subsequent fame and fortune" for one who tried to expose various activities of certain governmental agencies.

Greenwell presumes that "family and close friends" might become knowledgeable and that the secret would have become widespread knowledge. But how does he know this would be the case? In fact, some of Stringfield's materials derive from secondary sources. In some cases, this may well have been the manner in which certain information has come to our attention.

The Manhattan Project is noted as an example where secrecy was somewhat compromised. But is it believed that knowledge of the project was widespread? Did such knowledge become generally public? If scientists, who knew anything of the project, had been asked by the reader to provide additional information, would these have been likely to have done so? Would they have admitted to it or would they have denied knowledge? Furthermore, what transpired concerning the Manhattan Project is not necessarily of significance. Analogies are dangerous, and more often than not they are false. Certainly a considerable number of scientists may have first-hand knowledge of the crash/retrieval syndrome. In fact, these could be among the biggest public "skeptics." Knowing the government position, what other position could they take?

Greenwell airs the Harold Brown announcement of August 22, 1980 as an example of governmental inability to retain secrets. Does such a statement, relative to fear of exposure of Project Stealth, indicate that no secrets can be kept? Does it mean that the system of Confidential—Secret—Top Secret—Cryptographic is a farce? Can it be shown that governmental authorities believe Project Stealth to be as significant as the presence of unidentified phenomena in our skies? Perhaps the dissemination of in-

formation on the former was too widespread? Perhaps it was presumed that the Russians already knew. Perhaps the project was aired for political reasons. Perhaps the military no longer cared. After all, the government, for its own reasons, and in one form or another, classifies almost everything. We do not know for certain why Project Stealth was publicized. Apparently we only have Harold Brown's word.

So that again, Greenwell has attempted to build an analogy. But Project Stealth and the subject of the crash/retrievals are unrelated. Perhaps those ordinarily involved with the latter make up small, relatively tightly organized teams. Since knowledge of the subject would be on a "need-to-know" basis, and since specialists could be assigned to projects without these having the faintest knowledge of the total purpose, it might well be possible to conceal from all, except a few, the ultimate purpose of the efforts.

Greenwell essentially tells us that since the powers were unable to conceal knowledge of Project Stealth, they would also be unable to conceal a secret UFO project. But how does he know this? He states his concern with a number of junior military personnel who allegedly have knowledge of the crash/retrievals. But does he not know that there is an insufficient number of generals to be at hand for every possible retrieval? Does he want the generals to play guard? Does he want them to catalog the effects? Does he want them to drive trucks? Greenwell does not believe that his list of junior military personnel is the one he would pick to maintain military secrets. But in reality, these are a significant part of the force charged with maintaining the system of classified knowledge. All receive information on a "need-to-know" basis and most have NAC clearances or more. In general, these keep a very tight lip.

Greenwell lists seven books published in the 1970's with Stringfield's being the last of the seven on the list. He wants to know

why all the people reported to Stringfield instead of to any of the other authors. Perhaps it was Stringfield's approach. Perhaps he asked the right questions, or perhaps he employed his extra time attempting to ferret out witnesses. Certainly there have been such reports since the early 1950's. But we know that most were not believed. It is this writer's understanding that Keyhoe, like Ruppelt, for many years looked askance at any alleged phenomena that smacked of a close encounter. Would there have been sufficient trust to have reported a crash/retrieval? Apparently there have been reports to William Moore and Stan Friedman. It seems doubtful that anyone would have approached Vallee, and we can forget the government apologist Phil Klass. Certainly it is doubtful that this arch debunker "would probably give his eye teeth to get information on UFO hardware for his magazine..." Klass and his armchair identifications of Venus and plasmas, would be indelibly proven wrong and no one would hear of this gentleman again. Moreover, he might lose \$10,000.

Finally, there seems to be no obvious evidence that the *Close Encounters* film has markedly increased the number of reportable events. Greenwell, by his own admission, recognizes that Stringfield's Case A-1 of September, 1977 was given to Stringfield prior to the release of the film, and he tries to protect his argument by stating that the publicity was out. This is a notoriously weak excuse and we can presume that Greenwell would have shown relationship had he been able to provide such.

This writer must conclude that should Greenwell continue to believe in the absurdity of crash/retrievals as actual events, he will hopefully reconsider the subject and produce a more viable critique at some future time.

(Editor's Note: During the late 1950's NICAP, under Maj. Keyhoe and me,

(Continued on next page)

# PSYCHOLOGICAL REACTIONS TO UFO EVENTS

By Mark Moravec

(Presented at UFOCON 5, Canberra,  
Australia, November 1980)

How do people react when they observe an unidentified flying object? To investigate this question, a survey was made of all close encounter "unknowns" in the files of UFO research (NSW). 56 cases (listed in the Appendix) were judged to have been sufficiently well-investigated to be included in this study. Many of the cases featured common psychological reactions and these are summarized in Table 1.

(The table, in summary, indicates that reactions were specified in 46 cases—sometimes more than one reaction. Fear was expressed in 32 cases (69.6%); curiosity in 7 cases (15.2%); amazement and amnesia each were reported in 4 cases (8.7% each); puzzlement and follow-on dreams or nightmares in 3 cases each (6.5% each). The remainder of reported reactions were cited in only one or two cases each, including disbelief, excitement, calmness, mesmerization, lack of control (including feelings of being "possessed" or "compelled"), torment, disorientation, depression, annoyance, guilt, and impending doom.)

As shown by this sample of cases, "fear" is the most common reaction to a close encounter UFO experience. "Curiosity" is the next

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(Critique, Continued)

*received a fair number of "crashed saucer" stories or leads, perhaps 10-15. Almost all were second- or third-hand, and efforts to reach first-hand witnesses were unsuccessful. Since then, some of these stories have been traced to the source. The stories, therefore, cannot be attributed to news media publicity or a single "target individual." Nor did the stories come in all at once. Many years later I met one of the claimants face to face—a military officer and educator. He was very unlikely to be a hoaxter.)*

most common reaction. In a number of cases, both fear and curiosity were experienced simultaneously—indicating an approach-avoidance conflict where the witness wants to find out more about what he is observing but is afraid of the possible consequences.

An interesting and potentially serious reaction is one of "losing control." Vallee (1976), in looking at the social impact of UFO phenomena, has suggested that the lack of serious attention paid to UFOs by the scientific and governmental establishments has resulted in a loss of faith by the general public in a scientific/rational interpretation of UFOs. Furthermore, since scientists and governments have failed to come to grips with the UFO problem, the general population is open to a feeling of powerlessness in relation to UFOs. Vallee gloomily predicts a forthcoming "age of irrationality."

What happens when we look at the psychological reaction in terms of "positive" (i.e. pleasant) versus "negative" (unpleasant) feelings? Curiosity, amazement, excitement and calmness were classified as "positive" feelings; the remainder as "negative" feelings. We find that "negative" feelings predominate. However, this result is mainly determined by the very large proportion of cases where "fear" is experienced. (Note that this simple classification of "positive" and "negative" feelings is not absolute. How a feeling is interpreted may depend very much on both the individual and the situation.)

So far we have dealt with psychological reactions during a UFO sighting. What about reactions subsequent to a sighting? On the whole, any reactions subsequent to the sighting were mainly a continuation of reactions during the sighting.

One exception is that in three cases the witnesses subsequently experienced dreams or nightmares about their sightings. However, this could well be a continuation of the initial fear reaction.

In summary, fear and curiosity are common psychological reactions to UFO events, whereas the remaining range of reactions could reflect individual differences. In a number of cases, physiological reactions also accompanied or followed the UFO experience. (see Table 2).

Could these physiological reactions be psychologically induced? For example, hair "standing on end" is a classic example of a physiological accompaniment to a feeling of fear. It is quite possible that many of the physiological effects described in the UFO literature are psychosomatic in origin, rather than a direct physical effect by the UFO.

Is someone who reacts with fear (or other dramatic reaction) during a sighting more likely to have seen an "authentic" UFO? In other words, are psychological reactions to unidentified flying objects different from psychological reactions to identified flying objects? According to Hendry (1979, p.104), there are similar psychological reactions to UFOs and IFOs. After a study of over 1,000 cases, he concluded that: "The fear elicited by the UFO and IFO sightings is not in direct response to what is being experienced, but rather to what is being anticipated in advance." People have been socially conditioned to believe in, and fear, "extraterrestrial spaceships".

An examination of "identified" reports in NSW supports the view that people can react similarly to UFOs and IFOs. One dramatic example of a witness reaction to an apparent IFO is case NA78-064. A school teacher was driving home

when he saw a very bright silver-white, cigar-shaped object stationary in the sky. It was seen for about 30 seconds and no sound was detected. The sighting stimulus was probably a distant balloon or aircraft. Yet the witness stated that he experienced definite "feelings" had been "transmitted" from the object: "It wasn't aggressive, and it wasn't afraid—it was just sitting there as if it were a part of the sky, a part of the scheme of things, a part of nature... It seemed to know how to be a part of the Universe, and wasn't concerned what we think of it. It was...seemingly only a very short incident, but has had a fairly great impact on my understanding of man's existence on earth and his relationship with God." To this man, the alleged "UFO" experience was a religious experience. In other cases, people have become quite alarmed and upset while watching the apparent motions of the Planet Venus distorted by the atmosphere.

All of this indicates that we should be cautious in accepting a witness's dramatic emotional reaction as an indicator of a "genuine" UFO event. The same reaction may occur in an IFO sighting. In the case of psychological reactions, the way the individual *perceives* an event may be more important than the actual physical event.

On the other hand, Hynek (1974) has drawn a relationship between a psychological reaction to a UFO sighting and the sighting reliability. He refers to the commonly occurring "escalation of hypotheses" where the UFO witness attempts to explain the phenomenon he is observing by a series of increasingly more complex and exotic explanations. Thus the witness may see a light in the sky and interpret it firstly as a star, then an aircraft and finally a UFO. In Hynek's view, this reaction adds credibility to the person reporting the UFO and shows that he is not automatically jumping to exotic interpretations until he is forced to by the strangeness of his UFO experience.

Table 2 — Physiological Reactions to UFO Events

Reaction	Number of cases	% of all cases with specified reactions
Trouble sleeping	4	36.3
Sensitive or sore eyes	3	27.3
Headache	1	9.1
Hair "standing on end"	1	9.1
Fainting spells	1	9.1
Tingling sensation in arms and legs	1	9.1

The "escalation of hypotheses" occurred in a number of NSW cases. For example, in case NA78-072, two people observed a bright, white light approach them from over a hill opposite them. The reporting witness stated: "It appeared to be the headlight of an aircraft but it was moving very, very slowly towards us. I didn't take any notice of it thinking it was an aircraft." The light descended in front of the hill, illuminating the treetops below it. "At this stage we thought it might have been a helicopter but there was absolute silence." Finally the light stopped level with the witnesses and at a distance 150-200 yards away. One of the observers picked up a rifle and fired at the light which promptly went out. "We discussed the event that night and couldn't sleep well for we had no idea what it could have been and were afraid it might have been a fellow with a torch." The witnesses returned to the location the next morning to search for vehicle tracks or footprints, but found nothing. "To this day I have no idea what it could have been." Thus in this case, there was an escalation of hypotheses from aircraft to helicopter to man with torch to UFO.

Westrum (1979, p. 94) has pointed out that "the mere existence of such an escalation does not prove that an anomaly is involved. In the first place, anomaly accounts are frequent enough so that this pattern is well known to many people in society who would wish to fake anomaly encounters." However, "one may well question the motives of a person involved in an alleged anomaly encounter where no escalation of hypotheses has taken place.

The value of such a sighting is also questionable in terms of details the witness alleges to have observed." If the witness requires only a few cues to conclude that he is observing a UFO, this may mean that he will not critically scrutinize the object he is observing and that he will report details conforming to his own stereotype of what a UFO should look like.

While the "escalation of hypotheses" mechanism may add to the credibility of a UFO report, it should once again be noted that belief may be more important than the actual physical stimulus. Thus there may be an escalation of hypotheses occurring with IFO observers, starting with a mundane interpretation and escalating to the erroneous conclusion of "UFO."

There may well be other psychological reactions to UFO events which have not been covered by the sample of cases in this study. For instance, I eliminated two cases which appear to be explicable as due to psychological disturbance. However, a "psychotic reaction," in predisposed individuals, could be a valid psychological reaction to a UFO event. The critical issue here is whether the psychological disturbance initiated a spurious UFO sighting report, or whether an authentic, though traumatic, UFO experience triggered a psychotic reaction. (See Moravec, 1980, for a further discussion on this point.) As another example, alleged "abduction" cases could be interpreted as involving a psychological reaction in the form of a hallucinatory experience; such a

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reaction occurring under certain, yet-to-be specified conditions.

An additional finding of this study is that it is not easy to study psychological reactions to UFO events. The factors listed below may all act as sources of bias:

- A proportion of missing or uninvestigated cases where psychological reactions are unknown.
- Insufficiently investigated cases where no psychological reactions are specified.
- The sometimes dubious evaluation of cases as "unknown" versus "identified." In this study, I evaluated all cases in the files and omitted a substantial number of identified reports originally classified as "unknowns."
- The sometimes sloppy labelling of a UFO report as a "close encounter," being more a reflection of the wishes of the witness and investigator than a precise measure of distance. In this study I omitted those "close encounters" which appeared to be nothing more than distant lights or objects.
- In some case writeups, it is unclear whether the recorded "psychological" reaction is in the witness's own words or is merely an investigator's possibly erroneous or exaggerated interpretation.
- It is often unclear as to whether or not physiological reactions have been psychologically induced (by fear or anxiety).
- Report form questions asking about "psychological effects" tend to be always answered, but without specifying how important the psychological reaction was in that particular case.
- The most dramatic psychological reaction (such as fear) may be more likely to be reported than more subtle reactions.
- Since the study was restricted to "close encounters," certain kinds of psychological reactions (such as fear) may be more predominant than would be shown in a

study of *all* types of UFO cases.

In conclusion, this study shows that:

(1) The most common psychological reaction to close encounter UFO events is *fear*. The next most common reaction is *curiosity*.

(2) As well as these common reactions, there is a wide range of other reactions, possibly dependent on each individual's personality or situation.

(3) The most common physiological reactions are trouble sleeping and sensitive or sore eyes. Some or all of these physiological reactions may be psychosomatic, i.e., psychologically induced.

(4) Witnesses may react similarly to both UFOs and IFOs. This implies the caution that not too much weight is placed on the witness's emotional reaction to his sighting as a measure of his credibility.

(5) There are difficulties in attempting to study psychological reactions to UFO events, particularly the problems of insufficient investigation and evaluation of past cases.

Finally, the fact that many people fear something which officially doesn't exist, makes a powerful reason for the urgent and serious study of UFO phenomena.

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- Note: The appendix of Case Reference numbers to UFOR (NSW) files has been deleted.

## EARLY 1981 UFO SIGHTINGS

(Note: Several MUFON members have reported an apparent increase in UFO sightings. This chronology indicates some of the reports that are presently under investigation.)

January 6; Payson, Ariz. Four round, silver objects flying in a diamond formation at 10:55 a.m., reported by a sheriff's deputy and others. As they turned, the "aluminum-colored" objects reflected sunlight. (Payson Roundup & Rim Country News, Jan.7-8.)

January 14; Nr Wadesboro, N.C. Sixteen round objects with red and white body lights maneuvered overhead at 7:30 p.m. as TV sets experienced repeated E-M effects. Sound heard, but unlike piston or jet aircraft. (Tarheel UFO Study Group)

January 26; Newton, N.C. Rectangular object with flashing white lights on edge maneuvered silently overhead at 10:35 p.m., at an estimated altitude of 300 feet. Reported by amateur Astronomer and law enforcement officers. (Tarheel UFO Study Group)

February 3; Reepsville, N.C. Yellowish-orange object crossed the sky and "dropped behind hill" 700 feet from farmhouse at 7:45 p.m., its light silhouetting trees for 10 minutes. TV displayed moving horizontal lines. Geese and ducks squawked and fled the pond; horses and cows moved to opposite end of pasture; dog barked and whined steadily. Two independent witnesses saw object moving toward the farm. (Tarheel UFO Study Group)

February 9; San Jose, Calif. Bright, pulsating red light approached a plane practicing touch-and-go landings at 10:40 p.m. Approached head-on, then instantly appeared behind the plane. Pilot called control tower and object did not show on radar, but control tower operators could see the light follow-

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## "California Report"

By Ann Druffel

# CARL SAGAN, COSMOS, & UFOs

(Note: Guest Columnist this month is John DeHerrera.)

### By John DeHerrera

Fantastic is one way of describing the weekly science series entitled "Cosmos." Educational and entertaining would be more descriptive though. This television series is the brainchild of Carl Sagan, professor of astronomy at Cornell University, author, astrophysicist, exobiologist, and promoter of science. Sagan has even become a celebrity, appearing on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show. He has attracted many admirers who look to him for leadership and inspiration.

Each week viewers are treated to a spectacular visual presentation of the stars, planets, and other heavenly wonders. And there are the stories of some famous pioneers of science, enacted to show how really clever they were. A journey through a giant model of the human brain explains the functions of the neurons and compares the brain to our modern computers.

Most astonishing was The Search for Intelligent Extraterrestrial Life program on Cosmos. Carl Sagan calculates how many worlds in our galaxy may be inhabited — and with a radio telescope tunes in on a distant star. "What might these broadcasts from space teach us," he asks. Sagan is involved with NASA's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) project. Convinced that there is other intelligent life in outer space, they would like billions of dollars in public funding to carry out this search.

Included in the search for extraterrestrial intelligence program was a

discussion of unidentified flying objects (UFOs). This discussion was undoubtedly a low point in the Cosmos series. It was very brief and concerned only the report from a New Hampshire couple in 1961. They had seen a flying saucer (what appears to be a spaceship or aircraft) and had been badly shaken by this close sighting. Eventually they went to see a psychiatrist and his use of hypnosis brought out the story that the couple had been captured and taken aboard the flying saucer.<sup>1</sup>

Research done by my colleagues and I show that a person under hypnosis can be very creative.<sup>2,3</sup> Very likely the original UFO sighting was correctly reported though. There have been thousands of these reports. Some are close and involve multiple witnesses. Sagan's coverage of the New Hampshire case was not only very brief, but inaccurate as well. He is known to have a strong dislike of this subject and his coverage demonstrated this. He compares the fuss about UFOs with religious beliefs, superstitious beliefs, and the belief in Santa Claus. After the UFO discussion, Sagan covered — in great detail and in glowing terms — the deciphering of Egyptian hieroglyphics.

*Cosmic Search* is a magazine published by a private organization dedicated to the promotion and support of SETI endeavors. Their first volume in January, 1979, had the following to say about UFOs and other "pseudo-scientific" interest: "Why this public fascination with the exotic and the pseudo-scientific, especially when the world of circumstance is infinitely more subtle and surprising? Our students need to

experience Close Encounters of at least three kinds — with logic, with math, and with science."

In 1976, the American Humanist Association created the Committee for Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP). This committee is supposedly dedicated to combating the rise in pseudo-science. The stated objective is "not to reject on a priori grounds, antecedent to inquiry, any or all (paranormal) claims, but rather to examine them openly, completely, objectively and carefully." Carl Sagan and other scientists have been enlisted by CSICOP as have some science fiction writers, science writers, a magician, and others.

Utilizing the talents of their fellow writers, the committee has published many articles in their efforts to combat pseudo-science. The CSICOP editor published an article in *Smithsonian* magazine and later in *Readers Digest* entitled "UFOs, Horoscopes, Bigfoot, Psychics, and Other Nonsense." Other published statements by CSICOP members expound the same nonsense theme:

"We feel that it is the duty of the scientific community to show that these beliefs (UFOs, biorhythms, astrology, etc.) are utterly screwball."

"I predict that the 1980s will see us relieved of the burdens of astrology, flying saucers, Jeane Dixon, the Bermuda Triangle and other idiocies."

(Continued on next page)

There have been other publications — all negative in their treatment of unusual phenomena. They make it very clear to everyone that there is no reason to be concerned with these phenomena. It is all pseudo-scientific nonsense and not worthy of any scientific attention. Close examination of Carl Sagan's published statements and those of the other committee members reveals that they repeatedly fail to deal with facts or specific reports. Rather, they prefer to employ propaganda tactics to win their arguments.

Propaganda is an expression of opinion in a way designed to influence other groups or individuals. The tactics are shrewd but effective. Hoping to capitalize on sympathy or a lack of information, the propagandist utilizes psychological and emotional appeal. In Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Mark Antony sways the unsophisticated crowd by repeating the word *honorable* and *honorable men*. He does *not* prove that Brutus was dishonorable, in fact Brutus had earlier proven otherwise. Soon the mob is emotionally charged, ready to burn and slay in their indignation.

Wouldn't it be much better to deal in facts rather than use propaganda tactics? Dr. Hynek, who is a friend of Carl Sagan, has expressed concern that he does not take the time to examine at least some of the better UFO reports. How then is Sagan qualified to speak knowledgably on the subject of unidentified flying objects?

There are several techniques of illogical persuasion (fallacies) utilized by CSICOP members. Arousing the passions of people by repeating the words "pseudo-scientific" and "nonsense" is called *argumentum ad populum*. An appeal to authority such as the "scientists" or "authorities" is called *argumentum ad verecundiam*. Attacking the truth of another's statements by calling him a "kook" or "hoaxer" is called *argumentum ad hominem*. Name calling is a device to make us form a judgment without examining the evidence.

Mixing UFO reports with astrology and Jeane Dixon then dismissing everything listed as nonsense is "guilt by association." Each subject should be judged on its own merits. If one is nonsense this has no bearing on the other. In logic, two circles within a circle represent two related items. But apples are always apples and oranges are always oranges even if they are both fruit. The UFO phenomenon is related to other phenomena in that they are all unexplained. But while gravity and other forces are unexplained also, this does not make them nonsense.

On the matter of UFOs, a steady stream of reports, sometimes by police or military and civilian pilots, continue. In spite of the "official" Air Force debunking (this debunking was a CIA idea)<sup>4</sup> the Project Blue Book investigators, Captain Ruppelt, Dr. Hynek, and others found many reports very real and convincing.

Obviously many people are growing tired of the sensational tabloid articles and television documentaries on paranormal phenomena. Any writer or producer with funding can gather the most incredible stories and present this as factual information. This irresponsible coverage has done a great deal to tarnish the subject of UFOs.

Finally, we must say that Sagan's discussion of UFOs was snobbish and insulting to researchers and witnesses alike. If he and his SETI colleagues and all their funding stopped, their progress would also halt. Maybe this is what should be done: Take some of NASA's funding and use it for UFO research. It's high time we solve — once and for all — what the nature of UFOs really is.

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## Letters

### Bailey Case

Editor,

Richard Hall's commentary on the Rev. Bailey article (No. 155, January 1981) is a welcome editorial practice, for such critiques should accompany case investigation reports whenever possible. However, as persons who were involved in varying degrees in Bailey's hypnotic regression, it would have been more fair had we been allowed to critique the commentary. Hall's discussion misleadingly implies that hypnotist Dr. W.C. McCall's methodology was biased, either from incompetence or by design. The record should be set straight.

Hall writes, "... the techniques of hypnotic regression used do not inspire confidence that an objectively real experience is being described. At the precise point where Bailey, under hypnosis, is *not* recalling an abduction, the hypnotist — up to abduction, the hypnotist—up to then asking neutral questions—abruptly suggests to the witness that he describe an imaginary abduction. . . ." This passage is followed by a discussion of inconsistencies in Bailey's narrative and quotes McCall asking Bailey to "imagine that you were taken aboard."

All of the above implies that in Bailey's case the imaginary protocol was instituted capriciously or—worse—in an attempt to lead the witness into describing a non-existent abduction which the investigators wished to present as real. This implication is simply not true.

In the use of hypnosis in medicine, an accepted technique of getting an individual to uncover repressed or hidden experiences is to have him imagine he is seeing a movie, a television show, a stage play, etc. Thus the scenario is set with what facts are known to the hypnotist and then the patient is encouraged to amplify and describe the so-called "action on the stage."

In Rev. Bailey's case a great deal

(Continued on next page)



## ZETETIC SCHOLAR: A REVIEW

Serious ufologists often bemoan the lack of true skeptics whose constructive criticisms would be beneficial to all seekers of truth about UFOs. Instead, we have a surplus of debunkers whose arguments tend to be just as slanted and emotionally loaded as the most zealous of UFO promoters. Although no individual presently stands out as a scientific skeptic, a very worthwhile publication partly fills that need though its subject matter includes all "claims of anomalies and the paranormal." That publication is the *Zetetic Scholar*.

*ZS*, in addition to feature articles and reviews, has on-going dialogues on controversial topics such as UFOs, ESP, Bigfoot, and the occult. Editor Marcello Truzzi is determined that *ZS* will maintain an "agnostic" — as opposed to a debunking — tone. Believers, debunkers, and those in between all have their say in "the spirit of responsible dialogue between proponents and critics." Among the frequent contributors are many well-known proponents and critics of UFOs.

Issue No. 7, December 1980, features almost 50 pages of dialogue on

UFOs. Truzzi's editorial in that issue says, "The object of science is to expand our knowledge and not merely to use our existing knowledge to discredit or 'explain away' new claims." We, of course, need to discredit such claims if they don't stand up under investigation, but on the other hand simplistic "answers" often succeed only in raising many more questions. "Valid anomalies are forces for growth and progress; we should welcome, not fear them," Truzzi concludes.

*ZS* is expensive (\$12 U.S. and \$18 foreign for one year) and infrequent (biannual, approx. in July and December), but it is also substantial and lengthy (No. 7, 166 pages; No. 6, 186 pages). Scholarly and in-depth treatment of anomalies is a rare commodity well worth your support. *ZS* needs more subscriptions in order to survive. We highly recommend it. - - Richard Hall

*Zetetic Scholar*, Dept. of Sociology,  
Eastern Michigan University,  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (U.S.A.)

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### WANTED

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### EXCHANGE

Seeking correspondence and exchange of UFO clippings with other MUFON members. Michael Mannino, 408 So. Elmer St., Westfield, NJ., 07090.

## MUFON

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(Letters, Continued)

of very unproductive time was spent with him. Then, because of suggestions that a post-hypnotic "block" could have been applied to him as a UFO "abductee," a technique to circumvent this supposed block was attempted, even though we have never observed a true block in any of the alleged CE-III witnesses we have regressed. As Mrs. Druffel conceded at the time, Bailey was instructed to use his imagination in an effort to get a flow of information from him. But neither Hall nor Druffel indicate that at the end of the session Mrs. Druffel was told that McCall did not believe Rev. Bailey had had any of these experiences, and that the information we obtained from him was deemed unreliable.

The mistaken conclusions about

our methodology and/or competency in hypnotic regression may have been encouraged by some negative comments about us which were appended to Druffel's original typescript of the Bailey session, which Hall quotes from. If so, we would remind him that attitudes about "abductees" and the reliability of hypnotic recall data are not always determined rationally. We have had a good deal of irrational response from ufologists because of our imaginary abduction experiments (*MUFON Journal*, Nov., Dec., 1977)—ranging from feigned indifference to distortion and outrage. The "will to believe" dies hard; believers are unlikely to be persuaded by argument or scientific demonstration, and their rhetorical death-throes are seldom models of objectivity.

We agree with much of Hall's skeptical assessment of the Bailey

case, but he would have been both wiser and more fair had he conferred with the others present during Bailey's regression. Hall states that ufologists continue to underestimate the role of human psychology. We concur, but it is important to consider the psychology of the proponent-investigator as well as that of the "abductee."

W.C. McCall, M.D.  
ALvin H. Lawson, PhD  
Garden Grove, Calif.

(Editor's Reply: No implication was intended that the investigators tried to lead the witness into an imaginary abduction which they wished to present as real. Only that their technique was bound to result in imaginary information. If you are working with a claimant who might have had a "real" abduction experience, such an approach is bound to confuse the issue.)

world, an enviable position. Thomas R. Adams, P.O. Box 1094, Paris, TX 75460, one of MUFON's original State Section Directors, has joined the MUFON Staff as the Staff Specialist in Animal Mutilations. Mr. Adams is the nations leading authority in this specialized category of determining the relationship between UFOs, animal mutilations, "mystery helicopters," phantom aircraft, and occupant research. Frederick E. Alzofon, Ph.D., P.O. Box 5557, Kent, WA 98031 has volunteered his expertise as a Consultant in Propulsion. As a scientist, he is still very involved in the aerospace industry and plans to submit a paper on propulsion for publication in the 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium Proceedings. S. Christopher Early, Suite 220, 6400 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta, GA 30339, a new Research Specialist in Propulsion, has patents pending on ionic and radiation devices involving the application of several technologies. The connection between UFOs and religion is the prime interest for Research Specialist Evan Randolph, Spy Rock Hill, Manchester, MA 01944. He is Director of Marketing for Howard Johnson's and a former U.S. Navy gunnery officer.

Michael Brein, Ph.D., 1015 Bishop St., Mezzanine, Honolulu, HI 96813 has been appointed State Director for Hawaii, replacing Michael Broyles, Ph.D. who has moved to Dallas, Texas. His business telephone number is (808) 524-3345. Dr. Brein will be announcing the selections of other key personnel in the Hawaiian Islands in a future issue of the Journal.

G. Neal Hern, State Director for Texas, has approved the selection of Janes R. Helmke, 1709 Hickory, P.O. Box 386, Floresville, TX 78114, as the State Section Director for Wilson County and James M. Hill, 525 West Lott, Kingsville, TX 78363, State Section Director for Kleberg and Jim Wells Counties. Mr. Helmke investigated the UFO sighting reports at LaVernia, Texas, on February 22nd in which a large object with triangular

arranged lights was observed. It made only a "wooshing sound" as it passed over this community south-east of San Antonio and near Seguin.

Richard C. Niemtow, M.D., presently a Consultant in Radiation, has also accepted the post of State Section Director for Solano County. Dr. Niemtow and his family reside at 166 Cannon Drive, Travis AFB, California 94535, telephone (707) 437-6279. USAF Captain Niemtow is assigned to the medical staff at Travis AFB. Other new State Section Directors are Harold "Hal" A. Leary, Box 1444, Montrose, CO 81402 for Montrose and Ouray counties in Colorado. Hal's vast experience in many related fields to UFO investigations will be an asset. Edwin Myers, a filmmaker, residing at 2030 Howard Circle, Atlanta, GA 30308, telephone (404) 378-7016 has accepted the responsibility for Fulton, Clayton, Cobb, and Douglas counties in Georgia. Larry Moyers, State Director for Ohio, has approved the appointment of Jeffrey D. Luke, 646 College Ave., Wooster, OH 44691, telephone (216) 264-5495 as the State Section Director for Wayne and Holmes counties. Jeff has a B.A. in Math and Psychology and was previously a member of Mensa UFO Sig. in which Charles A. Huffer was very active.

Tom Adams has recently mailed his magazine STIGMATA, Number 13 for the Second quarter of 1981, to subscribers. STIGMATA is the publication for "The Project Stigma Report on the Continuing Investigation into the occurrence of Animal Mutilations." An annual subscription to Stigmata may be obtained from Project Stigma, P.O. Box 1094, Paris, TX 75460, for \$5.00. The single copy price for 1981 is \$1.50.

Since he is an active MUFON member, we are delighted to announce a forthcoming UFO book from Putnam's called *Missing Time*, by Budd Hopkins, billed as the first scientific, documented study of UFO abduction reports. He had the professional help of psychologist, Aphrodite Clamar, Ph.D. Mr. Hopkins has uncovered 19 cases of

UFO abductions over the past 5 years. Ted Bloecher, Co-Chairman of MUFON's Humanoid Study Group, has assisted Hopkins in this exciting research. Mr. Hopkins has shared a few of these experiences in articles previously published in the MUFON UFO Journal. This hardback book will sell for \$12.95. Both Dr. Aphrodite Clamar and Budd Hopkins will be featured speakers at MUFON's 1981 UFO Symposium at M.I.T. on July 25th where they will share their work with those attending. They are also preparing their published paper for the 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium Proceedings.

Bernie Parsons, MUFON State Section Director for Greenup and Lewis counties in Kentucky, George Parsons, Jr., State Section Director for Boyd, Lawrence, and Carter counties, and their brother Dwight Parsons, all MUFON members, have recently announced the formation of "The UFO Task Force" to investigate UFO sighting reports in the Tri-State area of Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio. Bernie Parsons may be contacted by telephone at (606) 932-4683; Dwight at (606) 325-2010; and George at (606) 473-5269.

The cover picture on the January 1981 edition of the Journal number 155, featured a photograph appearing on the QSL card created by LaVorgna (WA20QJ) of Hicksville, N.Y., depicting humanoids with the caption "Welcome MUFON Net." Al is an active member of MUFON's Amateur Radio Net. Another QSL card was recently received from amateur radio member Kiyoyuki Fujita, 14 Nanashimacho, Kanagawaku, Yokohoma City, 221 Japan. He has the MUFON logo prominently displayed on the QSL card for his amateur radio station JR1JSV. Mr. Fujita is very anxious for MUFON to establish an international amateur radio net in the 14 MHz, 21 MHz, or 28 MHz frequency bands where the "skip" is conducive to worldwide communications. Anyone in the

(Continued on next page)



Lucius Farish

# In Other's Words

Boston University astronomy professor Michael Papagiannis is quoted in the March 3 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER as saying that the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter would seem the most logical place to look for colonies of extraterrestrial beings. Papagiannis points out that the asteroids provide a ready source of minerals and there would be sufficient solar energy for the needs of any aliens who might wish to colonize the area. An interesting theory which might indicate that UFOs have an origin within the solar system. The March 24 ENQUIRER reports on Wyoming contactee Pat McGuire's hypnotic regressions and subsequent claims.

The February sighting of a "red light" UFO over San Jose, California, is detailed in the March 17 issue of THE STAR. Two pilots as well as air traffic controllers, observed the mysterious light. (Paul Cerny and Richard Haines are investigating repeated sightings at San Jose Airport.—Ed.)

The March issue of OMNI has a "UFO Update" column by E. Lee Speigel and Karen Ehrlich, reporting on the September, 1980, UFO debate

between skeptics and proponents which took place at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Part 2 of George Earley's "Crashed Saucers and Pickled Aliens" in the April issue of FATE examines the cases investigated by Leonard Stringfield, concluding that such reports are hearsay evidence, having no proof to support them. I imagine the letters columns of future FATE issues will contain rebuttals to Earley's skeptical stance.

The April issue of UFO REPORT has the usual mixed bag of articles. Contributors include Theodore Spickler, Thomas B. Burch, Kal K. Korff, Jerome Clark, and others.

Another good dose of rehash in the #11 issue of UFO UPDATE, although this one has a couple of redeeming features; a good article by Peter Jordan on contactee Howard Menger, and a nostalgic look at "the beginning" in 1947, by Ralph E. Vaughan. UFO UPDATE occasionally publishes fiction (not always identified as such!) in the letter columns, as well as the articles, so this should be kept in mind when reading the magazine.

(1981 Sightings, Continued)

ing the plane," making very tight turns," then taking off at "an extremely high rate of speed." Paul Cerny, who is investigating along with Richard Haines, said similar sightings were continuing at the airport. (San Jose Mercury, Feb.11.)

February 20: Fayetteville, Ark. Two schoolgirls playing on a trampoline shortly before midnight saw odd lights hovering above a church about one-quarter mile distant; two very bright white lights revolving in

one direction, and above them two red lights revolving in the opposite direction. After several minutes, a lighted object (apparently the same phenomenon) rapidly approached the house and now appearing as a grey oval, hovered about 10 feet above the roof. The girls hid under the trampoline and watched as the object slowly moved over the house and around the yard, once hovering over some tall trees. The trees swayed back and forth. Finally it took off rapidly and disappeared. No sound. (Mildred Higgins, Fayetteville, Ark.)

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(Director, from page 18)

U.S.A. or Canada interested in serving or assisting as the net control station in organizing such a net is invited to contact your MUFON International Director (W5VRN) in Seguin, Texas. Japan has the largest number of amateur radio operators in the world, with many of them very conversant in English.

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE by Walt Andrus

The February and March issues of the MUFON UFO Journal contained an announcement for the 1981 MUFON UFO Symposium to be held July 24, 25, and 26, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), composed to provide the pertinent details on speakers, workshops, films, ticket prices, advanced registration, transportation to M.I.T., housing, reservations, and a registration form. Please make checks payable to M.I.T. and send to the Office of Special Events, Room 4-237, M.I.T., Cambridge, MA 02139, to arrive no later than July 6, 1981. For additional symposium information, please write to Joan Thompson, 60 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138 or call Joe or Diana Santangelo at (617) 944-2456. Even though there are other UFO conferences being scheduled during 1981, MUFON is the only organization to conduct annual international symposiums for 12 consecutive years. Plan now to arrange your vacation so as to attend this prestigious and enjoyable affair.

In my Director's Message for the March edition of the Journal, I issued a public invitation to the Board of Directors of APRO to seriously reconsider their isolationist attitude and establish a cooperative rapport with MUFON and CUFOS. An APRO general membership meeting scheduled for April 4, 1981, could be a step in the right direction, since the Board of Directors must be legally expanded, which will bring aboard new faces and talent.

Speaking of cooperation in the field of UFOlogy, I am pleased to announce that Robert J. Gribble, Director of Phenomena Research, P.O. Box 1807, Seattle, WA 98111, has accepted MUFON's invitation to utilize our vast field investigators network to investigate UFO sighting reports re-

ceived on their national UFO reporting center telephone "hotline." The Betty Cash/Vicky Landrum medical case that occurred on December 29, 1980, near Dayton, Texas is the first case referred to MUFON and is presently under thorough investigation by John F. Schuessler, MUFON Deputy Director, and his colleagues in VISIT. The serious medical implications make this a very significant case in current UFO history. Preliminary investigation reports were submitted to Bob Gribble and shared with APRO. Only the best reports received by Phenomena Research will be referred to MUFON for investigation, thus eliminating the typical "lights in the sky."

MUFON has also been working with R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., in the development of a list of investigators who either utilize time regression procedures or work with practitioners of hypnosis, in order to assist UFO witnesses to recall more about the UFO encounters. By having a team of members geographically located from coast to coast in the United States, it will simplify and expedite prompt interviews with the minimum amount of travel and expense. Currently this list is composed of 29 people, many of them MUFON members. Hypnotic regression is another tool at the UFO investigators disposal to disclose information which has been obliterated from the witness' conscious mind. We commend Leo for being a leader in this field of investigation and pledge our support.

Mrs. Gayle McBride, Assistant State Director for North Carolina, has announced the dates and tentative program for the North Carolina-MUFON Fifth Annual UFO Conference sponsored by the Tarheel UFO Study Group. It will be

held on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, 1981, in Winston-Salem, N.C. To date, Allan Hendry, former CUFOS Chief Investigator and author of *The UFO Handbook*, Dick Hall, Editor of the MUFON UFO Journal, and Tom Deuley, former State Section Director in North Carolina, have agreed to speak. Henry Morton, MUFON State Director for North Carolina, will serve as host, and master of ceremonies for this regional meeting of field investigators, researchers, and interested people. Additional information may be obtained by writing to Mrs. Gayle McBride, P.O. Box 46, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102. Our people in North Carolina are to be congratulated for hosting this annual south-eastern UFO gathering.

The much heralded UFO debate between UFO proponent Stanton T. Friedman and archskeptic Philip J. Klass, moderated by Dr. Michael Hart, astronomer, that was held at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, on February 22, 1981, will be covered in an article with photographs for the Journal by Dennis Stacy, MUFON staff writer and Director of Publications. Since the audience was not asked for a decision on the effectiveness of this debate pro or con, the only visual indicator was the number of people gathered around the two protagonists. Concluding the question and answer period that followed the formal debate, three times as many people had assembled around Stan Friedman as compared to Phil Klass. We thank the members of MUFON of San Antonio for manning the literature tables and answering questions from the public.

MUFON continues to grow in stature as we assume the role of the most active UFO organization in the

(Continued on page 18)