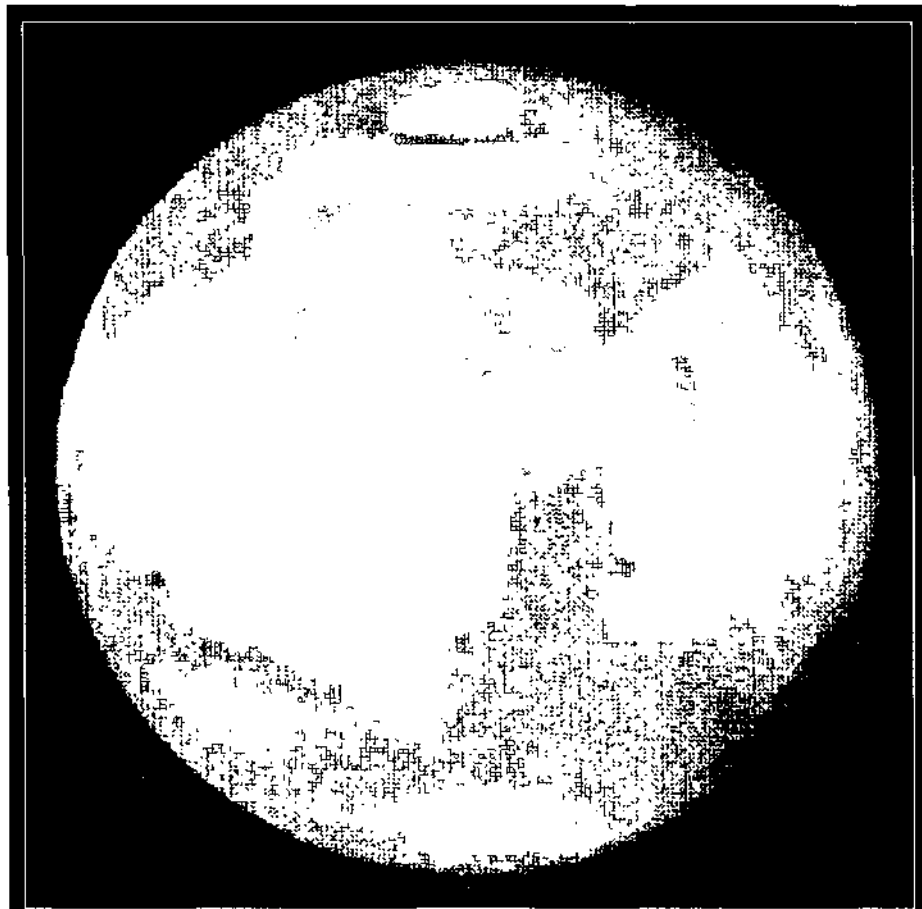


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Hubble Space Telescope • WFPC2

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KILLING AN ALIEN: The Legal Ramifications

by Herbert L. Prouty, J.D.



Herbert Prouty is MUFON's Director of Legal Affairs. He lives in Denton, Texas.

This paper examines the legal ramifications and possible repercussions of killing an alien. My legal research has indicated that there is no body of law that is directly in point on this issue. The legal aspects of this matter will have to be founded on analogous areas of the law. Much of this is supposition, speculation and theory. Additionally, the civil and criminal ramifications of killing an alien will depend on the facts and circumstances of how the alien was killed and perhaps even on what type of alien was killed. Finally, this is not exhaustive of the issue.

There appear to be several fundamental issues. First, is an alien considered to have

similar legal status to a "human being" or should the alien be treated like an "animal" for the purposes of homicide and manslaughter statutes? Secondly, if the killing of an alien is analogous to killing a human or an animal, under what circumstances would it be excusable or justifiable? What, if any, civil remedies would be available to the alien's surviving family or civilization and how could you hold the government responsible?

HUMAN or ANIMAL

Homicide is defined as the unlawful killing of a human being. If it is done with

One of the most likely justifications is self defense. A person who is in imminent peril of death or great bodily harm has the right to kill to protect himself.

malice aforethought, it is murder, without malice, it is manslaughter (18 United States Code 1111, 1112). I will assume that the perpetrator intended to kill the alien. If the alien is a human being, the offense would be murder, the most serious felony punishable by death or life imprisonment. There are a number of different types of aliens, including the *Nordics*, *Reptilians*, and the *Greys*. Some types like the Nordics have been reported to resemble humans in physical appearance. In fact, the Nordics have been variously described as being extremely handsome or beautiful. Even the Greys and Reptilians have been described as having humanlike features, although some believe that the Greys may be robots or automatons. Most of the alien types described appear to be highly intelligent, having an ability to reason and an intellectual capacity far beyond the average human.

Various definitions of the word "human" or "human being" stress having human form, having the ability to reason and to use logic and having human or "humane" characteristics, such as compassion and sympathy for others (*Merriam Webster Dictionary*, 1994 Edition). A strong argument could be made that the unlawful killing of an alien being who has such characteristics should subject the perpetrator to punishment similar to the punishment for the crime of homicide. This is especially true if the primary policy behind the sanctity of human life depends on special attributes like intelligence and humane traits. Still, it might be easier to make this argument if a Nordic type alien was killed, rather than a Reptilian or other alien type not having similar human characteristics or not as benign.

The law recognizes a terrestrial alien (foreigners) as having legal status as a human being. From all reported evidence, most extraterrestrial aliens would probably be considered intelligent entities who would be entitled to protection from being wrongfully killed as ambassadors or officials of their planets or civilizations. Murder or manslaughter of foreign officials, official guests, or internationally protected persons is a homicide under federal law (18 United States Code 1116). Shouldn't we extend the same protection to intelligent extraterrestrial aliens that we extend to terrestrial aliens?

Even if an alien is not a human being and is not entitled to the protection of laws prohibiting homicide, other laws protect most life forms from destruction. These laws

range from those environmental laws protecting even some endangered lower forms of animal life from destruction, viz. the Rio Grande silvery minnow, to animal cruelty laws in general (Endangered Species Act 16, United States Code Annotated 1531-1543). The killing of most domesticated and wild animals, other than those bred for slaughter like sheep and goats, is a crime. In Texas, it is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to a \$4000 fine, up to one year in the county jail, or both (Texas Penal Code, Sections 12.21 and 42.09).

In summary, the unlawful, unjustifiable killing of an alien would most probably constitute a crime under those criminal laws either protecting humans or animals from destruction. The next issue is to determine under what circumstances the killing of an alien would be justifiable.

JUSTIFIABLE KILLING

There are many circumstances under which the killing of an alien would be either justifiable or excusable. If the killing of an alien is justifiable then no crime has been committed. There is no criminal penalty.

The first justifiable circumstance would be killing an alien on a field of battle during a war. At first it seems that this "War of the Worlds" scenario would be far fetched. Yet when you consider the accounts of alien abduction, kidnappings, rapes, violation of air space and threats to the national security allegedly caused by the UFO phenomenon, the killing of an alien by an officer or an employee of a government might be justified. However, it could be difficult to use this defense since no government has officially acknowledged the existence of extraterrestrial aliens, much less recognized them as a threat or declared war against them.

Another justifiable excuse is the protection of property. In certain states, such as Texas, in limited circumstances a person has the right to take even a human life to protect his property. In case the law deems aliens should be treated more like animals than humans, it would be easier to justify the killing of an alien to defend property. Many states, like Texas, have found killings of animals justified to keep them from destroying crops, animals and other property (*Jones v. State*, 3 Cr. Rep. 228 (1877)). So the farmer who kills an alien to protect his

crops from being destroyed (UFO's have been linked with crop circles) or the rancher who kills a trespassing alien to prevent cattle mutilation could be exonerated by a court of law. Under some circumstances, a killing may be justified to prevent a breach of national security. Certain National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) employees as well as their agents and contractors are allowed to carry firearms and to make arrests to protect U.S. property and to prevent a felony (42 United States Code 2456). Although this stops short of a "license to kill," many other governmental agencies may have similar authority. I have heard that signs around "Area 51" indicate that trespassers may be expected to be repelled with deadly force. I have not yet found the law that authorizes this, but would not give the survivors of a trespassing alien killed in "Area 51" much chance of having the perpetrators prosecuted or of collecting civil damages.

One of the most likely justifications is self defense. A person who is in imminent peril of death or great bodily harm has the right to kill to protect himself. When a human is the one posing the threat, the threatened person may have the duty to retreat if he can do so safely. But in most cases if he believes his life is in danger he may legally kill. The threat does not have to be real. If the alien is reasonably perceived to threaten the person's life or limb, even if there was actually no real threat, the killing of the alien would be justified. Imagine the state of mind of a hunter, for instance, who confronts a UFO and an alien. Most experiencers or abductees have described such close encounters of the third and fourth kind as terrifying events. Add to that the many reports of abductions, painful and terrifying physical examinations, accounts of injuries, permanent scars and disease as a result of these encounters. Not all contacts with aliens have been pleasant nor have all aliens been beneficent. Jacques Vallee describes numerous instances of serious injuries and several instances of UFO-caused deaths, including an incident in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in August 1966 where two men apparently met their deaths as the result of an encounter with a UFO. (See Vallee, Jacques, *Confrontations*, Random House, 1990.) A jury could well conclude that aliens and alien encounters were dangerous and that

the hunter's killing of the alien was completely justified on a theory of self defense.

Finally, there is the defense of mental impairment or insanity. In order to be criminally liable, the perpetrator must have a mental state, sometimes referred to as malice aforethought or *mens rea*, where he knowingly intended to kill the alien. An insane person is not responsible for his actions, in fact the traditional juror might think that you and I are not playing with a full deck for even discussing this topic. With the terrifying aspect of many alien encounters described above, temporary insanity is a very viable defense.

In summary, there are a number of justifiable and excusable circumstances the law recognizes for killing a human being or an animal. Many of these defenses appear to be legally applicable to various scenarios under which an alien is killed and could completely exonerate the slayer.

CIVIL RESPONSIBILITY

This is an area which I want to touch on briefly since I have not had much time to research it. The survivors and sometimes even the country of a person who is killed has the ability under civil law to seek reparations or restitution in the way of monetary damages for the wrongful death of a human being or an animal. The most obvious example of this is the recent success of the Brown and Goldman families in obtaining multimillion dollar civil damages against O.J. Simpson. There have also been instances of foreign governments paying damages for death caused and property destroyed when U.S. civilian aircraft were wrongfully shot down over their soil. Does this apply to the destruction of an alien? It could, even if, like in the Simpson case, the perpetrator is not found guilty of murder. This is because in a civil case the burden of proof, by a preponderance or greater weight of the evidence as opposed to beyond a reasonable doubt, is less. Certainly, the alien's relatives, his planet and his civilization have been damaged by his loss. If under civil standards of responsibility the killer of the alien fails to act as a reasonable man would have acted under the circumstances, and if his actions directly or proximately cause the alien's death, he could be forced to respond in civil damages. Intent to kill or malice is not required to hold the perpetrator, the perpetra-

The threat does not have to be real. If the alien is reasonably perceived to threaten the person's life or limb, even if there was actually no real threat, the killing of the alien would be justified.

It would be extremely difficult to hold the government responsible for killing an alien. Having represented governmental entities, I can tell you that they have a number of defenses to both criminal and civil liability for its actions that private individuals and corporations do not have.

tor's government or employer responsible. If the alien is recognized as having a legal right not to be killed and he is killed inadvertently through negligence, the civil law would award the alien's surviving family and perhaps his civilization damages as restitution for the civil wrong done.

GOVERNMENTAL IMMUNITY AND SUPREMACY

Probably the most likely perpetrator would be an officer or employee of the federal government. There are a number of governmental agencies like NASA involved in the exploration of space, including the Department of Defense. There is a National Commission on Space and a National Space Council, appointed by the President, and an Aeronautics and Space Strategic Plan which, among other things, has a goal of encouraging space settlements and the establishment of Space Station Freedom under an international agreement between the United States, Canada, Japan and the European Space Council. (Public Law 100.685 and 1989 Executive Order) Stated congressional goals include not only the study of other celestial bodies and the establishment of space settlements but the development of an air-breathing single-stage-to-orbit long range hypersonic research flight vehicle, apparently capable of taking off from earth, traveling to outer space and returning to our planet in a single stage. (Public Law 101 - 611, Title 1, A116, 104 Stat. 3202) A prototype of this so-called "spaceplane" is supposed to be developed by NASA working in conjunction with the Department of Defense, sometime this year. Obviously the government would be interested in obtaining a UFO, if they don't already have one, and studying its propulsion system. So it is much more likely that officials and employees of the government would come in contact with a UFO and its alien occupants than a member of the public. The government also has the resources to destroy an alien whereas many abduction encounters indicate the average person is rendered helpless when encountering aliens.

However, it would be extremely difficult to hold the government responsible for killing an alien. Having represented governmental entities, I can tell you that the federal government has a number of defenses to both criminal and civil liability for its actions that private individuals and corpora-

tions do not have. Without going into detail, the defenses of governmental immunity, absolute immunity and qualified immunity would be very difficult to overcome in trying to hold the government legally responsible for killing an alien.

Finally, we are assuming our planetary laws are supreme. The doctrine of "supremacy of laws" states that in case of a conflict the higher law governs. For example, federal laws would generally govern over conflicting state laws, and some international laws would govern over federal laws. It would seem logical that beings more intelligent than we have developed intergalactic laws and treaties that would be supreme over our laws under which the slayer of an alien might be held responsible.

MARS - Continued from Page 8

well a number of other familiar features, including the giant Tharsis volcanos. The 16-mile (27 km) high Olympus Mons is near the center of the left-hand image with Arsia, Pavonis, and Ascraeus Mons forming a south-west to north-east line just to its right. The volcano, Elysium Mons is near the center of the middle image. The prominent dark feature just below the center on the disk on the rightmost image is Syrtis Major Planitia.

Hubble is being used to monitor dust storm activity to support the Mars Pathfinder and Mars Global Surveyor Orbiter Missions, which are currently en route to Mars. Airborne dust is most easily seen in WFPC2's red and near-infrared images. Weather reports derived from these observations are particularly valuable for Mars Pathfinder, which is scheduled for a July 4, 1997 landing on the red planet.

A preliminary analysis of these HST data reveals enhanced dust activity over the dark Vastitas Borealis region in the northern hemisphere, and over the Noachis Terra and Terra Tyrrhena regions just south of the Martian equator. There is also evidence for airborne dust and ice clouds in the Hellas basin. However, these images show no evidence for large-scale dust storm activity.

Credit: David Crisp and the WFPC2 Science Team (Jet Propulsion Laboratory/California Institute of Technology)

Hubble's Sharpest View of Mars Yet

FOR RELEASE: March 20, 1997

PHOTO NO.: STScI-PRC97-09a

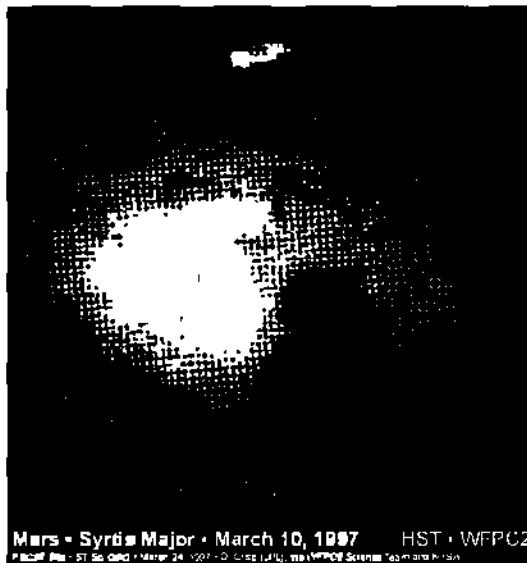
The sharpest view of Mars ever taken from Earth was obtained by the recently refurbished NASA Hubble Space Telescope (HST). This stunning portrait was taken with the HST Wide Field Planetary Camera-2 (WFPC2) on March 10, 1997, just before Mars opposition, when the red planet made one of its closest passes to the Earth (about 60 million miles or 100 million km).

The Martian north pole is at the top (near the center of the bright polar cap) and East is to the right. The center of the disk is at about 23 degrees north latitude, and the central longitude is near 305 degrees.

This view of Mars was taken on the last day of Martian spring in the northern hemisphere (just before summer solstice). It clearly shows familiar bright and dark markings known to astronomers for more than a century. The annual north polar carbon dioxide frost (dry ice) cap is rapidly sublimating (evaporating from solid to gas), revealing the much smaller permanent water ice cap, along with a few nearby detached regions of surface frost. The receding polar cap also reveals the dark, circular sea of sand dunes that surrounds the north pole (Olympia Planitia).

Other prominent features in this hemisphere include Syrtis Major Planitia, the large dark feature seen just below the center of the disk. The giant impact basin Hellas (near the bottom of the disk) is shrouded in bright water ice clouds. Water ice clouds also cover several great volcanos in the Elysium region near the eastern edge of the planet (right). A diffuse water ice haze covers much of the Martian equatorial region as well.

The WFPC2 was used to monitor dust storm activity to support the Mars Pathfinder and Mars Global Surveyor Orbiter Missions, which are currently en route to Mars. Airborne dust is most easily seen in WFPC2's red and near-infrared images. Hubble's "weather report" from these images is invaluable for Mars Pathfinder,



Mars - Syrtis Major - March 10, 1997 HST - WFPC2
Photo by STScI on March 24, 1997. Credit: NASA/STScI/Space Telescope Science Institute

At this distance, a single picture element (pixel) in WFPC2's Planetary Camera spans 13 miles (22 km) on the Martian surface.

which is scheduled for a July 4 landing. Fortunately, these images show no evidence for large-scale dust storm activity, which plagued a previous Mars mission in the early 1970s.

The WFPC2 was used to observe Mars in nine different colors spanning the ultraviolet to the near infrared. The specific colors were chosen to clearly discriminate between airborne dust, ice clouds, and prominent Martian surface features. This picture was created by combining images taken in blue (433 nm), green (554 nm), and red (763 nm) colored filters.

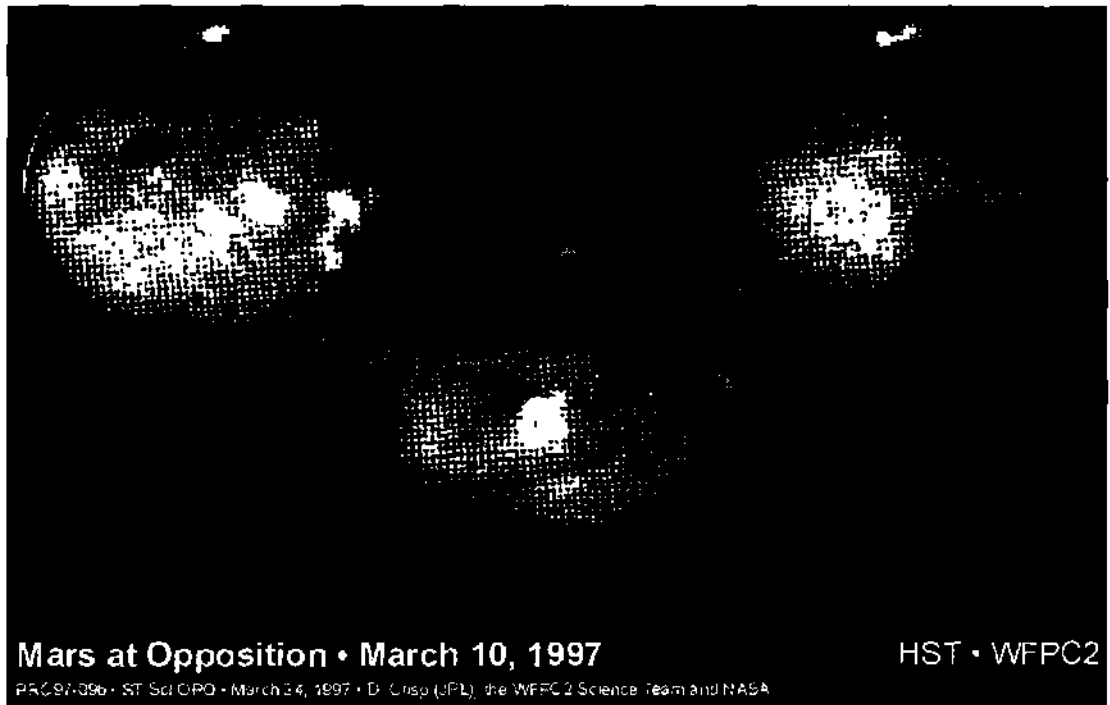
Credit: David Crisp and the WFPC2 Science Team (Jet Propulsion Laboratory/California Institute of Technology)

Image files in GIF and JPEG format and captions may be accessed on Internet via anonymous ftp from [opposite.stsci.edu](ftp://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo) in /pubinfo as [gif/marssm97.gif](ftp://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo/gif/marssm97.gif) or [jpeg/marssm97.jpg](ftp://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo/jpeg/marssm97.jpg)

Higher resolution digital versions (300 dpi JPEG) of the release photograph are available in /pubinfo/hrtemp: 97-09a.jpg (color) and 97-09abw.jpg (black and white).

GIF and JPEG images, captions and press release text are available via World Wide Web at <http://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo/PR/97/09.html> and via links in <http://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo/Latest.html> or <http://opposite.stsci.edu/pubinfo/Pictures.html>.

These images show the planet on the last day of Martian spring in the northern hemisphere (just before summer solstice). The annual north polar carbon dioxide frost (dry ice) cap is rapidly sublimating, revealing the much smaller permanent water ice cap.



Hubble Captures A Full Rotation of Mars

FOR RELEASE: March 20, 1997

PHOTO NO.: STScI-PRC97-09b

Pictures of the planet Mars taken with the recently refurbished NASA Hubble Space Telescope (HST) will provide the most detailed global view of the red planet ever obtained from Earth.

The images were taken by HST's Wide Field Planetary Camera-2 on March 10, 1997, just before Mars opposition, when the red planet made one of its closest to the Earth (about 60 million miles or 100 million km).

These pictures were taken during three HST orbits that were separated by about six hours. This timing was chosen so that Mars, with its 24-hour 39-minute day, would rotate about 90 degrees between orbits. This imaging sequence therefore covers most of the Martian surface. These observations will be combined with others planned for March 30 to provide complete coverage.

During each orbit, Mars was observed in nine different colors spanning the ultraviolet to the near infrared. The specific colors were chosen to clearly discriminate between airborne dust, ice clouds, and prominent Martian surface features. The color picture

shown here was created by combining images taken in blue (433 nm), green (554 nm), and red (763 nm) colored filters. The Martian north pole is at the top (near the center of the bright polar cap) and East is to the right. The center of the disk is at about 23 degrees north latitude, and the central longitudes are near 160, 210, and 305 degrees.

These images show the planet on the last day of Martian spring in the northern hemisphere (just before summer solstice). The annual north polar carbon dioxide frost (dry ice) cap is rapidly sublimating, revealing the much smaller permanent water ice cap. This polar cap remnant, along with a few nearby detached regions of surface frost are most obvious in pictures taken through ultraviolet, blue, and green filters. These filters also show numerous bright water ice clouds. The brightest clouds are in the vicinity of the giant volcanos on the Tharsis Plateau (to right of center on left image), and in the giant impact basin, Hellas (near bottom of right-hand image), but a diffuse haze covers much of the Martian tropics as well.

The familiar bright and dark markings on the Martian surface are most obvious in images taken through red and near-infrared filters. These images clearly reveal the large, dark, circular "sea" of sand dunes (Olympia Planitia) that surrounds the north pole, as

Continued on Page 6

CURRENT CASES**By T. David Spencer**

MUFON Deputy Director, Investigations

This office received a large number of reports — covering sightings between August, 1992 and the end of 1995 — from Mr. John Thompson in Georgia. Three of the more interesting cases are summarized here. Others will be included in the future.

LOG # 960905SE: CE-1, 08/??/92,
Franklin, GA, at 20:15 hours, for 10 minutes. Investigator: John C. Thompson

While driving in a convertible southward on Bevis Road, two women saw multiple white lights, four red ones, and a center pulsing red light outlining the bottom of a round or square object just to the east and moving parallel to them. It soon disappeared in the woods, but was out of sight for only a short time. They drove over a hill before reaching an intersection with Highway 219. As soon as the intersection was in view, they saw the object hovering just over the road, as if waiting for them.

Having a distinct feeling they would be captured if they drove under the vehicle, one of the two women started to jump from the car, but the driver suddenly threw the gearshift into reverse and "swerved into a nearby driveway." The object moved toward and over them, then away.

The two reported the object to be about the size of a car, and it came within 100 feet of them as it departed, flying only a few feet above ground.

LOG # 960904SE: CE-1, 07/19/95,
LaGrange, GA, at 22:30 hours, for 10 minutes. Investigator: John C. Thompson and Steven Brown

A total of eight witnesses, from two separate families, experienced an unexpected visit from a flying object one clear night in July 1995. Those closest to the object said they were out on their porch that evening and first saw a blinking light moving very fast high in the sky. Five minutes later, the main witness was jolted by screaming from her children. They saw an unusual, dia-

mond-shaped object with a blue-green light at one end, a red light at the other, and a large soft-white light in the middle on the lower half. It was over the pine trees near their house and slowly dropped to an altitude of 50 feet as it approached.

The main witness was in terror and hid behind their van with one of her children as the diamond shape moved almost directly over them. The object continued away, at a slow speed, and disappeared to their west.

The surface of the object was "dull steel to Navy ship gray," and its size was estimated to be about that of a minivan.

A second family saw the object about five minutes later. Although seen at a distance, their descriptions were enough to confirm those given by the first family.

Checks with the police, airport, and others revealed no other reports had been made.

LOG # 960921SE: CE-1, 11/05/95,
LaGrange, GA, at 21:30 hours, for 2 minutes. Investigator: John C. Thompson

Three witnesses viewed a ball of white and reddish light, like a "ball of fire" that was "rolling." At a distance from the phenomenon, the third witness was driving to take a child home to its mother when he briefly saw what could be described as a fireball, or bolide.

When the other two witnesses saw the object from their car, they dismissed it as an airplane, but, later, they saw it again while on another street. The object, described as about the size of a car's roof, was at an altitude of a telephone pole's height, and they had to drive under it in order to reach their house. The ball apparently moved over their house then upward and away.

The light from the ball was too bright to make out a shape. As it ascended away, the light went out.

They saw an unusual, diamond-shaped object with a blue-green light at one end, a red light at the other, and a large soft-white light in the middle on the lower half. It was over the pine trees near their house and slowly dropped to an altitude of 50 feet as it approached.

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THE GOD HYPOTHESIS: A REVIEW

by Barry H. Downing

The God Hypothesis
by Dr. Joe Lewels

Wild Flower Press
Tradepaper,
296 pp, \$18.95
ISBN: 0-926524-40-2
(800) 366-0264

MUFON member Dr. Joe Lewels has written an excellent book entitled *The God Hypothesis: Extraterrestrial Life and Its Implications for Science and Religion* (Wild Flower Press, 1997).

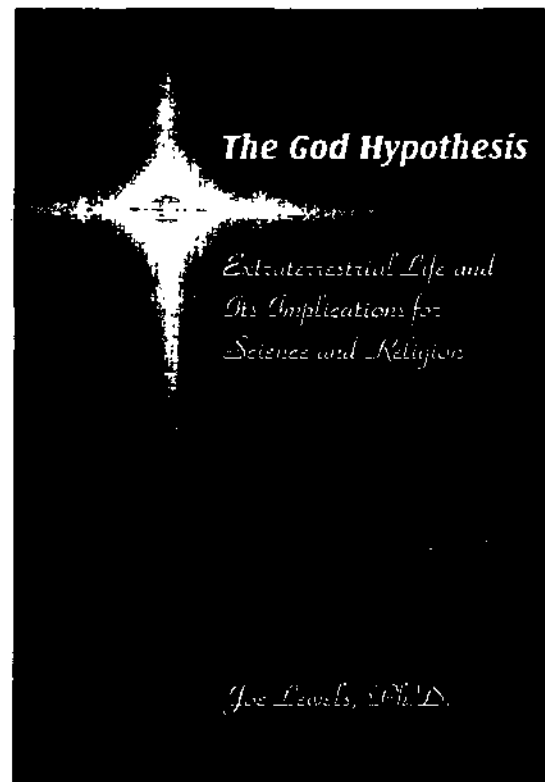
Early in his book Dr. Lewels refers to me as "The foremost proponent of the God Hypothesis," which comes as no surprise to readers of the *MUFON UFO Journal*.

There are three sections to the book with several chapters each. The first section is the "Paradigm Shift" in which Lewels relates his personal encounter with UFOs and those searching to understand them. He talks about his own concerns for religion, and the way in which orthodox religion, and orthodox science, failed to make sense of much that he encountered. Dr. Lewels' training as a journalist gives him the freedom to ask questions that cross boundaries between many fields.

THE PROBLEM OF MIND SET—ATOMIC OR QUANTUM?

He discovers in quantum physics, and in the concept of the holographic universe, the metaphysical basis for thinking of the universe as spiritual. We do not live in a Newtonian universe of colliding billiard balls, whether stars, or atoms. Rather, we live in an ocean with waves, in which all is connected, a quantum universe. I believe Lewels is right to suggest that modern physics makes a spiritual view of the universe more believable to the scientific mind. And I think it fair to say most religious leaders are not aware of the implications of the new physics for spirituality.

At the same time, I think it fair to say that many MUFON members who see themselves as scientists, have likewise not made the psychological transition from an atomic view of reality to a quantum view. Furthermore, I think that in our early UFO research, we had an atomic view of UFOs—I did. That is to say, we wanted to prove that UFOs were real solid objects, and if we did that, then we would prove they were real. In this sense, my own mind set at the beginning, was that of the late Maj. Donald Keyhoe, whose books I read while in high school in the 1950s. And it was from this



view of UFOs that I wrote *The Bible and Flying Saucers* in 1968.

I joined MUFON, and joined the quest to prove that UFOs were solid, and therefore real. Our enemies were those who said that UFOs were not real, they were a myth. Although I understood the validity of C. J. Jung's thesis in *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies* (1958), I wanted to prove that UFOs were more than myth, that they were solid and therefore real, as real as the parting of the Red Sea, or the Resurrection of Jesus.

But here is the bad news from quantum physics: reality is not solid. As a person who had majored in physics in college, and who liked his quantum physics courses best, I knew this intellectually. But I was not prepared for what this might mean spiritually, or for what it might mean in our UFO quest, and I am still not prepared.

What we have discovered in UFO research is that there is a huge psychic dimension to the UFO mystery. This dimension appears in the fact that there is so much memory suppression in many UFO abduction cases, and we are not sure of the reliability of hypnosis in memory recovery.

Also, there is so much psychic fall out from abductions—dreams that are prophetic, healing experiences related to UFOs, strange distortions of time and space—that even those of us who believe UFOs are “real” have trouble admitting that the psychic dimension should be part of the “serious scientific quest” for UFO truth. As soon as we let psychic issues in the UFO door, can New Age Religion be far behind? The answer is: No. And from my point of view, I would rather this were not the case. Needless to say, when I was being trained in seminary to be a Presbyterian minister, reincarnation and the Law of Karma were not orthodox topics.

REVELATION, REVELATION, EVERYWHERE

Section Two of *The God Hypothesis* moves “Toward a New Reality,” in which issues of UFO abductions and aliens are explored, the role of Eastern philosophy, near death experiences, and mind control are all explored. This section of the book is the most difficult for me. The difficulty is not that the issues addressed here do not need to be examined, but—how do we test for truth? In the religious professional world where I work, many religious leaders doubt that revelation from “the other side” has ever happened. Their view of religion is that we have created religion from our Jungian unconscious.

In the world of UFOs and related topics—near death experiences, or past life therapy, for example—religious revelations are more common than cows in Texas. I am not sure which is worse—no religious revelation, or too much revelation. A little revelation—which gave us clear direction—would help. But from my point of view, we now have a blinding light of revelation at the end of the UFO tunnel.

In Section Three of his book, Dr. Lewels explores “Our Hidden History,” and much of this section deals with issues I raised in *The Bible and Flying Saucers*: Moses and the Exodus in the Old Testament, and Jesus and UFO issues in the New Testament. In this section, Dr. Lewels concludes that Jehovah, the God of Moses, does not seem very God-like, both in his willingness to kill the Egyptian first-born at Passover, and ordering the Jews to kill many of the occupants of the “Promised Land.” We live in a time when people are so ignorant of the

Bible that they are shocked to discover the God of the Old Testament is a “killer.” Jack Miles in his best selling book *God: A Biography* (1996), argues that the personality of God evolves from Genesis to Job, evolving out of the killer God of the Flood and Passover.

The ethics of Jesus—love your enemy, turn the other cheek—seems more God-like to Dr. Lewels, but he also suspects that the Apostle Paul distorted Christian truth, which should have been more gnostic. But Dr. Lewels ignores Paul’s conversion as a probable UFO event (Acts 9:1-9), or the possibility that Paul’s interpretation of Christianity may have been dictated by some type of UFO abduction, or out of body experience (2 Corinthians 12:1-5).

THE END OF ORTHODOXY—SCIENTIFIC OR RELIGIOUS?

After presenting his view of Jesus, Dr. Lewels realizes he is far from religious (or scientific) orthodoxy. “And just as with the previous discussions of Jehovah and human origins, this interpretation is not likely to entirely satisfy either the materialists, the theologians or the fanatical true believers” (p. 239). He is right about that, but I can hardly complain, for after all, I helped open Pandora’s Box.

I suspect many MUFON members will be uncomfortable with *The God Hypothesis* for both scientific and religious reasons. But at the same time I think most MUFON members no longer hold a simple extraterrestrial hypothesis. By simple, I mean I doubt many of us expect UFO aliens to land any day and say, “Take me to your leader.” We may believe UFOs are real, intelligent, and highly technological. But they also have a strange spiritual and psychic dimension: the UFO reality may have even caused—deliberately—the Judeo-Christian religious tradition, as well as other religious traditions of the world. If this is true, then UFOs have in the past, and may still be, carrying out a god-like role in our world, as Jacques Vallee has argued on purely scientific and historical grounds. To say only that UFOs are extraterrestrial is to make a mole hill out of a mountain. *The God Hypothesis* seeks to give UFOs a little more respect—but are we in danger of giving UFOs too much respect—respect that approaches worship?

In the world of UFOs and related topics—near death experiences, or past life therapy, for example—religious revelations are more common than cows in Texas. I am not sure which is worse—no religious revelation, or too much revelation.

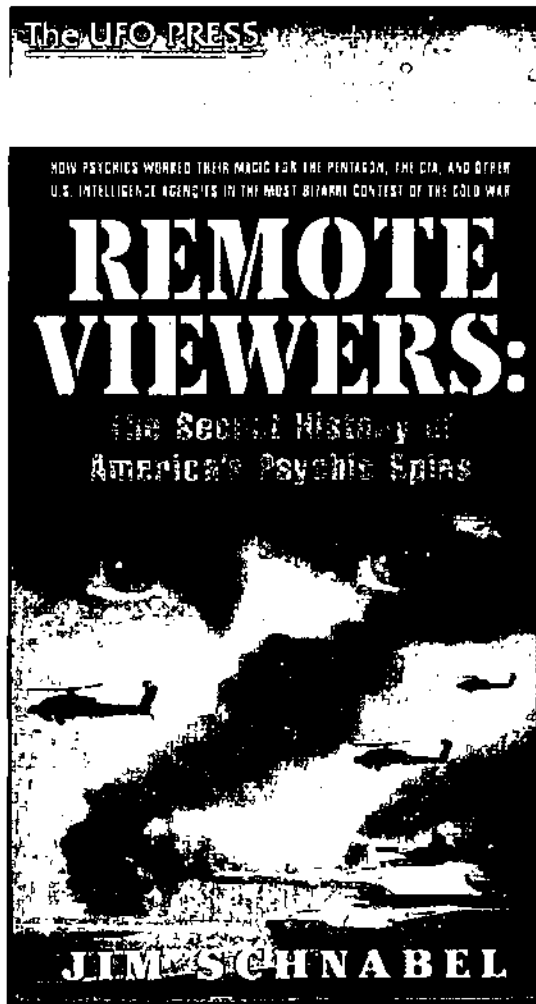
Continued on Page 16

**Remote
Viewers: The
Secret
History of
America's
Psychic Spies**
by Jim
Schnabel

Dell, pb, 452
pp, illus.,
\$5.99

ISBN: 0-440-
22306-7

Reviewed by
Dennis Stacy



Girls at the front—and they are discussing their usual not very profound subjects. The alarm—the enemy is advancing. Command to the poltergeist girls to concentrate—and under their chairs they stick their wads of chewing gum.

A regiment bursts into flames, and the soldiers are torches. Horses snort smoke from the combustion of their entrails. Reinforcements are smashed under cliffs that are teleported from the Rocky Mountains. The snatch of Niagra Falls—it pours upon the battlefield. The little poltergeist girls reach for their wads of chewing gum.

—Charles Fort
Wild Talents

No one appreciates an advantage more than the military. Which explains why they will eventually try *anything*, especially anything relatively inexpensive. During WWII, for example, the Japanese launched

an extensive *fugo* balloon program aimed at the United States, discovering the jet stream in the process. Schoolgirls manufactured the balloons and the military armed them with bombs and sent them aloft, allowing the prevailing west-to-east winds over the Pacific to “aim” them in our direction. About 10,000 such fugos were launched, resulting in only a handful of casualties. So while the program may have been cheap, it was grossly ineffective in the bargain.

On our side there was a plan to attach small incendiary devices to hundreds of thousands of Mexican free-tail bats and release them over Japan’s main metropolitan areas, which were largely constructed of wood and paper. The theory was that the bats would roost under the eaves, the fire bombs would go off, and the cities would burn down. This project had its practical drawbacks, too, not to mention the fact that a far more efficient, if far more expensive, method of incinerating cities was soon developed, resulting in the atomic bomb.

That the military would eventually take an interest in so-called psychic powers like clairvoyance and psychokinesis should hardly come as a rude shock. One might almost ask: what took so long? Scientific skepticism, leavened with orthodox ridicule, played a major delaying role, no doubt. Why investigate, however cheaply, that which could not possibly be? Politics played a role, too. Who wanted to risk embarrassment should word leak out that taxpayers’ dollars were being spent on psychic research?

When our own military did turn its attention to the subject in the early 1970s, the main motivation seems to have been one of fear, fear that the usual cold war suspects and adversaries, the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries, were drawing far ahead of us in psychic “warfare” capabilities, opening yet another “missile gap” equivalent. Clearly the psychokinetic scenario envisioned above by Charles Fort was patently impossible. But what if other, less dramatic possibilities, existed, like, say, the ability to read classified documents at a distance? Could we suffer the enemy any potential advantage merely out of scientific skepticism? Didn’t we owe it to the Free World, if not ourselves, to find out whether or not there was anything to the growing rumors of voodoo warfare?

It’s at this point — research into remote viewing having been initiated in 1972 by

civilians Russell Targ and Hal Puthoff at the Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park, California — that Jim Schnabel jump starts the imminently readable and immensely interesting *Remote Viewers: The Secret History of America's Psychic Spies*. Many of you will be familiar — if not necessarily in agreement — with Schnabel as the author of *Round in Circles* and *Dark White*, two previous books devoted to crop circles and UFO abductions respectively. Schnabel has been roundly criticized in some circles for inserting himself into the story being told, although it's hard to see how that applies to his first book, which is a sort of I-was-there-confessional-cum-expose. At any rate, such criticisms will be harder to lodge against *Viewers*. Save for a brief first-person appearance in the book's Epilogue, in which Schnabel recounts his own remote viewing training at the feet of the acknowledged "master" of same, Ingo Swann, Schnabel as Schnabel is conspicuously absent from the present volume. As he says of his sources and subjects in the opening "A Note to the Reader," "This is their story, not a dramatic invention of mine."

And what a story it is, replete with ego conflicts, government agency maneuverings, political intrigues, striking psychic "hits" (and equally striking misses), bent spoons (and forks), and — did I forget? — UFOs. Famed Israeli "psychic" Uri Geller is here, along with Bob Monroe, founder of the Monroe Institute, and "shadow" figures like Albert Stubblebine, John Alexander, Lyn Buchanan, Joe McMoneagle, David Morehouse (*Psychic Warriors*) and Ed Dames.

Gung-ho Dames is the main thread connecting remote viewing and UFOs. Shortly before retiring from the Army, while living in Albuquerque, he and Morehead founded Psi-Tech with the idea of using moonlighting military psychics as remote viewers for various civilian clients. During his own tour Dames had become convinced that remote viewing could be applied to unconventional, as well as conventional, targets. Trouble was, confirmation was even harder to come by. In March, 1993, according to Schnabel, Dames told a local UFO conference that "a colony of pregnant Martian females lay beneath the New Mexico desert. Sometime between April and August, he predicted, these Martians would give birth and emerge aboveground. 'We're sure it's going to happen,' he told his audience. 'We've alerted

the media, and teams of doctors, technicians, and documentary filmmakers are on call and in place to respond at a moment's notice...President Clinton will announce it and everyone in the world will know!"

But August came and went without any pronouncement. Meanwhile, paying clients were scarce, perhaps not surprisingly so in light of the above public and spectacular failure of prediction based on Psi-Tech's stable of remote viewers. To keep the company alive, Dames began offering training classes in remote viewing (a week long course went for almost \$3000), passing along the techniques Swann had earlier developed and supposedly perfected.

One of Psi-Tech's students was Courtney Brown, a professor of political science at Emory University in Atlanta, who would go on to found his own remote viewing organization, the Farsight Institute. Following Dames' lead, Brown turned his own stable of viewers loose on the UFO problem. The results, published as *Cosmic Voyage*, purportedly detailed the interactive history between several types of aliens and the planet Earth — all divined from the comfort of the remote viewer's couch.

Brown's psychic brouhaha was even more spectacular than Dames' prediction of pregnant Martians, if for no other reason than that it took place in full public view on the Internet and the Art Bell Show. The occasion was a fake photograph purportedly showing a large object accompanying comet Hale-Bopp into the solar system. Remote viewing "revealed" that the "object" was "occupied" by aliens who meant us no harm and who would soon reveal themselves. The trouble with this scenario is that no such object existed — except in the more conspiratorial realms of cyberspace.

But this extraordinary false "hit" highlights the problems encountered by the government's own psychic spy program, and explains why it was eventually allowed to wither on the vine. (Declining cold war budgets would play a role, too.) Success was a highly individualized and subjective affair, and even the best psychics, Swann included, could never guarantee absolute accuracy. But information is only viable to the extent that it can be acted upon. Suppose, as happened, that the Army psychics housed at Fort Meade, Maryland, informed their higher ups that a hostage was being held at a house in Palermo, Italy. Should the house be stormed by SWAT teams solely on the basis

In March, 1993, Dames told a UFO conference that "a colony of pregnant Martian females lay beneath the New Mexico desert. Sometime between April and August, he predicted, these Martians would give birth and emerge aboveground. 'We're sure it's going to happen,' he told his audience."

of the psychics' say-so? Few higher-ups charged with such rescue missions were willing to risk their military careers when push came to shove, preferring to rely on more conventional means of intelligence-gathering. No one ever got fired for buying IBM, in other words.

Psychic spying had several code names over the years, from Grill Flame to Sun Streak, and operated under various auspices or agencies, depending on who had money in their budget at the time. The two main funders, however, were the CIA and the Army's Intelligence and Security Command, INSCOM. In the end the classified program lasted about 20 years and probably rarely ate up more than a million a year at its most expensive. Now, that may sound like real money to you or me, but it was small spuds compared to the annual expenditures of the CIA alone, which are somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30 billion.

Read it and reap.

tributes a chapter on photoanalysis, which looks at some of Ed's pictures, old and new, and Part 3 in its entirety, entitled "More Evidence From Gulf Breeze," which examines more recent cases. The book consists of four parts and two appendices, the second of which, by Walters, briefly discusses such subjects as "Nonhuman DNA," "The Great Pyramid Coincidence" (both Giza and Gulf Breeze apparently lie within a degree or two of latitude 30 degrees north), and "Telepathy is Real."

As will shock no one here, Gulf Breeze remains a source of great controversy. Ufologists seem divided into two distinct and diametrically opposed camps. Ed's adherents see the Florida town as a UFO hot spot, and (as does Maccabee, for example) argue that a case can be made for the town's strange UFO attraction even if Walters himself is completely removed from the picture. Detractors point to the possibility (some would say the evidence) of a hoax, the proximity of military air traffic in the area, possible balloon-launched flares, and the will to believe as mitigating factors.

Will this book settle the sand, one way or the other? Not likely; the two sides are already too entrenched for that. Too much water (and in some cases, friendships) are already under the causeway. Judged as just another book, it stacks up as something of a hodge-podge, which can be viewed, I suppose, as either a strength or a weakness. Weakness-wise, it means that there's no overarching theory to account for all the disparate contents, no unity of voice (or necessarily even of view). There's no attempt to integrate Gulf Breeze into what is known about UFOs as a whole: what may well be discrete events gain context only in reference to Ed Walters, Gulf Breeze the town, or both.

On the other hand, the hodge-podge factor means that the whole work isn't entirely devoted to Gulf Breeze. Over the years, Walters has received thousands of letters and numerous photographs from around the world from readers of his first two books. Many of those are related or pictured here for the first time. Thus the 16-page b&w photo section contains pictures from Mexico, Brazil, Guatemala and other locales, including the Fiji Islands. Sans negatives and analyses, most of these — which do indeed resemble the classic Gulf Breeze "tea pot" UFO — have to be taken at face value.

**UFOs Are
Real: Here's
the Proof**
**Edward
Walters and
Bruce**

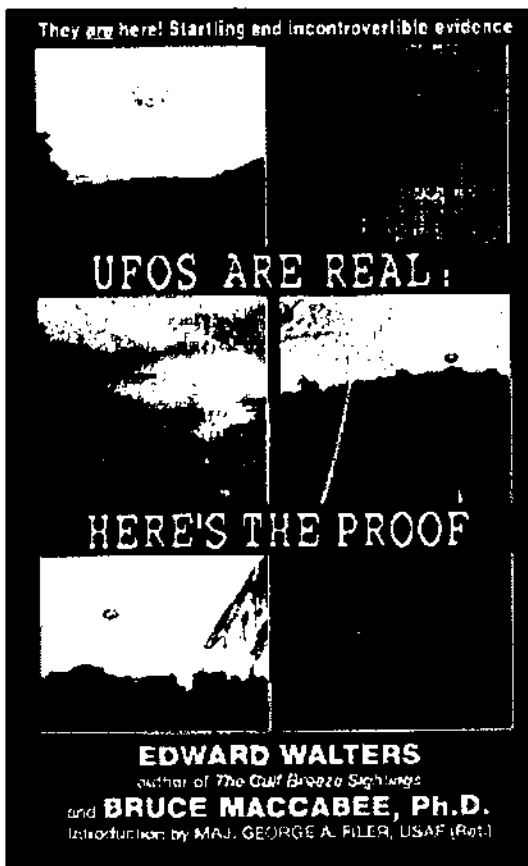
Maccabee
Avon, paper,
255pp, \$5.99
ISBN 0-380-
78599-4

With wife
Frances,
Walters also
wrote:

■ **The Gulf
Breeze
Sightings,**
William
Morrow, 1990

■ **UFO
Abductions in
Gulf Breeze,**
Avon, 1994

Both of the
above are
available in
Avon paper-
back editions.



This is the third Gulf Breeze book produced by Ed Walters, the first two being co-authored with former wife Frances. Ed's collaborator this time around is Bruce Maccabee, who needs no introduction to readers of this *Journal*. Maccabee con-

ABDUCTION NOTES

John Carpenter

An Examination of Aftereffects

There are often many assumptions about what people experience following their recognition and awareness of contact with otherworldly beings. Many people think that those persons must be traumatized by the hypnosis or investigative procedures that would promote such ideas. However, from my own experience with 120 cases, there appears to be immediate relief, enhanced understanding, less confusion, a healthy but bewildering awareness, and certainly a large degree of amazement. Despite recalling such extraordinary events and bizarre imagery, there is clearly a feeling of resolving a puzzle. What once seemed to be a confusing mystery with missing pieces is now a more complete picture — which brings some relief and processing of the new pieces which now fit and make sense to the abductee. People have claimed to have slept better than they have in months, comprehended previously misunderstood events in their lives, and experienced decreased phobic responses to stimuli which now have a known origin. For example, people who had a phobic fear of “falling up” now understand where such a reaction could originate. Moving from a vague and confusing sense of global fear to a specific cause is usually quite a relief as it narrows the full range of fears to an identified source. And, although the subject content is so bizarre and outrageous, the subject still experiences this relief.

Another myth is that “everybody will need intensive therapy.” Actually, since subjects of these encounters are usually psychologically healthy with little or no history of any problems, very little on-going therapy has been necessary. Support groups have been effective for sharing feelings, re-establishing sanity, and returning a sense of normalcy. The most common therapeutic process is akin to a grieving process. Subjects are grieving their loss of their former reality — one in which aliens or UFOs did not exist! Now they are forced, kicking and screaming, into having to rethink their whole concept of reality, other forms of life, and a different view of

the Universe. They might be angry that this happened to them without their permission or any explanation given. They may become depressed over finding themselves alone and disbelieved. They will undoubtedly try to deny such ideas and promote mundane and more acceptable explanations — although privately they know differently. They may try to bargain by stating that they will agree to believe in this phenomenon if they can have another encounter — perhaps in a fully conscious state of mind. As with the other stages of grieving — Denial, Anger, Depression, and Bargaining — the final phase, Acceptance, can be a real turning point where new growth influenced by new perspectives can really flourish. Many exciting life changes occur with acceptance; many people change careers, mates, living environments, and their quality of living — including spirituality and environmental awareness. Although some believe that such changes are influenced directly by alien intervention, these transformations are most likely due to the growth stemming from their new view of life.

Another myth surrounds the notion that most abductees will write books and seek publicity once they have accepted the experience. Barely five percent of my 120 cases have tried to write a book, and hardly any of them really desire any publicity. Writing a book is a therapeutic form of coping, processing the information, and educating or helping others. Several subjects have been furious with the secrecy and disbelief in what they consider to be a most serious topic. They write or speak about their experiences boldly to reduce ignorance, enhance public awareness, and be an advocate for those who are afraid to speak out. The other 95% of abductees shy away from any public association with the subject. Support groups may be the only outlet for those who need social support. Some find the subject fascinating and become investigators. Others attend UFO conferences to privately learn more. Most cases take what they have gained from the investigations and quietly return to their normal

There are some fascinating patterns of other aftereffects which I am finding consistent worldwide. Apparently just after abduction encounters, many people have been reporting electrical disturbances in their homes. Appliances will turn on and off by themselves — or continue to operate after being unplugged!

What sounds like simply another "urban myth" — causing streetlights to blow out — has some apparent validity. When asked such a question, many subjects have reported this occurrence — and with amazement that it had happened to anybody else.

daily routines, attempting to blend back into society.

It should be noted that therapists only receive those contact cases where people are reporting upsetting and troubling encounters. There are many people out there who recognize and deal with this contact experience all on their own. Their reactions, beliefs, and methods of coping are less known because they did not seek therapists or investigators. So information provided by therapists like myself represents a skewed sample of data.

There are some fascinating patterns of other aftereffects which I am finding consistent worldwide. Apparently just after abduction encounters, many people have been reporting electrical disturbances in their homes. Appliances will turn on and off by themselves — or continue to operate after being unplugged! Unusual shocks may occur when touching soil, wood, and other unlikely materials. Touching dishwashers, microwaves, lights, computers, small appliances, etc. may cause those items to short out. Several people lost their jobs because they could not be around computers any longer! The abductee himself seems "charged" and can produce amazing results when utilizing Kirlian photography. What sounds like simply another "urban myth" — causing streetlights to blow out — has some apparent validity. When asked such a question, many subjects have reported this occurrence — and with amazement that it had happened to anybody else. There is also a common report of sensitivity to magnets — being able to sense where they are located and perhaps being unable to stay near them.

Quite a great number of cases demonstrate enhanced psychic ability and possibly psychokinesis in the home. Although not desired or really appreciated, these persons find themselves knowing things well beyond chance and often observing objects move or fly across the room. One girl told me she never thought it was strange to dodge flying books or clothes until she found it did *not* happen in the homes of her friends! Due to the consistent data in research suggesting that these beings use strong telepathic powers, it is quite possible that they have "trained" or "exercised" the powers of those abductees to the point over a lifetime that they find themselves with these abilities on an everyday basis. This does not say that they know how to use

such an ability effectively — and may explain the random psychokinetic occurrences in the home!

Many cases report feeling that they were "up all night in a classroom-like setting being taught information or trained in some skills." Exhausted when they awaken, not one case can recall what it is that they were being taught — but all receive the distinct impression that they will be allowed to know at a later point in time. If these were dreams or delusions, then we would get many detailed reports of teachings. But it is highly consistent among credible cases that nobody can remember their "teachings."

John Carpenter can be contacted by email at starmanJC@aol.com.

GOD HYPOTHESIS - Continued from Page 11

How do we tell the difference between a very powerful reality that is "god-like," and a very powerful reality that is the real God of the universe? How do we discover if there is a God that is different from what we call the god-like UFO reality?

These are inconvenient questions. They are questions scientists do not think it is their job to ask. They are questions that religious leaders ought to be asking, but are not. But they are questions Dr. Lewels believes we need to explore, and he is right about that.

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MUFON FORUM

Letters to *Mufon UFO Journal*

"MILAB Misdemeanor?" Rebuttal

I am responding to Victoria Alexander's letter that was published in the February 1997, No. 346 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal*.

I am the author of two books, a monograph, and several articles about the "abduction phenomenon." Dr. Helmut Lammer's "Project MILAB" was originally published on my web site at <http://www.alienjigsaw.com>. I am also one of the abductees that Dr. Lammer referenced in his article when Project MILAB was published in the *MUFON UFO Journal* in December 1996.

Since Mrs. Alexander is accusing abductees she knows absolutely nothing about of experiencing sexual fantasies, I believe some background information about myself, as an "abductee," is in order.

In 1988, as part of a personal investigation of my encounter experiences, I went to a clinical and forensic psychologist in Pensacola, Florida, named Dan C. Overlade, Ph.D. Over a period of about three weeks, Dr. Overlade administered the following psychological tests to me: The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory; The Rorschach Ink-blot Test; The Thematic Apperception Test; The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale; and The Draw-A-Person Test.

After the test results were obtained, Dr. Overlade explained that the tests showed I was a psychologically stable individual with an above average IQ, and that I was not "fantasy prone." He told me I had no abnormalities beyond some anxieties, more specifically what he called symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder or PTSD, and low self-esteem.

For those of you who may not have known him, Dr. Overlade practiced clinical and forensic psychology for over thirty-five years before his death in 1990. He earned his Ph.D. from Purdue University and held appointments as adjunct professor of psychology with the University of Florida and the University of West Florida. He was a past president of the Florida Psychological Association, the Florida State Board of

Examiners of Psychology, and the Forensic Psychologists, Inc. He also held diplomas in clinical psychology and forensic psychology of the American Board of Professional Psychology, and the diploma in clinical hypnosis of the American Board of Psychological Hypnosis.

In her letter to the *Journal*, Mrs. Alexander asks, "When will someone separate the sexually-repressed fantasies of lonely women from the abduction genre and sort out what belongs in the *MUFON UFO Journal*?"

Dr. Lammer referenced alleged military intelligence related abductions of several abductees in his article, including Casey Turner, the husband of the late Dr. Karla Turner. I doubt anyone would accuse Mr. Turner of being a "sexually repressed [and] lonely woman" as Mrs. Alexander alludes to in her over-generalizing question. However, Casey Turner also had an experience similar to those reported by Dr. Karla Turner, Leah Haley, Debbie Jordan, myself and others. I wonder how we can explain Casey Turner's experience? Perhaps Mrs. Alexander has a special category for men who believe they have been abducted by members of the military.

I would also like to inform Mrs. Alexander that I have been happily married to my husband for ten years. If she has any suspicions that I am a "lonely woman" who is experiencing "sexually repressed fantasies," I encourage her to contact my husband herself by writing to Erik at ewilson@alienjigsaw.com. He would be happy to set the record straight and tell Mrs. Alexander how incorrect her out-dated Freudian hypothesis is as it relates to me.

Mrs. Alexander is incorrect again when she accuses us of being "acronym possessed." (referring to the title of Dr. Lammer's article, Project MILAB). I'm just guessing, but perhaps it is she who is "acronym possessed." After all, she's the one married to a retired colonel of the military!

Finally—and most importantly—what do "stories of alleged abductions and medical examinations by the U.S. military, black budget or otherwise" have to do with

Condon did everything in his considerable power till his death in 1974 to discourage further scientific or scholarly inquiry into the UFO phenomenon. His views were so extreme that they brought him into conflict with other skeptical scientists, including Carl Sagan.

“sexually repressed fantasies”? Is there something we should know about Mrs. Alexander?

—Katharina Wilson
Portland, OR

Awaits Another AAA

It is interesting to hear Victoria Alexander using “fecal” language (“horse droppings”) to criticize an article of which she has obviously read the first two pages. Perhaps it is easier for Mrs. Alexander to ridicule an abductee than comment on the evidence that I presented in “Project MILAB.” For example, black helicopter harassment near the homes of MILAB victims; similarities between terrestrial implant procedures and devices and the reports of alleged mind control victims; and hypnosis transcripts containing descriptions of human-military involvement.

Is Mrs. Alexander an expert in the “sexually repressed fantasies of lonely women,” or does she simply discount all reports of abductions during which anything other than a sexually related event occurs?

I eagerly await an “AAA” (Another Alexander Announcement) containing a more rational evaluation of my article. More science please — less polemic.

—Helmut Lammer, Ph.D.

Rumor vs. Fact

“Where else but in the UFO field,” Robert Todd asks in his letter in the *Journal's* March issue, “would a rumor be taken as a fact?”

The answer is simple: everywhere. Every human being everywhere, including Mr. Todd, believes something to be true that is based on unsubstantiated information. In short, ufologists behave like what they are: human beings. Even scientists, allegedly the most disinterested of truth-seekers, have been known to promulgate rumors on the mistaken belief they are facts. A particularly notorious example involved the prominent physicist John A. Wheeler who — speaking to no less than the American Association for the Advancement of Science — charged that parapsychologist J. B. Rhine had committed fraud early in his

career. The accusation was based on rumor, not on fact, and Wheeler was forced to publish a retraction (*Science*, July 13, 1979).

It never ceases to amaze me how much some ufologists like to vilify their colleagues, and to treat ufology as if it were some uniquely venal pursuit. For all its faults, ufology has a healthy tradition of debate, criticism, and self-correction. It hardly merits the sort of demonization (or self-loathing?) which has become trendy in some circles.

While Todd rightly disputes assertions that Condon urged destruction of the Blue Book files, we ought not to get misty-eyed about Condon's role in any of this. He did everything in his considerable power till his death in 1974 to discourage further scientific or scholarly inquiry into the UFO phenomenon. His views were so extreme that they brought him into conflict with other skeptical scientists, including Carl Sagan.

In the wake of Blue Book's closing in 1969, there was concern (unmentioned by Todd) that the files would be destroyed. Twelve of the 16 participants in the AAAS UFO Symposium (December 26-27, 1969), which Condon had bitterly opposed even though it was heavily slanted toward skeptics, signed a letter, addressed to Air Force Secretary Robert C. Seamans, Jr., urging the Air Force to preserve the records. On January 9, 1970, Donald H. Menzel wrote symposium organizer Thornton Page to say that while he favored storage of the files, Blue Book documents should be impounded for another decade and then kept forever out of the hands of pro-UFO scientists such as J. Allen Hynek and James E. McDonald and of ufologists.

—Jerome Clark
Canby, Minnesota

John Ford Redux

“Harry Hepcat,” in the January *Journal*, publishes a long diatribe of spleen and invective against imprisoned NY UFO researcher John Ford, and against me for writing in defense of John. At the end, Hepcat says he hopes John Ford is gang raped by prisoners while in jail.

It was a rather frightening outpouring, and left me bowled over that Mr. Hepcat (if that is his real name) had so much personal energy to denounce another man.

Half of Harry's letter boils down to complaints that John Ford threw him out of the Long Island UFO Network (LIUFON) organization. Given Harry's personality, how much of a surprise is that?

Harry also says John Ford was fired from his job in the Suffolk County NY court system, and that John Ford "tried to run down with his truck" one Virginia Stevens, whom Hepcat says worked in the same court building with John.

According to Steve Iavarone, vice president of LIUFON, John retired from his job on disability. "I've seen the papers," Iavarone says.

On the other allegation, I quote John Marafino, court officer and John's co-worker in the Suffolk court system; he never heard of Virginia Stevens. "If she worked in any of the Suffolk court buildings John worked in, and there was an incident," Marafino says, "I would have heard of it."

Maybe Harry was jealous because nobody wrote an article about him. But what gets me is that all of Harry's charges, added up, do not justify what he says he hopes happens to John Ford. Therefore, I can't rely on Mr. Hepcat's accuracy and truthfulness, because I question his moral and psychological balance.

—Elaine Douglass
MUFON St. Dir.
Washington, D.C.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 23*

edition of the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* is eligible to take the exam via mail when they feel qualified. The 100-question test may be secured from MUFON headquarters in Seguin and returned to **Kathleen F. Marden**, 103 Willow Road, East Kingston, NH 03827, for grading. In localities where field investigator training classes are conducted, the instructor may order sufficient quantities of the test and administer the exam at the conclusion of the training classes. However, the majority of people will study the manual like a correspondence course before taking the exam. It is an open book test and other references may be utilized to broaden the scope of your knowledge. For current members, the new manual may be purchased for \$25.00 plus \$3.50 for

postage and handling from MUFON in Seguin.

Congratulations to the people who have recently taken the Field Investigator's Exam and received a passing grade. Kathleen Marden now grades the exams and forwards the name and score to MUFON headquarters, where Phyllis Hutson records the grade on your membership application, revises the application, and mails the new Field Investigator their new I.D. card.

ADDITIONAL EVENTS AT GRAND RAPIDS

A press conference for all speakers is scheduled for Friday, July 11th from 1 to 3 p.m. The annual State/Provincial Director's meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 11th with Dr. **John C. Kasher**, moderating. Time will be allocated for short activity reports from each State and Provincial Director. If the State Director will be unable to attend, he/she should designate someone to represent them. The MUFON Annual Board of Directors meeting will take place on Sunday, July 13th from 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All State and Provincial Directors will submit their annual reports to Dr. Kasher at the meeting if they or a representative attends. If they do not attend, the reports should be mailed to Walt Andrus. Here is your opportunity to share with your colleagues your accomplishments and ideas in promoting MUFON. For people arriving on Thursday or Friday, three workshops have been scheduled during the day on July 11th.

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UFO SEMINAR OF THE YEAR: Stanton Friedman (June 21) on crashed saucers, govt coverup and MJ-12. Dr. John Mack (June 22) will discuss UFO abductions, their social & spiritual implications. Per day: \$65 until March 31; \$75 thereafter. Both days: \$120 until March 31, \$150 thereafter. Omega Communications, Box 2051-M, Cheshire, CT 06410-5051.

I AM TOTALLY CONVINCED that a technologically advanced civilization existed on our planet prior to our recorded history. Am putting together a non-profit research organization, the Atlantis Society, to discover physical scientific evidence of that civilization. Need a "Lord Carnarvon" to finance expedition. Dr. Byron Edwards, ph (615) 888-3053; hantis2@aol.com.

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The NIGHT SKY

Walter N. Webb

May 1997

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Venus (magnitude -3.9) reappears in the evening sky by mid-May, glimmering low in the WNW. It sets about an hour after the Sun.

Mars, near the Leo-Virgo border, continues to fade during the month, from magnitude -0.5 to +0.2. Our ruddy planet neighbor lies in the S at dusk, advancing westward during the night.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mars sets in the W about 3 AM in midmonth.

Jupiter (-2.4), in Capricornus, rises in the E about 1:30 AM in mid-May and shines brightly in the SE at dawn. The big world lies 4° S of the quarter Moon on the 28th.

Saturn (0.8), in Pisces, rises in the E about 4:30 AM in mid-month. Use the nearby crescent Moon on May 4 to find the planet below in the twilight.

Comet Hale-Bopp:

The comet descends rapidly in the WNW. It begins the month about 10° up toward the end of dusk but disappears into the twilight by mid-May. Least moonlight is from about May 1 to 9.

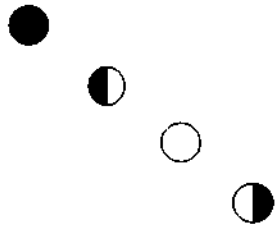
Moon Phases:

New moon—May 6

First quarter—May 14

Full moon—May 22

Last quarter—May 29



The Stars:

Now in a fine viewing position, the Big Dipper is a handy guidepost to many spring constellations. After twilight ends, this celestial ladle of 7 stars can be found upside-down and almost overhead. A line through the 2 stars on the end of the bowl points downward to a spot near Polaris the North Star, the end of the Little Dipper's handle. The stellar pair on the other side of the Big Dipper's bowl points in the opposite direction to Regulus, the heart of Leo the Lion. The dipper's arching handle traces a curve southward to the bright orange star Arcturus in Bootes the Herdsman. And if extended even farther S, the curved line reaches blue-white Spica in Virgo the Maiden.

MUFON 1996 SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

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CALENDAR

April 11-13 — Ninth Annual Ozark UFO Conference at the Inn of the Ozarks Conference Center in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. For further information contact Ozark UFO Conference, #2 Caney Valley Drive, Plummerville, AR 72127-8725 or (501) 354-2558.

May 3 — Mid-Atlantic 50th Anniversary UFO Symposium in Bethesda, Maryland. For further information contact Bruce Maccabee, 6962 Eyer Valley Flint Rd., Sabillasville, MD 21780.

June 21-22 — Joint UFO Seminar "1997 - 50 Years On" at Riverwood Legion Club in Sydney, Australia. For information contact INUFOR, P.O. Box 783, Kogarah, N.S.W. 2217, Australia

June 21-22 — The UFO Seminar of the Year, Holiday Inn, North Haven, CT. For information, write Omega Communications, P.O. Box 2051, Cheshire, CT 06410-5051.

June 26-28 — 18th Rocky Mountain UFO Conference at University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY. For information contact Institute for UFO Research, 1304 So. College Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80524 or call (970) 482-3731.

July 1-6 — Third Annual Roswell Days, 50th Anniversary. For further information and schedule of events write to International UFO Museum, P.O. Box 2221, Roswell, NM 88202

July 11-13 — Twenty-eighth annual MUFON International UFO Symposium, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Theme: "The Fiftieth Anniversary of Ufology." For further information write to MUFON 1997 Symposium, 3628 Aragon Drive, Lansing, MI 48906-3508.

August 3-8 — Ancient Astronaut Society 24th Anniversary World Conference at Sheraton Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida. For further information contact Ancient Astronaut Society, 1921 St. John's Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035-3178.

September 6 — National UFO Conference, Springfield, Ohio. Details to follow.

September 13 & 14 — Seventh Annual UFO Conference at the Yokens Convention Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. For information write to New Hampshire MUFON, P.O. Box 453, Rye, NH 03870.

October 4 & 5 — Second Scandinavian ET Conference, Oslo, Norway.

October 11 & 12 — "The UFO Experience" at Holiday Inn in North Haven, Connecticut. Contact Omega Communications, P.O. Box 2051, Cheshire, CT 06410.

October 17-19 — Australian International UFO Symposium 1997 at Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane, Australia. For further information write to Glennys Mackay, P.O. Box 2183, Mansfield MC, Brisbane, QLD 4122, Australia.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 24***SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS COVER DESIGN CONTEST**

The success of the 1996 Symposium Proceedings cover design contest has prompted MUFON to make this an annual competition. **Fran Geremia**, wife of New Hampshire State Director, **Pete Geremia**, was the 1996 winner. The cover design should reflect the symposium theme "The Fiftieth Anniversary of Ufology" and include, in addition to the theme, the statements "MUFON 1997 INTERNATIONAL UFO SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS," the location **GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN**, and the symposium dates "July 11-13." The contest submissions must be "camera ready" and not simply attractive designs, symbols or artwork. The contest prize winner will receive \$100 in cash plus \$100 in MUFON publications merchandise. Please submit entries to **Walt Andrus**, the symposium proceedings editor. Only five entries have been received. I am confident that there are other artists that could produce an intriguing cover or computer artists that are capable of utilizing their computers to depict their ideas. The deadline for cover designs has been extended to May 15, 1997.

MOTTO CONTEST

We are searching for a motto that best exemplifies MUFON's goals and objectives, that is serious, intriguing, eye-catching, and meaningful. This contest produced more responses than any other project that MUFON has proposed in 27 years. Five-hundred and ninety-four mottos were submitted from 76 different people. Nine judges are endeavoring to select what they consider the 25 best, in their judgment, that meets our objectives. The deadline was March 15th for the judges. I can envision a run-off vote of the mottos that rank at the top after we receive the judges' choices, therefore an announcement date for the contest winner is still pending. It is imperative that we select a motto that we can live with for the next 25 years, therefore rushing the judges is not a wise decision.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AUXILIARY

The entry on the back of MUFON's "Application for Membership" defines a Field Investigator Trainee: The person engages in an open-ended period of education in the UFO subject under the guidance of experienced individuals in order to become familiar with all aspects of case investigation. The trainee is expected to obtain and utilize the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* and, whenever possible, assist in conducting investigations of UFO events reported by the public. The definition of an Associate Member: The same qualifications as a Field Investigator Trainee except that the member is under the age of 18 years.

We are cognizant that the teenagers of today will be the future scientists and ufologists of tomorrow, therefore they are significant members of MUFON and should be more involved in our research activities. I have personally felt for a long time that we have not been utilizing the talent and unbridled enthusiasm of our associate members. Now is the time to remedy this situation, since we have some brilliant teenage members who are anxious to become more involved.

A fourteen-year old high school student **Thomas J. Lyon**, P. O. Box 310, Warsaw, New York 14569-0310, has volunteered to spearhead in what I have tentatively named the "Associate Members Auxiliary." Tom joined MUFON on February 8, 1996, and a year later started formulating a plan which he refers to as an "involvement drive." He has already enlisted the aid of **Lynda D. Poss**, another 14-year old student living in Wyoming, New York, who joined MUFON on 2/6/97 and shares Tom's enthusiasm. Tom's telephone number is (716) 786-0625.

In order to kickoff the program, your Director supplied Tom with our computer list of every Associate Member worldwide. This will become his mailing list to send letters to associates seeking their ideas and how they could get more involved. He said one of his main goals of the project is to boost membership in MUFON. Young people are quite capable of performing in the MUFON classifications of Amateur Radio Operator and UFO Newsclipping Service in addition to Associate Member. Tom and Lynda feel that the MUFON logo T-shirts and ball caps, would appeal to young folks, presently stocked in our UFO Information Center.

This is an appeal to other Associate Members that are anxious to help in this project to contact Tom Lyon at the above address and volunteer your assistance. We are also looking for adult volunteers who will act as consultants and advisors to help the new Associate Members Auxiliary in this very important venture. These people should write and offer their services to Walt Andrus so an advisory committee may be formed.

Tom has been very active in the Boy Scouts of America and high school extracurricular activities. His SAT scores indicate that he is a bright young man. At grade 6 his test grade equivalent was 11th grade and his grade 7 was that of first year of college. Tom likes the name Associate Members Auxiliary for this group. He will organize the auxiliary by states in the same format as MUFON, that is, State and State Section Directors.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S EXAM

Anyone who has purchased and studied the 4th

Continued on Page 19

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Walter Andrus

NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

MUFON 1997 UFO SYMPOSIUM

MUFON's twenty-eighth International UFO Symposium will be held July 11, 12, and 13, 1997, at the elegant Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan, hosted by Michigan MUFON. **David E. Toth**, Ph.D., is the symposium coordinator. The symposium theme is "The Fiftieth Anniversary of Ufology." Several of the speakers will address the monumental events of 1947 to recognize the anniversary of the modern era of ufology.

Confirmed speakers and their speech titles are **Jan L. Aldrich**, "1947: The Beginning of the UFO Era"; **Warren P. Aston** (Australia) "An Analysis of the 1940 Udo Wartena Case: Discovering the Alien Agenda"; **John S. Carpenter, Beth Collings and Anna Jamerson**, "Connections: A Lifetime of Shared Experiences" (co-authors of the book *Connections: Solving Our Alien Abductions Mystery*); **Stanton T. Friedman**, M.S. (Canada); **Cynthia Hind** (Zimbabwe), "Sightings From an African Casebook"; **Budd Hopkins; J. Antonio Huneus; David M. Jacobs**, Ph.D.; **Bruce S. Maccabee**, Ph.D., "June 24, 1947: How It All Began - The Story of the Arnold Sighting"; **Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos** (Spain), "Monitoring Air Force Intelligence on Spain's UFO Declassification Process"; and **Dan R. Wright**, M.A., "Five Themes: Further Findings of the Abduction Transcription Project."

The host committee has announced that pre-registration tickets are now available for \$65 for all five sessions before the cutoff date of June 21, 1997, and \$75 thereafter. Individual sessions will be \$20 per session. The cost to attend the reception Friday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. will be \$15 per person with a cash bar. Checks or money orders should be made payable and sent to "MUFON 1997 Symposium," 3628 Aragon Drive, Lansing, MI 48906-3508. Advance registrants will receive a postcard confirming receipt of their attendance fee. An information envelope with your tickets will be held at the registration desk in Grand Rapids for your arrival. Vendor tables will cost \$25 per day. Make your reservations for tables at the same address listed above in Lansing, MI.

The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel is located at Pearl and Monroe Streets in Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-2666. Special guest room rates for the symposium are for a single (1 person) \$82, double (2 persons) \$89, triple (3 persons) \$96, and quad (4 persons) \$103 per night. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel at (616) 774-2000, 1-800-253-3590 or FAX (616) 776-6496.

Plan your family vacation now to visit the beautiful state of Michigan and the historical sights in Grand Rapids.

NEW OFFICERS

Juval Shenkar, B.A. (Rishon Lezion) has been appointed the Representative for Israel. He is also a qualified field investigator. The new State Director for Falcon and Lara in Venezuela is **Carlos Urquiza**, B.S.M.E. (Coro, Venezuela). **Dana M. Schmidt**, J.D., New York State Director has selected Mrs. **Diane M. Montrose**, B.A. (New York, NY) to be his Assistant State Director for the greater New York City area. Diane plans to initiate a newsletter for New York State. We hope to revitalize the New York City area through the State Section Directors in each of the boroughs.

Nine State Section Directors were either selected this month or were assigned to different counties. They were **Wayne G. Gracey**, J.D. (Glenville, PA) for York and Adams Counties; **Henry H. Funston**, M.S. (Hereford, AZ) for Cochise County replacing **E.C. Reese**; **Leslie P. Smith**, B.A. (Wichita, KS) for Sedgwick County; and **Stephen D. Henge** (Appleton, WI) for Outagamie, Winnebago and Calumet Counties.

Co-State Directors for Michigan **Bill and Linda Murphy** have moved from Lansing to 3144 Charlwood, Rochester Hills, MI 48306. They made the following revisions in their State Section Directors organization: **Donald K. Ashley, Jr.** (Grand Haven) for Ottawa, Allegan and Muskegon Counties; **Leonard Keeney** (Ann Arbor) for Washtenaw and Livingston Counties; **Gary R. Golem**, B.S.M.E. (Canton) for Wayne County; **Wayne Erickson**, B.S.E.E. (Marysville) for St. Clair County; and **Harry G. Willnus**, Ed.D. (South Lyon) for Oakland County.

NEW CONSULTANTS AND RESEARCH SPECIALISTS

New Consultants volunteering their expertise this month are **Evelyn M. Fuqua**, Ph.D. (Rocklin, CA) in Psychology (Hypnotherapist) and **Janice M. Gleason**, J.D. (La Jolla, CA) in Law. Seven new Research Specialists joined MUFON in March. They are **Susan B. Haskell**, M.S.W. (Fort Lee, NJ) in Social Work; **Edrie L. Greer**, M.S. (Wake Forest, NC) in Adult Education; **Robin A. Knott**, M.A. (Pasadena, CA) in Counseling; **Pepper P. Powers**, M.S. (Odenton, MD) in Interdisciplinary Earth Sciences; **Daniel P. Connor**, M.S. (Ft. Myers, FL) in Electrical Engineering; **Eric S. Lengyel**, M.S. (Oakhurst, CA) in Mathematics; and **A. Lee Manis**, M.S. (Victorville, CA) in Cultural Anthropology.