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SNAPSHOTS FROM ROSWELL

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COVER — Roswell UFO Museum by Dennis Stacy

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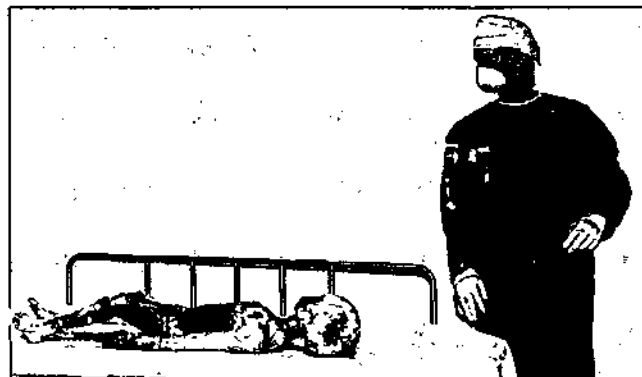
THE VIDEO

Jack Fletcher is a professional videographer based in Cleveland, Mississippi. He started his business in 1984 and has a range of products which includes consumer items such as 8 mm home movie, photo and slide transfer to videotape, parties and dance recitals; legal products such as video depositions and settlement brochures, industrial products such as indoctrination and training tapes; and 3-D computer animations. The heart of his broadcast quality off-line editing suite is the "Video Toaster" and he uses the professional videographers' format of choice, S-VHS, for shooting and editing. Mr. Fletcher won the National ACTS Award in 1987 for his documentary of a Christian mission trip to a remote area of eastern Honduras.

The video and graphics will include input from two videocameras. One cameras will provide close-up views of the speakers, and the second camera will be a wider view of the presentation area. Three audio channels will ensure professional quality audio.

The videos can be purchased in two forms: individual presentations (one presentation per cassette at Standard Speed @ \$24.95 each), or the entire conference (on three cassettes, recorded at Extended Play Speed @ \$99.00 per set). PAL (European) copies are available for \$34.95 and \$149.00 respectively. Please note the cutoff date. This is due to the fact that PAL duplication must be contracted out and the number of sets must be known. Please don't forget your shipping and handling charge. This is a one-time charge for each order rather than for each cassette or presentation.

The finished video will probably be about 15 hours in length. It will be complete - only copyrighted material will be edited out. This video can be used by those unable to attend or for review at one's own pace by those who attend. It can be shown to skeptical friends who would never dream of attending a UFO Conference. *Order yours today!*



(Left) The International UFO Museum and Research Center on Roswell's Main Street. (Above) Alien Body display inside Museum.

Maybe it was the heat. Maybe it was the prospect of arriving in Roswell late at night only to find every room in the city and for 100 miles around already sold out. But for whatever reason, the expected crowds failed to materialize for Roswell's UFO Encounter 97, the citywide celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Roswell Incident.

Deon Crosby, director of the International UFO Museum and Research Center and one of the festival's organizers, was predicting 10,000 visitors a day for the six-day course of the celebration, which would more than double Roswell's population of 50,000. I doubt if half that many showed up in the broiling heat.

My first suspicion that many summer vacationers might have opted for cooler climes came when I checked into the Roswell Inn at about 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 2nd, and the clerk asked me if I wanted a smoking or non-smoking room. Clearly not every room in town was booked up after all.

Which isn't to say there weren't crowds, mind, just nothing on the order of the madhouse that had been anticipated. To be sure, a galaxy of UFO heavy-hitters was on hand, along with a swollen press corps and con-

voy of satellite uplink trucks. Invited speakers included Erich von Däniken, Michael Lindemann, Robert O. Dean, Stanton Friedman, John Mack, Lance Strong Eagle Crawford, Paul Davids, Whitley Strieber, John Hunter Gray (the former John Salter), Donald Schmitt, Linda Moulton Howe, and Budd Hopkins. Philip Corso was also on hand, granting interviews and signing books. In addition, John Price of the UFO Enigma Museum presented his own line up of speakers which included Kevin Randle and Karl Pflock. At last count, the official press office in the Convention Center had handed out passes to some 300 reporters from 15 countries. At some speeches the media seemed to outnumber the paying customers.

The most conspicuous hole in the program was a rock festival which had earlier been touted as Woodstock in the Desert. Promoters had speculated about a crowd of 150,000. But that was before Hale-Bopp, Heaven's Gate and 39 suicides.

Reportedly, a few major sensitive sponsors pulled out in the wake of the negative image surrounding the UFO subject, leaving the promoter high and dry. Which may have been a good thing. With merciless sunshine most of the time and temperatures routinely hitting 100, I doubt if the local hospitals could have handled all the heatstroke and sunburn cases that would almost surely have resulted.

Except for Corso's presence and one major press conference, to be addressed later, there wasn't much in the way of new news at any of the major speeches. The latest and most controversial Air Force report on Roswell was out, and while it was obligatorily and derogatorily sneered at on occasion, few had had the opportunity or time to thoroughly study it and address the specifics of same.

SNAPSHOTS FROM ROSWELL

Pictures and text by Dennis Stacy

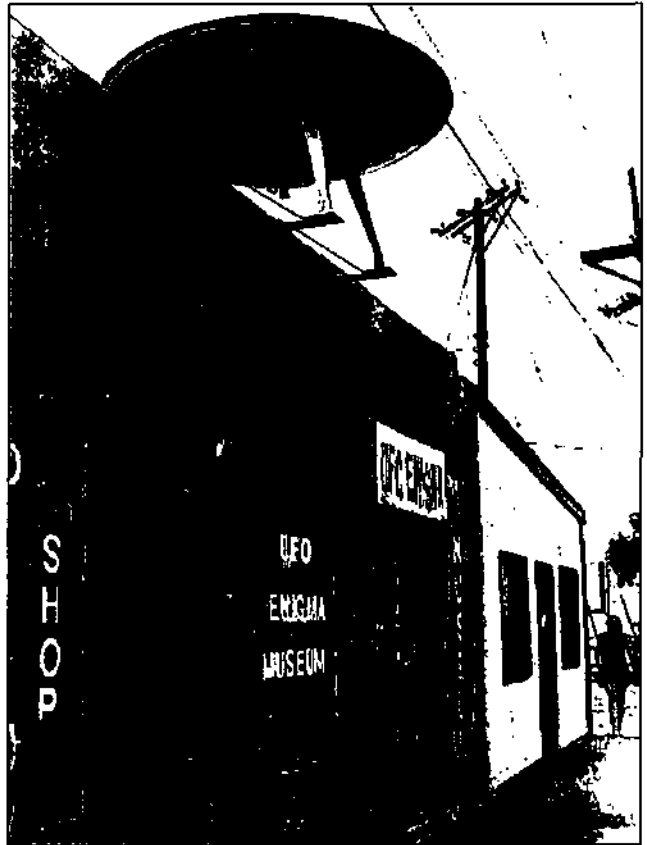
People & Places



Producer Paul Davids meets with what with what he would later describe as a "hostile press," seemingly perplexed that reporters actually wanted to ask questions in the wake of what was billed as a press conference.



Whitley Strieber was only one of many invited speakers to Roswell UFO Encounter '97. He delivered the keynote speech at a Friday night banquet in Hangar 84.

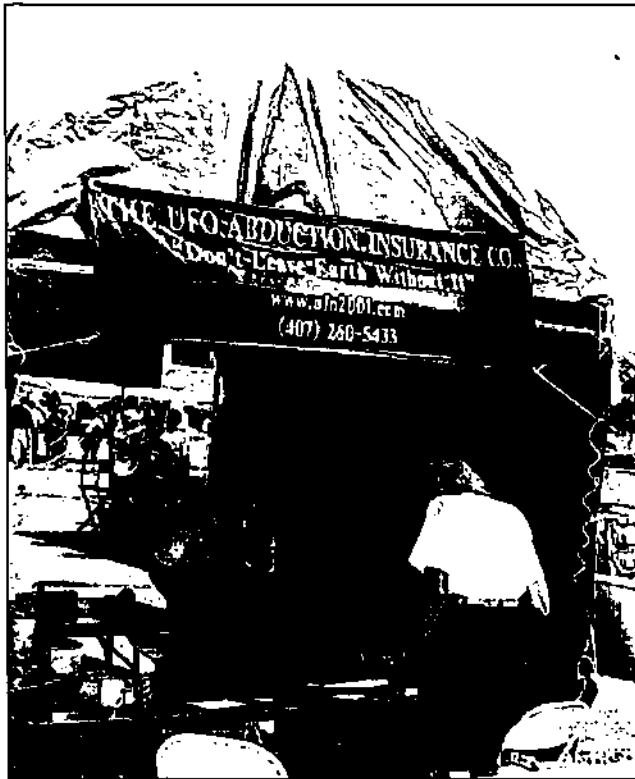


Souvenirs weren't the only thing for sale. Pony up enough money and you might even be able to purchase the UFO Enigma Museum, across from the old Roswell Army Air Field, which is now on the auction block.



Jesse Marcel Jr., top. Hangar 84, bottom. It is here that bodies and debris were allegedly stored before shipment to Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio.

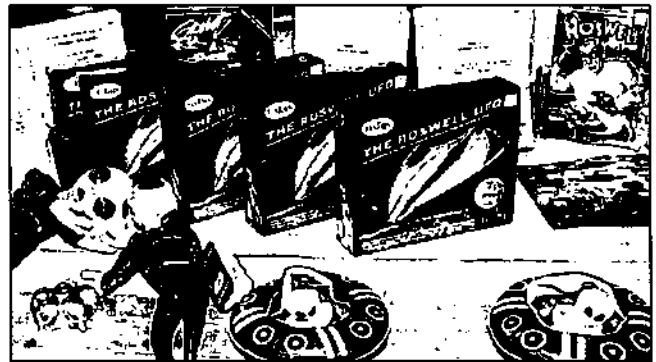
& Things



For the faint of heart, even alien abduction insurance was available for a nominal fee.



Every storefront in town was decked out with its best alien finery.



ALF—the Alien Life Form image—was for sale everywhere and in every imaginable form, from the expected books, post cards and videos, to the unexpected jewelry, games and trading cards, even cookies, commemorative coins and underwear. Yes, underwear.



S. A. J. Ryal, covering Roswell for the Microsoft Network's Watchfire program, wonders why the "scientists" aren't answering questions. She wasn't alone.



Stanton Friedman answers a reporter's question.



Philip Corso being interviewed at the crash site.

There was much to do between the scattered speeches, most of which involved spending money one way or another. To begin with, there was a bewildering array of alien "artifacts" for sale everywhere, the least of which were large numbers of UFO books and videos. There were ALF (alien life form) bolo ties, pens, earrings, pendants, post-cards, posters — you name it, even ALF commemorative coins, cookies and underwear. Hardly a shop front on Main Street wasn't gussied up in its alien finest for the event.

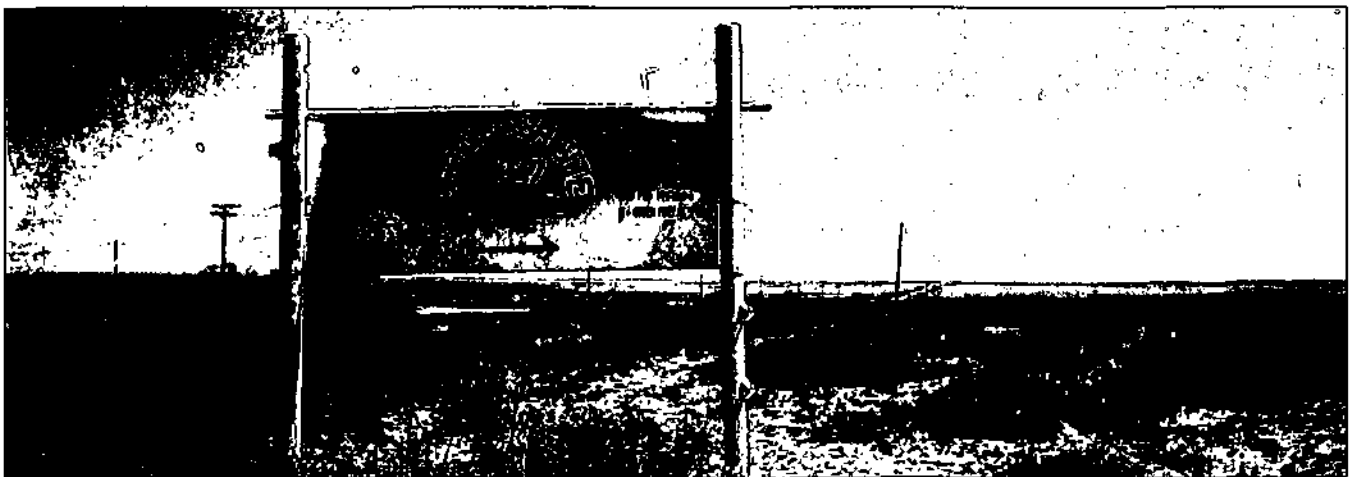
As befitted a circus celebration, there was also plenty of family activities, from a costume contest and laser games, to outdoor music and the 1997 UFO Crash & Burn Extravaganza, a parade of homemade "space-ships." If you had your own car you could drive down to the south side of town, into the Roswell Industrial Air Park, formerly Roswell Army Air Field, and peek at Hangar 84, where wreckage and alien bodies were allegedly stored for transport to Wright Field in Ohio, except, of course, for the stuff that had to be shipped by truck through Fort Riley, Kansas, so that Colonel Corso could see it while stationed there in 1947.

Crash Sites

Even without a car you could still visit the Hub Corn crash site some 20 miles north of town out Highway 285. Roswell ISD buses left hourly from the Convention Center for the approximately two-hour, \$15 per person round trip into the blazing desert and back. This is the site unearthed by Roswell researchers Kevin Randle and Donald Schmitt and attributed to one of their star witnesses, Frank Kaufmann. It was here, six to seven miles off the main highway, according to Kaufmann, that a black, heel-shaped object slammed into a low bluff at a 35-degree angle, disgorging five bodies, one of which was still alive when he and a military contingent arrived.

For the really dedicated Roswell enthusiast, there are at least three other claimed crash sites relatively nearby, although none is as near or as easily accessible to Roswell as Kaufmann's. Another Randle/Schmitt witness, the late Jim Ragsdale, identified two places before his death, the first on public property, the second on private. The granddaddy of all Roswell crash sites, however, is the former Foster ranch, near Corona, some 75 miles NW of Roswell. This is the site of the famous debris field first found by rancher Mac Brazel and visited by Jesse Marcel, Sr. prior to the issuing of the orig-

Look for this sign on Highway 285 about 20 miles north of Roswell, and have your \$15 per person ready.





Details from UFO Enigma Museum diorama.

inal 1947 press release which announced that officials at RAAF had come into the possession of a flying disc.

We arrive at the 15,000-acre Corn ranch shortly after noon on Thursday, under a cloudless sky and blazing sun. A recently graded and improved gravel road makes the six or seven-mile dusty drive from the main road accessible even to rental cars like my Nissan Sentra. Curiosity draws us, along with the prospect of



Details from UFO Enigma Museum diorama.

watching Colonel Corso interviewed live on the CNN program "Talk Back."

Corso is of course the "author" of *The Day After Roswell*, a controversial account of his days in Army intelligence, days during which he claims he seeded alien technology recovered at Roswell to a who's who of American industry, resulting in the integrated circuit, lasers, night vision goggles, fiber optics, bullet-proof vests, and particle beam weapons, not to mention Star Wars and the ultimate collapse of the Soviet Union. In Corso's world view, this now means we can meet the aliens on equal turf when next they come calling!

Corso, in his eighties, appears alternately frail and unflappable as he sits beneath a flapping sheet of blue plastic strung from one of the portable trailers that mark the site, the only shade in sight. He is accompanied by a son, and his co-author, William Birmes, wearing a Soldier of Fortune cap. Birmes tells one of our party, Gayle Nesom, that he's editor and publisher of the magazine of the same name, but a glance at the masthead of the current issue didn't turn up a Birmes anywhere.

Two new monoliths mark the entrance to the crash site.



In the interview, Corso sticks to his story, explaining the beauty of the seed program supposedly engineered by him and his superior in the Pentagon, Lt. Gen. Arthur Trudeau, by saying "we didn't leave any paper trail" and we seeded the patents to American industry. At one point he also claims that "we used the de-bunkers."

To a question relayed through his ear piece which we can't hear, Corso responds, "How does he know. He wasn't there. Where's his documentation? I was there." Of course critics of the book have been asking Corso the same thing: Where's his documentation for any of his claims?

Karl Pflock, author of *Roswell in Perspective*, is also present, expecting a debate with Corso. But apparently there has been a misunderstanding. Pflock follows Corso and the two never meet on camera.

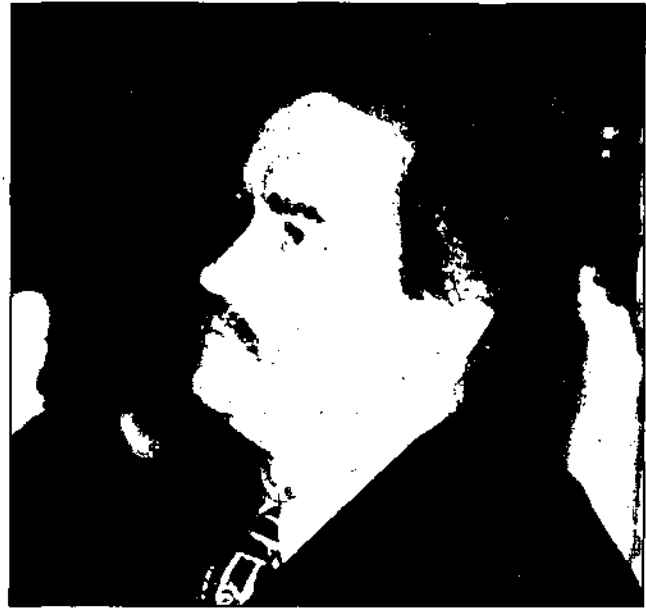
Afterwards, we stroll the couple of hundred yards down to the crash site itself, at the base of a low, rugged bluff, where Hub Corn and his wife, Shirley, alternate giving guided tours. Some anonymous donor has left a wreath of flowers. More dramatically, someone else has contributed four stone monoliths (at a reported cost of \$25,000) which now mark the entrance and the end of the pathway; we're told that the identity of the "anonymous" donor will be announced at 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Greeting visitors is a round, recently dedicated, flat-topped stone with the following inscription:

*We don't know who they were
We don't know why they came
We only know
They changed our view of the universe*

*This universal sacred site
Is dedicated July, 1997
To the beings
Who met their destinies
Near Roswell, New Mexio, in July of 1947*

Other tourists, some foreign, come and go as our own small group stands around trying to make sense of the information presented in this desolate desert. Wouldn't it be better to at least qualify what is being said here in the name of objective history with words like "alleged" and "claimed"? It seems too late for such reservations. Future travelers who pass this way will simply assume that the "information" they receive here is as legitimate as the information presented at any other New Mexico tourist stop — from the space museum in Almagordo, to White Sands and Carlsbad — one stop being as good — and seemingly legitimate — as another.



Derrel Sims of Houston.

"Press Conference"

Inside the press packet reporters received was the following startling announcement made by the Los Angeles PR firm of Abrams-Rubaloff & Lawrence:

**SCIENTIFIC PROOF
TO BE PRESENTED THAT
AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL CRAFT
WAS RECOVERED
NEAR ROSWELL, NM**

Given that, if true, this would represent the most momentous event in human history, the press release seems worth quoting in its entirety.

"ROSWELL, NM (June 30, 1997) - A press conference scheduled for 9 a.m. July 4, 1997, at the Pearson Auditorium on the New Mexico Military Institute Campus in Roswell, New Mexico, will present the results of *scientific tests performed on crash debris found near Roswell, New Mexico, fifty years ago that once and for all prove that the downed vehicle was not of earth origin.* [Emphasis in the original.]

"A research scientist from a major university involved in the testing will be on hand to discuss the methodology and results of the isotopic ratio tests of the Roswell debris. Supporting conclusions and a battery of tests conducted by universities and national laboratories will be provided that conclude that the Roswell debris is *manufactured material of extraterrestrial origin.* [Emphasis in the original.]

"The discovery that crash debris has been privately held in civilian hands was made by television producer Chris Wyatt, former Producer of *Day &*

Date. Mr. Wyatt uncovered the material while producing the upcoming television special, *UFO's [sic] Above & Beyond*. "This could be the greatest discovery of our time," notes Wyatt.

"Paul Davids, Executive Producer of the Showtime film, 'Roswell,' is sponsoring the presentation of this evidence during his program at [sic] 50th Anniversary. Along with images of the actual Roswell crash debris, the chain of evidence will also be presented validating the Roswell incident as the recovery of a crashed extraterrestrial vehicle."

Reality

Whoever wrote this stuff was more showman than straightforward. As reality unfolded, hardly a sentence of the press release reflected the actual events. First, the reporters clogging the Pearson Auditorium lobby were told that the press conference would follow David's presentation. As it turned out, however, there never was a press conference at anytime, if by press conference you mean that members of the press get to address questions to those making the extraordinary claims for which the conference was called in the first place.

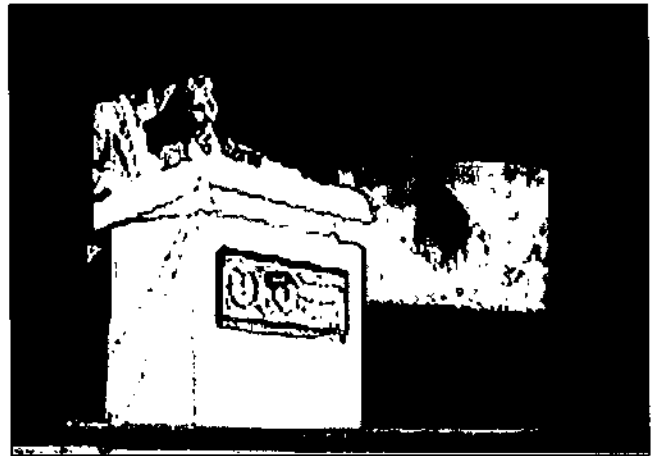
Davids did provide background, first summarizing the so-called "known" events surrounding the Roswell Incident, then introducing the claims of "conclusive scientific evidence" associated with an alleged piece of "debris," and finally introducing one of the scientists who made the findings.

Joining Davids on stage were Jesse Marcel, Jr., who handled the Roswell debris at age 11, Derrel Sims, a self-described Houston hypnoanesthesiologist who made sure that reporters spelled his name right, Roger K. Leir, a podiatrist, producer Wyatt, and Russell VernonClark, introduced as a chemist from the University of California, San Diego, specializing in environmental health and safety. Sims and Leir are founders of F.I.R.S.T.—Fund for Interactive Research and Space Technology—and both have been active in the recovery and study of alleged implants. (See the April 1996 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal*, "In Search of Hard Evidence" by Roger K. Leir, pp. 9-12, 15.)

Sims said he was handed the piece of debris—about an inch and a quarter wide—in October of 1995 while at a west coast conference by an individual who wishes to remain "secret out of fear of ridicule and reprisal."

Findings

The youngish-looking VernonClark appeared nervous, saying "I've lectured to larger audiences before, but never to so many cameras."



Paul Davids, left, with Russell VernonClark. Roswell fragment in background.

VernonClark (yes, that's how the name's spelled) analyzed trace samples of nickel, silver and zinc from the largely silicon-based sample using ICP/MS—Induction Coupled Plasma Mass Spectroscopy. All of the sample's isotopic ratios were significantly different than their terrestrial counterparts.

Earthly silver, for example, is composed of two isotopes, silver 107 and 109 in roughly a one to one ratio, 51 to 49 percent, respectively. The "debris" sample, however, had a two to one (67 to 33) ratio of silver 107 to silver 109, indicating an off-world origin.

Terrestrial silicon is composed of 92 percent silicon 28; the sample ratio showed only a 26 percent silicon 28 ratio. Silicon 29 and 30 were present in the sample at ten times their terrestrial ratios.

Some of VernonClark's initial findings were reportedly confirmed using Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy. But the source for this confirmation was referred to only as "a major west coast university."

If validated by repeated testing, this would indeed indicate an extraterrestrial origin for the sample. But was it natural or manmade, or rather alienmade, that is, manufactured?

Silicon doesn't appear in a pure form in nature, which explains why chip makers go to such drastic measures in the manufacture of silicon wafers. According to VernonClark, the sample was composed of 99.9 percent silicon, indicating that it was indeed manufactured. The source for this evidence, however, was described only as a "laboratory in Texas."

Jesse Marcel, Jr. came forward next and said that the sample, which he was first shown at a UFO conference in Japan of last year, "was somewhat similar" to what he handled as an 11-year-old boy—the debris his father, the intelligence officer for the 509th Bomb Group, laid out on the family's kitchen floor after his return from the Foster ranch, where Mac Brazel had first found the stuff.

But the fragment shown on stage (color pictures of which can be found in *Beyond Roswell* by Michael Hesemann and Philip Mantle) looked more like a small rock than anything manufactured. Yet in all of the previously published accounts of his recollections, none of the three types of material Marcel described in any way resembled a rock. Most recently, in January of this year, Marcel referred to the only likely candidate—the bakelite-like material—as thin flakes in irregular shapes, perhaps the sort of stuff you might expect if you shattered an old phonograph record.

Davids made a few more comments about Roswell in general, referring specifically to Philip Corso's dramatic rewriting of UFO and terrestrial history, *The Day After Roswell*. He seemed unaware that the publisher, Simon & Schuster, had withdrawn Senator Strom Thurmond's laudatory Foreword from the book after learning that the latter dealt with UFOs and a government cover up and not Corso's career in military intelligence, as Thurmond said he was originally led to believe. Davids also seemed unaware that Corso originally spoke of a six-fingered alien (apparently based on the alien autopsy film, but changed the number to four before the book went to print), and that he is the only "witness"—alive or otherwise—who has ever claimed that the bodies went by a laboriously slow truck convoy overland from Roswell to Wright Field, instead of being expeditiously flown there by plane.

And with that the presentation concluded. Let the press conference begin!

A Hostile Press

But there was no press conference, just a perspiring Davids cornered in the lobby, fielding reporters' questions. He told one reporter that the sample was "like having a piece of the Shroud of Turin for analysis. It's what you dream of."

But Davids also backed down on several points. He admitted that there was no "chain of evidence" linking the fragment to Roswell—as had been patently promised in the press release. Only Sims knew the identity of the source, who was said to have been in the military at the time.

Meanwhile, on the front steps of the auditorium and in the parking lot, the press was interviewing the press. What happened to the other so-called "scientists" on stage? As it turned out, at least two reporters, one from the *Arizona Republic*, the other from the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, hadn't been lured to the lobby and had followed the scientists out the back door of the auditorium—where a car with open doors and the engine idling was waiting. The scientists were whisked away. VernonClark reportedly flew out of Roswell the same day.

In response to a shouted question about why he wasn't taking questions, VernonClark said that he didn't want to risk damaging his career.

Saturday morning Davids held a follow up press conference, sparsely attended by only a handful of reporters, in which he complained of a "hostile press."

In the end, the only "research scientist" connected with the press conference, VernonClark, turned out to be not a research scientist at UC, San Diego, but merely a staff member. No names of the other scientists or laboratories supposedly involved in the confirmation of the extraterrestrial sample were given out, nor was any evidence presented—other than Marcel's vague statements—that would tie the Sims rock to 1947 and Roswell.

Sunset & Rainbow

Friday afternoon there was a reception for the media at the Sally Port Inn across the street from where I was staying. Shortly after, the heat wave broke, if only temporarily. As I walked back to my room two partial rainbows arced behind the big Roswell Inn sign. It was hard to miss the metaphor. Maybe there was a pot of gold somewhere in Roswell. If so, it seemed more likely to be found in the gift shops and souvenir stands than in the speeches and press conferences I'd heard.

A little later lightning and a summer thunderstorm raked Roswell, and that seemed eerily appropriate, too. Hadn't it been a similar storm, exactly 50 years to the day, that had allegedly brought the aliens to Earth and the headlines to Roswell in the first place?

In my room I hooked up my laptop and began filing my report. I uploaded the digital camera pictures I had taken that day and then turned on the "telly." Pathfinder was down on Mars and the pictures were being beamed back live to a waiting world. (The next day NASA's web site would record more than 100 million hits.)

I was aware of the conspiracy theories already swirling around Pathfinder like a Martian sandstorm. That it wasn't really on Mars, that if it was, the pictures would be delayed or discontinued altogether if anything unusual turned up. But as I continued watching CNN's live coverage, it looked like the real item to me.

Say one thing for NASA: They knew how to land a robot on Mars. And how to hold a press conference in its wake.

(Editor's note. Both Paul Davids and Roger Leir have objected to my characterization of the Roswell press conference in an earlier e-mail post. They have been offered space in this *Journal* to present their point of view. Meanwhile, Russell VernonClark's analysis of the fragment to date can be found on his Web site at: <http://wwwchem.ucsd.edu/~ruvermon/Odds.n.ends/Analysis/talk>)

Philip Corso: An Alternative Take

by Robert M. Wood

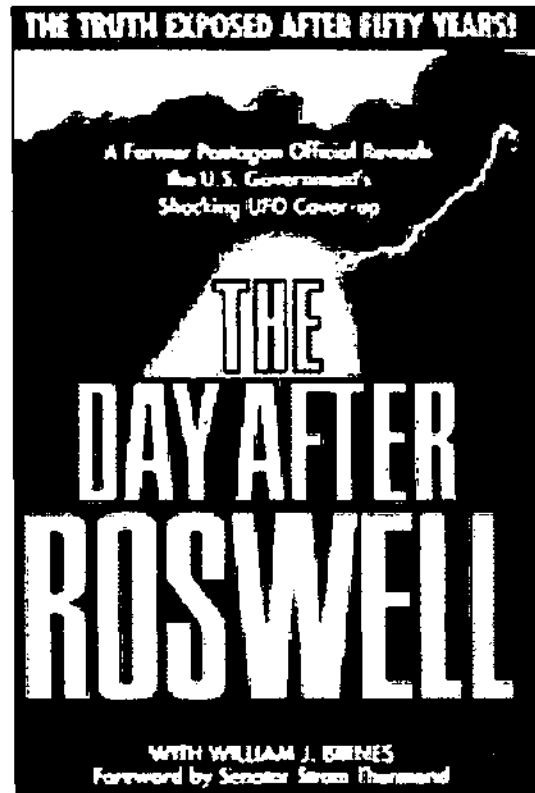
The Day After Roswell, by Col. Philip J. Corso (Ret.), with William J. Birnes, Pocket Books, \$24

Credible people seeing incredible things." This quotation from the UFO literature describing many UFO witnesses applies perfectly to Col. Philip J. Corso, a man who in the 1950s, fought for the release of the truth about our prisoners of war and missing in action personnel in Korea, and blew open the conceded Government conspiracy to suppress this information. Thus, as a distinguished career officer, his credibility is superb. The incredible is that he is describing — what some of us conjectured but none of us are sure of — the reverse engineering of our present society from a drawer full of parts recovered from the crash of an alien vehicle at Roswell.

The book is a fairly chronological summary of how Corso was involved. A decorated veteran of the Italian campaign in WW II, he was trying to keep the Communists and Nazis from taking over as we occupied Italy. From there, he began a distinguished career in Army Intelligence, and he synthesizes from his career a theme of how the Extraterrestrial Biological Entities (EBEs) influenced his life, the Army, and indeed our society. In July 1947 his first dramatic encounter occurred while he was officer-in-charge of the night watch at Fort Riley, Kansas, when some of the Roswell parts were on their way to Wright Field. He pried open a packing crate, and looked at the face and body of a four-foot alien with four fingers, lying in pale blue fluid.*

Corso reveals, with the natural pride of a career Army officer, how Army Intelligence thought they knew special secrets: how the KGB had penetrated the CIA, how our foreign policy was being dictated by the KGB, and therefore why it was important not to trust much the CIA, or for that matter the Navy or the Air Force. In this setting, his distinguished boss, Gen. Arthur Trudeau, asked him in 1961 to go through parts re-

* Elsewhere in the book Corso refers to six-fingered aliens.



Robert M. Wood, Ph.D., is MUFON's Director for Research.

covered from Roswell to see whether we could use this technology to improve the Army's effectiveness.

Corso rose to this challenge with a plan to use our normal intelligence operations as cover (such as "We got this piece from East Germany"), use trusted Army development labs in their normal functions (such as Fort Belvoir for night vision), and offered the contractors the patent rights (thereby ensuring that reverse engineering became a part of recorded reality). For two years, Lt. Col. Corso then initiated a series of reverse engineering developments from the parts in the filing cabinet drawer.

The eyepieces allegedly recovered from the alien craft turn out to be the source of infrared night vision goggles. The clear, glasslike wires that seemed to bend light turn out to be fiber optic cables. The quarter-sized gray wafers inscribed with fine lines turn out to be highly integrated circuits. The stubby device that put a red spot on the wall when you pressed the button (and burned through intervening metal) turns out to be a powerful, compact laser

Corso's enthusiasm shows when Reagan gets Star Wars approved. He contends that the weapons that emerged now permits us to begin to deal militarily with the alien threat.

cutting tool, possibly used for dissecting cattle by the aliens. The thin, flexible gray metal that sprang back with no creases turns out to be directionally woven material and becomes the basis of Kevlar bullet-proof vests. The irradiation of food for storage emerges, and high power directed energy weapons, such as space-based satellite killers, are another fallout. But the list goes on. The headbands the aliens wore pick up signals from the brain, and these signals are then used to control the flying craft in real time. This work is actually ongoing today at the Air Force Laboratories at Dayton, and there have been unclassified publicity releases.

So what does a knowledgeable ufologist or just an ordinary citizen conclude from this remarkable tale?

It is difficult to fault the record of integrity of this distinguished Army officer. It is intuitively apparent that a review of his military records if they were available would be consistent with his reported career facts. Col. Corso will not be found to be phony in any way. A tiny negative note is associated with the glowing foreword by Senator Strom Thurmond, which was retracted by his office as having been prepared for a book about Corso's life, not about flying saucers and aliens. This press release, labeled "Right Foreword, Wrong Book" seems to have merely accelerated the release date from the 4th of July Roswell celebration to mid-June. The essential content of the foreword, that Col. Corso is a great guy, dedicated to serving and protecting the United States, shines through irrespective of the retraction.

Criticisms of the book have largely to do with lack of information. The following is a list of things that could have been included but were not:

- A Table of Contents to easily find the correct chapter
- A bibliography to give a clue to the sources
- An index to make it easy to find key items
- Detailed references to sources, idea by idea or thought by thought

- Some statement, any at all, as to why he decided to write the book now

- A mention of the specific role that William J. Birnes played in producing the book (editor, co-author, agent?)

- More declassified documents, preferably from Top Secret, to provide the expected links with legitimate classified work

- Mention as to whether he had been approached by anyone to be either encouraged to write or discouraged from writing this book

- More specific names of living personnel, contractors, contract numbers for these technologies

- A mention of the acknowledged vitally important basis for the sources of energy and the basis for propulsion. He either doesn't know or he is hiding the answer. Which is it?

Since Corso mentions that the CIA, Navy, and Air Force all probably had recovered parts as well, it would have been nice to speculate on what they might have done with their parts for reverse engineering. Did he get clues?

Are they working on this problem still?

On the negative side, the three references at the back of his book do not add much, with Twining's (formerly) Secret memo and Unclassified report having been available for many years. It would be interesting to know if Corso had never seen them except through his own records, and felt that they would be new to the public. On the other hand, the 1959 plan of the Army to build a base on the moon, Project Horizon, may be new to some people. I personally had an Army Major tell me in the 1970s that the Army had a plan to put a base on the moon because the Moon is made of dirt, and "We deal with dirt."

Colonel Corso touches also on the political aspects of the war with the aliens. His enthusiasm shows when Reagan gets Star Wars approved, and Corso contends that the weapons that emerged now permit us to begin to deal militarily with the alien threat. Also, the Soviet Union was happy

CURRENT CASES

By T. David Spencer

MUFON Deputy Director.

Investigations

Coos county, in upper New Hampshire experienced a mini-wave of sightings early this year. A summary of reported and reviewed cases follows.

LOG # 970121E, FB-1, 01/22/97, Columbia, NH, at 18:50 hours, for 3-4 minutes. Investigator: Sandra Black

The investigator learned of this sighting from the editor of a local newspaper.

Returning home from work, driving north on Route 3 from Littleton on a moonlit night, the witness was surprised by a "huge," rectangular object crossing high over the road in front of her, from the West. The view was at a low enough angle for her to clearly see the object through the windshield. Most obvious were six large, rectangular lights, evenly spaced, like "the window[s] of an aircraft taking off, before the inside lights are turned off, only much bigger windows." She said the lights could have been reflections of the full moon off the windows. At the bottom front of the craft was a very big, green light that steadily glowed.

Undaunted by the oddity, she turned off her radio and opened her window to listen, but heard nothing unordinary.

After crossing the road, the object paused for a minute then slowly moved on eastward, leaving the witness feeling "peaceful."

LOG # 970122E, MA-1, 01/22/97, N. Stratford, NH, at 21:45 hours, for 1 minute. Investigator: Sandra Black

This sighting became known by the investigator due to an article on January 29 in the local newspaper. She called the editor to obtain the names of the witnesses, who will be identified as Wit1, Wit2, and Wit3.

On the same night as the prior sighting, Wit1 was readying herself for bed when she noticed a red light out the bedroom window. She immediately thought it was her hus-

band, Wit2, who uses a red spotlight for wild dog hunting, but then realized Wit2 was in the house. She called to him. Joined by their son, Wit3, the three studied the red-dish-pink light covering the fields and trees around the home. Their eyes finally focused on a large, pink and blue orb about a half a mile away that emanated the glow. Two smaller and white orbs accompanied the first, one on the left and the other on the right. The three blobs merged and shrank, becoming one small, white ball that moved silently northward. They believed they felt heat radiating from the anomaly.

Wit1 was frightened, and Wit2 stopped watching with his wife. Wit3 watched the single light move away, then enlarge and begin pulsing. Soon, it shrank to a pinpoint light and moved away.

LOG # 970123bE, MA-1, 01/23/97, Dixville Notch, NH at 16:40 hours, for 8 minutes. Investigator: Michael Leclercq

The witness who reported the case is related to the investigator.

The object was seen hovering above the trees by a male who was driving home with a work associate, from Dixville Notch, westward on Route 26. They were in an area considered to be a UFO hotspot (and nicknamed "the Bungy"). "What is *that*?" he repeated over and over, while slowing his vehicle's passing by the apparent anomaly.

The 30 foot (or larger) tall saucer-shape stood on end (its major axis vertical). At an altitude of 500 feet or more, it was absolutely stationary, even though a strong wind was blowing. A dark stripe along its axis made the object appear like a clam shell, except a bright white light shone at its uppermost apex. Sunlight reflected from its silvery surface, and no sound was apparent.

Not being able to stop due to road and traffic conditions, the witness drove on past, until the object was no longer visible.

LOG # 970123aE, FB-1, 01/23/97, Clarksville, NH, at 21:15 hours, for 3 minutes. Investigators: Sandra Black and Michael Leclercq

The sighting became known to the investigators through a friend of one.

Two women were driving north on Route 3 in Clarksville when one of them noticed

The view through the windshield allowed her to clearly see the object. Most obvious were six large, rectangular lights, evenly spaced like the windows of an airplane.

No solid body was seen, but the light set appeared to be associated with an anomalous cigar-shaped object.

an unusually bright star halfway up from the horizon. One of them initially thought stars were lined up, but soon realized that was not the case. Curious, the two went up a hill for a better view and passed a stopped truck with a man outside who was also watching the light.

An elongated disc with red and white lights around it and a small cloud below was finally discerned from the aspirin-sized vision of the object. Two red lights were rotating around the perimeter and behind stationary white lights that appeared on either end.

The object and its cloud moved slowly away from their position.

LOG # 970128E, MA-1, 01/28/97,
Colebrook, NH, at 20:30 hours, for "a few" seconds. Investigator: Sandra Black

After being ignored by the local newspaper, a young boy witness found her phone number and called the investigator.

Shutting off his light to go to bed, the boy saw a fast moving, large oval object outside which glowed a bright white. He claimed it was like sunlight reflecting off metal, it was so bright and figured at arm's length the visual image had to be the size of a baseball.

As the boy watched, the object rose to clear a ridge, and the white light extinguished. The outline of the object was still seen, however, until it was much farther away.

LOG # 970220E, FB-1, 02/20/97,
Stewartstown, NH, at 19:00 hours, for 3-4 minutes. Investigator: Sandra Black

The witness called the investigator due to a MUFON ad the investigator had placed in the local newspaper.

While night snowmobiling in the Diamond Pond area, with her husband well in front of her, the witness noticed a cluster of four or more vertical, rectangular yellow lights a quarter of the way up in the southern sky. To the side of the lights, she saw a "very small" pulsating red one, and the group was trailed at a short distance by four or five small red lights in a group. She turned off her machine to watch, since the apparition seemed too close to ignore.

No solid body was observed, but the light set appeared to be associated with a single anomalous object that, according to the wit-

ness, may have been cigar-shaped. She heard a low sound — more like a rumble than another known sound, but not properly described by a rumble — as it crossed her path.

The house-size collection of lights came over a ridge, crossed in front of the witness, then went up over the next ridge and out of sight before the witness' husband returned to look for her.

CORSO - Continued from Page 12

with the outcome because, he says, we also provided a shield for them. These speculations, while credible enough to one inclined to believe them, are not supported by substantiating documents or anything easily checkable.

This is the first book dealing with the possibility of the reverse engineering of weapons and technology based on the recovered parts from alien craft. Many people who believe that the near-fantastic acceleration of our technology since WW II is remarkable are prepared to accept the idea that we may have had some "help." While this book is not the proof that this is what happened, it provides the clues to check, one-by-one, on the history of these developments.

I predict this book will wind its way into the list of the very important books on UFOs in the next few years. No U. S. History or UFO library should be without it, since it is the first to describe a very believable reverse engineering process for alien parts.

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BEYOND ROSWELL

by Michael Hesemann & Philip Mantle
Marlowe & Co., NY, hb, 303 pp., illus.,
\$24.95
ISBN 1-56924-781-1

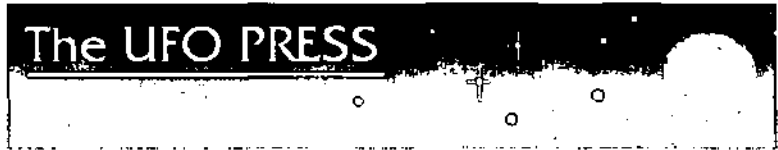
Not since the heyday of crop circle books earlier this decade has there been such a handsome, well-designed UFO book as this one (that wasn't self-published). Apart from the 30+ pages of color photographs and art, there are countless seldom seen b&w pictures, along with numerous drawings and documents. Subtitled "The Alien Autopsy Film, Area 51, & the U.S. Government Coverup of UFOs," *Beyond Roswell* is monumental in scope and production.

Unfortunately, much of it also quite unbelievable. The two authors seem to have never met a UFO story they didn't wholeheartedly accept. Before the reader leaves New Mexico for Nevada, the landscape is literally littered with new crashes and dead bodies are beginning to pile up at Wright-Patterson like so much stacked firewood.

Consider this bit of new information (p. 224) that the authors turn up in the person of one Robert Morning Sky, half-Hopi, half-Apache: "What surprises me and other Indians in the reservations is that the majority of UFO crashes—as far as I know there were sixteen crashes between 1945 and 1950 in the U.S.A.—that fourteen out of sixteen crashes occurred on or near reservations and that no UFO researcher noticed this fact and started his researches with us. Indians prefer to sleep under the open sky rather than in a house."

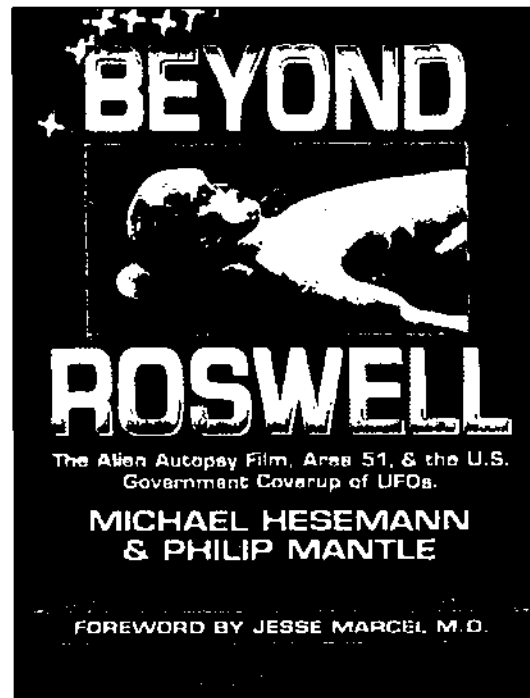
Even a non-European might be forgiven for asking at this point why, if Indians like to sleep outdoors all the time so much, they bothered to build teepees and pueblos like Casa Grande. This sort of blind acceptance of everything said by anybody—from Indians (Morning Sky) to Cavalry (Col. Corso)—is precisely what's wrong with ufology today. No one even *asks* for proof anymore, let alone demands it. See, for example, *Alien Agenda* by Jim Marrs.

This also raises a whole new issue in ufology—political correctness toward Native Americans who claim some sort of insider's knowledge of UFOs and alien entities based on "Star Elders" and other ancient myths and traditions. Without blinking an eye, Morning Sky adds that "the first [crash that summer: there were three] happened at Socorro. That was the crash from which the



being in the autopsy film came and not from Roswell." How does Morning Sky *know* this, as the autopsy film itself remains under a seriously dark cloud of suspicion?

Well, as it turns out, apparently Morning Sky's grandfather and others of his tribe rescued a Star Elder from one of the crashes, who then lived with them for five years before returning to his own people. Morning Sky presumably tells the authors this bit of earthshaking news with a straight face.



which they then pass along to the reader with a similar, nonplussed countenance. How their "investigation" proceeds from there is best exemplified by the following remarks from page 227:

"What did he say about his own people, his religion?" we asked. Obviously we had touched a delicate theme with that crunch query."

Alas, such "crunch" queries permeate the book. Earlier the authors state their own confidence in their new found source (p. 225) by noting that "he was willing to take us to witnesses who would confirm his tale, however fantastic it might sound." But two pages before that we're told that while "he claims to have spoken to these witnesses, [they] refuse to come out in the open, into

Why would a race of advanced spacefarers have the odd habit of embossing structural I-beams with religious graffiti, as opposed, say, to the ET equivalent of "Made in Shanghai"?

the world of the 'paleface.' They are afraid, afraid of the Government, afraid of the Army, afraid of the soldiers, whose brutality they have seen with their own eyes."

Perhaps the palefaces in Roswell ought to consider shutting down the two public UFO museums there, before Army troops do it for them, as they tell many of the same stories in plain view. At least they were the week I was there recently, and I didn't see anyone shaking in their boots or moccasins. Counting dollars, yes, trembling in fear, no. Or perhaps the Indians should simply consider setting up their own crash/recovery museums on the reservation, as a form of self-protection, if nothing else. In either event, it's a pity that people give credence to this sort of stuff, but then it's always politically correct to bash the military and government, isn't it?

The same sort of uncritical latitude is shown the Bob Lazar story and the so-called alien, or Santilli, autopsy film. In regard to the latter, the authors say (p. 206) that "Bob Shell, editor of *Shutterbug* magazine, confirmed the age of the Santilli footage," when he has done nothing of the sort. All Santilli has offered researchers for the last two or three years is a runaround—and *that* has been confirmed on numerous occasions. The authors could have used this one to call on to Santilli to end the confusion and make samples available for conclusive testing. Instead, they plaster stills from the film all over the place, even when Santilli has yet to demonstrate that the exposed film stock itself actually exists. To the best of my knowledge, all anyone has seen is videotape of what is purported to be an original film. The few frames of film Santilli has made available for analysis cannot be conclusively tied to the original autopsy "film" itself.

Eventually, this laissez faire approach culminates in the book's silliest chapter—devoted to "translations" of the I-beam's so-called proto-Phoenician "alphabet" by both Morning Sky and Hesemann. The usual cosmic themes, "pathways," "gods," "keepers," that sort of thing, are referred to willy-nilly, without much in the way of evidence except for some references to ancient writing and symbols and so-called "experts" like Erich von Däniken. But why would it be thought for more than a minute that a race of advanced spacefarers would be given to embossing structural I-beams with religious graffiti as opposed, say, to the extraterres-

trial equivalent of "Made in Shanghai"? This is the same sort of mumbo-jumbo that resulted in all of the "translations" of the crop circles' "script"—each one different, of course.

But then this field is full of mysteries and contradictions. For example, the authors make no attempt to address the issue of why the "new" crash at Socorro should also involve I-beams with inscriptions—as at Roswell—but different aliens than the ones allegedly recovered at Roswell. Maybe someone should get back to Mr. Morning Sky and ask him why six-fingered aliens crashed at Socorro and four-fingered ones at Roswell. Maybe he could even fill us in about any five-fingered aliens while he's at it.

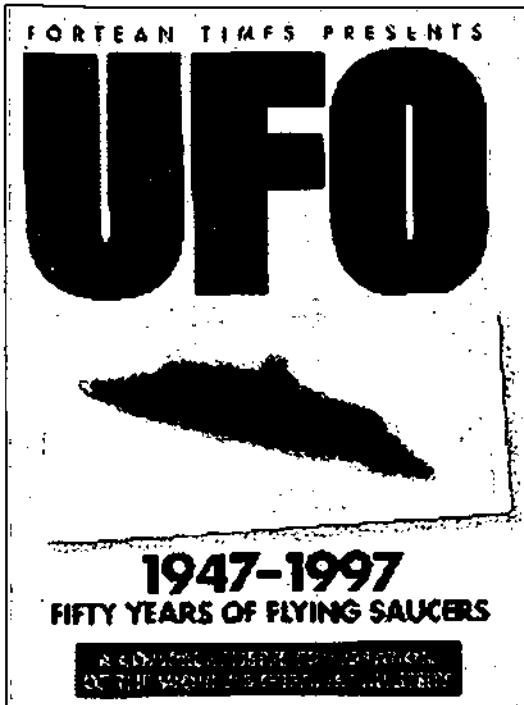
Buy it for the pictures, and because you collect all this stuff anyway. But believe it only if you think all Indians like to sleep outdoors, come summer, rain and snow.

UFO 1947-1997: Fifty Years of Flying Saucers

Edited by Hilary Evans and Dennis Stacy
John Brown Publishing, London
272 pp., illus., \$27.95
ISBN 1-870870-99-9

Writing in the summer 1997 issue of *IUR*, editor Jerry Clark, author of a three-volume encyclopedia on the subject, calls *UFOs 1947-1997: Fifty Years of Flying Saucers*, "the best UFO book" of the year so far, "a stimulating, intellectually nourishing volume." Given that this is shaping up to be the Year of the UFO Book, this is high praise indeed. But in the interest of full disclosure, I should also point out that I co-edited the book in question, along with Hilary Evans of England. The book is presented by *Fortean Times* and published by John Brown Publishing, London, in a handsomely illustrated hardback format.

What we tried to do was present as diversified a collection of essays about the UFO phenomenon as possible, one that would reflect not only the global nature of the problem, but its vast variety and ambiguity. To that end, we sought out 28 fellow contributors from the United States, Canada, England, South Africa, Australia, Russia, France, Spain, Sweden, Denmark and other countries. Proud of what we managed to cram in, we're also embarrassed, to paraphrase J. Allen Hynek, by the riches we had



to leave out, the authors and subjects we simply didn't have room for. To those authors who didn't make the final cut, our abject editorial apologies.

Many of the contributors will be household names to those familiar with the field, including those of Jacques Vallee, Richard Hall, Michael Swords, Jerome Clark, Kenneth Arnold, Jenny Randles, Ray Fowler, Patrick Huyghe, Cynthia Hind, Chris Rutkowski, and Richard F. Haines, to name but a few in no particular order.

Contributors less well known in the U.S., but widely recognized as authorities in their native countries, include Bill Chalker, Wim Van Utrecht, John Rimmer, Anders Liljegren, Vladimir Rubtsov, Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos and others.

There are essays on ghost rockets, abductions, car-stop cases, animal mutilations, government documents, how to investigate UFO cases, the Australian invasion, Kenneth Arnold's classic sighting in his own words, flap areas, Donald Keyhoe, George Adamski, and other people, places and times too numerous to enumerate here.

It's probably unfair to pinpoint the so-called "highlights" of such a book, but I would like to draw your attention to Karl Pflock's re-opening of the 1952 Florida scoutmaster case, a reanalysis of Trans-en-Provence by Eric Maillot and Jacques Scornaux, and Col. Hector Quintanilla's first-person account of the last days of Project Blue Book.

Wherever possible we have tried to bring to life the times, places and people who have made UFO history the exciting, perplexing, and often frustrating study that it is. *UFOs 1947-1997: Fifty Years of Flying Saucers* is currently available in this country from one of its editors, for \$27.95, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling. Please make your check or money order payable to Dennis Stacy, PO Box 12434, San Antonio, Texas, 78212.

—Dennis Stacy

Many UFOs were spy planes, CIA says

By WILLIAM J. BROAD
New York Times

In the darkest days of the Cold War, the military lied to the American public about the true nature of many unidentified flying objects in an effort to hide its growing fleet of spy planes, a CIA study says.

The deceptions were made in the 1950s and '60s amid a wave of UFO sightings that alarmed the public and parts of official Washington.

The CIA study says the Air Force knew that most reports by citizens and aviation experts were based on fleeting glimpses of U-2 and SR-71 spy planes, which fly extremely high.

Those planes were developed in the 1950s and '60s to photograph enemy targets. From secret bases, mainly in California and Nevada, the aircraft repeatedly flew across the country and eventually overseas to bases in countries that included Britain, West Germany and Taiwan.

While commercial airliners in the 1950s flew at altitudes of up to 30,000 feet, the U-2 soared to more than 60,000 feet and the SR-71 to more than 80,000 feet, or 15 miles, nearly the edge of space.

The planes carried powerful cameras to spy on foreign military installations and sensitive electronic gear to capture radio and radar transmission. The spy craft were developed by the CIA and often flown by the Air Force.

Rather than acknowledging the existence of the top-secret flights or saying nothing about them publicly, the Air Force decided to put out false cover stories, the CIA study

It's not easy to summarize a half century of UFOs in less than 300 pages. But in *UFOs 1947-1997* we give it a try, along with a lot of help from our friends.

Continued on Page 20

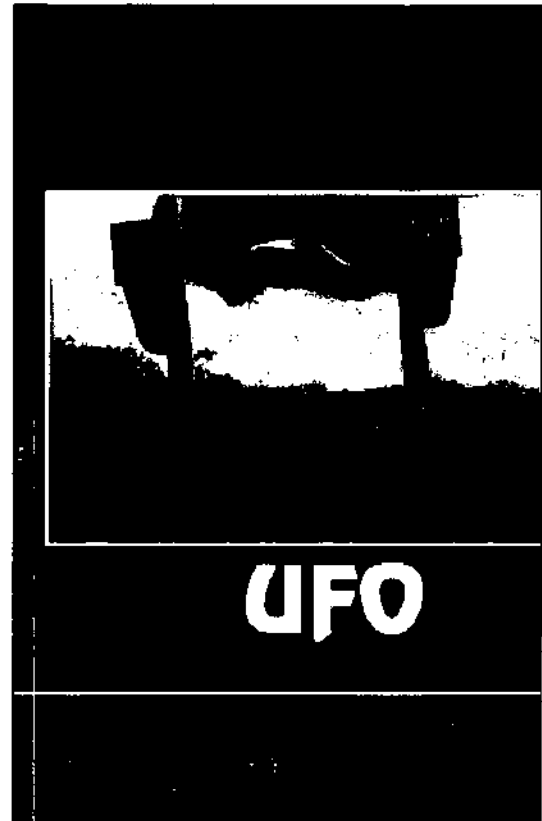
Did you know that you can order almost any UFO book in print, and that 10% of the proceeds will go to support the MUFON Web site? Go to mufon.com in your Web browser, then Para-phrenalia, then Books.



The Complete Roswell UFO Encyclopedia

Edited by Frank Kurtz
MVP Media Group
Illus., 100pp., \$9.95

This magazine format publication was obviously designed with an eye to cashing in on the 50th anniversary of the Roswell incident, which shouldn't shock too many of us, as that's the way the marketplace works. That said, it's a fairly balanced and glitzy account of what is known and not known about Roswell and UFOs in general. There's an Introduction by Kevin Randle and a summary of Roswell events, interspersed with interviews with Jesse Marcel, Jr., Walter Haut and Glenn Dennis; a section on the Mars rocks and life in outer space, one on government documents, and one on the ten best cases beyond Roswell, along with the ten most dubious cases. There is also an interview with Ray Santilli about the alien autopsy film. The last quarter of the book, "The Essential UFO Guide," is given over to separate sections about UFO books, movies, videos and Internet sites. As expected from this format, there are plenty of pictures scattered throughout and a good deal of useful information in the bargain, especially for newcomers to the field. Look for it now at a newsstand near you.



On Pilots and UFOs by Willy Smith

Foreword by Richard F. Haines

UNICAT Project
Illus., 140pp., \$12.95

Subtitled "A Collection of Interesting Cases from the Blue Book Files and the Spanish Air Force Records," this self-published paperback examines ten separate cases beginning with Fort Monmouth, NJ, in 1951, and concluding with Valencia, Spain, in 1973. All the cases are well worth considering. At least one, Yakima, Washington, March 22, 1953, is discussed in detail here for the first time.

On Pilots and UFOs can be ordered directly from the author, Dr. Willy Smith, at 8011 SW 189th Street, Miami, FL 33157, for \$17.00, which includes shipping and handling.

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MUFON FORUM

Letters to *Mufon UFO Journal*

Jeffrey Article

I read Kent Jeffrey's piece on Roswell today on the Internet. [First published in the June *Journal*.]

A fine piece of work, I say. He makes some good points, and what's more, he makes them with the sort of courtesy, civility, and general decency that have long since vanished from Roswell (or even general ufological) discourse. THIS is how the debate should have been conducted all along. Maybe we'd all know a hell of lot more than we do now if it had.

Let's hope what follows — wherever it takes us — is spoken in the same voice Jeffrey uses.

—**Jerome Clark**
Editor, *IUR*
Canby, MN

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate you for having the courage and foresight to devote the bulk of the June issue of the *Journal* to the remarkable Kent Jeffrey article on Roswell. It was a desperately needed breath of fresh air amidst all the junk and garbage on Roswell that continues to be spewed forth by certain individuals, and worse, believed by so many...

—**Herbert Taylor**
Oceanside, NYC

[While I don't necessarily agree with his conclusions,] thank you for publishing the article by Kent Jeffrey. Especially for printing it as the cover story for June. It does not matter whether readers agree or disagree with Mr. Jeffrey. It is only important that he have a forum to express his point of view. Because you are willing to air different sides of an issue, I applaud you. I am proud to be a member of MUFON and a subscriber to your publication.

—**Harold Burt**
Dana Point, CA

Kent Jeffrey's article, "Roswell—Anatomy of a Myth," presented the public with a great service by making us all think more seriously about such important cases as the Roswell Incident. His arguments were very convincing since so much ballyhoo has resulted from the long-term investigation and some lies were intentionally fabricated.

However, my own mind is cautious concerning Roswell. Things come to mind such as: Why did Mac Brazel suddenly get a new pickup truck? Why was the rancher picked up by the military and, according to Sheriff Wilcox and others, detained for several days? Why did Jeffrey and others ignore the fact that the story indicates the object simply struck the ground and apparently bounced back up into the air to crash elsewhere? Such a contact would be most unlikely to leave behind instruments or other clues of a high technology. Why would the few scraps that Jesse Marcel picked up take large boxes to pack and why, if it happened, was security so great?

Actually, whether Roswell happened or not can be irrelevant to the UFO mystery. Even if it never happened that does not eliminate the thousands of good people who have seen UFOs, who carry similar scars on their bodies, who have seen the burnt circles in backyards and fields after a peculiar night's happenings, and the many photographs of UFOs which have held up to the scrutiny of scientific analysis.

My point is, that we should not worry too much over whether Roswell is fact or fiction. The UFO phenomenon is very real and at least many of the objects are solid, intelligently guided, and they are not ours.

—**Richard D. Seifried**
Norman, OK

Regarding the Roswell study by Kent Jeffrey, I think it would have been better presented in a series of 2 or 3 segments. That choice would have provided space for other articles supporting the view that the debris belonged to an alien spacecraft.

Have something you want to get off your chest? Write the editor, Dennis Stacy, at P.O. Box 12434, San Antonio, Texas 78212.

Continued on Page 20

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 23*

When new Associate Members join MUFON a copy of their membership application will be mailed to Tom Lyon at P. O. Box 310, Warsaw, NY 14569-0310. Tom may be contacted by telephone at (716) 786-3597, ext. 2. Tom is a candidate to become an Eagle Scout this coming school year.

MUFON LAPEL PINS

The new MUFON lapel pins were placed on sale for the first time at the Grand Rapids symposium. The oval-shaped pin has the MUFON logo in blue on a white background outlined in gold. The one-inch long pin has a pin clasp on the back suitable for fastening to clothing. These attractive pins were very popular items at the symposium. You may order yours from MUFON in Seguin, Texas, for \$5 plus \$1 for P&H. This is an opportunity to let people know that you are a MUFON member by proudly wearing our new lapel pin. The lapel pins are being mailed in a special bubblepack envelope to protect them from damage.

FUTURE MUFON UFO SYMPOSIA

With the 1997 Grand Rapids UFO Symposium now a fond memory, we can look forward to future symposia. At Grand Rapids, **Michael G. Curta** and Colorado MUFON invited everyone to Denver for the 1998 symposium on July 3, 4, and 5 at the Renaissance Denver Hotel. He also passed out "Denver" stickers as reminders. The Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, at Washington, D.C. National Airport will be the locale for the 1999 symposium on July 2, 3, and 4, hosted by Northern Virginia MUFON. In the year 2000, Missouri MUFON will play hosts to the annual symposium in St. Louis, followed by Orange County MUFON (Calif.) in 2001. We are scheduled to travel to Atlanta, Georgia, in 2002 to be guests of Georgia MUFON.

Bids are now being accepted for the following years by region: 2003 - Central; 2004 - Western; and 2005 - Eastern. Please submit a written bid-proposal to Walt Andrus if your local or state organization is interested in hosting a future MUFON International UFO Symposium.

GEORGE W. PERRY DIES

George W. Perry, Assistant State Director for Rhode Island, died on May 31, 1997 while camping in New Hampshire. George joined the Rhode Island chapter approximately five years ago and quickly be-

came an invaluable member and leader. During the months that the State Director, **Daved Rubien** was in Florida, Mr. Perry provided the entire leadership. George will be missed due to his interesting meetings.

UFO SPY PLANES - *Continued from Page 17*

says. For instance, unusual observations that were actually spy flights were attributed to atmospheric phenomena like ice crystals and temperature inversions.

"Over half of all UFO reports from the late 1950s through the 1960s were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights" over the United States, the CIA study says. "This led the Air Force to make misleading and deceptive statements to the public in order to allay public fears and to protect an extraordinarily sensitive national security project."

Associate Editor's Note: This is another example of the progress that the UFO community has made in its efforts to get the government "to come clean." They have shot themselves in the foot again.

FORUM - *Continued from Page 19*

Also, it would have avoided the awkward and complete dominance of an entire issue by an anti-UFO article published in a UFO periodical. It makes little difference, however, because a new book will convince nearly everyone that Jeffrey missed the mark. Most highly recommended to MUFON members is *The Day After Roswell* by Lt. Col. Phillip Corso (Ret.) from Pocket Books. He was the focal point in the U.S. Army for evaluating artifacts from the crash that were seeded into the development of many high-tech items in common usage, such as, lasers, computers, etc. This work was so secret it was shielded from the Air Force. Corso also shows that the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) was intended more as a defense against alien invasion of Earth than against Soviet missiles.

The one thing never deciphered from Roswell was the electromagnetic propulsion system that did not require any fuel to be carried. Solving those problems for our own travel in deep space has become the centerpiece of a new, major program of NASA. Naturally, I have some interest in it and hope to participate.

U.S. citizens and everyone else on the planet owe a great debt to the bold revelations by Corso. Jeffrey should buy a copy of his book and advise MUFON members in a future article if his view of Roswell is altered.

—**Jim McCampbell**
Belmont, CA

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THE UFO-FBI CONNECTION

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EXTRATERRESTRIAL OUT OF MISSISSIPPI. Typewritten extract covers memory of a colony present from December 1931 until July 1947. A few answers to the puzzling UFO Phenomenon are provided. Send your address & a fee of \$20 to Samuel Adams, Box 605, Calhoun City, MS 38916.

OCT 31-NOV 2, 1997, Fourth Annual Tampa UFO Conference. Camberley Plaza Hotel, Tampa, FL, featuring Michael Lindemann, Dea Martin, Robert Ghost Wolf, Whitley & Anne Strieber, Dolores Cannon, David Adair, Melinda Leslie, abductee, & Debra Lindemann. Info, call 904-432-8888, Fax 894-438-1801, Email UMRB73A@PRODIGY.COM or write Project Awareness, PO Box 730, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562.

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NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE

September 6 — 34th Annual National UFO Conference, Springfield, Ohio. Speakers include Dr. Bruce Maccabee, Stanton Friedman, Dr. David Jacobs, Dr. Mindy Kopolow, Robert Galganski & Rich Hillberg. For information write National UFO Conference, P.O. Box 375, Springfield, OH 45501-0325 or email at laputa@worldnet.att.net.

THE TRUTH REVEALED!

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ARE UFOs IN THE BIBLE? Absolutely. God has the answer to the big question, Why are they here? Read *The Agenda* by B. Fox. Scriptures & references by John Mack, Travis Walton & others. Send check or money order for \$12.50 to B. Fox, Offer #101, PO Box 6057, Walker Branch, Roswell, NM 88202. Rechargeable telephone card free with each order.

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IS PLANET X HEAVEN?

Bible provides orbital period and return date for Sitchins Nibiru. Which Mesopotamian deity is YHWH? Bible mathematically coded transmission. Relates UFOs, ET contact, Christ-Nibirian hybrid. Revised edition of *The Bible...An Extraterrestrial Transmission*. C. L. Turnage, \$23.00, Flying Disk Publications, PO Box 14109, Dallas, TX 75214.

The NIGHT SKY

Walter N. Webb

September 1997

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Venus (magnitude -4.1) remains quite low in the WSW at dusk and sets about an hour and a half after sunset in mid-month. Our bright planetary neighbor is near the crescent Moon on September 4 and 5.

Mars (1.1), in Libra, is low and difficult in the SW at twilight, setting about 9 PM in mid-September.

Jupiter (-2.7), retrograding in Capricornus, lies in the SE at dusk, moving westward across the southern sky thereafter.

Saturn (0-3), in Pisces, rises in the E about 8PM in mid-month and crosses the southern sky during the night.

Bright Planets (Morning):

During the latter half of September, Mercury can be seen at its best morning appearance of the year. Look carefully for a tiny orange dot low in the E at dawn. Binoculars help.

Jupiter sets in the WSW about 3 AM in mid-September.

Saturn advances to high in the SW at dawn. The big gaseous world stands close to the gibbous Moon on the 18th.

Surveyor and Prospector Orbit Mars and Moon:

As Mars Pathfinder continues its surface mission on the red planet, Mars Global Surveyor arrives this month and takes up its station in orbit. The probe is designed to study surface composition and height of features, polar ice caps, and gravity and magnetic fields. Eventually it will also begin photomapping the globe.

In addition to Mars, our own Moon will be explored this month or next from a 60-mile-high polar orbit. Lunar Prospector will map our satellite's geologic composition and fields and seek to confirm last year's possible find of water ice at the lunar pole.

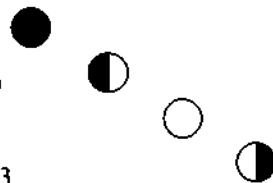
Moon Phases:

New Moon—September 1

First quarter—September 9

Full moon—September 16

Last quarter—September 23



The Stars:

The celestial meridian at 10 PM neatly divides the mid evening sky between the ascending autumn stars in the E and the waning patterns of summer in the W.

Part of the prominent Summer Triangle group, two mythological birds, Cygnus the Swan and Aquila the Eagle, fly in opposite directions along the Milky Way. Between them lie three small, usually ignored constellations—Vulpecula the Fox, Sagitta the Arrow, and Delphinus the Dolphin.

Most obscure of the trio, Vulpecula perhaps is best known for the so-called Dumbbell Nebula. This sphere of gas, like its more famous neighbor in Lyra, the Ring Nebula, was blown away from a dying star at its center. In amateur telescopes it does indeed resemble a dumbbell rather than a sphere.

Sagitta and Delphinus are better likenesses of their namesakes. Sagitta has sometimes been connected with Cupid and sometimes with Sagittarius the Archer. If the little arrow comes from the archer's bow, however, it is traveling in the wrong direction!

CALENDAR

September 6 — 34th National UFO Conference, The Marketplace, Springfield, Ohio. For information write to National UFO Conference, P.O. Box 375, Springfield, OH 45501-0375.

September 13 & 14 — 1997 New Hampshire MUFON 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.

October 31 - November 2 — 4th Annual Tampa UFO Conference. Camberly Plaza Hotel, Tampa, Florida. For information write Project Awareness, P.O. Box 730, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562 or call (904) 432-8888.

November 2 — First Annual Long Island UFO Conference at Levittown Hall, Levittown Parkway, Hicksville, New York. For information contact Joanne Steele (516) 386-1493 or Janet Russell (516) 654-3353.

November 22 & 23 — 5th Symposium on Ufology and Exobiology. Sindipetro, Santos, SP Brasil. For further information call 55 (043) 336.3719 or 55 (011) 5513.7107.

December 7-14 — First World UFO Forum, Brasilia, D.F. Brazil at Parlamundi Convention Center. Sponsor is Legiao da Boa Vontade (LBV) and Coalition of Leading Brazilian UFO researchers. For information write to Caixa Postal 2182, 79008-970 Campo Grande (MS) Brazil.

February 1-7, 1998 — The 7th Annual International UFO Congress Convention and Film Festival. To be held at the Gold River Resort in Laughlin, Nevada. For information contact the UFO Congress, 9975 Wadsworth Pkwy. #K2-274, Westminster, CO 80020. Phone/Fax (303) 543-9443.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 24*

and has taken some positive steps to improve the contents of the *Journal*. The Board authorized a sub-committee **John Schuessler** (chairman), **Walter Andrus**, **Dr. Robert M. Wood**, and **Dennis Stacy** to define and implement changes to the *Journal* that would bring it more in line with the wishes of the membership. This could include seeking a new editor. A survey form for readers will be developed and included with a future issue of the *Journal*.

Twenty-eight years ago the *MUFON UFO Journal* was the voice of ufology, but with all of the added competition, both printed and the electronic media, it no longer holds that distinguished position. Full color UFO magazines with over one-half advertising were shown as examples of the competition. The Board of Directors fully comprehend the desires of the membership and will start making evolutionary changes, not revolutionary, to improve the *Journal*.

NEW OFFICERS

Sandra G. Black, B.A. (West Stewartstown, NH) has volunteered to be the temporary State Director for Vermont. She is a state section director in New Hampshire and works in Vermont. **Ross L. Fox**, Tennessee State Director, selected **Steven J. Purcell** to be his Assistant State Director. Eleven new state section directors assumed their duties this month. They were **Laura L. Miller** (Catonsville, MD) for Baltimore County; **Kenneth L. Bergeron** (Fayetteville, AR) for Crawford, Franklin and Sebastian Counties; **Eugene M. Walker**, Ed.S. (Adrian, GA) for Johnson, Emanuel and Treutlen Counties; **William A. Lester, Jr.**, B.S. (Jonesboro, GA) for Clayton, Henry and Newton Counties; **Jerold H. Seiple** (Northampton, PA) for Northampton and Lehigh Counties; **Lawrence F. Gessner** (Velva, ND) for McHenry, McLean, Pierce and Sheridan Counties; **Deanna F. Collins**, B.S. (Durango, CO) for LaPlata and Montezuma Counties; **Gary L. Dillman** (Waldorf, MD) for Charles, St. Marys and Calvert Counties; **Lucy J. Daugherty** (Primm Springs, TN) for Williamson and Hickman Counties; **Nancy J. Ceroni-Vest** (Highland, NY) for Ulster, Dutchess and Orange Counties; and **Marvin P. Maxsom** (Teague, TX) for Freestone and Limestone Counties.

NEW CONSULTANTS AND RESEARCH SPECIALISTS

Donald R. Burleson, Ph.D. (Roswell, NM) volunteered to become a consultant in English Literature. Four new Research Specialists joined MUFON during

the past month: **Jed E. Turnbull**, M.A. (Brooklyn, NY) in Social Work; **Michelle M. Dziuba**, M.A. (Newark, CA) in Clinical Counseling; **Haskel Straus**, M.S. (Salem, NH) in Computer Science; and **Noel A. McClean**, M.S. (Arnold, CA) in Engineering Mechanics.

TEXAS HIGHWAYS MAGAZINE

In the August 1997 edition of *Texas Highways* magazine, six pages were devoted to UFOs and MUFON's UFO Information Center and Museum in Seguin, Texas. The article is uniquely titled "Lone Star Sightings Fill The TeX Files," authored by Nancy L. Cotton, with photography by J. Griffis Smith, and one full page illustration by Tom Curry; all in glorious color. **David Spencer** (Austin) and **Walter Andrus** are featured, along with the abduction plaque produced by **Robert Turner** (Santa Fe, NM), and the lighted UFO model built by **Paul Cerny** (San Jose, CA).

A quarter of one page is a photograph of the alien plaque made by **Robert Taylor** (Ft. Wayne, IN) standing in front of the state capital building in Austin, Texas, and illuminated in green on one side and magenta color on the opposite. Another one-fourth page has a map showing the Center's location in Seguin and what visitors can expect to see. We couldn't possibly afford an advertisement of this caliber—it is terrific.

Since subscribers to this popular magazine started receiving their copies on July 21, we have had a steady flow of visitors from all corners of the state of Texas to MUFON's UFO Information Center. New *Journal* subscriptions are being received daily, since all of the details appear in what is literally a news advertisement, courtesy of *Texas Highways*—The Travel Magazine of Texas.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AUXILIARY

The Director of MUFON's Associate Members Auxiliary, **Thomas J. Lyon**, has announced the following officer appointments: **Lynda D. Poss**, Assistant Director; new State Associate Directors **Keith J. Allen** for California; **Christopher W. Pittman** for Massachusetts; **Trenton Simshauser** for Oregon; and **Larry Clow** for New Hampshire. (Larry Clow attended the recent MUFON Symposium in Grand Rapids.) **Daniel D. Travers** (Montrose, NY) has volunteered to be an advisor to the Associate Members Auxiliary.

Continued on Page 20

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Walter Andrus

NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

ROSWELL AND KENT JEFFREY

The Roswell investigation by Kent Jeffrey, published in the June 1997 *MUFON UFO Journal*, is his opinion based upon his personal investigation over a two-year span. Even though fifteen pages were devoted to Kent's explanation, this in no way is the philosophical or editorial view on Roswell of either the Mutual UFO Network or the staff of the *MUFON UFO Journal*. Some readers were disturbed by Mr. Jeffrey's "closed" attitude on Roswell even though his evidence was far from conclusive to support his viewpoints.

May I quote from the masthead (page 2) of the *MUFON UFO Journal*? "The contents of the *MUFON UFO Journal* are determined by the editors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Mutual UFO Network. Opinions expressed are solely those of the individual authors." The editor also included a by-line on page 3 that stated "In an article sure to generate significant controversy, Kent Jeffrey explains his own change of heart." Before condemning the editors of the *Journal*, these two significant statements should be taken into consideration.

Everyone has their own pet theory on what actually happened at Roswell during the first week of July 1947, however, a theory doesn't become fact until the evidence supports this theory. For readers to accept Kent Jeffrey's investigation to be the official stance of MUFON and our monthly magazine is entirely unwarranted. We have published the opinions of Roswell investigators such as Stanton Friedman, Bill Moore, Don Berliner, Kevin Randle, Don Schmidt, Karl Pflock, Kal Korff, Jamie Shandera, Philip J. Corso, Michael Hesseman, and others in the *Journal*. Definite contradictions exist between each of these authors in what really happened in Roswell. It all depends upon whom each of them took testimony from and interviewed, including censoring of their inputs to reflect the personal theory or opinion of the individual author. Without a doubt Kent Jeffrey's viewpoint is just as valid as the previously cited authors in this respect, so why should we deny him this forum?

Even more controversial is the question, if there was indeed a partially destroyed craft that crashed near Roswell and that bodies were recovered, where is the actual crash site? Again, who do you believe, because numerous authors mentioned each have their

own favorite site. Your Director is utterly confused as to where he should pay his \$15 to see the "real crash site."

To add to the confusion, Col. Philip J. Corso, U.S.A. (retired) in his recent book titled *The Day After Roswell* would like for us to believe his complete exposure of not only Roswell but his personal participation in the UFO phenomenon technology. His army and public service credentials appear to be impeccable, so why did he write this expose? If he is lying, it could destroy his hard-earned credibility. (Even his grandchildren watched their beloved grandfather autograph his books in Roswell.) Is his book an approved government attempt to leak the Roswell facts to the public, such as astronauts Edgar D. Mitchell and Gordon Cooper have been doing?

The USAF press conference at the Pentagon on June 24, 1997, was a farce and a mockery perpetuated upon the public, when they attempted to explain the recovery of four bodies in July 1947, by proposing that they were six-foot tall dummies weighing 200 pounds each used in balloon/parachute experiments in the 1950s. Of course, the big question is, if nothing happened in Roswell in July 1947, why did the U.S. Air Force issue their Project Mogul balloon explanation report in September 1994 and follow it with *The Roswell Report—Case Closed* in June 1997?

If this sounds more like an editorial than a message from your International Director you are right on target.

STATE DIRECTORS VOICE OPINIONS ABOUT JOURNAL

At the annual State/Provincial Director's meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on July 11, 1997, a number of concerns were expressed about the contents of the *MUFON UFO Journal* that were taken to the Board of Director's meeting on July 13th. The Kent Jeffrey article infuriated the membership in general, since it was too long, full of apparent errors in reasoning, and debunking in nature. Members want to hear about UFO sighting reports, not arguments between writers. It was proposed that a survey of *Journal* readers be conducted as part of giving the *Journal* a face lift.

For the second year the number of subscribers/members decreased, which definitely demands an immediate evaluation. The Board of Directors heard the serious concerns of the State Directors loud and clear