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LA PAZ, ROSWELL & GREEN FIREBALLS

Dr. LaPaz, was definitely looking for something at Roswell. Was it a flying saucer or a green fireball?

by Robert Todd

Featured prominently in most books about the Roswell incident are claims made by the late Lewis S. "Bill" Rickett, a Special Agent with the Army Air Forces (AAF) Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC). At the time of the incident, he was assigned to the CIC detachment at Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF). Later, when the AAF CIC was absorbed into the newly created Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), Rickett was transferred to AFOSI, but apparently remained at RAAF, which by then had been renamed Walker AFB. The AFOSI detachment at Walker AFB was attached to the 17th District OSI headquartered at Kirtland AFB, NM.

Based on the crashed-saucer proponents' presentations of Rickett's claims, it seems reasonable and fair to observe that Rickett's major contribution to the Roswell story centers around the alleged involvement of Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, Director of the University of New Mexico's Institute of Meteorites, in the Roswell incident. In essence, Rickett claimed that Dr. LaPaz scoured the area surrounding the "crash" site for witnesses who saw the object while airborne. From *UFO Crash at Roswell* (Schmitt and Randle, 1991, page 119):

"Rickett wasn't sure where the idea had come from but LaPaz had the various permissions and clearances to search the area. The CIC Headquarters ordered them to send someone and the senior man volunteered Rickett. He was told to pack his clothes and to take as long as was necessary. If he needed money, he was told to call. He was ordered to take care of LaPaz by driving him to the ranches, finding accommodations, and paying for the trip.

"According to Rickett, he drew a staff car and they drove off, looking for the ranchers and the ranch hands who might have information to share. LaPaz had a topographical map and they used it to mark their progress, sometimes backtracking, talking to the old ranchers and cowboys who had never heard of flying saucers or flying discs and who rarely got into a town of more than two or three hundred people."

The activities Rickett attributed to LaPaz in connection with the Roswell incident seemed glaringly familiar to me. They mirror *exactly* the method LaPaz used in his failed attempts to locate fragments of the so-called "green fireballs" observed in New Mexico starting in December of 1948, less than two years after the Roswell incident occurred.

Because the actions Rickett attributed to LaPaz in connection with the Roswell incident seemed suspiciously like those LaPaz took in connection with his green fireball investigations (circa 1948-1951), and because 17th District OSI was deeply involved in the green fireball inquiry (LaPaz reported to the Air Force through the 17th District), I purchased several rolls of Project Blue Book microfilm in what I thought would turn out to be a futile attempt to uncover a green fireball link between Rickett and LaPaz. In addition, the scenario depicted by the crashed-saucer proponents simply didn't make a lot of sense, since the most accurate way to determine the speed and trajectory of a crashed object—no matter where or how many times it "crashed"—would be through an examination of the crash site(s). It would have been ridiculously unnecessary to interview farmers, ranchers, and ranch hands, unless an attempt was being made to locate possible impact points, as was done in the green fireball investigations. With the Roswell incident, the impact point(s) was/were already known.

The Project Blue Book microfilm (Roll #88) contains many records dealing with the green fireball investigation, even though the green fireball inquiry was handled separately from the Blue Book inquiry, and had its own code name (Project "Twinkle"). Among the records is a copy of Dr. LaPaz's fourth report to 17th District OSI, dated February 21, 1949. In his letter, Dr. LaPaz says:

"At Roswell, where very effective cooperation was provided by the OSI group at Walker Air Force Base under Lt. Paul Ryan, and the local CAP unit under Lt. H. K. Cobean, Special Agent Bill Rickett was added to the survey party and gave much aid in the later work."

Further examination of the Blue Book microfilm turned up a "Report of Investigation," dated 11 February 1949. The report concerns the investigation of a green fireball incident that occurred on 30 January 1949 in the vicinity of Walker AFB. Page 2 of the report says it "is a joint report of Special Agents JACK B. WILLIAMS, LEWIS S. RICKETT, and the writer [Lt. Ryan]." The report says (page 1) that "an almost house-to-house search was conducted East of Roswell by OSI and Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ of the University of New Mexico for all possible witnesses." The report (page 2) refers to an aerial and ground search conducted in the vicinity of Lamesa, Texas, for physical evidence, with negative

results. Perhaps most interesting of all, the report says (page 3) that:

“Special Agent RICKETT continued this search throughout Southeast New Mexico and West Texas from 1400 hours, 2 February 1949, to 2400 hours, 5 February 1949, in the company of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ of the University of New Mexico. All information obtained during this part of the investigation was retained by Dr. LA PAZ and will be incorporated into his report to OSI.”

Compare the above quote to the following from page 121 of *UFO Crash at Roswell*:

“Rickett wrote an informal report about what he and LaPaz had seen and done. LaPaz, on the other hand, was required to submit an official report. Everything went to Kirtland and then to Washington.”

Generally speaking, the 11 February 1949 “Report of Investigation” furnishes a detailed accounting of an exhaustive green fireball investigation in which both Special Agent Rickett and Dr. LaPaz participated. Moreover, the activities attributed to Dr. LaPaz in the report bear an uncanny resemblance to the activities attributed to LaPaz by Rickett in connection with the Roswell incident. Since the report deals with a green fireball incident that occurred in the vicinity of Walker AFB (formerly Roswell Army Air Field), somebody should have asked Rickett which Roswell incident he was talking about.

Clearly, more than four decades after these events occurred, Rickett, like other Roswell witnesses was confused, and mistook the green fireball investigation for the Roswell investigation. This conclusion is supported by the obvious fact that, of the hundreds of alleged Roswell witnesses interviewed by the crashed-saucer proponents, the only one to link Dr. LaPaz to the Roswell incident was Lewis S. “Bill” Rickett. Or has another witness come forward to confirm Rickett’s questionable recollections?

The December 1993 edition of the Fund for UFO Research’s (FUFOR) *The Roswell Events*, prepared by Fred Whiting and apparently intended as a “revised and updated” version of the Fund’s “Congressional Briefing,” reveals details of another former AFOSI special agent who allegedly confirmed Dr. LaPaz’s involvement in the Roswell incident. From page 28:

“A former Air Force Office of Special Investigations agent, Earl L. Zimmerman, recently disclosed that, in 1949, LaPaz told him of his involvement in the Roswell case. ‘He did not discuss the case in any detail.’ says Zimmerman, ‘but he did say he went out with two agents and interviewed sheepherders, ranchers, and others. They told these witnesses they were investigating an

“At about this time, I saw Eighth Air Force commander General Roger Ramey in the officer’s club more than once. On a couple of occasions, he had Charles Lindbergh with him and I heard they were on the base because of the flying saucer business.”

aircraft accident. I seem to recall LaPaz also saying they found an area where the surface of the earth had been turned a light blue and wondering if lightning (sic) could cause such an effect.’

“Zimmerman had been stationed at RAAF in 1947, where he served as a bartender in the base officers’ club. “During the summer of 1947, I heard many rumors about flying saucers in the club and around the base, including something about investigating the discovery of one under the guise of a plane crash investigation,” he says. ‘At about this time, I saw Eighth Air Force commander General Roger Ramey in the O club more than once. On a couple of occasions, he had Charles Lindbergh with him, and I heard they were on the base because of the flying saucer business.’”

Fortunately, Mr. Whiting helps put Zimmerman’s testimony into perspective on page 54 by saying:

“Earl L. Zimmerman was stationed at RAAF in July 1947 and was transferred to the Office of Special Investigations at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque. There, he worked with Dr. Lincoln LaPaz of the University of New Mexico on an extended research project. Dr. LaPaz told Zimmerman that ‘he had been involved in the investigation of the thing found in the Roswell area,’ and that he and his team told witnesses they were investigating an aircraft accident. LaPaz also described an area where the surface of the earth had been turned a light blue.”

Mr. Zimmerman’s signed affidavit accompanies the Fund’s briefing and furnishes additional information to help place Zimmerman’s testimony into proper context:

“In early 1949, after being transferred to OSI in Albuquerque, I worked with Dr. Lincoln LaPaz of the University of New Mexico on an extended project at the university’s research station on top of Sandia Peak. We were told the Air Force was concerned about ‘something’ being in the night sky over Los Alamos, and we took 15-minute exposures of the sky with a four by five Speed Graphic camera. We worked in three-man, one-week shifts, and Dr. LaPaz was in charge.

“During this project, which lasted for several months, I got to know Dr. LaPaz very well. When I mentioned to him I had been stationed in Roswell during 1947, he told

me he had been involved in the investigation of the thing found in the Roswell area that summer. He did not discuss the case in any detail, but he did say he went out with two agents and interviewed shepherders, ranchers, and others. They told these witnesses they were investigating an aircraft accident. I seem to recall LaPaz also saying they found an area where the surface of the earth had been turned a light blue and wondering if lightning [sic] could cause such an effect."

On the surface, Zimmerman's statements would seem to be confirmation of LaPaz's involvement in the Roswell incident. As in the case of Rickett's statements, however, Zimmerman's statements suggest that his involvement with Dr. LaPaz centered around the green fireball investigation. So I went back and examined the Blue Book records to see if they could shed any more light on Zimmerman's statements.

One Blue Book document, a letter dated 17 May 1949, from the commanding officer of 17th District OSI to higher headquarters, reports that District 17 had "established a temporary visual and photographic observation post, located northeast of Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the crest of the Sandia Mountains. At present this post is equipped with one (1) wide angle lens camera, 8 x 10 film, fitted with a spectographic [sic] grating, and manned twenty-four hours daily by 17th District personnel."

According to the document:

"This post was set up in view of suggestions made by Dr. Joseph Kaplan, UCLA, and a member of the scientific advisory board, USAF, during his recent visit to this district headquarters. Dr. Kaplan suggested that if possible, it would be advisable to establish such a photographic installation."

Further review of the Blue Book records revealed another document which says that Dr. Kaplan visited 17th District headquarters on 27 and 28 April 1949, at which time apparently Dr. Kaplan and Dr. LaPaz made the recommendation for the establishment of the photographic observation post. This was undoubtedly the observation post to which Mr. Zimmerman had been assigned, and it was established because of the green fireball investigation.

So we have Mr. Zimmerman being assigned to Dr. LaPaz's observation post sometime between 27 April, the date of Dr. Kaplan's visit, and 12 May, the date the District 17 commander reported the establishment of the observation post to higher headquarters.

Dr. LaPaz and Mr. Zimmerman are at the observation post for an extended period of time, looking for green fireballs and other aerial phenomena. During this period, Zimmerman reveals to LaPaz that he had been stationed at Walker AFB, apparently as late as early 1949 when he

was transferred to Kirtland AFB and OSI. At this point, LaPaz allegedly reveals to Zimmerman that "he had been involved in the investigation of the thing found in the Roswell area that summer."

Ignoring the "that summer" part of Zimmerman's statement, we are entitled to ask, *Which Roswell incident was LaPaz referring to?* Was he referring to the crash of the alien spacecraft on the Foster Ranch in July of 1947? Or was he really referring to the green fireball incident that occurred in the vicinity of Walker AFB just three months previously, which resulted in an exhaustive search throughout Southeast New Mexico and West Texas? Human nature being what it is, the *most likely* answer is that LaPaz was referring to the more recent incident that occurred near Walker AFB, from which Zimmerman had recently been transferred.

I addressed my questions to Mr. Zimmerman, and he confirmed that the observation post was set up to photograph green fireballs and other aerial phenomena. In a follow-up letter, I informed Mr. Zimmerman of what I had learned from the Blue Book files about the establishment of the observation post, and told Mr. Zimmerman about Dr. LaPaz's investigation of the green fireball incident that occurred near Walker AFB on 30 January 1949. I asked Mr. Zimmerman if it was possible that Dr. LaPaz had been speaking of the more recent incident (the 30 January 1949 event), rather than the July 1947 event. In response, Mr. Zimmerman stated that he "cannot truly say which green fireball he [LaPaz] was chasing at any given time," which is perfectly understandable given the number of years that have passed since these events occurred.

As a result, it must be concluded that, if Dr. LaPaz said anything to Mr. Zimmerman about any Roswell incident, most likely he was referring to the more recent event that occurred on 30 January 1949 in the vicinity of Walker AFB, an incident that resulted in an impressive search for physical evidence.

This, I believe, is the best interpretation of the circumstances surrounding the alleged involvement of Dr. LaPaz in the "Roswell incident." I further believe that any rational person will agree with this interpretation.

It is also interesting to note that, of all the various teams of Roswell investigators (first Moore and Friedman; then Schmitt and Randle; and then Friedman and Berliner), only one team (Friedman and Berliner) even mentions LaPaz's involvement in the green fireball investigations, and they only mention it very briefly in passing.

In other words, Dr. LaPaz's involvement in the green fireball investigations is most conspicuous by its absence, and one is forced to wonder why. Were the Roswell investigators simply unaware of the facts related above? Or, if aware of same, did they simply ignore them? As important as what the crashed-saucer proponents put into their published writings is what they leave out.

ABDUCTION RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA

Less populous, Australia doesn't have as many reports. Those it does have are remarkably similar to ours.

by Keith Basterfield

Australia is an island continent. In size it is some 80% of the area of the United States, but has a population of only 16 million. Its coastal areas are more densely populated, with vast inland areas being isolated desert.

Australia is a multi-cultural society with the population initially of native Aboriginies, then immigrants derived firstly from the United Kingdom, then Europe, and now Asia. It has a Westminster system of democracy, with a central federal government and eight state governments.

The mass media regularly carry items about UFOs. However, the subject is rarely taken seriously. Abductions are far from an everyday topic of conversation, for example, only one Australian abductee has been featured on a prime time television chat show. Overseas UFO documentaries do appear from time to time with segments on abductions.

Although books by Randles, Vallee, Strieber, Hopkins, Fiore, Jacobs and Schnabel have been carried by book sellers, only Strieber's "Communion" made an impact. Books typically arrive in Australia some 4-6 months after release in the UK or the USA.

CATALOGUE

Recently, I have completed the compilation of an updated catalogue of Australian abduction cases. The catalogue is intended to provide brief summaries of abduction accounts which have been collected from Australia and New Zealand. It has been produced from a larger catalogue of cases of "missing time," abduction and "abduction-like" reports, the fifth edition of which was compiled in December 1993.

To select the cases for this catalogue it was necessary to arrive at a definition to use for an "abduction." I decided to utilise that described in an article titled: "Psychosocial Characteristics of Abductees: Results from the CUFOS Abduction Project," authored by Mark Rodeghier, Jeff Goodpaster and Sandra Blatterbauer, which appeared in the 1991 Volume 3 of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies' *Journal of UFO Studies*.

This definition is:

1. "A witness must be taken against his or her will from normal, terrestrial surroundings by non-human beings.

2. These beings must take the witness to another enclosed space that is not terrestrial in appearance and is assumed or known by the witness to be a spacecraft.

3. In this place, the witness must either be subjected to various procedures that appear to be examinations of some type, engage in communication (verbal or telepathic) with the beings, or both.

4. These experiences may be remembered consciously or through various means of focused concentration, such as hypnosis, or by a combination of the two."

In comparison to the United States, little coverage of the subject continues to appear in the media in Australia. Items carried on television are mainly in the nature of imported specials on UFOs which feature, in part, abductions. However, the mini-series "Intruders" did feature as a two-part series in mid-1992. Interestingly, no new cases came to light as a result of the showing. Secondly, a UFORA search for Australian abductees was conducted in late 1992, which received wide media exposure, and resulted in a number of additional new cases being received, details of which have been incorporated into this updated catalogue. Thirdly, last year, late night chat shows featured interviews with Travis Walton who was here in Australia to promote the film "Fire in the Sky."

There continues to be no broad appreciation of the abduction phenomenon amongst health professionals in Australia. Consequently, only about half a dozen in the whole country, to my knowledge, have taken an interest. UFO Research Queensland is working with an industrial psychologist, and recently initiated an abductee support group. Bill Chalker and Robb Tilley in Sydney have teamed up with several psychologists. An abductee support group also exists in Sydney. In Adelaide, the author and Peter Jones have enlisted the assistance of a psychologist, and a psychotherapist.

Two case studies, have been published. One on abductee "Susan" in *IUR* 16(2): 4-6 & 22, and one on the Puddy abduction appearing in the *IUR* 17(3): 13-14 & 23. It is planned to slowly document and publish others as time permits. Many of these accounts reveal complex narratives involving multiple episodes of "abduction," "missing time" and/or psychic/paranormal events. The latter aspect has been very often overlooked in the work of American abduction researchers.

ANALYSIS:

The compilation of "missing time," "abduction-like" and abduction cases, netted a total of 83 reported events from Australia and New Zealand.

An example of an Australian "missing time" event is as follows:

In September or October 1970, in Sydney, New South Wales, one night a man noticed a red/orange glow in the bushland close to his home. He took his dog and went to investigate. Getting closer to it, he saw a glow illuminating the area. His dog became excited and dashed into the bush. There next appears to be a discontinuity in his physical and emotional reactions—an apparent period of "missing time." He next recalled seeing an owl fly past him and he could hear his own internal thoughts:

"There's something I should remember." Strangely, although previously very curious about the glow, he then lost interest and went home.

An example of an Australian "abduction-like" experience is one investigated by my colleague Bill Chalker of Sydney:

It happened in 1976 in rural New South Wales. A 31-year-old woman was vacuuming about noon one day when she felt ill. Suddenly three little beings just appeared in front of her. One being was some 5 feet tall, very slender with a very elongated face. The other two were much shorter, with chubby, broader faces. All three had large eyes, with a hint of a nose and a mouth. Each wore shroud-like cloaks. Telepathically the taller being spoke to her, to tell her she had to go with them. The woman refused. The next thing she can recall is of her fiancé arriving home at 5:30 p.m. A hypnotic regression revealed little beyond that of the conscious memories.

However, utilizing the CUFOS definition for an abduction, this number of "missing time," "abduction-like" and abduction events is reduced to just 39.

The following presents an analysis of the data from the 39 known abduction cases:

THE WITNESSES

Forty-six individuals were involved in the 39 cases. Of the 33 individuals who participated in single witness events, 10 were male and 23 female. There were six multi-witness reports, of which the following is perhaps the most interesting.

The location was Adelaide, South Australia, and I was the prime investigator. It occurred in July of 1989.

A man was lying in bed trying to get to sleep when a low-pitched humming noise was heard. His wife, lying alongside him, apparently asleep, said he was not to worry, do as they say. He couldn't work out what she meant, and suddenly found himself paralysed. Next he found himself floating along the hall passageway into the lounge. Entering the lounge he saw his son in the arms of a strange being, some 5 feet 10 inches tall. It was of a greenish-white colour and appeared humanlike.

Next he recalls lying down in a dark room. In this room was a non-human being. He described it as having an oval-shaped head; and big black eyes, the shape of eggs. There was no nose, just two holes, and a small slit

Telepathically the taller being spoke to her, to tell her she had to go with them. The woman refused. The next thing she can recall is of her fiancé arriving home at 5:30 p.m.

of a mouth. Then he was floated back and went to sleep in his own bed.

Next morning both he and his wife felt very strange. She can recall talking in her sleep, but not the words she used. She says she felt a presence during the night but was not afraid. She has a memory of being on a table with some people looking at her. She felt she had been investigated, then drifted back to her bed. Hypnotic regression of both persons confirmed the above details.

Where age is given, (28 individuals) only two are over 40 years of age, with one being 63 at the time.

In what setting do Australian abductions occur? An analysis shows just over 61% occur in suburban bedrooms and 36% in rural outside environments.

A typical bedroom intrusion was reported from Melbourne in Victoria in 1979 where a man named Mark retired to bed one night at about 11 p.m. Shortly after closing his eyes he lost all sense of sound and feeling and found himself travelling in a tunnel through space. Looking forwards he noted a light at the end of the tunnel. His next awareness was of lying on a table in a "craft." He was medically examined by three beings. One of the beings seemed to be a human female, with long blonde hair. The other two were some 150cm tall, fat, and of a dark brown colour. These latter two had plumpish faces, large eyes, a large nose, bigger lips and ears than us. They addressed him in English, and seemed like scientists. When they introduced a "scanner" to check him over, he "freaked out" and woke up in his own bed. All his teeth felt numb and his knuckles were white.

A representative rural event was that investigated by Mark Moravec of Ballarat in Victoria, occurring in September 1979 at Jindabyne, New South Wales.

Two young men, out hunting, reported seeing a bright white, spherical, light on the ground some little distance away. Next night it was seen again. In 1983 one of the men began recalling memories of a two-hour time lapse on one of those nights.

He consciously recalled that they were both surrounded by a blue light as they went near the object. They were floated through a hatch into a grey-coloured, rectangular room in the UFO. After being put on two "benches" they were examined by several tall beings. The beings were hairless, grey, and had grey bulges where we have eyes. Slit-like mouths and flat noses, with no ears were described. During the examination, and without tearing their clothes, the beings connected "wires" to the men.

The reporting man felt "used," as if a specimen. They were then returned to the original spot where they had been.

What of the entities reported?

Unfortunately, perhaps due to fragmentary recall, data is complete in only 17 cases concerning the physical description of the entities. There is an almost 1 to 2 ratio of reported humanoids and non-humanoids. Heights are spread from below 90cm to 240cm. Large heads are reported in eight cases, there are nine reports of alien eyes being large. Eye color is predominantly black.

HYPNOSIS

Almost all Australian abductees have fragmentary conscious recall of some, if not all of their encounter. Regression was used in 15 cases. Only in three instances was there no conscious recall of an abduction; and once a girl in a hypnotic state spontaneously "jumped into" a "flying saucer." Amazingly, this last case occurred in 1955 and was documented at that time.

What of communication?

In 15 cases comment is made about communication by the entity(ies) to the abductee, with nine mentions of telepathic means for this communication.

Family connections?

Besides the July 1989 episode mentioned earlier, involving husband and wife together, only one other case clearly records an attempt at involving more than one member of the family:

In April 1991 a married, Melbourne woman related to me a series of events extending back some 14 months from that time. These included her 6-year-old son reporting that 5-6 little men entered his bedroom and shone a "torch" at him. He felt paralysed and whilst there the men telepathically told him they would not hurt him, but examined him and pushed something up his nose. He described them as having gray skin, big heads and big black eyes.

The woman recalled an episode where something tried to physically pull her out of bed during the night. She also recalled an episode at age 7, which she thought was a dream, where three pixies entered her room and abducted her.

In 1991 she was regressed and this revealed:

1. At age 7, six beings entered her bedroom and took her away to a room somewhere. After examining her they pushed something up her nose. She was told she had been chosen for some task, not revealed to her yet. She did not feel they were going to hurt her. She was floated back home and into her bed. She woke up and thought it had been a dream.

2. At age 36, in 1991, beings again came to her bedroom and tried to take her away but she refused to go. Shortly after this, and while she was in bed with her husband, three small beings returned. They scraped both her

and her husband with a silver "knife" telling her this was the last time for a while.

At some stage the beings told her she is to spread knowledge when they are ready. They also told her the device up her nose was to keep track of her.

SUMMARY

In summary, although Australia has generated a relatively small number of abduction cases compared to the United States, the accounts are extremely similar to those from other parts of the world.

NOTES

Australian researchers have in recent years been slowly documenting these reports and the reader is directed to the following:

1. Basterfield, K., Godic, V. & Godic, P. (1989). "The Abduction Phenomenon in Australia." *International UFO Reporter*, 14(4):11-13 & 24.
2. Chalker, Bill. (1989) "Abducted?" *Australian Penthouse*. Nov. 89. pp. 35-39, 113.
3. Basterfield, K., Godic, V. & Godic, P. (1990). "Australian abductions: An update." *IUR* 15(3):10-12 & 22-23.
4. Basterfield, K., Godic, V., Godic, P. & Rodeghier, M. (1990). "Australian Ufology: A Review." *Journal of UFO Studies* n.s. 2:19-44.
5. Basterfield, K. (1991) "An Australian Abduction." *IUR* 16(2):4-6 & 22.
6. Basterfield, K. (1992) "Australian Abduction Research 1990-1992." *IUR* 17(5):13-15.

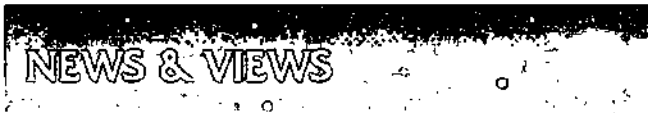
Theoretical work as to the nature of abductions has been undertaken by myself and Bob Bartholomew, an American sociologist; and Bill Chalker. Readers are referred to:

1. Bartholomew, R. E. & Basterfield, K. (1988) "Abduction States of Consciousness." *IUR* 13(2):7-9 & 15.
2. Basterfield, K. & Bartholomew, R.E. (1988) "Abductions: the Fantasy-Prone Hypothesis." *IUR* 13(3):9-11.
3. Clark, J. (1990) *The UFO Encyclopedia: Volume 1*. Detroit. Apogee. pp. 5, 12, 111-112 & 183.
4. Chalker, Bill. (1990) "Alien Abductions." *Nature and Health*. Autumn 1990, pp 20-26.
5. Basterfield, K. 1992 "Implants." *IUR* 17(1): 18-20.
6. Basterfield, K. 1992 "Present at the Abduction." *IUR* 17(3): 13-14 & 23.

The author, Research Director of UFO Research Australia, would welcome comments and exchange of data. He may be contacted at GPO Box 1894, Adelaide, South Australia 5001, Australia.



Budd Hopkins besieged / Photo by Debbie Stock



LENO LAUGHS AT UFOs

Tonight Show Host Jay Leno found that it was no breeze, working the cool audience at a recent UFO conference in Los Angeles. But getting MUFON members and other serious ufologists to go on television and joke about aliens in front of millions of people never is easy.

The Tonight Show staff had seen publicity on a UFO event and thought they'd do a funny piece on it according to Patty Grant, the show's producer. "We wanted to do something light-hearted to run as a segment on our show."

When Grant contacted organizers of the UFO Expo West, they asked her not to come to the conference, according to William McDonald, MUFON member in charge of security for the event. "They didn't feel researchers and abductees would react well to a comedy situation," he said.

But Grant took Leno and an on-location staff to the conference, anyway. Once there, they were given permission from hotel management to do on camera interviews in the commons area where the two-day conference took place.

A crowd gathered instantly and cameras began to roll as individuals came forward to meet Jay Leno and talk with him.

"Do you know an alien?" he began. His interview was structured in a format that started with a general question and became more specific.

If the respondent was funny, the comedian pulled out a tabloid newspaper and sported a photo of Bill Clinton shaking hands with an alien. "Does the President know any aliens?" he continued.

His coup de grace was another tabloid. Holding up a page with a headline that said, "Twelve Senators are Aliens," he asked, "Do you think the senators are aliens?"

Some played along amidst constant battering and shouts of, "Tell the truth, Jay," and "Tell about the cover-up."

On the defensive, Leno tried to act sympathetic. "I'm sorry," he said several times. "I'm just trying to have fun with this."

MUFON members Budd Hopkins and Yvonne Smith were amongst those pulled from meetings to talk to Leno.

"I told the producer what I do and about my CERO (Close Encounter Research Organization) and abductee support groups," Smith said. "Patty Grant looked at me and said that my stuff, as Grant called it, was way too serious."

Smith said that the producer was very nice and they politely ended their conversation.

The encounter between Hopkins and Leno was even shorter. They met and each went on their way.

Spending over an hour at the conference convinced that there was some funny material there, Leno met and interviewed around 30 people.

One of his subjects was Vicki Cooper, publisher of *UFO Magazine*. "I wish I hadn't talked to him," she said. "He started firing these questions at me and I'm really not sure how it's going to turn out."

One individual who did joke with the comedian on camera said, "Oh, I've used the line a couple times that I was out late, honey, because the aliens abducted me."

As Leno and his crew packed up their gear and left, a lecture in the meeting room next door was on: "How to determine what may or may not be real in the often confusing field of Ufology."

— Debbie Stock

ROSWELL ON SHOWTIME

by Debbie Stock

Film Producer Paul Davids didn't believe in UFO's when he first attempted producing a Roswell movie back in 1983. But that was before he had a daylight disc sighting in his yard with his daughters four years ago in Los Angeles.

"From that point on, I began reading everything I could about the subject," he said. "I had worked in science fiction for years but I never thought that it would become a reality for me until I had that sighting."

Davids is looking forward to seeing his research become reality in his role as Executive Producer of Viacom's motion picture, "Roswell," which should be released for airing July 31st on Showtime.

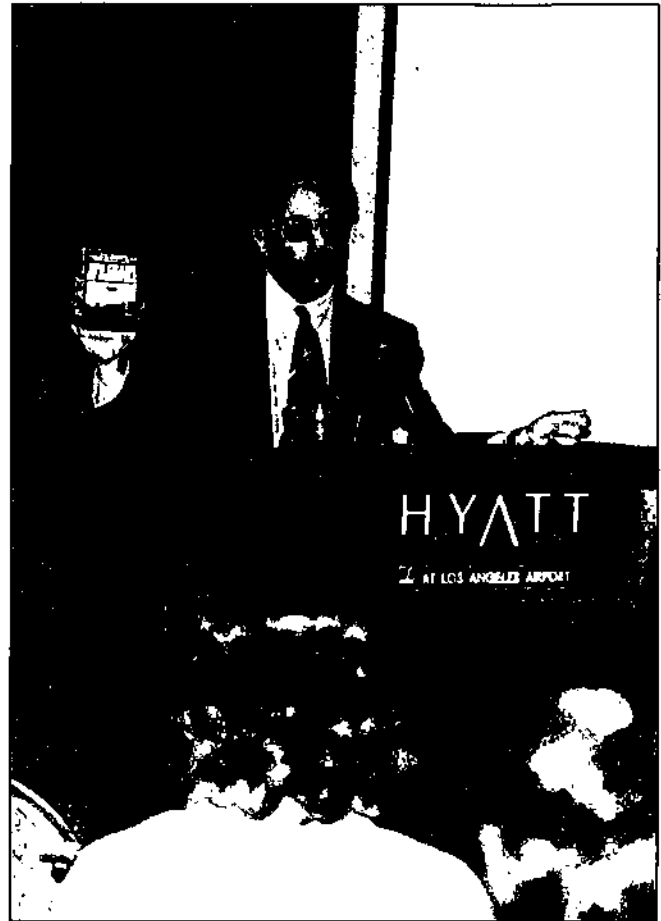
Speaking to a standing room only crowd at a recent UFO conference in Los Angeles, he told the audience why he felt the Roswell case of 1947 was the most significant in ufology.

"We have for the first and only time, the US Army going on record that they found something crashed in the desert of New Mexico and they couldn't identify it," he said.

Helping recreate that famed event wasn't easy, according to Davids. "In 1983 we had a commitment from HBO to make a movie based on Roswell," he said. "But it seemed a lot of horses were conspiring against us."

When HBO withdrew its offer, the project was cancelled. "It was a very black time," he said.

It took six years to jump start the project again, according to the entrepreneur, who also has written a series of science fiction books for children.



Paul Davids / Photo by Debbie Stock

With a budget of \$6 million and Showtime's commitment, Davids put together a film based on Randle and Schmitt's "UFO Crash at Roswell," starting in 1989. "We got the rights for their book and I was one of three with a story credit," he said.

He described how the story was put together, using a "Rashomon" structure of flashbacks. The actors are in the present and then they're flashed back to a scene, recalled in someone's memory.

"It wasn't a jigsaw puzzle where every piece fits, because we had many witnesses and some are now deceased," he said. "Over 350 people testified about Roswell so we had to find the broad strokes of the case."

That was a challenge for Davids but one of the best things for him was dealing with a scene in an examining room. "The beings weren't necessarily grays, but were more human," he said. "The bottom line is that whoever was the custodian of those biological remains, we had to use our judgement."

Audioanimatronics were used to create the special effects of one being, still alive on the examining table. "Steve Johnson of FSX did an excellent job making it work," he said. "There were wires running to it and

seven people remotely operating the wires to make it move."

While it wasn't all fun and games, Davids said that he was glad to see the project to completion. "Maybe the time was finally right for us to do this."

Now he is waiting. "With evidence pointing to President Truman ordering a cover-up back in 1947, I'm hoping we'll see some sort of public recognition when the movie is aired."

For those who don't receive Showtime, Davids said that depending on different variables, it's possible the film could be released on video at a later date.

Debble Stock is a freelance photojournalist with a B.S. degree in Photojournalism from Kansas University. She lives in Huntington Beach, CA.

SCIENCE MUSEUM SYMPOSIUM TO EXAMINE UFO EVIDENCE

While many people believe the essential features of our universe are well understood, a group of scientists and researchers coming to the Science Museum of Minnesota this fall says the scientific world is in for a dramatic revolution in thinking about mankind's place in the cosmos.

In a symposium titled, "The Science and Politics of UFO Research," professional scientists from around the country will meet in St. Paul the weekend of November 5 & 6 to discuss the progress of their research into the global UFO phenomenon and explore the implications of their discoveries for humanity. The event also will compare the UFO controversy with major scientific revolutions of the past.

"There are two major aspects to the UFO controversy," explained symposium coordinator and journalist Terry Hansen. "One is what it tells us about the way scientific progress occurs and the other is what the controversy tells us about the role government plays in controlling or restricting research. The UFO controversy has a great deal to teach us about the politics of science." Hansen studied the UFO controversy as part of his graduate program in science journalism at the University of Minnesota and has produced a documentary on the subject broadcast on National Public Radio.

"In this era of Big Science, people often feel that scientific research is only legitimate if it is supported by the federal government," Hansen said. "But scientific legitimacy is a philosophical, not political, issue. Contrary to what some people may think, opinion surveys show UFO research enjoys broad support among rank-and-file scientists and engineers, and increasing numbers are actually doing it."

Scheduled speakers for the two-day event include Dr. Richard Haines, a physiological psychologist formerly with NASA's Ames Research Center; Jack

Kasher, professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; nuclear physicist, author and nationally known UFO lecturer Stanton Friedman; Dr. Ron Westrum, a sociologist with the Department of Interdisciplinary Technology at Eastern Michigan University; engineering physicist and author James McCampbell; Dr. Thomas Bullard, folklore scholar at Indiana University; and Kevin Randle, former military pilot, Air Force intelligence officer, and co-author (with Donald R. Schmitt) of two books about the Roswell UFO crash-recovery. Additional speakers are expected.

One of the symposium's goals is to explore the workings of science in modern society. Unexpected scientific discoveries are nearly always highly controversial and the Science Museum plans to use the debate about UFOs as a "case study" of science in action. "While it's human nature to reject information that does not support our beliefs and theories about the universe, the history of science tells us that this is a mistake," Hansen explained. "All of the major theories of modern science—continental drift, quantum physics, biological evolution, and relativity—were based upon observations that initially did not make sense in the context of established theory. In addition, the conclusions suggested by these observations were often so controversial that they were not fully accepted by the scientific mainstream for decades after they were first proposed. Thus, the study of UFO reports is not only scientifically valid, it may well be essential to understanding the universe."

Registration cost for the two-day symposium is \$115. For further information or to register, contact the Continuing Education Division, Science Museum of Minnesota, 30 East 10th St., St. Paul, MN 55101. Telephone: 612/221-4742. Fax: 612/221-4528. Email: twhansen@cuix.pscu.com (for content questions) or person@geom.umn.edu (for logistical details).

MUFON 1994 INTERNATIONAL UFO SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

"UFOLOGY: A Historical Perspective"

Fourteen papers - 306 pages

PRICE: \$20 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling.

MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099

UFOs, MJ-12 AND THE GOVERNMENT:

A Report on Government Involvement in
the UFO Crash Retrievals (113 pages)

by Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain

Price: \$19 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling.

MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099

CURRENT CASES

The following case summaries were prepared by Jerold R. Johnson, MUFON's Deputy Director of Investigations. Unless noted, no sound, vibration, or odor was detected. All times are local.

■ **Log #930702E:** "I took a right onto Route 2 when I saw a large, lighted object just above the tree tops hovering over the hill."; investigators, Sandy Lepore and Mary Mc Manus.

The 34-year-old mother of two of the three children in the automobile drove right underneath the flat-bottom domed disk, visible at the 10:00 p.m. hour by its five brilliant white lights and one red one shining down from its underside.

This object maneuvered very slowly around the road and the witnesses, who stopped for three to five minutes to study it, just north of Charlestown, Rhode Island, "when out of nowhere came the second object about 1/3 to 1/4 of the size of the first." This one had five more of the "blinding" lights on it. Both objects started drifting to the northwest, so the car was moved to be able to see them among the trees. A third and fourth light appeared, these just starlike points, and the excitement in the car became too much for the youngest, an eight-year-old girl, who "became scared and started crying hysterically." By the time the others got her calmed again, the lights were almost out of sight, so they continued to their house. Calls to police and airports turned up no other witnesses. The date was 23 January 1993.

■ **Log #930803E:** On 23 March, 1993 a MUFON member and former APRO Field Investigator looked out through a window and saw a "brilliant, small, steady orange light" over Worden's Pond near South Kingstown, RI; investigators, Jon Gaboriault and Sandy Lepore.

Under a rainy, overcast sky at 7:40 p.m., the witness thought it to be highly unusual and put his binoculars on it, only to see it fade rapidly to darkness. Five minutes later a formation of three twin-engine military planes, blinking white lights, flew low over the same spot and close to the witness's house, followed closely by a helicopter. A few minutes later, the apparent same three planes, minus the helicopter, flew in from the ocean following the reverse course north over the pond. Was it a military exercise involving a flare?



MEMORIAL TO JEROLD R. "RON" JOHNSON 1950-1994

The entire MUFON organization is mourning the loss of our Deputy Director, Investigations, Jerold "Ron" Johnson, who died suddenly on June 9, 1994, while attending the annual meeting of the Society for Scientific Exploration (SSE) in Austin, Texas.

Ron was born in Dallas, Texas, on June 16, 1950. He graduated from the University of Texas (Austin) in December 1972 with a degree in Anthropology. On October 28, 1978, he married Rox Ann Albrecht from La Grange, Texas. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Neal, eleven, and Wyatt, two and-a-half years of age, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Johnson, and a brother, Brian Johnson.

Ron was an avid scuba diver and speleologist. He was known on MUFON's amateur radio net as WA5RON. He joined MUFON in June 1973 and held successive positions of Field Investigator, Texas State Amateur Radio Director, Continental Coordinator for Central America, and the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, as Deputy Director, Investigations (Vice President).

He was employed by Earth Tech International, Inc., headed by Harold Puthoff, Ph.D., in Austin. Harold "Hal" Puthoff and Walter Andrus were pallbearers for the services on June 12, 1994. The family suggested that memorials be made to the Mutual UFO Network or to the charity of your choice.

It will be difficult finding someone in MUFON with Ron's qualifications and persistence to details to fill this important position on the Board of Directors.



ABDUCTION: HUMAN ENCOUNTERS WITH ALIENS

By John E. Mack, M.D.

Scribners, 1994, \$22.00

Reviewed by Timothy H. Heaton

When I first became acquainted with MUFON, it was apparent to me that this was an organization with a chip on its shoulder. I was amused with the emotional emphasis on scientific reporting and with the prestigious titles offered to scientists willing to join the cause. Being new to the subject of UFOs, I was curious as to what lay behind the defensiveness and mistrust that permeated much of the society's literature. Only after learning some history was I able to solve this puzzle.

MUFON was organized to win UFOs back from the "contactees" and the tabloids, to promote scientific investigation of a phenomenon that the scholars had rejected in company with ghosts and bigfoot. Science, as we know it today, is the study of the physical world: it attempts to explain all phenomena on a physical basis, even psychological issues such as religious faith and visions. It is therefore little wonder that the scientific study of UFOs began with a focus on the physical nature of the intruding spacecraft rather than the message of their supposed alien pilots. One need look no further than MUFON's UFO Sighting Questionnaire to recognize where the emphasis squarely lay.

UFOs have always been a mystery, an elusive phenomenon that spurns our expectations and defies categorization. Scientists have long debated the evolution of life elsewhere in the galaxy, but UFOs lack a consistent physical form and familiar rationale that would identify them as mere travelers from a distant planet. Christians believe in a dichotomous unseen world of angels and evil spirits, but UFOs and their occupants show no intent of confirming or destroying the Christian faith. New Age enthusiasts are open to almost any outside force in the universe, so it is little wonder that they adopted the supposed aliens as benevolent space brothers here to save us from folly. But as time has passed and more has been learned, this simplistic explanation has also fallen on hard ground. The more we learn, the more enigmatic the UFO phenomenon becomes.

What is needed to make a mystery scientific, especially when human testimony is its primary database? One method, exemplified by the work of Ray Fowler, is the rigorous case study. If a witness' report can be cor-

roborated with some outside evidence and can stand up to lie detector tests and extensive psychological evaluation, then it becomes hard to dismiss out of hand. When multiple witnesses report the same event, an even stronger case is made. A second and much more convincing method of investigation, exemplified by Budd Hopkins and Dave Jacobs, is to collect reports from a large and diverse sample of people and show that all are reporting the same esoteric details in their accounts. This is how Raymond Moody made the "near-death experience" a science, and it has been equally successful with UFOs. It has also drawn MUFON out of its focus on the physical aspects of unidentified flying objects, much to its chagrin. The UFO has now become synonymous with the so-called "abduction phenomenon."

Ufology has long been plagued by a reliance on amateur investigators. There was therefore great expectations when John E. Mack, distinguished Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, espoused the cause and began writing his book, *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens*. But after three months in print this book has aroused nothing but controversy in both the UFO and psychiatric communities. The reason: Mack has linked UFO encounters with all the shady New Age phenomena that the skeptics had always lumped it with, from shamanism to reincarnation, and he has done so with little critical analysis or justification. Instead of winning the scientific world over to a belief in alien visitors, Mack has only aroused more skepticism and confusion.

Having made this introduction, it may come as a surprise that I enjoyed the book and believe it to be a landmark contribution. Before I explain why this is so, I need to state what the book is *not*. There are two important questions we would like someone with Mack's qualifications to address: 1) is there any purely psychological explanation for the terrifying abduction accounts? and 2) is hypnosis a reliable method for recalling the details of abduction experiences? Mack does treat these questions, but he does so very superficially, never giving detailed analysis to alternative explanations. The book is also not a piece of rigorous detective work like those of Fowler, Hopkins, and Jacobs. Mack presents thirteen case studies and makes comparisons between them, but once again the comparisons are superficial and fail to make a strong scientific case for the reality of alien abductions. Mack's approach is clearly anecdotal rather than analytical.

Many readers have had difficulty finding a theme in *Abduction* and have described it as a directionless monologue. The strongest theme concerns human spiritual evolution, a topic that falls on thin soil in both the psychiatric and UFO communities. A second theme concerns the need for more education about the abduction phenomenon among psychiatric practitioners, though whether this book will encourage such a trend remains to

be seen. But this lack of a strong theme can also be seen as one of the book's strengths. Mack is not trying to espouse any particular conclusion: he lets the abductees tell their whole stories with as little guidance or restriction as possible. Instead of driving hard at physical details, he looks for the overarching essence of these strange contacts. In doing so he has found something that many have overlooked: that behind the trauma and fear and humiliation there is something overwhelmingly positive and transformative in interacting with entities that are fundamentally different from ourselves.

The idea that UFO encounters are generating spiritual evolution is not new with Mack. Kenneth Ring in his 1992 book *The Omega Project* came to a similar conclusion while at the same time proposing that UFOs and aliens are not objective realities (an unpopular conclusion with MUFON in both respects). With his spiritual focus, one might ask how Mack differs from the infamous "contactees" of the 1950s. I see two major distinctions. First, Mack is letting his patients, or co-investigators as he calls them, tell their own stories with few cues. Many speak of feeling at "home" with the aliens, of having some kind of dual human/alien spiritual identity, of having past incarnations in which they also experienced interaction, and of being shown prophetic visions of the world's destruction. And like the abductees reported by Hopkins and other researchers, most of these people have nothing to gain from their stories and wish to remain anonymous. This alone sets them apart from the publicity-seeking "contactees" and makes their accounts credible. But the second difference is much more profound: Mack's patients report their spiritual growth at the end of an agonizing road in which their entire concept of reality is shattered by the abductions. This not only makes the "contactees" look like hopeful simpletons by comparison, but it also acknowledges the undeniable strangeness and ambiguity of the abduction phenomenon.

An important question to be asked about this book is why Mack took the approach that he did. Unfortunately he makes us read between the lines for an answer, but I believe the answer is there. His previous work with nightmares, adolescent suicides, and transpersonal psychology provides a partial answer, but more important is the transformation in his thinking that took place during the course of his abduction study. I found it classic that before embarking he paid a visit to Thomas Kuhn, author of *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Kuhn has shown that scientific objectivity is largely a myth and that our cultural biases shape our perception of reality in subtle ways. He suggested that Mack circumvent Western dichotomies such as real/unreal and physical/psychological wherever possible. Even with this suggestion Mack's study seems to have started on a stronger scientific foundation than it ended. But he changed his focus after *listening* to his patients, listening

Mack has found something that many have overlooked: that behind the trauma and fear and humiliation there is something overwhelmingly positive and transformative in interacting with entities that are fundamentally different from ourselves.

to the underlying message of their encounters rather than only the details that happened to fit his preconceived notions. It took someone with Mack's genius to realize that the abduction phenomenon is bound to change our whole epistemology as well as our world view, and therefore a "scientific" study did not seem appropriate. In the end he saw that to follow his initial course would be to betray his patients and everything their message stood for.

This unconstrained approach is the root of Mack's problems with the scientific community, for he is trying to break new ground by *not* playing by the rules. This may sound silly and unproductive at first glance, but let's face it: all our Western world views, scientific and religious alike, have utterly failed to incorporate the abduction phenomenon in anything but a bastardized form. Ufologists from Hynek to Jacobs have been postulating other "realities" or "dimensions" that have no place in science as we know it. By stretching the possibilities Mack is merely seeking an understanding of what such a modified concept of reality might mean.

Mack's book offers several major challenges to the UFO community. MUFON and other groups have come to view UFOs in terms of conspiracies, the aliens being parasites and the abductees being unwitting victims. This dogma has been moderately successful in gaining scientific respectability, pacifying the abductees with an explanation, and avoiding any overlap with the lunatic New Age fringe. Despite its tenuous status, there is much resistance to relinquishing this dogma for fear of backstepping in all these areas. But I, for one, have never found this explanation satisfactory. It feels like a last-ditch effort to align the phenomenon with something familiar when every evidence suggests that it is not. If alien beings are penetrating our world from a reality we cannot fathom, then any perception of a one-sided relationship may well be an illusion. Mack's patients, when given free reign to follow their intuition, find a strange but instructive balance in this relationship, one that has previously been reported by Betty Luca, Whitley Strieber, and others. To ignore this information is to overlook an important clue. It is reminiscent of the reluctance to accept abduction accounts just a few years ago.

Mack and his co-investigators talk of a personal spiritual growth that results from alien contact and also from becoming aware of that contact, and in this en-

lightenment they report many phenomena familiar to "Eastern" and "New Age" religions. This is problematic for several reasons. First, it further severs the UFO phenomenon from scientific rationalism, and it may be that we can no longer see UFOs in isolation from other psychic phenomena. Second, it may cause a division in the UFO community based on individual religious beliefs, for how will a team of people with diverse backgrounds manage to investigate a phenomenon that has enormous religious implications? While these may seem like insurmountable problems that will hopelessly postpone the resolution of the UFO puzzle, they also suggest that we may have more to learn from this phenomenon than previously recognized. We may all have to give up fundamental assumptions and pillars of faith in order to get closer to the "truth" of our existence, and UFOs may be just the puzzle to guide us in that direction. Perhaps the abduction phenomenon is more instructive and reaches nearer our center of being than we ever imagined, and perhaps this is so because of, not in spite of, its incomprehensibility.

Mack's book is enormously thought provoking and deserves a more careful look. Let us get over our initial disappointment, lay aside our historic biases, and look at the book for what Mack intended it to be. It is not the last word on anything, but it is a beginning, and an intriguing one at that.

Dr. Heaton is an associate professor of Earth Sciences at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion.

THE ANOMALIST

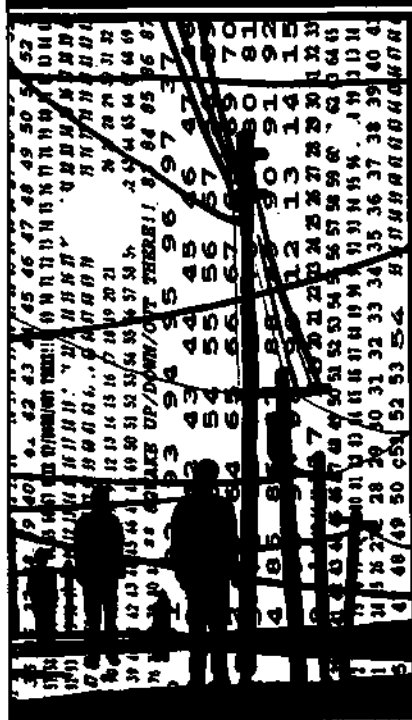
Edited by Patrick Huyghe & Dennis Stacy
Paperback, illus., 128 pages, \$10

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

No doubt it's bad form to review your own book, but since I didn't write it I don't feel as bad as I might. Just so you'll know, however, I did co-edit and publish it in company with another student of anomalous phenomena, Patrick Huyghe, whom many of you will also know.

The initial idea behind *The Anomalist* was to provide a new venue wherein writers and researchers could treat "weird" subjects of every stripe—including their own first-person experiences—at length in a relaxed, literate style. We also wanted to encourage detailed investigations of anomalous phenomena. And we wanted to provide a somewhat more permanent forum for the publication of this kind of material than that provided by, say, *Fortean Times*, *Strange Magazine* or *Fate*. If the first issue succeeds, we intend to publish two volumes a year.

THE ANOMALIST: 1



Mario Pazzaglini on
"Alien Writing"

Martin Cannon:
The Numbers Game

Patrick Huyghe
Daytona Beach
Mystery Wave

Martin Kottmeyer:
The First
Extraordinary Claim

Ted Holden:
Dinosaurs & Gravity

Loren Coleman:
A Global
Fire Pellegris?

Paul Rydeen:
UFOs & Cargo Cuts

Ingo Swann:
Erasing Astrology
From the Past

William Corliss:
A Commentary

As might be expected, the contents (and contributors) are eclectic by choice. The first article, "Dinosaurs and the Gravity Problem" by Ted Holden, addresses the issue of why so many dinosaurs were so gigantic when compared to today's walking and flying equivalents. Could the answer lie in a dramatic change of something so fundamental as the Earth's gravitational field?

Next, Patrick Huyghe interviews clinical psychologist Mario Pazzaglini, who has been conducting a study of writing samples allegedly acquired from alien entities, either via channeled contact or other means. Several examples are reproduced from Pazzaglini's own self-published book, *Symbolic Messages*.

Martin Cannon's "The Numbers Game," illustrated by Sal Amendola, recounts the author's personal experiences with electronic "loop lines," a disembodied voice from Montreal identifying herself only as Joanne, and weird phone calls heard in the night which recite an endless series of seemingly meaningless numbers.

In "The Daytona Beach Mystery Wave" Patrick Huyghe examines a mysterious wave of water which struck a limited section of the Florida coastline on the night of July 3, 1992, and the many scientific explanations that surfaced in its wake.

Paul Rydeen's "Cargo of the Gods?" examines the history of cargo cults in Papua New Guinea and draws some interesting comparisons and parallels with contemporary contactees and the UFO movement as a whole. The difference, says Rydeen, is that nowadays we don't yearn so much "for material cargo, as for knowledge or wisdom."

The longest article in the book, Martin Kottmeyer's "The First Extraordinary Claim," looks at the early Greek philosophers and their notions about the shape of the universe and the planet Earth. Turns out that the idea of a round Earth was completely irrational! Nothing, in other words, is so simple as it seems.

Loren Coleman's "Incendiary Poltergeists, Spontaneous Human Combustion and Fire Suicide Clusters" addresses mysterious fires as a whole, including their possible personal and political uses. Were you also aware that fire insurance in this country originally grew out of a series of turn-of-the-century New York fire poltergeist cases? We thought not.

Artist and psychic Ingo Swann weighs in with "The Perils of Erasing Astrology From the Past." Regardless of one's personal opinion about celestial "influences," there's no question but that our ancestors believed in what we call astrology, and that such studies led directly to what we now know as astronomy and cosmology. Denying the connection may cause us to lose sight of our own cultural inheritance, as well as to seriously misread the intellect and motives of those cultures that went before.

A brief commentary by noted anomalist William Corliss concludes the first issue of *The Anomalist*. What we are trying to do has been already mentioned—provide a serious forum for the discussion of the odd and unusual in all their ramifications, or of what Charles Fort referred to as the "damned," the excluded. What we are *not* trying to do is needlessly monger mystery, thus we will publish critical as well as "supportive" articles about a particular case or phenomenon. In the end, *The Anomalist* is intended to make you think for yourself, a faculty that could come in handy almost anywhere.

Copies can be obtained from Arcturus Books, the Sourcebook Project, or directly from me for \$10.00 plus \$2.50 postage and handling. Make check or money order payable to Dennis Stacy, Box 12434, San Antonio, Texas, 78212.

THE EXCLUDED MIDDLE

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

The Excluded Middle ("An Esoteric Journal for the Masses") draws its name from a quote by Aristotle, the original of which I seem to have misplaced. The meaning is clear enough, however. In the field of

extremes between kneejerk debunkers and believers, there must be some sort of common middle ground for the unwashed masses, i.e., the rest of us.

At first glance, such an editorial policy would appear to be a recipe for timidity and/or boredom. After all, given a choice among valley, peak and rolling farmland, who wouldn't opt for the highs or lows of a particular situation or phenomenon, as opposed to, say, the tried and true highway? When all is said and done, who goes on vacation with the intent of touring Middle McDonald America, when the Grand Canyon, Rocky Mountains and Florida Everglades beckon?

Not to worry. Despite its title, *The Excluded Middle* is decidedly left of center, meaning it takes UFOs, abductions, near-death experiences and similar left field happenings and personalities seriously or it wouldn't be in business in the first place. Which is not to say its approach and attitude to same is necessarily your approach and attitude to same. The first three issues have contained articles and interviews on the above mentioned subjects, along with articles on Aleister Crowley, Clay Shaw and Kennedy assassination theories, contactee George Hunt Williamson, Bill Moore, false memories, and so on. There is a good mixture here of investigative historical reporting and contemporary interviews, derived from what might be called a younger generation's point of view. Contributors include Robert Anton Wilson and the regular West Coast staff of Gregory Bishop, Robert Larson and Peter Stenshoel. The overall emphasis is on UFOs and related subject matter.

An annual subscription (four issues) is available for \$20 from *The Excluded Middle*, P.O. Box 1077, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Highly recommended for a journal just finding its feet, and as a preview of things to come. Seems to be getting better and bigger with each issue.

ROSWELL IN PERSPECTIVE

By Karl T. Pflock

FUFOR, paper, 189 pages, \$25.00

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

Imagine you are asleep at night when a shadowy figure suddenly enters your bedroom. He pads quietly across the floor, shakes you awake by the throat and shouts in your ear, "Roswell really was a balloon!" then disappears through the door before you can react or cry out.

That's about the sort of startling impact I expect this 189-page monograph to have on ufology as a whole, although I don't expect the author to vanish from view anytime soon. Titled *Roswell in Perspective*, it's written by Karl T. Pflock and is the preliminary report of an on-

going two-year-old investigation into the Roswell Incident largely sponsored by the Fund for UFO Research. It's also a model of how any thorough, objective UFO case investigation should be conducted, which is to let the chips fall where they may without trying to force-fit them into one's existing prior preconceptions or predilections.

In the process, Pflock shatters several shibboleths or nuggets of accepted wisdom surrounding long ago events reported at or near Roswell, New Mexico, in the summer of 1947, while leaving one or two relatively intact. The Ramey press conference in Fort Worth on the afternoon of July 8, 1947, for example, which claimed the wreckage retrieved from the Foster ranch was that of an ordinary weather balloon, really was a deliberate cover-up. What was being covered-up in all probability, however, was a balloon of another type belonging to the supersecret Project Mogul. The latter—classified on a par with the Manhattan Project—was an attempt to monitor Soviet atomic bomb testing via acoustical sensors hauled into relatively stationary "orbit" at an altitude of approximately 50,000 feet. Careful detective work, along with a trickle of just now emerging documentation, reveals a potential conglomerate of construction material—down to hardened balsa wood struts, monofilament wire and colored paper or tape—that closely resembles the debris first found by rancher Mac Brazel in early July and described by subsequent eyewitnesses. Moreover, some of the Mogul balloons were made of a newly fabricated material which ground personnel—Major Jesse Marcel and others included—probably would not have been familiar with, hence its seemingly "anomalous" nature.

In fact, Pflock's overall case for Project Mogul is so persuasive that one can only wonder how critics will respond. My own prediction is that a number of attempts will be made to shoot the messenger, rather than the message, primarily by drawing attention to Pflock's past involvement with numerous government agencies, including a stint with both the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense. ((It should also be pointed out that he was involved early on with Keyhoe's NICAP and is presently providing informal assistance into the GAO investigation of the government's handling of Roswell and related documents.) Given the paranoid tendencies of many within ufology, he is almost bound to be labeled a CIA "spy" or some other form of government UFO "disinformation" agent. To which one can really only retort: Read the report and decide for yourself.

I should also note that Pflock is not wholly dismissive of *everything* revolving round Roswell and claims of a government cover-up; in fact, he maintains that bodies of some kind probably *were* recovered near Roswell, based primarily on the testimony of mortician Glenn Dennis. The author's arguments in this area aren't wholly con-

vincing, however, if for no other reason than that once you've let the air out of a balloon, it's awfully hard to put it back in through the same hole. How likely is it, for example, that a highly classified terrestrial balloon project *and* an extraterrestrial spaceship with bodies aboard would have come to rest within 30 miles or less from one another, even assuming they had actually collided? Despite Mogul's dimensions—500 feet or more, top to bottom—it was made up of a series of small balloons, the mass of which would have been relatively negligible to anything remotely resembling a flying saucer as we've come to "know" it.

The ramifications of Pflock's Roswell report for the whole of ufology are such that it cannot conceivably be ignored by any serious student of the subject. Many, after all, consider the Roswell Incident *the* most important UFO case of all time, the hinge from which the entire government cover-up of the subject hangs, not to mention allegations and rumors of MJ-12 or some similar elite investigative agency formed in the wake of Roswell.

As Pflock puts it in his introduction, "A Parallax View": "Jerry Clark's judgement that Roswell is the most important case in UFO history may well be right on the mark. If the wreckage of an alien craft and the bodies of its crew were recovered on New Mexico's high desert in 1947, it goes without saying Roswell is the event of the millennium. Less obvious, perhaps, is the fact that, if it is proven a flying saucer and aliens were *not* involved, how ufology deals with this disappointing outcome will have profound and lasting consequences for the field."

In short, is there life after Roswell? And if so, what is it going to look like? These are questions worth pondering. *Roswell in Perspective* is available from the Fund For UFO Research, P. O. Box 277, Mount Rainier, MD 20712, for \$25.00 plus \$3.00 s&h.

UNITED NATIONS VIDEO

On October 2, 1992, a UFO presentation was made at the United Nations in an effort to reopen Decision GA 33/426. The two-hour VHS video tape includes Mohammad A. Ramadan, Stanton T. Friedman, John F. Schuessler and Robert H. Bletchman. Tapes of this monumental UN presentation may be purchased by Postal Money Orders, personal check made payable through a U.S. bank or U.S. cash for \$19.95 plus \$2 for p.&h. to MUFON, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, TX 78155-4099, U.S.A.

MUFON FORUM

Letters to Mufon UFO Journal

CONTACTEE KLARER

Elizabeth Klarer, age 83, the well-known South African UFO contactee, died in Durban's Highway Hospice in early February 1994.

Elizabeth was always a controversial figure, both in South Africa and abroad. The story of her meeting with the "space alien" Akon, sometime in 1957, and her subsequent love affair with him, resulting in the birth of a son Ayling, not only raised eyebrows but often met with denigration and annoyance from the "nuts and bolts" UFO brigade.

I first met Elizabeth in 1967 when I interviewed her for an article which subsequently appeared in FATE magazine in August of 1968.

Whatever may have been said of her, she certainly told her story with great conviction and no fear of public condemnation as to her illicit liaison or illegitimate child. Later, in the seventies, during a trip to the USA, I spoke for the first time at a MUFON meeting in Quincy, Illinois, under the auspices of Walt Andrus and introduced by Joe Brill, and there is no doubt that Elizabeth's story was met with humour and almost total disbelief.

I know that MUFON has never really been supportive of Elizabeth Klarer and her "romantic tale" of love and the bearing of a semi-alien child and I must admit that my own credibility was stretched to the limits to believe even the most basic facts.

Elizabeth's story was simple: she first saw Akon and his craft from Flying Saucer Hill in the Drakensberg in South Africa. Her sister and brother-in-law owned a farm in the Mooi River area of Natal and Elizabeth would ride on her favourite horse to isolated areas. The first time she saw the craft, Akon stood at the window and watched her. The second time, he was already landed when she arrived and invited her inside. He then, with his pilot, took her for a ride. He was tall, extremely handsome, with high cheek-bones and slightly slanting grey eyes. Elizabeth was obviously greatly attracted to him. As time progressed, he visited her several times. They fell in love and she soon found herself pregnant.

Later on in her pregnancy, Akon came to fetch her and she spent the remaining time until after the birth of her son Ayling (four months) on Maton, a planet of Proxima Centauri. All this is described in detail in her book *Beyond the Light Barrier* (Howard Timmins, Cape Town, South Africa). The book itself is romanticised to the nth degree and reads more like a woman's novel than an allegedly scientific report.

But, despite all this, there are still many inexplicable factors to Elizabeth's story.

Elizabeth was a woman of breeding; she was gentle, intellectual, well educated and numbered among her friends many academics and highly placed people in

government and society. She came from an era where illegitimacy was the hall-mark of the fallen woman: why would she choose a situation like this to publicise her story?

Also, many features of her story are known now as typical of the contactee experience; the closing of the doors on the craft so that no entrance can be detected, for example. She says, "The shining wall and door seemed to fuse and no openings remained." She also notes, "The whole cabin was alight with this soft reflected light, the effect of light without shadows; no wiring or cables seemed to connect it."

Akon says, "We come from a double star system." The book was written in the early sixties. I viewed it in 1967. Elizabeth, via Akon, produces many statements about stars and star systems; could she have known about all this? Recently, an astronomer friend of mine wrote to say that planets surrounding Proxima Centauri (if there were any) would be unstable. I quote from Elizabeth's book, when Akon says, "Proxima Centauri is like the sun, only with a reddish light and of course, a very stable star."

But perhaps the most curious report is the one about the "electric mirage." When flying in the craft, Elizabeth can see the Marine Parade in Durban, in perfect detail. She can also hear people speaking and recognizes what they are saying. She says, "The scene materialised in front of us in colour, movement and sound, the molecules of air electrified and activated to reflect the scene and portray it before us as if we were standing on that very spot ..." What else but a hologram, unknown at the time, of course, to Elizabeth.

Elizabeth Klarer died in comparative poverty. She had very little money of her own and was looked after by her son David and daughter Marilyn and some generous friends. Her incredible story brought her some fame (or more accurately, notoriety!) but certainly no riches.

We will never know if Elizabeth's story was in her mind or a reality, but she never deserved the sly innuendo and cruelty of the media. Whatever: I for one wish her only peace and perhaps a reunion with Akon, the man of her dreams.

— Cynthia Hind
P.O. Box MP 49
Mt. Pleasant
Harare
Zimbabwe

UFO BOOKS

I subscribe to the MUFON Journal—a much awaited publication that arrives here (via the UK) in Central Africa about a month late. Unfortunately, except for Cynthia Hind (10 hrs. drive away across Mozambique) I know of no one in the area who shares my interest in

UFOs. For that reason it is important that I keep up to date by reading. This month I had intended to order John Mack's book and possibly Linda Moulton Howe's. But how might I order them? If I go through a UK publisher, the cost is considerably more than if I order direct from the USA. May I suggest, then, for those of us who are a long way from the USA and an American bookstore, that you publish at the end of your articles the addresses or contact numbers for the publishers of the books you review?

I remain on the lookout for stories that might have something to do with UFOs, but the tales we hear of disappearing people, or objects in the sky are so laden with folklore that it would be very difficult to get to the truth of the matter. Nonetheless, I hope to start trying...in the meantime, I remain a reader, not a researcher of UFO stories. With thanks and best regards,

— Dr. Diana Cammack

Dear Diana,

Please make a note of the following and post it on your computer monitor or refrigerator door for future reference. You can get virtually any UFO book in the known universe from Bob Girard at Arcturus Books, 1443 S. E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, Florida, 34952. Fax: (407) 337-1701. Write for a catalog.

ROSWELL REDUX

In his letter in the June 1994 *Journal*, my colleague Kevin Randle makes a number of claims about Roswell-Corona case events which the record does not support. He also advances an "interesting" philosophy of investigative reporting. Below I address the latter and the two most significant of the former.

Randle writes that Frank Joyce claims to have "interviewed Mac Brazel on the radio on [Sunday,] July 6.... That interview was broadcast, to the best of Joyce's memory, on Sunday afternoon [emphasis added]." To my knowledge, this is the first time anyone has claimed Joyce interviewed Brazel on the air or, perhaps, recorded an interview with him which was broadcast later.

Nowhere in any of the published accounts of Joyce's story—including Randle's two books on the case—is there any suggestion Joyce conducted a radio interview with Brazel. Nowhere in any of the videotaped news and research interviews with Joyce does he claim to have conducted a broadcast interview with the rancher (I have viewed and reviewed as many of these as I could find, including the complete, unedited interview conducted by Randle for the Fund for UFO Research).

Further, when I interviewed Joyce (November 3, 1992), he made no mention of having broadcast an interview with Brazel. In fact, he told me he did not think much of his first contact with the rancher (a telephone conversation with Brazel as he sat in the Chaves County

sheriff's office on July 6 or 7), except that the man "might be a little crazy." He told me that, after suggesting Brazel or the sheriff contact Roswell Army Air Field, he went back to his disk jockey and news duties and neither thought much nor did anything more about the matter until the Army's famous captured flying saucer press announcement was released a day or two later.

Also, none of the numerous newspaper and wire service accounts of the story makes any mention of a radio interview with Brazel. Moreover, except for those few who had direct or official knowledge—and, of course, Frank Kaufmann (AKA Steve MacKenzie)—not one of the many people who were in Roswell at the time of the incident whom I have interviewed remembers hearing about Brazel's find until the story broke on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 8. I asked each explicitly if he or she had heard any reports or rumors about the discovery before July 8, and all said they had not.

Which brings me to Randle's assertions that the Army's press release was "designed to stop the spread of the rumors begun on Sunday by Joyce's broadcast "about strange debris" and to direct attention away from the impact site just north of Roswell where a craft and bodies are alleged to have been found. With respect to the former, there is not the slightest shred of evidence or credible testimony that there was such a broadcast or that there were any such rumors being put about. As for the latter, according to Randle, this was accomplished by referring to "a site 75 miles northwest of Roswell," which among other things led to "a newspaper story in the afternoon paper . . . [claiming] the 'real' site was 75 miles from Roswell." In fact, the release as reproduced by the Associated Press and several major newspapers (the only form in which it is available today) makes absolutely no reference to such a location. Rather, it states "the flying object landed on a ranch near Roswell sometime last week [emphasis added]."

As for the *Roswell Daily Record* story to which Randle refers, it states, "According to information released . . . over the authority of Maj. Jesse A. Marcel, intelligence officer, the disk was recovered on a ranch in the Roswell vicinity [emphasis added]." Clearly, if the purpose of the press release was to squelch nonexistent rumors and divert attention from the "important find" near Roswell, the perpetrators should have been cashiered from the Army for gross incompetence or, perhaps, disabled out as suffering from debilitating delusions.

Let me now consider Randle's curious philosophy of investigative reporting. With respect to the second- and third-hand and uncorroborated testimony of Frankie Rowe, Ruben Anaya, Barbara Dugger, and others regarding the alleged survival of "one of the beings," he notes "we included . . . [it] in the book [*The Truth About the UFO Crash at Roswell*] because that was what the witnesses were saying. We felt an obligation to

report, accurately, all that we had been told." Concerning inconsistencies in this and other testimony reported in *Truth*, he writes, "I believe we have an obligation to report all the data, not just that which we believe."

This is the throw-anything-and-everything-against-the-wall-to-see-what-will-stick school of "investigative journalism," and it has no place in serious investigative research. Such a philosophy "relieves" the investigator of any obligation to analyze what sources say, to compare the stories with known facts and each other, to carefully sort the wheat from the chaff from the "to be determined," and to make clear distinctions among these categories in his or her reporting. It may sell books, but it also sells out the search for the truth

— Karl T. Pflock
Placitas, NM

(Editor's note: Karl Pflock has been investigating the Roswell case almost full time for the past two years under a grant from the Fund for UFO Research. His report on the results of his work to date, *Roswell in Perspective*, has just been published. Copies are available from the Fund for UFO Research, PO Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712. Enclose \$25.00 plus \$3 s&h.)

WORD FROM WHITLEY

Dear Reader:

I would like to thank you for taking the time and effort to write me, and to tell you a little bit about what happened to your letter, and what's been going on with me.

First, I read your letter personally, and if it contained a description of experiences that was appropriate, it was then placed into the database of the Communion Foundation. This database is made available only to academically qualified scientists and doctors, and only with their written agreement to keep the names in it confidential.

In 1995, I am going to publish a new book about the visitors. The working title is *Beyond Communion: The Coming Moment of Contact*.

The reason that I'm going to do this is that there have been urgent changes. I understand why we cannot yet have permanent contact with the visitors in the physical world, and what we need to do to change that. In the months between August of 1993 and January of 1994, I had dozens of encounters, leading up to one that came within inches of permanent contact.

I feel that we're right on the razor's edge, and I'm hoping that the new book will enable us to make the breakthrough we've all been struggling toward for so long. I've discovered, also, that everybody is equal in this: my letters tell me that nobody is being singled out, nobody is special. Everybody reaches about the

same level of contact at the same time so when one breaks through to a new level, it's because everybody else is also ready.

To answer a few commonly asked questions:

1. The Communion Letter is no longer published. I published twelve issues over two years, and back issues are not available.

2. On my last television appearance, I said that I didn't think that the visitors were aliens, but that didn't mean that I thought they were some sort of dream. They are the most complex phenomenon humanity has ever encountered, and labeling them just pushes them away. What the visitors are is unknown, and we are never going to move this ahead unless we can learn to face them with empty minds.

Again, thanks for writing me. I'm sorry that I couldn't answer you personally, but I get around five hundred letters a month.

— Whitley Strieber



GEORGE R. COYNE
1918-1994

Former Central Regional Director, George R. Coyne, passed away on July 18, 1994 after a series of illnesses. He was the husband of Shirley A. Coyne, State Director for Michigan and MUFON Director of Field Investigator Training. George and Shirley joined MUFON on September 6, 1983 and have successively served as Co-State Section Directors, Co-State Directors for Michigan and hosted the MUFON 1986 UFO Symposium in East Lansing, MI. MUFON has regretfully lost another faithful and dedicated leader.



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TAKEN: INSIDE THE ALIEN-HUMAN ABDUCTION AGENDA, from Dr. Karla Turner, author of Into the Fringe. Eight detailed abduction accounts & little-known aspects of the phenomenon. Book & companion audio cassette are \$24.45; book is \$17.45, from KELT WORKS, PO Box 32, Roland, AR 72135.

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GERARDA M. DESANTO, PSY. D., licensed clinical psychologist (#PY 5078) & certified hypnotherapist is interested in helping UFO experiencers in a therapeutic context. Write 101 N. State Rd. 7, Suite 3, Margate, FL 33063 or call (305) 849-8914.

FORGERY NOTICE! Regretfully, an unbalanced Los Angeles area individual who claims a false connection to a famous explorer has been writing insulting letters to ufologists and signing, misspelled, my name. I did not send these letters. Jon Erik Beckjord, Box 9517, Marina del Rey, CA 90295.

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AUGUST 1994

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Venus reaches a point farthest E of the Sun on August 24, shining then at -4.3 magnitude. It can be seen in the W after sunset until the end of twilight. Our bright neighbor is 3° above the lunar crescent on the 10th and 1° below the star Spica on the 31st.

Jupiter (-1.9), in Libra, remains conspicuous in the SW at dusk and sets in the W about 10:30 in mid-August.

Saturn (0.6), in Aquarius, is nearing opposition on September 1. The ringed world rises in the E about 8:30 in midmonth and proceeds across the southern sky during the night.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Mars (1.2), in Gemini, rises in the NE about 1:30 AM in mid-August. The little planet stands about halfway up the E sky at dawn. It lies near the crescent Moon on August 3.

Saturn lies in the SE at dawn.

Meteor Shower:

In recent years the Perseids have put on a spectacular show owing to its passage through a dense portion of debris from the shower's parent comet. An intense extra peak (300 meteors per hour) has preceded the normal peak (60-100/hour). If this year's extra maximum occurs at all, one prediction places it between 4 and 7 AM EDT on August 12, favoring North America. An earlier or later peak would favor Europe or the western U.S. (and Hawaii), respectively. The normal peak is expected on the night of the 12th-13th. A crescent Moon interferes slightly before about 10:30 PM. The shower continues in lesser numbers through mid-August.

Moon Phases:

New moon—August 7



First quarter—August 14



Full moon—August 21



Last quarter—August 29

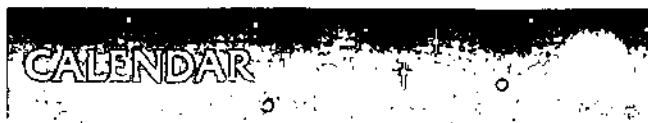


The Stars:

August evenings bring the Summer Triangle high overhead. Brightest star of the three is Vega in the little magical harp of Orpheus, Lyra. Look for a crooked rectangle below Vega marking the strings of this lyre. The star Deneb indicates the tail feathers of Cygnus the Swan. The long neck of the soaring bird stretches out to Albireo in its head. Albireo is double, with blue and gold components visible in a small telescope. The swan's wings point outward to either side, making the constellation cross-shaped. Altair is the third star in the triangle, marking the head of Jupiter's eagle Aquila.

The eagle and the swan fly in opposite directions along the Milky Way. Arching overhead from N to S, the band of del-

icate pale light can only be appreciated far from our light-polluted towns and cities. The Milky Way represents the edge-on view of our wheel-shaped home galaxy of which our Sun is but one tiny star.



September 9, 10 & 11 — Third Annual Midwest Conference on UFO Research, Hotel Radisson, Springfield, MO. For Further information call (417) 882-6847

September 10-11 — 4th Annual New Hampshire MUFON Conference, Yokens Convention Center, Portsmouth, NH. For information write to: N.H. MUFON, P.O. Box 453, Rye, NH 03870 or call (603) 436-9283 or (603) 673-3829.

September 16-17 — 31st Annual National UFO Conference, Radisson Inn near Cleveland, Ohio Airport. For information write to UAPA, P.O. Box 347032, Cleveland, OH 44134 or call (216) 826-1357.

October 8-9 — "The UFO Experience" - Holiday Inn, North Haven, Connecticut. For information contact Omega Communications, P.O. Box 2051MJ, Cheshire, CT 06410-5051, U.S.A.

October 14-16 — 2nd Annual Gulf Breeze UFO Conference, Pensacola Grand Hotel, Pensacola, Florida. For information write to Project Awareness, P.O. Box 730, Gulf Breeze, FL 32562 or call (904) 432-8888

November 27 - December 4 — 4th International UFO Congress Convention, Peppermill Oasis Resort in Mesquite, Nevada (1 hour north of Las Vegas). For further information contact Bob Brown, 4266 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611. Tel: (510) 428-0202.

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 24*

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To order your copy of "UFOs: The Best Evidence" please send a check or money order for \$66.90 to: UFOs: The Best Evidence, P. O. Box 2249, Dept. C, Livonia, Michigan 45151.

LARRY KING TO NARRATE UFO PROGRAM

On October 1, 1994, Larry King will provide the commentary for a two hour TV UFO special on the TNT network. It has been in production for several months, however we are unable to disclose any details, except to say the Roswell case will be featured and Area-51. Mr. King made a brief announcement to this event on his program, "Larry King Live" on CNN, the evening Michael Walsh and Walt Andrus were guests, discussing western Michigan sightings.

COSMIC CONSPIRACY: SIX DECADES OF GOVERNMENT UFO COVER-UPS

For those of you who do not subscribe to *OMNI* magazine or buy it at the newsstands, the April 1994 issue—a UFO special—inaugurated a six-part monthly series by our own Dennis Stacy, editor of the *MUFON UFO Journal*, running through the September 1994 issue. Editor-at-large Pamela Weintraub is to be congratulated not only for their UFO special, but for recognizing the writing talent of Mr. Stacy. We heartily recommend the six-part series to all of our members and readers.

NATIONAL UFO INFORMATION WEEK

Virginia M. Tilly, Director of Public Education, has announced that the National UFO Information Week has been scheduled for August 13 through 21, 1994, which includes two weekends. Now is the time to start preparing exhibits, information literature handouts, closed circuit TV of UFO videotapes, and specifically making reservations at local shopping malls and libraries. This is an ideal event to educate the public to the UFO phenomenon and its implications to the scientific future of the world.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL OUT OF PRINT

The third edition of the *MUFON Field Investigator's Manual* is temporarily out-of-print. It has been removed from the MUFON Publications List. Work is progressing very well on publishing an expanded version to be identified as the fourth edition in the near future. Please do not delay conducting Field Investigator training classes due to the absence of the fourth edition. Some sections or chapters of the present manual are only being updated, whereas new sections on abduction investigations, animal mutilations, crop circles, and poly-

graph will be new. Explicit instructions on completing Form 1 and Form 2 will also be new. An expanded section on interviewing witnesses by Dan Wright will be an asset to the new manual.

The availability date and price will be announced in the *Journal*. Please do not back order the new manual since it will be doubled in size, and the price has not been determined from the printer. We are excited about the fourth edition, since it will be a state-of-the art publication.

THE ROSWELL DECLARATION

OMNI magazine will publish a two-page spread in their October 1994 issue in which they will explain the Roswell Declaration and on the second page the actual Roswell Declaration as published by *IUR* and the *MUFON UFO Journal*. Signed copies of the Declaration will be sent to either the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) or the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). MUFON has already received over 1700 signed declarations from the original articles by Kent Jeffrey.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the annual MUFON Board of Director's Meeting in Austin, Texas on July 10th, **T. David Spencer** (Austin, TX) was elected to the position of Deputy Director, Investigations, to fill the vacancy created by the untimely death of **Jerold Robert "Ron" Johnson**. Mr. Spencer will continue to fill the role of UFO Database Administrator. The Regional Directors will forward their completed UFO sighting reports to Mr. Spencer at 6700 Woodcrest, Austin, TX 78759 for final approval and entry into the MUFON computer database file.

The board also elected **Tom M. Whitmore** (San Antonio, TX) to become the new Treasurer to replace **John Donegan** who is retiring from the board and executive committee. Mr. Donegan has faithfully served as MUFON's Treasurer for 19 years after MUFON moved its headquarters from Quincy, Illinois to Seguin, Texas in 1975. Mr. Whitmore is also the State Section Director for Bexar County (Texas) and will be a very active member of MUFON's Executive Committee. He will also be responsible for UFO research grant funds payable through MUFON by the Bigelow Foundation.

Our office manager in Seguin, Mrs. **Virginia Castner**, will also become Assistant Treasurer, since she has basically filled this role for the past 17 years.

GULF BREEZE UFO PHOTO ANALYZED

Recognition and thanks must be extended to **Bland Pugh** for his coordination of the feature article appearing in the June 1994 issue of the *Journal* and to **Ed Walters** for the use of his enlarged color photographs.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Walter Andrus

NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

MUFON 1994 UFO SYMPOSIUM

The MUFON 1994 International UFO Symposium, commemorating our silver anniversary, held in Austin, Texas, on July 8, 9, and 10, exceeded our expectations. This was especially true for the attendees due to a wonderful slate of 13 speakers and additional musical treats during the reception. The guests were exposed to congenial southwestern hospitality in the capitol of the Lone Star state.

Accolades and roses must be extended to **Ellen R. Stuart**, host chairperson, and her outstanding symposium committee composed of **Monte Stuart**, treasurer; **S. Miles Lewis**, audio-visual; **Andy and Victoria Abercrombie**, hospitality; **Bobby MacPherson**, reservations; **Monte Stuart**, transportation; **Lemoine Pitman**, registrations; **Joe Juliano** and **Sherry Lee**, publicity; **Ed Surma**, master of ceremony; and **Ed Newsom**, sales and exhibits.

For those of you who were unable to attend the festivities, the *MUFON 1994 International UFO Symposium Proceedings* (306 pages) submitted papers, were published from the 13 speakers plus Richard H. Hall, who was unable to attend pending hip surgery. The proceedings are available from MUFON in Seguin, Texas, for \$20 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling, mailed fourth class book rate. Orders from foreign countries must be by International Postal Money Order, cash in U. S. dollars, or a check issued and made payable to a U. S. bank with electronic coding on the bottom of the check.

NEW OFFICERS

Colin H. Paule (Adelaide) volunteered to become the State Director for South Australia. **Arnold Dunning**, M.S. (Bangor, ME) presently a Research Specialist in Zoology has accepted the additional responsibilities of Assistant State Director for Maine and State Section Director for Hancock, Penobscot, and Washington Counties. **F. Joe Lewels**, Ph.D. (El Paso, TX), a Consultant in Communications, has agreed to assume the dual positions of Assistant State Director for western Texas and Assistant State Director for southern New Mexico.

Leland P. Bechtel, Ph.D., Maine State Director, has appointed the following three people to be State Section Directors: **Ann L. Hebold** (Raymond) for Cumberland County; **Leslie Bugbee** (Skowhegan) for Somerset County; and **Abe A. Kreworuka**, B.A. (Weld) for Franklin County. Nine additional State Section Directors were appointed this past month. They are **James G. Bouck, Jr.** (Schenectady, NY) for Fulton and

Montgomery Counties; **James B. Cormia** (Ilion, NY) reassigned to Herkimer County; **Edward J. Mills** (Juneau, AK) for the Juneau area - R.E.A.A. #18; **Robert G. Teets** (Terra Aha, WV) for Preston, Monongalia, and Tucker Counties; **Lavere M. Pisut** (Granville, TN) for Putnam County; **Tom M. Whitmore**, B.S. (San Antonio, TX) for Bexar County; **Richard C. Gardner** (Oklahoma City, OK) for Alfalfa, Grant, Kay, Garfield, and Noble Counties; **Doris G. Barley** (Yuma, AZ) for Yuma County; and **Louis J. Traficante**, Ph.D. (Kingston, MA) for Plymouth County.

CONSULTANTS AND RESEARCH SPECIALISTS

Five new Consultants volunteered their expertise and talents during June. They are **Louis J. Traficante**, Ph.D. (Kingston, MA) in Biochemistry; **Christopher D. Dore**, Ph.D. (Lincoln, NE) in Anthropology; **H. H. Robinson**, D.D.S. (Lake Charles, LA) in Dentistry; **Robert J. Sbordone**, Ph.D. (Laguna Beach, CA) in Psychology, and **Andre Strishak**, J.D. (New York, NY) in Law.

The following people became new Research Specialists: **Joan K. Hunt**, M.A. (Alexandria, VA) in Nursing; **Warren E. "Ed" Benjamin**, M.S. (Wichita Falls, TX) in Political Science; and **Carol Ann Graham**, M.A. (West Branch, MI) in Guidance and Counseling.

POTENTIAL BREAKTHROUGH IN UFOLOGY

A very significant UFO meeting was held in St. Louis, Missouri, on June 17, 18, and 19 where the officers or representatives of the three major UFO groups in the United States—CUFOS, FUFOR, and MUFON—met to organize a coalition council to administer cooperative UFO grants. Financial funding has been made available to support the most ambitious program to fund research and investigation in UFO history. At an appropriate time and place, a press release from the three participating organizations will announce further details on this major breakthrough.

UFOS: THE BEST EVIDENCE

George Knapp, TV UFO documentary producer, has just released the first of a series of UFO related video documentaries titled *UFOS: The Best Evidence*, composed of a set of three tapes subtitled "The Visitors," "Strange Encounters," and "The Government Coverup." In my opinion, this three-volume documentary series is the finest produced to date and comes highly recommended.

The three programs are now selling for the introductory price of \$59.95 plus \$6.95 for shipping and handling. If you purchase the handsomely-boxed videos now, you will receive a bonus of a few dozen pages of authentic UFO documents, squeezed out of our reluctant government through the Freedom of Information Act.

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