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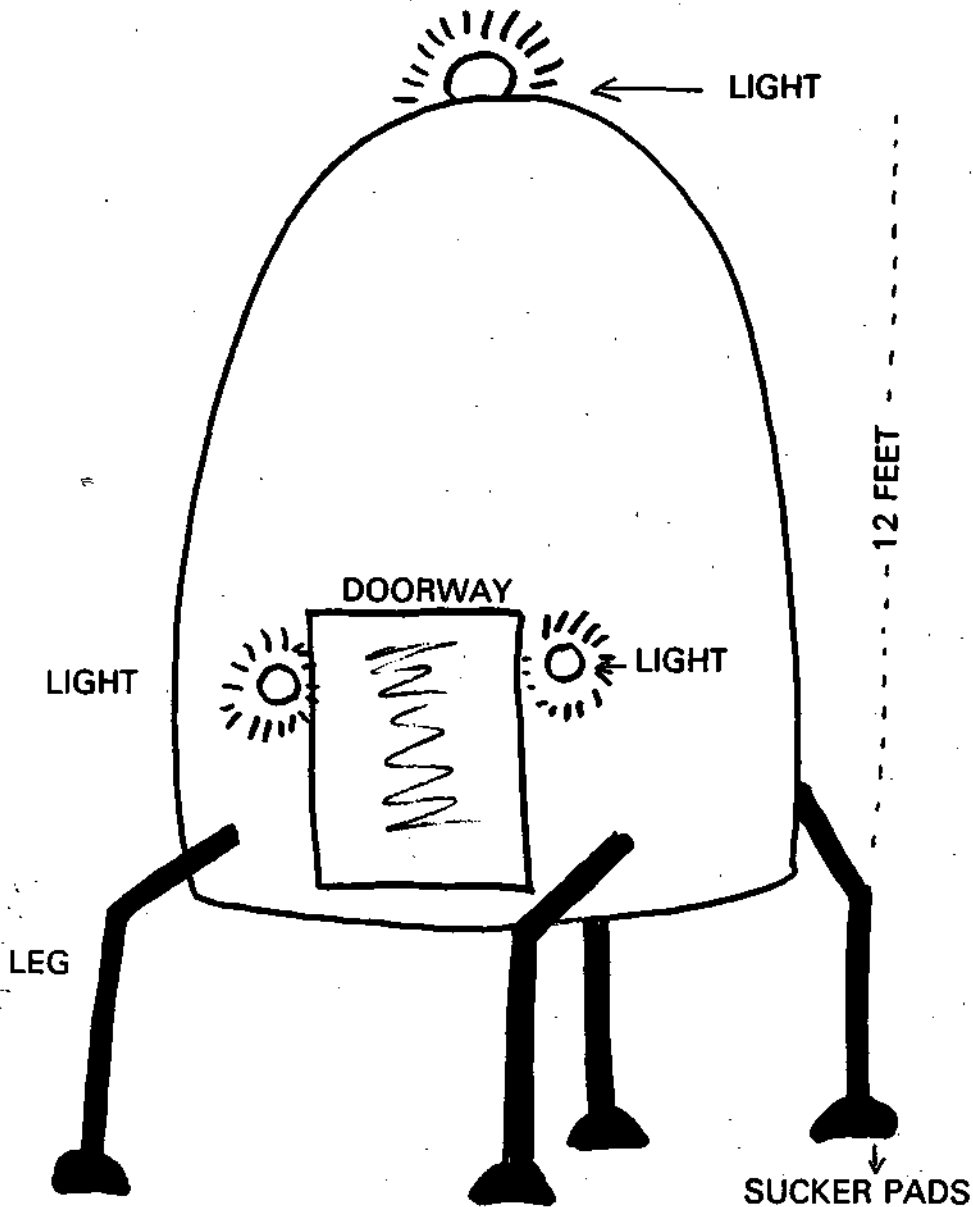
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SOUTH AFRICAN UFO IN HUMANOID CASE

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FROM THE EDITOR

An important function of any serious UFO journal is to keep its readers informed of hoaxes and errors. In this issue we discuss some instances of questionable information that has been entered into the literature, and also some examples of borderline UFO sightings that may or may not be explainable. Occasional case studies of this type can be informative, and they can serve as examples to keep us on our toes.

We cannot, however, devote the majority of space—all too limited—to that "90%" of IFOs. It is the "10%" of UFOs that promises to yield information of scientific value, and we intend to focus attention on the mystery, not on the smoke screen. Still, it is important to realize and keep in mind at all times that the vast majority of things that get reported as "UFOs" are natural or conventional objects, but not always obviously so. Careful and thorough investigation often is needed to identify the culprit.

This smoke cloud always has obscured the important cases, and is mistaken by skeptics as being the entire story. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to screen information and encourage thorough investigation in the process of singling out for attention those cases that establish UFOs as a real mystery.

In this issue

MYSTERY AT MINDALORE	3
By Cynthia Hind	
CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH E-M AND PHYSICAL EFFECTS	8
By Raymond E. Fowler	
UFO OR AIRCRAFT?: A CASE STUDY	10
By Willard D. Nelson	
FLAGRANTE DELICTO IN THE AFLAFLFA? SACRE BLEU!	13
By Ted Bloecher	
UFO ABDUCTION HOAX	14
By T. Scott Crain, Jr.	
1965 HUMANOID CASES (News)	14
UFO TECH NOTE	15
By John Schuessler	
CALIFORNIA REPORT	16
By Ann Druffel	
IN OTHERS' WORDS	19
By Lucius Farish	
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE	20
By Walt Andrus	

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(Mindalore, Continued)

embankment as they could, towards the light and the new road which sloped down away from the embankment. "As we came closer," Meagan said, "I could see it wasn't a plane of an ordinary kind. We approached it from the side actually, and we were rather worried as we got closer and I didn't know what was going on. It looked so odd! But I am a nurse and I felt that if there was any trouble at all, perhaps I could be of help. At least, I could call for an ambulance or something like that, or give them assistance on the spot."

As they drew nearer to the object, Meagan could see that whatever it was, it was encased by this pink light; a very bright, *absolutely pink* light. Both she and Andre were adamant about the colour of the light. It completely surrounded the craft, although Meagan could see no light which might have caused the glow. There were two lights on either side of an opening they could see in the side of the craft, and one on top of it. The same pink glow seemed to emanate from within the opening.

"As we walked up towards the edge of the road, I could see the craft—and as far as I am concerned, it was a craft of some sort—was standing straight on the road, although the road itself is at a slant away from the edge where we were. The object was also egg-shaped from the top down. At the bottom, where it appeared the egg-part had been cut straight across, it was supported by four legs. They were 'spider' legs—not very thick; about 10,16 cms and a sucker pad fixed each leg onto the road. The legs were about 1,22 meters high."

What height was the craft above the legs?

"Well, I'm not very good at estimating heights, but it must have been about that height altogether"—indicating about 3,66 meters—"When it was on the ground."

How wide was the craft?

"It fitted nicely into the yellow lines on the road."

When measured on site, I estimated this to be about 4,88 meters, but I feel there might be some doubt as to this. It was dark and the light distortive. There seems to be some uncertainty about the width; it might

indeed have been narrower.

I asked Meagan what her impressions were at the time.

"I was very confused. I didn't know what it was."

Was she afraid?

"No, I wasn't afraid, because I thought it was some sort of aircraft, perhaps some experimental aircraft. It was unusual, but then you get all sorts of unusual things nowadays." She laughed loudly, "I certainly didn't think it was something from outer space. I don't really believe in those things, you know. I haven't read anything about it either so it wouldn't have entered my mind anyway."

I asked Andre what he had seen. "It looked like this," he said, doing a quick drawing on the back of a cigarette box. There was no doubt about the egg-shape. The rest was also similar to what his mother had described.

Meagan said, "Frank Norton (UFO investigator in South Africa) said that I was fabricating the story. I told him, 'Oh no, if I was going to lie about something, I wouldn't involve my 12-year-old son. What mother would lie with her child unless she was a bit round the bend. Especially when the child is very sensitive and getting ready to go to High School.'"

Meagan went back to the story. "As we stood there, we spoke together quietly, wondering what it could be. It don't know why we were so quiet, it was almost as though we didn't want to be overheard." And then, as they came even closer to the craft, 5 or 6 men stepped out of the opening onto the ground.

I asked if they had seen anyone near the object before the men appeared. "No," Andre said. "They only came out as we got there." Meagan added, "One or two of them went to the left hand side of the craft, away from us. Andre and I have discussed this, but we are not absolutely sure if there was one man or two."

Two of the men remained near the center of the craft and the other two came to the side where we were standing. One of the two near to us was talking quite a lot and the other one was answering in monosyllables. The one who was doing all the talking had a high-pitched voice, and the words

sounded rather sing-song, but we couldn't actually hear the words, just the sound of it."

Andre interrupted, "I saw one of the men on the far side bend down and pick up some sand from the sandy bit off the edge of the tarmac. They were talking and I saw this man lifting the sand in his hand and he let it trickle through his fingers."

Meagan added, "I actually saw them bend down and touch the tarmac but I didn't see them do anything with the sand."

I asked Meagan if she thought she could identify the language.

"No, I've tried. The closest I can put it down to is Chinese. But it wasn't Chinese. I can't imitate it because I've got a deep voice and his was very high-pitched. It was broken up and quick, that's what made me think of Chinese."

Could either of them see the men's faces?

"We couldn't see them too clearly. They were all covered up by their overalls with only their faces showing, except for two of them: the one nearest to me and one on the far side. Their heads were uncovered."

Of the two men approaching Meagan and Andre, the one with his head uncovered had thick dark hair which was 'curlish' and a beard. "And then suddenly," Meagan said, "the one who was doing all the talking obviously realized that we were standing there, for he said something to his companion. At the same time, he took a step back as though handing over to the bearded man."

"We were standing at the top of the embankment on a level with the men and I had the impression of looking slightly down at them. They weren't tiny. I'm 1,7 meters tall and they came up to my chin. I would say they were about 1,58 meters. They were very slender in build though."

Meagan said the suits covered them completely so that one could not see any muscles or anything like that. Except for the two mentioned, the suit went over their feet and right up to their heads, leaving only the face visible. The hands were clear, as far as she could recall, and they appeared to be quite normal.

What was the colour of the suits?

MYSTERY AT MINDALORE

By Cynthia Hind

(Copyright Cynthia Hind, 1979)

Mindalore is a suburb of Krugersdorp, a town some 26 kms from Johannesburg, South Africa. The houses are not big, but modern and attractive, placed on wide tarmac roads and surrounded by large open spaces and sweeping hills. In the area, a considerable variety of minerals are mined, such as high grade manganese, iron, and asbestos. There are three uranium plants within the municipal area of Krugersdorp.

The Mindalore case was brought to my attention by a local newspaper report in *The Herald*, a leading Rhodesian newspaper, and I managed to contact the witness, Mrs. Quezet, who agreed for me to interview her if I flew down to South Africa. This I managed to do on the afternoon of Friday, January 12, 1979. I arrived at about 4:30 PM on a darkening afternoon with driving rain and was met in Johannesburg by my daughter Lindsay and her husband, Richard. They had arranged to drive me to Mrs. Quezet's house immediately after eating supper and we actually arrived there shortly after 8:15 PM.

Meagan Quezet, a housewife in her thirties, lives with her French-born husband Paul and her two sons, Gary (8) and Andre (12) at 14, Saul Jacobs Street, Mindalore. Although Meagan trained as a nurse, she did not complete her training, but is obviously an intelligent and questioning woman. At our first meeting, I had a feeling of slight antagonism from her, but I was not surprised when I heard how she had been inundated by telephone reporters, and some "crank" callers. However, as the evening wore on and she became aware of my genuine interest in UFOs and my extensive knowledge of previous cases, the feeling improved and I think when we finally left the Quezet home, I had

gained a certain amount of trust from the family.

Meagan told me that late on Wednesday evening, January 3, 1979, she was sitting in the lounge finishing off a book she had been reading. She remembers looking at the clock and noting that it was 10 minutes to midnight. Just then her elder son Andre came into the living room saying that he had been unable to sleep and could he make a cup of tea for both of them? Meagan readily agreed. She said, "I think Andre was getting bored with the school holidays"—in South Africa the long summer holidays occur during December/January—"and he was also anxious to start High School."

It was then she heard their part-bred Daksie dog, Cheeky, barking outside. Cheeky had recently been knocked down by a passing motor-car and his back had been badly damaged. He had only recently been nursed back to health and Meagan didn't want anything else to happen to him. Meagan went outside and called to Cheeky but she soon realized that he had managed to get outside the gates and she knew that if she left him, he would bark and bark and disturb the neighbors.

She went to their front gate calling to the dog, but by that time Cheeky had gone up the road. Realizing that Cheeky would sooner come to Andre than to her, Meagan shouted for him to come and help her get Cheeky back into the garage. "I was also worried about the area," Meagan said. "There are always people wandering about after dark and I wanted Andre to come with me up the road to find Cheeky."

No 14, Saul Jacobs Street is about mid-way up the street. At the top there is a T-junction, and the road crossing there is called Tindall Road. However, beyond that, about 12 meters further up, there is a road running parallel to

Tindall Road, which actually has no connection with it at all. This is a newly-made road, a connecting link between the factory area of Chamdor and Luipaardsvlei Industrial Area, and used mainly by heavy traffic during the day. Very little traffic passed that way during the night.

When they neared Tindall Road, Meagan saw Cheeky still barking frantically, together with most of the neighborhood dogs. At the same time, she became aware of a bright pink light on the top road. She said to Andre, "Look, they've got lights on that road up there."

"No, there aren't any lights up there, Mom," he replied.

"Well then, what's that very odd looking thing there?" Meagan queried, pointing to the pink glow she could see above the road. Her immediate reaction was that it was a light aircraft come down on the road. She mentioned this to Andre, quite convinced that she was right.

Worried by this possible eventuality, they moved quickly up towards the top road. The access is through some ditches and uneven ground, overgrown with grass and small bush, and steeply slanting to the top road. This embankment has not yet been cleared and it provides an excellent place for children and their dogs to play.

Meagan couldn't think of any other explanation for the very bright pink light. She said it might have been a police car with its light on the roof, but she couldn't hear anything and normally the police car light had a sort of 'whoo-whoo' sound to it. Also she realized that the light was quite high up on the road, as though topping a plane of some sort.

They moved as quickly up the
(continued on next page)



Andre and Meagan in their back garden.
 (Copyright: Cynthia Hind, 1979)

"White ..." Meagan said hesitantly. "Andre thought they were pink, but I think that was the effect of the glow off the light. They were definitely white .. they had this pinkish effect from the light."

Was there a sheen to the suits?

"No, just absolutely white."

Did they notice the colour of the craft?

"It was a metallic-lead colour. That was the impression I got," Meagan said. "It had no contours to it, no fins or anything like that, just smooth."

Andre added, "The colour was like a fishing weight — like the ones we use when we go fishing."

Meagan said, "The body of the craft was quite smooth. I could see nothing on the sides at all. There might have been something on the other side, but I didn't get to see that. I would have loved to have gone round and inspected the other side, but you know, you only think of these things afterwards."

Meagan noticed that the bearded man was looking at her all the time. Still looking at her, he bowed low to the waist and said something. Meagan thought it was a greeting of some sort.

All the time, his eyes never left hers.

Andre said, "The man said something with three syllables in it. I heard it quite clearly."

Sheepishly, Meagan said "Hello" and laughed nervously. She said, "The one with the beard, whom I presumed was in charge, had ordinary black hair. But his skin was dark, like the Middle Eastern people, a sort of olive. But he wasn't black." Meagan felt herself drawn to the man with the beard. She laughed, "I have always liked men with beards."

She couldn't see the colour of their eyes, but the bearded man's eyes were quite normal, like an ordinary person's eyes. I asked if they were slanted, or large and round. Meagan said, "No, but I must tell you something. I don't know if this means anything or not. I had the impression that the bearded man's eyes were quite translucent, as though I could look *through* his eyes. I know it sounds a silly thing, and maybe it was a reflection of the pink light in his eyes."

While the man greeted her and bowed, Meagan just stared at him. And then suddenly, for the first time since the sighting, she had a feeling that

something was not quite right! Something was not quite normal. Andre was standing slightly behind her and to her left.

She said to him, "Andre, go and get Daddy, and run, please run." Meagan said, "I think I shouted at Andre, loudly." Andre said, "I ran straight away. I was frightened. I didn't expect to see anything like this."

I asked if they thought the men appeared to be threatening. Meagan said, "Well, he spoke to me and I just stared at him. Then he said something to the other man and that one in turn said something to the others. They weren't having any lengthy conversation, just sort of mono-syllables." But the next thing she knew, they had jumped back into the craft.

I asked if they had climbed in through the doorway, and if so, were there any steps? "No, there were no steps, but the opening was about 1.22 meters off the ground. The door was in the middle of the far side from us. But they just stepped in."

"Did they jump up?" I asked. "Yes, but I didn't get any impression of any effort going into it; they didn't heave themselves up. They just stepped up. And then one moment the door was open and the next moment it was closed. I didn't see the door close."

Within seconds of the door shutting, Meagan heard a buzzing noise. She described it as sounding "like bees in a hive" — that was the closest she could get to the sound. And then suddenly, the legs elongated to about three times their length.

"The legs came from the bottom end of the craft and they elongated to the size of the craft itself when it stood on the ground."

"So that the overall height would now have been about 6.1 meters high?" I asked.

"Yes, I would think so."

In the meantime, Andre who had been going down the embankment as fast as he could in the dark, stopped when he heard the buzzing noise. Meagan herself stepped back. She was afraid; she didn't know what was going to happen next.

She said, "I was a bit frightened. I didn't know whether to run or what.

(continued on next page)

(Mindalore, Continued)

And then suddenly the object seemed to right itself; it went slightly to the left from where it was. Then the legs started telescoping into the craft. I must tell you I hadn't thought of that word 'telescoping' — the legs just started to withdraw into the craft, but one of the reporters who came to interview us, suggested that the legs 'telescoped' into the craft, and it is a much better word. The legs went straight up into the craft. It hovered for about a second or two and then it shot off into the sky, very quickly. The clouds were very low that night. The whole thing looked just like a pink light and it went straight up into the clouds and disappeared in about 30 seconds. But the clouds were coloured that pink colour for quite a while after it had gone."

I asked how long it was from the time they first saw the object until it took off.

"I think it was about 10 minutes," Meagan said. "It's difficult to time time when you don't have a watch." She laughed. "I can tell you it seemed much longer. I remember my mouth going dry — terribly dry, when I shouted to Andre to go and call his Dad. I was scared stiff then. I am an outgoing person, so I was very interested in what was going on all the time but just the same, I was frightened! I can't explain it to you; it is the most unusual thing I have ever seen in my life."

When the craft took off, what did she do?

"I watched it for some time and Andre had come back to the top of the embankment again by this time. He'd stopped running when he heard the buzzing noise. And then as he came to stand beside me, I said to him. 'You see, it's gone up.' He was watching and he just said, 'Yes, I can see.'"

I asked if they had any impression of power when the craft moved off?

"No. It was a slightly windy night but I didn't get any impression of jets or flame or anything like that, or even any extra wind. It was quite chilly and windy, but no different from how it had been before."

What did they do next?

"We just stood there for a moment or two, quite flabbergasted." Then they walked quickly down the hill to



Top road showing width of object, Andre in background.

their house. Meagan's intention was to wake her husband up immediately, but as they walked home she realized that there was nothing he could do. After all, the craft had gone! Paul was manager of a workshop and his hours were long and hard. He was always tired and Meagan mentioned that he was afraid that the stress and strain of his work would lead to a heart attack. He went to work early and came home late. Meagan felt she would not be justified in waking him now to tell him the story. The morning would do just as well.

Andre however, wanted to wake his father right away and tell him the story. "No," Meagan said. "We won't wake Daddy because he is so tired and what could he do about it now anyway?" She said she had thought about it and decided against it. "He doesn't get enough sleep as it is." Meagan and Andre sat in the lounge for a little while discussing the event.

I asked if they had thought of phoning the police.

"No," Meagan said. "It didn't occur to me. I thought it was something unusual but I really didn't know what to do about it. In any case, by this time it

was 10 minutes to one, so I thought the best thing we could do was to go to bed."

In the morning, Andre decided to test out the story on his younger brother Gary. Andre said, "Would you believe me if I told you....." When Andre had outlined the story of the night before, Gary said "No," very firmly. Then Andre phoned his father who had gone to work before they were awake. Paul was a bit skeptical at first, but then Andre told him that Meagan had also seen the craft with him.

Meagan says, "I spoke to my husband and told him the story. I asked him what he thought it could be and he said. 'It must be a UFO. It sounds like a UFO.' He asked me if it was really true, did it really happen? And then he said I must phone the newspapers."

Meagan had noted recently, while driving in town, a sign which had said "Associated Newspapers." So she decided to phone them, although she was almost certain they would think she was crazy. "But Andre saw the same thing as I did; we can't have made it up or sucked it out of our thumbs," she said emphatically.

When she phoned the newspapers, a man there said, "Just a moment. I want you to talk to one of my colleagues about this. I'll phone you back."

"This he did," Meagan said. "And they asked Andre if he had seen Star Wars or Close Encounters of the Third Kind and Andre said 'No.' He was feeling so embarrassed about the whole thing."

Since then, Meagan and Andre and the Quezet family have been inundated with phone calls and callers, some from newspapers, some from private people. There have been hoaxes, cruel ones, for no rhyme nor reason, but naturally one has to accept that there are mentally ill people all over the world. One of the calls was from a man who purported to be from the *Daily Mirror* in London.

He gave a name and an address and told Meagan in return for exclusive rights to the story, his paper would fly her and her family to England and France for two weeks holiday, all expenses paid. She did not expect to make any money from her story, but it was a wonderful offer and she was delighted to accept. They arranged to call on her at 2: PM on Saturday, January 13. The Quezet family were terribly excited about the prospect of the trip; Paul had not been home to France for many years. But on the Saturday, no one turned up. Nor did anyone phone. The basis of such a hoax seems completely sick to me.

Meagan also had genuine calls from England and America. The *National Enquirer* wanted to put her under hypnosis, but she was wary of this. She said, "Andre is a 12 year old and going through a difficult age. I don't like hypnosis. I told them I would undergo a lie detector test anytime they wanted me to, but hypnosis, that is something quite different." She laughed. "Perhaps if they arrange to insure me while I am undergoing the hypnosis, I might do it. Because things happen under hypnosis. The hypnotist might say, 'What happened when you went into the craft?' and they could be suggesting things to me which I know I didn't do."

I explained to Meagan that whilst I felt one could not accept the total

reliability of regressive hypnosis, I did not feel it would harm her. At the time however, Meagan would not change her mind.

On Thursday, January 4, Meagan and Andre went back to the spot where the craft had stood. They could see nothing unusual. There were no marks on the tarmac and although the sand on the side of the road where the men had stood was a bit disturbed, there was also a ditch nearby where men were working to place a pipe in position.

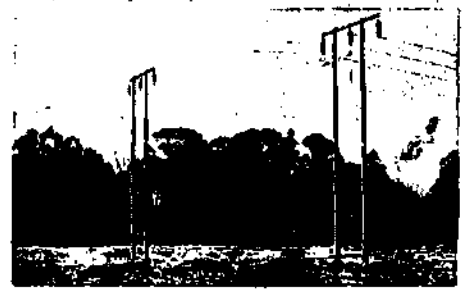
"There were sections of the ditch which had not yet been filled in, so it could have been something to do with that," Meagan said.

I asked if they had noticed any physical after-effects, but Meagan said "No." An interesting point of note is that Meagan had started her menstrual period a week earlier than expected, and immediately after the incident. This was not normal for her and she was surprised that I asked, but said she felt herself that it might have been due to the stress and excitement of the incident.

On Sunday, January 14, Lindsay (my daughter) drove me back to Mindalore. Meagan, Andre, and Cheeky (the dog) led us to the spot on the road where the craft had stood. I timed our walk from the house, which was quite leisurely, to the embankment at the top, and it took less than 5 minutes to reach. Beyond the top road (we cannot at the moment trace the name of this highway) and on the side away from the houses, there is a large stretch of open ground. To the left and far in the background — certainly a few hundred meters away — there is an old mine dump. Meagan told me that we were standing on the site of an old gold mine.

I noticed immediately that where Meagan and Andre indicated the craft stood, was almost directly under some electrical power lines (see picture). This was the only part of the road where the power lines crossed. There were no other power lines in the vicinity.

As I stood on the spot where the craft had been, I called to Cheeky and he came to me readily, so he showed no fear of the area, and there was obviously no scent which he could be afraid of. However, it is important to



Electric power lines within few meters of landing site.

note that there had been some heavy rains in the area since the night of January 3/4 which might have destroyed any ground evidence.

There were no signs of burn marks on the tarmac, and as there was no foliage in the immediate vicinity, I could look for no evidence there. I examined the ground closely on either side of the road to a depth of about 2-3 meters, but could detect nothing untoward. Where the men had been working, the ditch was not filled in, so any evidence of the sifting of the sand would have been destroyed by now.

I was subsequently in contact with Dr. Wim Ahlers of the University of Witwatersrand Planetarium. He told me he had no reason to doubt that Mrs. Quezet and Andre were telling the truth. Frank Morton, of whose credentials I am unaware, but who styles himself as UFO consultant to the Planetarium, informed me later that when questioning the neighbors, it had been learnt that Meagan Quezet was a highly imaginative woman. Morton has subsequently labelled the whole incident "a hoax" although I am still waiting to hear on what reasons he has based his assumption. My impressions on the telephone of Mr. Morton were good, although I must admit he referred to a well-known UFO case in relation to Meagan Quezet's report, and his reference was inaccurate!

On the Sunday, I had occasion to talk to Paul Quezet alone. He said, "My wife is a highly strung person, but she would not lie."

What has worried me most about this case is the time factor: Meagan had noted the time Andre first came into the lounge which was 10 minutes to midnight. She had looked at the clock

(continued on next page)

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH E-M AND PHYSICAL EFFECTS

By Raymond E. Fowler

On January 6, 1979 at 0035, I received a telephone call from the Massachusetts State Police Headquarters, Boston. At 0022, they had received a teletype message from the Sturbridge State Police Barracks, concerning several UFO sighting

(Mindalore, Continued)

again shortly before she and Andre went to bed, and it was then 5 minutes to one in the morning. It took them 5 minutes walk (maximum estimate) to the top of the embankment, either way. Assuming it was about 5 minutes before they left the house to look for the dog, and 10 minutes watching the craft on the ground (I think this time factor is questionable, I would say much less time was involved) would account for 25 minutes of time.

Assuming they spent about 10 minutes discussing the event after they returned to the house (again, I think this is over-estimated) this would bring the total time accounted for, up to 35 minutes. And yet, Meagan looked at the clock at 10 minutes to midnight and 5 minutes to one, a total time of 65 minutes.

Personally, I think there is a discrepancy of about 30 minutes plus or minus!

On January 25, after I had been back in Rhodesia for a week, Lindsay phoned to say that Meagan had now agreed to undergo hypnosis, but only if I was present at the same time. I phoned through to her immediately pointing out that it was too expensive for me to fly down again, but that I could arrange for a reliable psychiatrist to do the regression, and she had agreed. I am not sure when this will be done, but I am hoping to have a full report of that available in the near future.

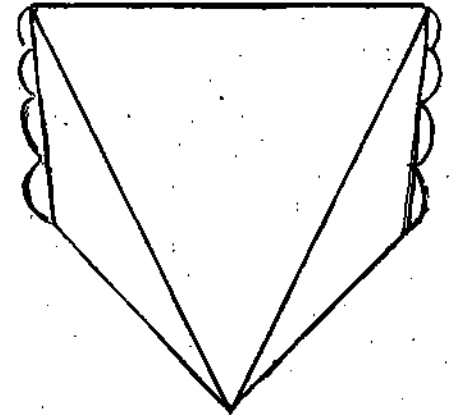
In the meantime, I present the case of Meagan and Andre Quezet as it stands.

reports they had received on the evening of 5 January 1979 and shortly after midnight, in the early morning hours of 6 January 1979. The Charlton Police Department reported to the Sturbridge State Police that they had received a "Big-Foot" creature sighting on the evening of 5 January 1979. (They also had a similar report on 28 December 1978). One caller had reported a "diamond-shaped object" which hovered 100 feet over her car. Another called on the morning of 6 January and said that UFOs had caused a traffic jam along Route 49 during the early evening hours of 5 January 1979. One caller did identify himself — Tom Emery, who lives with his parents in Springfield.

Tom Emery had called on behalf of his sister who had experienced a close encounter with 3 UFOs while travelling along Route 90 to visit her parents. I called his sister Anmarie Emery, and taped a telephone interview with her on the morning of 6 January, 1979 and on the evening of 7 January 1979, while she visited her parents. I visited her personally on the evening of 12 January 1979, at her apartment in Boston.

Anmarie departed her place of employment (a hotel in Cambridge) at about 1820, 5 January 1979 to visit her parents' home at Springfield. She had hoped to leave earlier but had to catch up some work first so got a later-than-planned start. She proceeded with no stops other than about a 5-minute delay at two toll-booths.

She first noticed 3 red-glowing, triangular-appearing objects flying over woods to her left (South) shortly after she passed through the Auburn area at the junction of Route 90/290. They were flying in precise formation about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the road. She noticed several cars that had slowed and assumed they were watching the objects. They looked strange so she slowed, put down her



**Massachusetts UFO,
January 5, 1979**

driver's window to listen for an aircraft engine sound but could not hear anything. The objects glowed all red and had red-blinking lights to their rear. (See sketches). At one point, she thought she saw four but realized that it was just a flashing red beacon atop the Massachusetts Turnpike Maintenance Depot radio tower. She had slowed to view them through the open window just about 100 yards beyond this tower. Anmarie was driving a 1970 Ford Maverick. Her radio (AM) was playing and tuned to WHYN. Her CB radio was on but with the volume turned down. There was moderate traffic.

When she reached the Route 90/86 interchange, all other traffic exited to Route 86 (Sturbridge/Connecticut/New York) and she found herself travelling alone. About a mile after this interchange, she climbed a hill and turned a corner. There was no traffic in her west-bound lane and the east-bound lane was blocked from view by a hill. When she rounded the corner, she sighted 3 glowing red craft hovering over the road directly in front of her car. Simultaneously, her radio stopped playing, the CB radio light blinked out and its indicator needle dropped, and the car slowed smoothly to a full stop. Please note that the car has standard

transmission and was in 3rd gear and the engine continued to run! Anmarie became totally paralyzed and could not move except her hands shook a bit as she gripped the steering wheel. Her foot remained on the accelerator pedal which remained depressed but the car would not move. The red light from the closest object was so bright that she felt the heat on her face. A strong pungent odor filled the car which she described as a "sweet skunk smell."

The objects were in the same type formation that she had noted earlier when they were flying in the distance. The closest was only 20 feet away and 10 feet above the road. The second hovered to its right, at the same height, but about 40 feet away. The third hovered to the first's left, at the same height, but about 60 feet away.

The objects appeared to be shaped like 4-sided pyramids with their apexes facing her. They appeared to be made of a smooth glass-like substance. The red light seemed to be emanating from within the objects but had no noticeable point source as the glow was uniform all over. Four brighter red, blinking portions protruded along either side of the back of the objects as if there were four red bars located at the rear of each that were protruding. They blinked slowly, once every 2 seconds. Anmarie felt totally mesmerized and although the face-off seemed to last a long time, she estimates the close encounter was only 2-3 minutes in duration.

Her face felt hot and flushed and her eyes watered. Then, a distant headlight could be seen in her rear-view mirror. Concurrently, the objects accelerated straight up, one at a time. The nearest one left first followed in succession by the next nearest and the farthest craft. They all moved away at an altitude of about 300 feet. Each had swung around at "about like a 2-o'clock position" and they all moved away and disappeared behind a distant hill toward the northwest. The objects were out of sight in about 30 seconds. As soon as they left, Anmarie's AM radio began playing, the CB radio light blinked on and the needle swung up and her car began to move. She could now move.

She arrived home sometime after 2000. Her mother saw her flushed face

Mark R. Herbstritt
Astronomy
Notes

THE SKY FOR MARCH 1979

Mercury — On the 7th, it is at greatest elongation east (18 degrees) and the planet stands about 15 degrees above the horizon at sunset.

Venus — It rises 1½ hours before the sun and is very low in the southeast at sunrise.

Mars — Though technically a morning "star," it is too low in the sky to be seen.

Jupiter — In Cancer, it is high in the southeast at sunset and sets before sunrise.

Saturn — In Leo, it rises at about sunset and sets at about sunrise, being at opposition on the 1st.

(like a mild sunburn or high fever) and the dazed look in her eyes and immediately asked Anmarie what was the matter with her. Anmarie retorted that her mother would not believe her if she told her. In any event, she told them what had happened. She did not want to call the police because she felt that they would not believe her so her brother Tom phoned the Sturbridge State Police barracks. They in turn teletyped the data to Boston State Police Headquarters who phoned me.

The flushed appearance/feeling of her face disappeared. There was a bit of rash or peeling of skin around her eyes and above her nose on the following day which healed quickly. Her automobile is operating fine. The paint on the hood shows no sign of blistering or peeling.

An interesting feature about the objects was the way they turned. The nose would drop about 45 degrees in a turn. The nose also dipped while they were in the hovering mode in front of the car. Unfortunately, Anmarie never saw the full back of the objects so we do not have a detailed description of the blinking red lights/bars(?)

1978 MUFON SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS (131 Pages)

A SURVEY OF CEIII REPORTS FOR 1977 by Ted Bloecher. New York NY Co-Chairman of Humanoid Study Group and MUFON State Section Director

1967: THE OVERLOOKED UFO WAVE AND THE COLORADO PROJECT by Richard H. Hall. Brentwood, MD Editor of THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL and former International Coordinator

RETRIEVALS OF THE THIRD KIND by Leonard H. Stringfield. Cincinnati, OH. MUFON Director of Public Relations and State Section Director.

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS by Illobrand von Ludwiger. West Germany. Director of Mutual UFO Network Central European Section/MUFON-CES.

UFOs AS A SPACE-TIME SINGULARITY by Dr. J Allen Hynek. Evanston, IL. Director of the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) and former Astronomical Consultant to the USAF

BEHIND THE UFO SECRECY by Major Donald E. Keyhoe. USMC, Ret., Luray, VA. Author and former Director of National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

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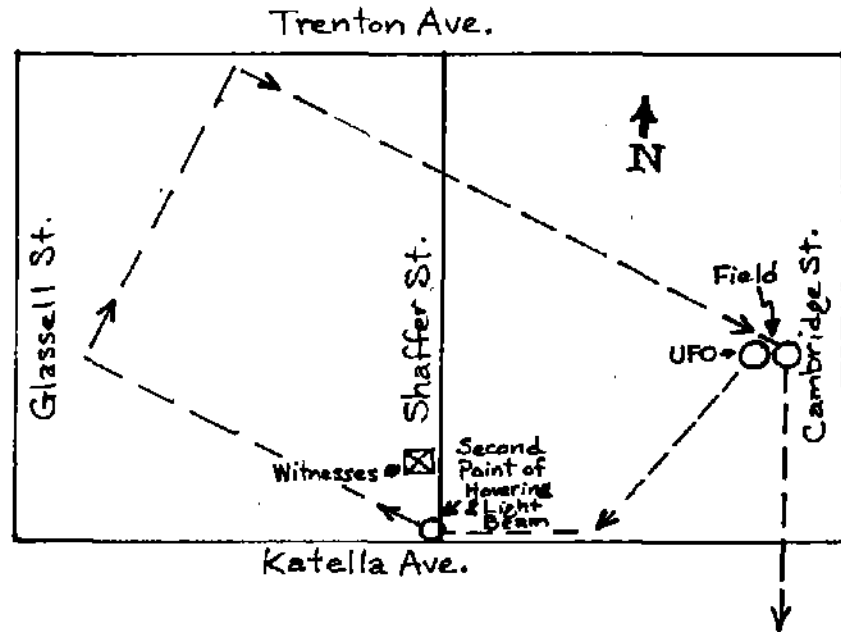
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UFO OR AIRCRAFT?: A CASE STUDY

By Willard D. Nelson

(This report illustrates problems of investigation and evaluation in borderline UFO reports that contain some "typical" UFO-like features, but in which witness psychology and subjective impressions play an important role. The lighting conditions and the generally "low" performance of the objects might suggest aircraft, but some details — if accurate — would contradict this explanation. —Editor)

On Wednesday evening, September 27, 1978, at 9:20 PM, Earl Goff, 20 was sitting in his upstairs apartment bedroom in Orange, California, watching TV when a flash of light out the window caught his eye. He saw a lighted object which at first looked triangular, or boomerang-shaped, because of the arrangement of lights. It hovered at an estimated 200 to 300 feet above the ground and he could see it straight in the east approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away above the apartments and beyond some trees. Because it looked so odd, he raced downstairs and across the street, and banged on the door of his young married friends, Pat (21) and Sue Campbell (19), yelling for them to come out and see what he saw. They came into the street and all claim amazement. "It's a UFO, isn't it?" Earl asked. Pat Campbell admitted that was a direct suggestion, but he was hard pressed to think what else it might be. It hovered in that spot perhaps $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. They saw a number of very bright steady white lights in two rows, with a blinking red light centrally located among them. All the lights went off and another light beamed down to scan the ground, a vacant field, Earl thought. Its size at that time was claimed to be a hand width at arm's length (or almost 340 feet wide at 1300 feet away); however the boys later guessed its size at 150 feet wide, while wondering if that weren't an



Apparent course of UFO, September 27, Orange, California.

underestimate.

The object then moved south for a half block, coming directly over Katella Avenue. It began heading west toward them, right above the busy street. Earl cried out for anyone to get a camera, but no camera was available. Two other neighbors came out to watch, Margaret Murphy (43) and her daughter, Shelly. Earl and Pat ran down Shaffer Street to the corner at Katella and watched the object slowly approach, seemingly just above the 50-60 foot telephone poles along the street. It moved precisely and silently, "as though by mind control." Cars under it were passing it since they were going approximately 40 mph while it rolled along at 15-20 mph. As it neared, they could see it really was a lens-shaped object. The top half above the lights appeared darker, "a faded brown." It seemed huge. Pat said it must have been 8 hands across as it reached the intersection at a 60-degree angle above them. At the estimated 200-300 foot elevation, it would be 300-

350 feet wide. Whatever its size, Pat said Katella Avenue, a four-lane boulevard, "was like a runway for it — it seemed to overhang the street's edges. It made no noise at all. No type of combustion noise." Earl was waving his arms and screaming at traffic to stop and look up. Some may have pulled to the curb, he didn't know. They may have thought him a madman.

At the intersection the object stopped to hover for 30 seconds. All other lights turned off again, and the "strange white light shone bright on the ground around us." This scanning light made a complete 360-degree sweep around them at about 75 feet distance. It didn't shine directly on them. It was odd, bluish, shadowless. "There were no reflections." They felt as though they were being watched. Pat even had the irrational thought, he admitted ruefully: "Take me." Earl admitted fear in the midst of his excitement.

The spotlight went out, the other lights went on, and the object began

moving again, emitting a small sound like the wind as it started. It angled across the neighborhood, going northwest toward Glassell Street, then changed to northeast toward Trenton Avenue, then eastward back toward its original position, always at the same elevation. Each change of direction was sudden. "The next moment it was just moving in a new direction. Beautiful control. Very steady and smooth." At this point Pat was on a garage roof, Earl in the street below. It had far outpaced their running efforts to keep up. After transiting the neighborhood, it hovered about 10-15 seconds in its original position while the scanning light searched the ground once more. It then moved directly south, going out of their view over the trees and housetops. The behavior was "as though it was looking for something" and the observation time had lasted a total of 5-6 minutes.

Helicopter?

At this point the question naturally arises whether this was a police helicopter. Orange police do not have a helicopter and they said that they did not request helicopter assistance from any other agency that evening. Anaheim, the nearest city with a police helicopter, has a Hughes 300 "with a quiet kit," according to Helicopter Sergeant Webb. It has a 1.3 million candle power searchlight and when it is on, the other lights probably would not be visible because of contrast. For September 27 the Anaheim police log shows that it was north of the city of Orange at 8:55 PM, and at the corner of Katella and Tustin Avenues at 9:02 or 9:03. This latter location is only 1/2 mile farther east and in line with the line of sight of Earl Goff's first noting the object. However, the police record shows the helicopter logged in at the west end of Anaheim, 9.33 miles away, at 9:16 PM. It would have averaged 43 mph (not 15-20) to cover the distance in that time, and the police logs appear accurate within a minute or two. Also, the UFO departed in a southerly, not a westerly, direction. The matter of time becomes crucial here. Earl, Pat, and Sue claim the time of the sighting to have been between 18 and 20 minutes after 9:00 PM.

Further comments by the Orange

Police Centrex Operator, Res. Off. Collins, are interesting. Officer Collins stated he received a call that night which he still remembered 10 days later. "The person said she saw a large black object. It appeared as if the sides were bending downward. Like a disk." Pressed for the time or the identity of the caller, he said it had to be close to 9:00 PM, but he couldn't add any more detail. He volunteered, "I hope you can resolve something on that," indicating a frank interest in the events that evening on the part of the police. Sue Campbell had also called the police at 9:30, and Earl Goff says a police cruiser came around the intersection of Shaffer and Katella 10 minutes after the call. It is tempting to speculate that the overhead "black object" was the same object that later attracted Earl Goff's attention as it lit up with a flash.

Al Lawson, another investigator in this case, talked to Orange police the day after the sighting. Mike Leintz, dispatch officer, stated to Al that "two people sighted some dark black object" on the call that Officer Collins had taken. "When the second person called" (probably Sue Campbell) "they were told another person had already reported the same thing."

Lynda T. (35), an instructor at Federal Truck Drivers' School in Orange, independently saw the Wednesday evening event. She lives in the same apartment complex as Pat and Sue Campbell, and knows them. Says Lynda, "I just stepped out in back of my apartment and saw it. I thought it was my imagination, or that my eyes were playing tricks on me. It must have been about 9:30 PM. Yes, it cast a light down. It was moving west along Katella."

Mrs. Margaret Murphy and daughter Shelly were neighbors who came out to view the object after Earl's initial call for witnesses. Reportedly they were willing to be interviewed by me, but before I was able to talk to them there was a near-tragedy in their family, so it became inappropriate to pursue an interview at this time.

For whatever it is or isn't worth, it might be noted that these days of September 27-29 encompassed a large solar magnetic storm which affected communications on earth, according to



General configuration of UFO, September 27-29, 1978, Orange, California

astronomers.

Second Sighting

On Friday evening, September 29, 1978, the group of friends were sitting on the lawn in front of Earl Goff's apartment "as they usually do." Earl, Pat, and Sue Campbell, Vila and Charlie were five of the group. Also present were several "older people" — Linda T. (an independent witness of the previous Wednesday event) and Doug W. (29) her friend, also an instructor at the Truck Driver's School. Earl's mother, Marge, who lives in the city nearby, was also reported to be present, but because of her business connections she apparently does not wish to be contacted as a witness. She did say, "It's all very interesting. The witnesses all seem to agree," about what happened next.

Vila was saying: "It'll never come back to the same place twice!" It was 8:55 PM. Suddenly a flash of light drew the attention of the group to the east and Earl and Pat were certain that Wednesday's UFO had come back again! And in the same spot as before. The others were in various states of uncertainty as to what they were seeing.

Let's start with Sue Campbell's testimony. "I'm not sure of their shape but they were gigantic lights, not points, 3 maybe 4 in a row. It was like Wednesday when I was just amazed at the brightness of the lights, but this time they were in a different pattern." Color? "I saw no red, like Wednesday. Others did. Just the white." Shape? "So dark. Couldn't be sure of any shape. Maybe a dark shape. Same problem as Wednesday with the strong lights — getting the eyes adjusted to anything behind them. Except it was a more definite shape Wednesday." How did

(continued on next page)

(Orange, Calif., Continued)

you know about it? "The flash, and there it was. Sort of like it appeared from nowhere. Like a light bulb that burns out when you turn it on, you know?" Location, movements? "More to the south than Wednesday, but maybe even closer and lower."

Linda T. and Doug W. said they both saw "the second one" on this Friday night. Said Doug, "It was very slow at first. Three giant big lights. Like great big white spotlights. No shape to lights. Made out a shape to the craft like an inverted saucer. I never paid any attention to UFOs and I sure don't go out looking for the things but, like they say on TV, it was like two saucers, one inverted on the other, with big lights where they joined. It accelerated fast, then, to the south. It had one blinking red and green light, one port and one starboard. Blinked about one time per second." He insisted he'd seen a lot of aircraft and helicopters when he was in the Navy and knew what they looked like. When I suggested it might have been a large aircraft with landing lights on, first pointed at them, then banking to the south, he rejected that. "It was too erratic to be an airplane, it moved back and forth. It was hard to see a shape behind the lights, but it moved so fast when it did move that I couldn't connect it with an airplane." Doug sent me a sketch of what he thought he saw. He strikes me as a forthright, responsible person. Among other things, he talked about wanting to institute a much-needed class in driving safety at the truck drivers' school.

Meanwhile, Earl Goff was ready this time. He'd borrowed a movie camera the day before, hoping that the Wednesday UFO would return so he could get some record of it. He and Pat had spent nearly the whole previous night on a garage roof, waiting. He ran into his apartment to get the camera. He said when it reappeared it seemed that it would repeat the same pattern of movements as on Wednesday, but when he started filming "it just faded back quickly, like it didn't want to be filmed." Pat reiterated this. "At first it came down close in front, but it got away fast when we started filming. Like it knew."

Next began the great UFO chase.

Pat and Earl jumped into their car and followed it south along Shaffer Street at 40-50 mph. This time the UFO did not move serenely: "It was making abrupt movements like I've never seen anything make before," said Pat. During the chase, they claim they lost sight of the UFO and resighted it approximately three times. From Shaffer they reached Collins and turned east toward Tustin Avenue. It seemed to be hovering "like it was waiting for us to take footage." They shot some footage while it was over a large open space (schoolyard). Then it took off again, moving in many different directions but generally in a southerly direction. They said it was a bumpy ride and the film would show the UFO bouncing. They were going south on Tustin, a four-lane street, making all of the green lights. They entered the Garden Grove Freeway, westbound, because the UFO then seemed to be heading westward by south. They stopped along the freeway shoulder and filmed since it was now hovering south of the freeway. It moved, they followed. They had the feeling that "it seemed to try to stay away from us". It now was moving southeast, lower than the tops of buildings in downtown Santa Ana. They got off the freeway to double back, but it had vanished when they looked for it again. It had only been a minute and they had not actually seen it depart. Their descriptions were poetic. "Like it went into time travel or like there was a door in the sky and it just went into it." (Earl). "Like it opened up a cloud and just stepped into it. It was very strange." (Pat).

Earl's drawing showed three lights on the same lens shape he drew for Wednesday night. Doug's drawing was very similar, except for proportions and the red and green lights at the extremities of the shape. Earl said he saw the green at some time during the chase.

Analysis

This could have been a chase after a slow moving airplane with funny lights (an ad plane?). I estimate the thing covered about 5 miles as the crow flies in the 10 minutes they chased it, from Katella in Orange to downtown Santa Ana. That's 30 mph average, too slow for an ad plane unless it cut back and

forth to cover 7 or 8 miles. I do not know of any ad plane that carries such bright lights. A large aircraft's landing lights seen head-on are very bright like spotlights in the sky, but a large plane would have covered the distance to Orange County Airport (just south of downtown Santa Ana) in a minute or two.

Earl was emphatic: "It wasn't an airplane!" Pat couldn't say what they were seeing but rather wanted it explained to him. Doug's testimony appears to support the "it wasn't an airplane" theory. The unfortunate part of all this is that the movie film had run out of the camera before Friday night and the boys didn't know it. Since the motor was running on their borrowed Ricoh Super 8, they thought it was getting pictures. I've seen the developed film and it shows airplane landing lights they filmed the evening before from the garage roof. . . "for comparison if we get a real UFO on film." But there it ends. We are left with only the credibility of all the witnesses, which I'd judge as average. The level of excitement seems to rule out fraud, to this investigator, but I cannot rule out a "folie a deux" phenomenon. Earl and Pat were excited and dominant witnesses, but even so they were acting somewhat dubious about what they were chasing Friday night, insisting that: "There was no question about Wednesday night, that was for sure!"

So I am left with only a question at this point. Did the UFO come back another night because of all the mental energy and interest directed toward it?

Effort beyond the ability of this investigator would be required to run down all the various ad planes and light configurations on aircraft today. But that something strange may have been going on in the Los Angeles basin is evidenced by the story of two ladies who saw something early Thursday morning, on the 28th, just nine hours after the first Orange sighting, but 38 miles away. "Like big diamonds, jewels, in the sky. Like two big eyes watching us. It was so still and quiet. Like time was standing still." So described Freda Kerswill who, with her sister, had just gotten out of their car at the Queen of Angels Hospital, where they work. It was 6:25 AM.

FLAGRANTE DELICTO IN THE ALFALFA? SACRE BLEU!

By Ted Bloecher

(Co-Chairman of Humanoid Study Group)

Readers of the British weekly, *News of the World*, may have been titillated by an item in its edition of September 25, 1977, in which this CEIII with a special Gallic flavor was briefly described:

IT'S A FUNNY OLD WORLD

By George Edwards

A farmer couldn't believe his eyes when he saw a flying saucer land in broad daylight. "A man and a woman—both naked—jumped out of the machine," he told the police at Tout (sic), France. "They made love in the field three times then climbed back on the machine and took off. I tried to get nearer but a blast threw me off my feet."

Grimacing gendarmes filed the report under "Unsolved UFO sightings."

This bit of alleged alien hanky-panky *al fresco* was immediately passed on by the Humanoid Study Group to its ace French humanoid specialist, Jean-Luc Rivera, to whom we are indebted for having assembled the following information.

Zut alors! Something seems to have happened to the translation of the story in its journey across the Channel. Mr. Rivera has provided the probable source for Mr. Edwards' tantalizing little tale. In my own free translation from the French, we find the following story in *France Soir*, from its edition of July 7, 1977:

TWO MARTIAN NUDISTS

A native of Dolcourt, near Toul (Meurthe-et-Moselle) had his afternoon nap cut short by the appearance of two Martians. Flabbergasted, he saw a helicopter land in his alfalfa field. A couple got out, dressed in the altogether.

"Adam and Eve" made three trips around the field and got back into the helicopter, which took off into the air.

Convinced that what he had seen was a UFO, the farmer went to the local gendarmes to report his sighting.

So, we have Mr. Edwards to thank

for turning "three trips around the field" in the buff into something a bit more provocative! (The word used in the French account is *tours*; of course that does rhyme with *amours*, where in may lie Mr. Edwards' error). And it seems to have been convenient for Mr. Edwards to omit any mention of a helicopter.

Ah, but wait, *mes amis*, there is more! The Paris newspaper's account may be traced back to an even more local representation from the Gironde newspaper, *Sud-Quest*. In its edition for July 4, 1977, once again with my translation *libre*, we find the following account:

TROUBLED BY MARTIANS

It's not every day that one can see Martians got up like Adam and Eve. Last Wednesday (sic) a farmer from Dolcourt (Meurthe-et-Moselle), who was napping underneath a tree, suddenly heard a commotion from a herd of cattle that were stampeding to the far end of the field.

Getting up to check, he was "struck to the ground by a powerful wind from an engine" that descended and landed in the alfalfa field. From it emerged a completely nude pair who very shortly got back into the machine. Convinced that he had seen a UFO, the farmer went off to the local gendarmes to report his strange experience.

Now, for the *denouement* of this reported romp in the alfalfa, we are indebted to the Groupe Prive Ufologique Nanceien, in Nancy. In a letter dated August 15, 1977, from GPUN's secretary, M. Robe, to the Groupe d'Etudes des Sciences d'Avant-Garde, of Bruges, Belgium, we are finally able to discover what *really* was going on in that field of alfalfa. The letter was reprinted in GESAG's UFO-INFO #49 (September 1977) on page 28, my own translation of which follows:

We have since been able to conduct an inquiry at the scene. The description of a UFO was complete news to the inhabitants

of the village, as well as to those of the neighboring village.

The witness was not present but we questioned the mayor and several of the residents. The incident took place on June 6, 1977, a helicopter from the National Geographic Institute having landed in a field near the village of Dolcourt, where there was a young lady sunning herself in a bathing suit. Her father, who was working in an adjacent field on his tractor, took notice and drove closer for a better look.

At no time did the witness speak of UFOs, nor of Martians.

The farmer, M. Flauss, complained to the Gendarmes of Toul simply because of the landing of the machine in his field. The hoax was thus one by the local press, and it is truly a sorry business to have to mix the UFO phenomenon into this incident. . .

As the GESAG correspondent, Jean-Luc Proust, so aptly concludes in the UFO-INFO account, "Here's a fine example of journalistic irresponsibility." But the first prize for this special award goes, of course, to *News of the World* and, especially, George Edwards, who have turned this *canelard de presse* into a *canard d'estime*.

We must doff our *chapeaux* to Mssrs. Robe and Proust for having set the matter straight. And last but not least, to M. Rivera, for having brought it to our attention.

NOTE TO AUTHORS

Articles for MUFON UFO Journal should be typed, double-spaced, using paragraph indents. Photographs (glossy), sketches, and other artwork are welcome. Please use India Ink or other comparable dark ink for sketches and diagrams. The maximum length is about 4,000 words or about 12-13 manuscript (double-spaced) pages. Multi-part articles are not encouraged unless the content is of extraordinary importance. Shorter articles are always needed.

For case reports, please begin with a summary in narrative style. A formal report outline is not appropriate for the Journal. Technical matter and documentation can be presented in tables, charts, or graphs; footnotes and references may be used. Above all, the article should be readable. Summarize what you are reporting in one or two concise paragraphs, then elaborate the details in subsequent paragraphs. Use short paragraphs.

UFO ABDUCTION HOAX

By T. Scott Crain, Jr.
(Pennsylvania State Section Director
for MUFON)

The recent disappearance of Frederick Valentich over Bass Strait, Australia last October, has generated a renewed interest in another UFO abduction case that purportedly took place in July 1952. As reported in the Spring 1979 issue 13 of TRUE FLYING SAUCERS & UFOs our protagonist, Fred Reagan, flew his Piper Cub towards a shining lozenge-shaped object and was involved in a mid-air collision. Reagan's plane crashed but he was suspended in the clouds and teleported up into the UFO. After being placed in a dimly-lit room, Reagan was approached by creatures looking like "huge stalks of metallic asparagus," and was told they were sorry their vehicle accidentally collided with his, and they were here only to observe our primitive civilization.

In reparation for the loss of Reagan's plane, the creatures told him they cured him of cancer, a disease he unknowingly had. The occupants returned Reagan to earth near his crashed plane, warning him not to reveal this experience, for no one would believe him.

Normally reports such as this might be considered pure fiction, but because of the recent publicity this incident received in True's spring UFO issue, this researcher felt compelled to set the record straight. To my knowledge, the original article appeared in ACTION magazine, May 1953. It was later reprinted in FLYING SAUCER NEWS June 1963, and finally again in TRUE'S UFO quarterly in 1979.

What makes this UFO-abduction case so tantalizing, is a news report which appears to have originated out of Atlanta, Georgia, in May 1953:

SAUCER PASSENGER DIES

Atlanta—May 16. Fred Reagan, who made headlines last year when he claimed he had been a visitor aboard a flying saucer, died today in the State Asylum for the Insane. Cause of death was determined to be degeneration of brain tissue due to extreme

atomic radiation. Authorities are unable to offer an explanation.

Looking at the article and news dispatch at face value, it appears something very mysterious may have erupted here. However, in October 1972, UFO researcher Kurt Giemser wrote to the Georgia Department of Public Health requesting a copy of the death certificate for Fred Reagan and the facts surrounding his death. In response, Miss Martha Pattillo, Assistant Director of the Vital Records Unit, wrote back, "We checked all the spellings of Reagan we could find but were unsuccessful in locating any record of the death of the person in whom you are interested." The alleged newspaper clipping reprinted above appeared in the original article in ACTION, but could not be traced to any newspaper I could find.

In conclusion, the story seems to have no substance at all. In view of the fact there is no death certificate, no C.A.B. aircraft accident report could be found, and no positive proof the incident even occurred, what we have left appears to be the ramblings of a ghost writer's vivid imagination.

1965 HUMANOID CASES

(In summer and fall of 1965, a major wave of UFO sightings occurred in the United States, South America, Antarctica, and elsewhere. The MUFON Humanoid Study Group has located these newspaper references to South American humanoid reports during that period. Translations by Lex Mebane.)

From *Excelsior* (Mexico City), Sept. 10, 1965 (HumCat #666)

SEVERAL PERSONS ASSERT THAT THEY SAW AN "EXTRATERRESTIAL BEING" IN COATEPEC

Xalapa (Vera Cruz), Sept. 9.—A journalist, a herdsman, and two taxi

drivers in Coatepec state that they saw an extraterrestrial being on Avenida Campillo.

Enrique Vega, Adolfo Ramirez, Arturo Almanza, and Antonio Nieto say that they saw an individual dressed in black, with shining hands, who seemed to have "cat eyes", and who was carrying in his hand a metal or crystal rod which shed an intense light. Later on, the four went away, and when they came back to the place, they could not find him anywhere.

From *El Universal* (Caracas, Venezuela), Aug. 14, 1965 (HumCat #645)

A MAN FROM ANOTHER PLANET LANDED FROM A FLYING SAUCER IN SAO PAULO

The Strange Being—according to the cable—Visited A Workingman And Gave Him a Piece of Rare Metal

Rio de Janeiro, Aug. 13, (AFP).—"A crewman from a flying saucer landed in Sao Paulo and, in order to dispel the doubts of the incredulous, gave the railway employee, before going away, a piece of metal that does not exist on earth."

This is the statement on the first page of the reliable and influential "Jornal do Brasil", explaining that a railroad worker from the village of Cruzeiros, in the state of Sao Paulo, had a visit from a strange visitor from another planet, while he was quietly fishing on the bank of the Paraiba River.

According to the statements gathered by this daily paper, his name was given as Joao de Rio, the railroad worker in question. He talked in Portuguese with a strange little man, about 70 cm tall and with shining eyes, who authorized him to report the fantastic dialogue.

It was a little before getting back into his saucer that the midget gave him the piece of metal, which is now being analyzed in the laboratories of the Fabrica Nacional de Vagones, with the purpose of finding out the composition of the strange "calling card."

People living in the place assert that Joao de Rio has always been a reliable and trustworthy man.

UFO TECH NOTE

PROJECT VISIT DATA NEEDS DEFINED

By John Schuessler

Project VISIT (Vehicle Internal Systems Investigative Team) members are seeking consistent, correlative data from abduction cases. Working from the baseline of not trying to prove that a given abduction actually occurred, rather seeking clues from a number of cases, VISIT analysts are busy constructing a technological model of what is happening.

An in any scientific endeavor one must be able to replicate the experiment and then seek answers by carefully manipulating variables. To put abduction cases in this context it is necessary to consider a basic set of elements that can be repeatedly addressed. For VISIT purposes, five elements are considered to be important: (1) Baseline data, (2) the witness, (3) the vehicle, (4) humanoids, and (5) post-incident follow-up.

Baseline data establishes the basis for comparison of the cases. The VISIT format not only seeks the usual time, place, and weather information, it looks for more subtle elements as well; such as what the witness considers a comfortable environment (i.e., home thermostat setting, humidity level, motor, clock and animal sounds, etc.). Once a thorough baseline is established other elements can be readily compared from case to case.

Witness information covers a broad spectrum, ranging from personal comfort (discomfort), health state, and attitudes, to sensory data and physiological status during the incident. Of particular interest are sounds, odors, paralysis effects, and skin sensations like burning and tingling. Care should be taken during this phase of the investigation so as not to pass over seemingly insignificant facts. Bodily reactions can ultimately be utilized to determine the characteristics of a variety of vehicle systems.

Vehicle information should contain the classic eyewitness type data, including perceived size, shape, color, and movement. Equally important is the description of vehicle internal information. The witness can be helpful in this area by calmly explaining what was seen in familiar terms. As an example, a farmer would compare things to farm machinery, an actor to stage settings, and so on. The investigator needs to note and allow for this background and VISIT analysts will factor the conditions into the results. Additional data is needed at this time on lighting, air flow, surface temperatures and textures, and gravity orientations of fixtures.

Humanoid descriptions are important because they too can give clues as to the working of the machine. Our own space vehicles are designed to be compatible with astronaut physiology. Along this line the human factors experts have standardized many factors that affect systems design. Utilizing data on humanoid size, shape, strength, and dexterity, a comparison with the human design standards can lead to knowledge about the systems operated by the humanoids. Other factors, such as mouth and nostril size, apparent skin temperature, and body coverings leads to knowledge about humanoid metabolism and what types of life support they require. Unfortunately, the humanoid element is the most fear-provoking to the witness and is therefore least accessible to the conscious mind.

The post-incident period for the witness is extremely important to Project VISIT. It is during this part of the case that "proofs" can be gained. VISIT experts advise that the witness seek immediate medical assistance from his/her personal physician.

Recognizing that medical examinations are expensive VISIT suggests having the witnesses' physician consult with a VISIT expert on what would be most beneficial in the given situation. Because Project VISIT is a specialty group and not a popular membership organization all cases should be handled through one of the major UFO organizations. This can be done by calling headquarters of MUFON (512) 379-9216, CUFOS (312) 491-6666, or APRO (602) 793-1825, who will in turn contact the appropriate VISIT expert to assess the situation and relate what is needed. On the long term the witness should make sure any skin irritation is photographed for the record. Any unusual physiological or psychological developments should be closely monitored and reported. If hypnotic regression, voice stress analysis, or other assistance is needed it should be coordinated through the host investigative group. Project VISIT may be contacted by mail at P.O. Box 877, Friendswood, TX 77546.

DAILY EXPRESS, London, England

Jan. 3, 1979

U.F.O. over Lillyhall

In the Lillyhall area of Workington a target for Unknown Flying Objects

A man on his way to work at C.N. Print Ltd on the Lillyhall estate at Workington, was amazed on Wednesday morning to see a strange object in the sky.

It was about 4.30 a.m. just near the bridge at Mossbay when I saw it. It seemed to be over Lillyhall Miss Angela Dickinson, a passenger in my car, saw it too. It was about 4.30 a.m. I was near the bridge at Mossbay when I saw it. It seemed to be over Lillyhall Miss Angela Dickinson, a passenger in my car, saw it too.

He described the object as "a big silver dish in the sky. It was stationary and then moved and then was

stationary again and then it just vanished. I stopped my car to look at it. When it went, I don't know. I have never seen anything move so quickly."

Mr. Wadsworth got to work other colleagues had seen something. They feel it could not have been a meteor because of its behaviour.

On New Year's Eve numerous phone calls were made to Workington Police Station about strange sightings in the early evening again above the Lillyhall estate.

There were other sightings reported in the same area a few years ago.

"California Report"

By Ann Druffel

EAST SKY FROM SEPULVEDA BASIN 9:35 A.M.

11-15-78

1 ST. SIGHTING - 9:45 A.M.

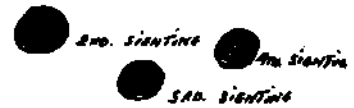


Figure A.—Witness sketch of UFO "like a huge mass of bees."

REPEAT PERFORMANCES AND THE WAITING GAME

The greatest frustration of UFO research is our inability to haul the phenomenon into a laboratory or produce it at will. We must wait until it decides to appear, and for the most part its performances are sporadic, short-lived and unpredictable. Therefore, in studying UFOs we must do the next best thing — attempt to correlate those repetitive, similar sightings which seem able to be classified as "UFO-types."

Sometimes classification is possible after distressingly long waiting periods. But the result is often worth the wait, for at times the "result" is identification of a "UFO-type" as a conventional, earth object.

Take, for example, the "exploding lights" which puzzled Los Angeles researchers during 1974 and 1975. Several cases filtered through SKYNET in which reliable witnesses, often in groups, reported bright yellow lights flying over the San Fernando Valley. While the witnesses watched, the lights "exploded" or expanded into great white fireballs which then disappeared without a trace. The following case was typical; it occurred December 20, 1974.

Patricia Benson and Eleanor Sawczak were driving west toward Sunland, which is the northern section of the Los Angeles Basin. The time was 11:15 PM. They saw a yellowish-gold, unblinking bright light, approximately five times as bright as a bright star. They temporarily lost sight of it, but at about 11:29 PM while approaching the Benson home caught sight of it, or a similar one, again. It was seen over Mount Wilson, to the north. As they watched, the light suddenly expanded to the approximate size of a full moon. Quoting Mrs. Benson,

The color changed from the original yellow-golden color to a very bright white light. I didn't believe my eyes; then a second yellow-golden light appeared, to the left and down from the first light, and it also changed in size and intensity of brightness as the first one. Just as the second one completed its change, a third yellow-golden light appeared to the right and down of the first and went through the same changes as the first and second. As number three completed its change the first one shrank in size and changed its color to the original size and color. It then disappeared. No movement, it just disappeared. The second and third disappeared in the same fashion.¹

The entire episode lasted about one minute, leaving the witnesses awed and puzzled. They were not alone. During succeeding months many other San Fernando residents witnessed identical "exploding" lights. MUFON investigator Rick Zimmerman and myself made attempts to find a plausible explanation of the phenomenon but met with no success. The objects were certainly not ordinary candle balloons or any similar hoax-type known to us.

Then, almost 4 years to the date of the Benson-Sawczak sighting, a small article appeared in the local newspaper.² It told of efforts of law enforcement officials to apprehend a hoaxer who had launched two homemade balloons, each about 10 feet high and each trailing a bag containing some type of explosive mixture, directly into the flight path of Orange County Airport, which is situated southeast of Los Angeles. In both cases, when the hoax balloons reached an altitude of 850 feet, the mixture within the bags detonated, causing a fireball 25 to 40 feet in diameter.

It seemed probable that this was the same type balloon which had

caused the mysterious exploding lights in the San Fernando Valley. Since the lights had not appeared in our area for a couple of years, I assumed our hoaxer had changed his residence to Orange County, and for that we were grateful. We were also glad that the nocturnal "exploding lights" had been taken out of the "unknown" class.

Now, in recent weeks, the San Fernando Valley has a brand-new type of UFO, as represented by the following cases:

About 9:00 PM on January 21, 1979, Mrs. Gail Z. and her three children were driving west on the Ventura Freeway near Sherman Oaks. They viewed a big round ball of light, flashing on and off, bouncing up and down, back and forth, and skipping around the sky. The object was white in color, and approximately twenty times the brightness of a headlight on a plane or about $\frac{1}{4}$ degree angular diameter. As the witnesses watched for six or seven minutes, the object repeatedly blinked out, then reappeared in a different part of the sky, each time traveling 20-30 times its own diameter in about one second.³

I made attempts to identify the object for the frightened woman, but could not label it as searchlights on clouds, reflections on her windshield, or any other conventional phenomenon. It remained on my charts as an unknown.

Then on February 9, 1979 at about 6:15 PM another woman witness, traveling west on Ventura Freeway, viewed what seemed to be the same phenomenon.

It first appeared as a clump of bright white lights, each many times larger than a bright star. The clump separated into three or four distinct lights, which blinked on and off, moved up and down, jiggled sideways, and then back and forth in reference to the

witness' position. They then began to move almost instantaneously across the sky in great leaps. These leaps were invariably heralded by a blinking off, then a reappearance in another quadrant of the sky. First seen in the north, they leaped to the east, then to the south, then back to the west in front of the witness. The awe experienced by the woman seemed to preclude a simple explanation, such as in the Z. case above. The duration of the sighting, as in the Z. case, was seven minutes.⁴

Is this type of report destined to sit in SKYNET report charts and fed into UFOCAT as an unknown? Or will it, too, be eventually identified?

Before I suggest a possible, but most tenuous explanation of our dancing lights, we should mention a daytime sighting which correlates in a surprising manner with the wild nocturnal lights. The report was filtered through SKYNET by police referral to MUFON investigator Morrey Allen.

On November 15, 1978, just two months before our nocturnal lights above, Charles and Helen Rambo were walking in a park in Van Nuys, adjacent to Sherman Oaks where Mrs. Z's sighting occurred and also in the same general area as the February 9th occurrence. The wind was 20 knots from the north-northwest, the sky clear and smogless, with a temperature of 62 degrees. The time was 9:35 a.m. Suddenly a dark gray, elliptical object, seemingly solid, 'popped up' suddenly in the east at about 45 degrees elevation. The object faded, then reappeared nearer and to the right of the witnesses, now presenting a round appearance. It vanished again, reappeared farther to the southeast and slightly lower, vanished and appeared again farther to the right. (See Figure A.) All four appearances took place within 1½ minutes. The witnesses stated that as it approached nearer it lost its solid appearance and became hazy. The Rambos likened it to a 'distant, huge mass of bees or a huge Brillo pad!'⁵

The manner in which this daytime object repeatedly vanished, then reappeared in a different part of the sky seems to correlate with the January 21 and February 9 sightings of the bouncing, nighttime lights. But how can we correlate the strange "dark, hazy" appearance with the bright white nocturnal objects?

There is a possible answer which I hesitate to suggest. It is reminiscent of the Air Force's former penchant for identifying UFOs in all manner of strange ways. For instance, we would

not be surprised, if the January 21 and February 9 sightings described here had come over a Project Blue Book desk, to have them identified as "(possible) birds carrying flashlights"!

The explanation I am going to put forward may sound equally as odd. However, it fits most of the facts of both the daytime and nighttime sightings described above.

In a recent UPI newstory⁶ Dr. Phillip S. Callahan of the U.S. Agriculture Department suggested that some nocturnal UFOs could be swarms of glowing insects darting about erratically in a natural electric field. Dr. Callahan reported that insects could trigger electric discharges when flying beneath a storm front. A vast swarm of such insects could set off a highly visible display. The electric field beneath the storm front pulls away electrons from pointed exposed surfaces, such as insect legs and antennae. An avalanche of these electrons would ionize gases in the atmosphere, emitting light.

The effect had been created with insects at the Insect Attractants, Behavior and Basic Biology Laboratory. The glowing effects resembled a "discotheque...in the sky," giving off various colors — blue, red, and green. As the insect swarm tries to get out of electric fields they dart around, making a humming sound and suddenly disappear from sight because the swarm would leave the voltage field and the glow would vanish.

All of the data reported by our three case witnesses above do not fit Dr. Callahan's theory. The color of the San Fernando Valley darting lights was bright white. However, according to Dr. Callahan, the glowing phenomenon on insects is similar to St. Elmo's fire, which is bluish in hue. Bright bluish light, when seen from a distance, tends to look white.

Moreover, the darting, the vanishing and reappearing quality of both the November daytime sighting and the January and February nighttime sightings does fit in splendidly with Dr. Callahan's theory. Also, the hazy appearance which would be presented by a distant swarm of insects fits in exactly with the appearance of the darting November daytime object. Indeed, the witnesses did describe it as

looking like a "vast swarm of bees." If it was bees, or insects, it must have been at a great distance, as no sound was heard. Considering the apparent diameter of the Rambo sighting (½ degree or the diameter of the full moon), it must have been far away to present such a near-solid appearance. Dr. Callahan gives us the information that some insects fly in swarms over 60 miles wide and over 15 miles long.

Another vital question: did the January and February nocturnal sightings occur in unstable weather, since an electrical field such as occurring in a storm front would be necessary to make insects glow? On February 9, 1979, the skies in the San Fernando Valley were partly cloudy. The wind was northerly, heralding the approach of a cold front which was coming down from Northern California. On January 21, 1979, a cold front was actually moving through Southern California.

Were these meteorological conditions right for ionization of insect swarms? Not being an expert on these matters, I cannot say. I leave this question to those scientists who might be interested. However, it is rather remarkable that so many of the factual details of the November, January, and February sightings fit the very peculiar, but possible, explanation — insect swarms.

So we play the waiting game again, as regards our new Los Angeles "darting UFO." Hopefully, the sightings will continue to repeat until an answer is found.

REFERENCES

1. Report in MUFON files, "The Sawczak-Benson Sighting, Sunland, California, December 20, 1974."
2. Los Angeles Times, December 15, 1978; "Fireball Balloonist' Hunted Near Airport."
3. Report in SKYNET (Druffel) files.
4. Report in SKYNET files.
5. Report by Morrey Allen in MUFON files
6. Evening Outlook, Thurs., November 2, 1978; "UFO Sightings Linked to Insects."



(Director's Message, Continued)

through June 1978, using five access points. This is indicative of his work, since he has a Masters Degree in Library Science.

Since MUFON is a worldwide cooperative group of investigators and researchers, it is imperative that our members know who the officers are in their immediate area or neighboring states. Louis Winkler, Ph.D., 2149 North Oak Lane, State College, PA 16801 has joined MUFON as a Consultant in Astronomy. A professional astronomer at Pennsylvania State University, he has concentrated his research to sightings prior to 1947. Another new legal adviser to MUFON is Leroy L. Bradwish, M.A. and J.D., Apt. 2801B, 1455 No. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60610; telephone (312) 266-8217. Mr. Bradwish is a government attorney and regards the UFO phenomenon as the major mystery of his lifetime since it appears to defy solution.

Paul Cerny has recognized the fine work that has been performed by Marvin E. Taylor over the past 10 years, by selecting him as the Assistant State Director for Northern California. Marvin is the State Section Director for Toulumne, Calaveras, and Amador Counties, residing at 20811 Briarwood Drive, Sonora, CA 95370. Mrs. Jean Fuller, 1327 Hawthorne, Tyler, TX 75702; telephone (214) 593-1933; has been appointed State Section Director for Smith County. Jean attended the 1978 MUFON UFO Symposium in Dayton, Ohio, and has been investigating UFO cases in the Tyler area for several years. She has a B.A. degree. Donald B. Roberts, 607 Saluda Ave., Columbia, SC 29205; telephone (803) 256-4005 has volunteered his services and that of a small group of UFO investigators in the Columbia, S.C. area. Don has been appointed State Section Director for the following South Carolina counties contingent to Columbia: Richland, Lexington, Calhoun, Sumter, Fairfield, and Kershaw. His group attended one of George Fawcett's lectures as a means of meeting MUFON's State Director for North Carolina.

Two new Research Specialists have volunteered their talent to resolution of

the UFO enigma. They are Geoffrey L. Nicoletti, 200 East Grovers Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118 in theology and John A. Holly, 734 Chimalus Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306 in propulsion systems. Geoffrey is a graduate of Villanova University in theology and John has a B.S.E.E. degree. One of our Consultants in Internal Medicine has now relocated his practice to a permanent locality and is ready to accept additional responsibilities in a leadership role. Gus D. Berryhill, Jr., M.D., 1712 Riverside, Clarksdale, MS 38614; telephones - Home (601) 627-2030 and Business (601) 624-4316 has been appointed State Section Director for the following Mississippi Counties: Coahoma, Tunica, Quitman, Bolivar, Sunflower, and Tallahatchie. As a specialist in Nephrology (disease of the kidney), his prime interest as a consultant concerns the physical effects of witnesses/abductees.

The February 1979 issue of *East West Journal* Volume 9, Number 2 featured UFO articles of interest to readers of the MUFON Journal. MUFON is listed in the resource section of their magazine. A copy may be secured by writing to *East West Journal*, P.O. Box 505, Whitinsville, MA 01588 for U.S. \$1.50 and Canada \$1.75. A new independent publication titled "Kor's Kosmos — Exploring the Borderlands of Knowledge" Issue Number One for January 1979 (16 pages) by Peter Kor of 1207 Cordova Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124 has been received. The feature article for the first edition is "Getting to the Bottom of the Saucer Problem" and Peter pulls no punches in doing so. It is recommended for people that have an open mind and are willing to think and reason logically. Only a limited number of copies will be printed of this no charge publication.

For those readers having an interest in both UFOs and the continuing problem of cattle mutilations, the January 1979 edition of *Boulder Monthly* features articles by David Perkins, MUFON State Section Director for the Colorado counties of Huerfano, Costilla, Las Animas, and Alamosa titled "The Phantom Cattle Surgeons of the Plains"; Richard Sigismund, UFOlogist and subscriber

to the MUFON UFO Journal, Tom Clark's "Peak to Peak Strangeness" and an interview with David Perkins, Cari Seawell, and Bill McIntyre aptly titled "On the Trail of the Mutes". A copy may be secured for \$1.50 by writing to *Boulder Monthly Magazine, Inc.*, 1200 Pearl Street, Boulder, CO 80302. David, Cari, and Bill attended the 1978 MUFON Symposium in Dayton, Ohio. Tom Clark, Senior Writer for the *Boulder Monthly*, is to be congratulated for his objective interviews and articles on the cattle mutilation problem. David Perkins of Farisita, Colorado, plans to write a book on the "Mute-Nuke-UFO Connection."

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF A DIFFERENT KIND

(Reprinted from *Lawtalk*, December 1978, published by the Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co./Bancroft-Whitney Co. Submitted by William E. Jones.)

Upon learning that UFO's were reported nearby, the plaintiff-to-be reached for his binoculars and went out looking for you-know-what. As he was crossing the road in a dark, deserted area, he was hit by a police car. (The officer inside was driving slowly and quietly, without lights, because he was looking for suspected rabbit hunters.) In the litigation that followed, the novel question of whether a UFO watcher's conduct constituted contributory negligence was decided. The Louisiana Supreme Court held that there was no such negligence. *Dupas v New Orleans* (1978, La) 354 So 2d 1311

MUFON

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Lucius Farish

In Others' Words

The January 23 issue of NATIONAL ENQUIRER reported on UFO activity and power blackouts which occurred in Honduras during October 1978. The first of a series of UFO articles appeared in the ENQUIRER's January 30 issue. This was a roundup of reports from all parts of the world, including abductions, films, photographs, "hardware," injuries from UFOs, reports of UFO occupants, landings, etc. Beginning with the February 6 issue, weekly reports will present detailed accounts of the more startling UFO cases. The first article deals with an Italian case of a security guard who claims to have been taken aboard a landed spaceship on two occasions. The second report, in the February 13 issue, tells of sightings by Coast Guard personnel in the Lake Michigan area, as well as sightings over southern England on October 24, 1978. Another article in the same issue reports on the recently-released CIA documents pertaining to UFOs.

THE STAR for January 23 has an article summarizing the December and January UFO reports and films from New Zealand. Another article on the December 30 UFO film from New Zealand appears in the January 30 issue of THE STAR.

The February issue of EAST WEST JOURNAL is a special UFO issue, containing articles by editor Alex Jack, Michael Persinger and Gyslaine Lafreniere, Brad Steiger, and Michio Kushi, plus excerpts from Jacques Vallee's new book, *Messengers of Deception*. Interviews with John Philip Cohane (author of *Paradox: the Case for the Extraterrestrial Origin of Man*) and Zecharia Sitchin (author of *The 12th Planet*) are also included, along with details of recent sightings, book reviews, a directory of UFO organizations/publications, etc.

The March issue of FATE has an

article by Rocky Wood on the disappearance of Australian pilot Frederick Valentich over the Bass Strait on October 21, 1978.

BEYOND REALITY for March/April has articles on Dr. Leopoldo Diaz, a Mexican physician who claims to have examined an extraterrestrial being, and UFO sightings at Chula Vista, California, which allegedly involved paranormal healings of two persons.

The latest SAGA UFO ANNUAL is almost total rehash from past issues of UFO REPORT, with Jerome Clark's column the only new contribution.

The #13 issue of TRUE FLYING SAUCERS & UFOs is also largely rehash and material not relating directly to UFOs.

Martin H. Sable's *Exobiology: A Research Guide* is the latest attempt to provide a comprehensive bibliography of literature on UFOs, extraterrestrial life, and related subjects. While I admire Sable's courage in tackling what I consider to be an impossible task, I must report that his book is by no means thorough and comprehensive. The bibliography section is broken down into sixteen sub-sections (Astronomy and Origin of Life and of Planets, Flying Saucer Sightings, Humanoid Contact on Earth, Intelligent Life on Other Planets, Religious and Philosophical Aspects, Teleportations, etc.). The most recent entries in all these categories are from 1975, so the book is not up-to-date. The directory section provides listings of international organizations and periodicals, but several of these are also outdated, with incorrect addresses given. The *Guide* is indexed by author and by subject, as well as having an index to the directory section. Material from foreign books and periodicals is included in the 3,832 entries. Although I consider the *Guide* to be over-priced (\$17.95; hardcover) and incomplete, it still contains much

material of interest to researchers. Copies may be obtained from: Green Oak Press, 9339 Spicer Road, Brighton, MI 48116.

TIMES, Seattle, WA - Jan. 18, 1979

Seattle-bound crew saw U.F.O.

A document signed by four crewmen aboard the vanship President Johnson describes an unidentified glowing object seen in the Pacific as the ship was en route from Yokohama to Seattle.

The time of sighting coincided generally with reports of U.F.O. sightings off New Zealand.

Four men on the Johnson's bridge, including Third Mate Billie D. Norton, said the object appeared as a light which Norton considered to be from a vessel, but nothing appeared on the Johnson's two radars.

Norton fixed the sighting at Latitude 36 degrees, 18 minutes North and Longitude 147 degrees, 28 minutes East.

The watch was changing just before 8 p.m. ship's time December 30.

On December 31, news services reported unidentified flying objects popping up again over New Zealand and accounts of an Australian television crew filming elusive glowing spheres.

Norton said the first appearance was only a glow. At 8:12 p.m. the light appeared on the horizon, very bright and round like a white, frosted electric light bulb. It appeared about half the size of a full moon, if one had been on the horizon.

The Johnson's captain, DeWitt R. Coppock was called to the bridge.

At 8:47, the light was on the Johnson's starboard beam, appearing to be 3 to 5 miles off, still not showing on the ship's radars.

"Our vessel was in force-8 seas and winds up to 35 knots. The ship was rolling 15 degrees, but the light was showing no motion in any manner. It seemed to be a fixed object such as a rock or a land mass, or hovering close to or above the water," Norton said.

"Our navigational charts showed no land within hundreds of miles from our position."

Norton said men in the wheelhouse watched the light through binoculars, and it appeared to be suspended and "attached to nothing."

The document, dated January 1 at sea, was signed by Norton and able-seamen Alfred Kroll, George Williams and Howard Bethell, who was at the helm.

Norton said the Johnson's Captain Coppock also observed the object.

The Johnson was at sea yesterday and none of the men was available for further comment.

An official at American President Lines offices here said he had spent considerable time with the captain and other of the ship's crew, but nobody mentioned the incident to him.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

by
Walt Andrus

Considerable work was expended late in 1978 exploring the possibility of establishing a nationwide UFO coalition to represent the major UFO organizations, such as APRO, CUFOS, CAUS, GSW, MUFON, and NICAP. This was to occur in conjunction with the attempt to resurrect NICAP, however, the negotiations have been discontinued pending positive action by the NICAP Board of Governors to form a viable organization.

A good example of the cooperation that may be achieved with such a coalition has been demonstrated during the past 5 years; MUFON volunteered to support Dr. J. Allen Hynek when he organized the Center for UFO studies (CUFOS) in October 1973. Since CUFOS started as a small group of scientists, engineers, and related professions to UFOlogy, MUFON immediately became the nationwide UFO investigative network for UFO sighting reports received on the CUFOS "hotline" number from police agencies.

In order to provide CUFOS with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all MUFON State Directors, State Section Directors, and Consultants for their active file, a copy of each processed membership application is submitted to CUFOS. Dr. Hynek, Mimi Hynek, or Allan Hendry, upon receipt of a "hotline" telephone call on a UFO sighting, would refer to their map of MUFON and CUFOS investigators and call the nearest one on their WATTS line.

Allan Hendry has been utilizing their WATTS line very extensively to call the witnesses and also to perform peripheral interviews to substantiate the reliability of the report in order to determine if they warrant dispatching an investigator to the scene. Many of the cases may be resolved on the telephone by placing calls to

appropriate people to obtain the facts. The high percentage of "IFO" reports (90% of those received on the hotline number) has certainly justified the preliminary interviews via the telephone to screen these reports, thus leaving the remaining 10% to be investigated in detail. Your Director heartily concurs with the recent decision by CUFOS and IUFOR (The International UFO Reporter) that they have spent more than sufficient time on the IFOs to establish a confirmed pattern and should devote the majority of their effort to the 10% that could yield positive information.

MUFON has always screened the IFOs at the time and scene of the investigation, to remove the obvious reports so we will not have filing cabinets 90% filled with reports that do not help to resolve the UFO phenomenon. This obviously requires trained and competent investigators. If the investigator is unable to identify the reported object after a thorough investigation, the completed report will be submitted to MUFON for our file so that our Consultants may have this information for further study where warranted. This does not mean that every effort in our files is a bonafide UFO. If there is any question in the mind of the investigator as to whether the sighting is an IFO or UFO, the report should be filed. Other sighting reports of possibly the same object when correlated could substantiate the questionable report as either UFO or IFO.

With so many new state directors, state section directors, and consultants joining MUFON and automatically becoming sources for investigations by CUFOS, it is imperative that we remind everyone of the reporting procedures for UFO investigations originated by CUFOS and assigned to MUFON personnel.

Each of us has the dual responsibility of submitting our investigation report to CUFOS and MUFON simultaneously, since this is one of the major features of our cooperative program. Frequently, investigators are filing a report with the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) only, when they have received a request to investigate a report by either Dr. Hynek or Allan Hendry. This is not in compliance with our MUFON Field Investigator's Manual. On page 132 you will note the following paragraph: "When a call received through UFO Central (CUFOS) merits investigation, a State Director or State Section Director will be notified. All reports resulting from investigations should be first sent to MUFON, with a copy going to the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)." The Center for UFO Studies also uses the MUFON Field Investigator's Manual as their investigative guide. Allan Hendry has proposed a UFO Investigator's Guide Book which will be published soon to supplement our F.I.M. for those desiring additional material and techniques where applicable.

With the gracious help of Bill and Carol Armstrong, several of the early editions of SKYLOOK have been provided to complete the MUFON file. We have been reproducing copies of SKYLOOK starting with the first issue in September 1967, and forwarding these to George M. Eberhart, MUFON Staff Librarian, at 1615 East 18th St., Lawrence, KS 66044, for his file and to prepare a cross-reference filing index for each year by specific categories. A decision has not been reached on how this reference index will be published for researchers. Watch the Journal for future announcements in this regard. George is to be commended for the professional manner in which he cross-indexed the Journal's for January
(continued on page 18)