THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL

NUMBER 153 NOVEMBER 1980

Founded 1967 $1.50

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF MUFON MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC.

Sonora, N.-Calif. MUFON Sypmposium Speakers, October 11, 1980. Standing (l. to r.): Larry Stanley, John Dunlap, Marv Taylor, Bill Lundgren, Richard Boylan, Paul Cerny. Seated (l. to r.): Tom Gates, J. A. Hynek, Phil Haydn-Myer. (Photo: Lynne Jerome Photography)

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

The MUFON UFO JOURNAL is published by the Mutual UFO Network, Inc., Seguin, Texas. Membership/Subscription rates: $15.00 per year in the U.S.A.; $16.00 foreign. Second class postage paid at Seguin, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send form 3579 to advise change of address to The MUFON UFO JOURNAL, 103 Oldtowne Rd., Seguin, Texas 78155.

FROM THE EDITOR

Budd Hopkin's communication in this issue is a breath of fresh air and the perfect squelch to anyone who asserts that UFO phenomena don't behave as extraterrestrials "ought to" (including the scientist authors of the U.S. Air Force Project "Sign" report in 1949 and Phil Klass in 1980, not to mention the advocates of "paranormal" theories.) Who knows how extraterrestrials "ought to" behave? Such thinking is presumption, not science. The scientific skeptics reject the UFO data, seeing it as an affront to science. Others accept the UFO data but reject the extraterrestrial hypothesis in favor of "other dimensions," or whatever, showing an all-too-eager readiness to assume that "science" doesn't work and they know better how to "explain" UFOs. The former demonstrate a certain dogmatic skein in science and a protective defensiveness about it. The latter demonstrate a fundamentally anti-scientific, rationalistic attitude.

Although totally speculative, the simplest assumption that can be made to bridge the "behavior gap" is that extraterrestrials have a superior understanding of how to control and apply natural phenomena, physical and possibly also mental. This is not a far-fetched or unreasonable assumption. What may seem to us to be "paranormal" (not understood by our science) could be perfectly "normal" to them. The only way to find out is to gather more and better objective data carefully descriptive of what is occurring. Then our scientific concepts and theories may have to be expanded gradually to encompass the facts. The factual horse must precede the theoretical cart, regardless of the driver's personal preferences.

In this issue

THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL-PARAPHYSICAL CONTROVERSY: A COMMUNICATION

By Budd Hopkins

In the recent Ann Druffel - D. Scott Rogo book, *The Tujunga Canyon Contacts*, Rogo makes a fascinating remark in his concluding chapter: "Many contemporary ufologists – including J. Allen Hynek, Jacques Vallee, Ann Druffel, Jerome Clark and Ivan Sanderson – have given up on the idea that UFOs are some sort of nuts-and-bolts craft visiting our world from some distant galaxy. Quite frankly, these investigators have come to realize that UFOs and their occupants *just don't behave like alien visitors to our realm.*" (Emphasis mine).

From the assurance of his statement I assume Rogo has checked this carefully. He must have gone to the United States Bureau of Standards to take out and study the official, standard Alien Visitors from a Distant Galaxy who are in storage there – on file, as it were – in order to compare them with reported UFO occupants. The rest follows logically. He found they don't match. The official Bureau of Standards Alien Visitors are quite different from UFO occupants, but unfortunately he doesn't explain these differences in any detail.

However, from recent writings on the subject one can guess that a great many other UFO researchers have made this same trip to the Bureau of Standards, examined and interviewed the *real* nuts-and-bolts extraterrestrials and found they differ greatly from UFO occupants in what they can do and why they do it. For one thing, they have very different technological abilities. UFO occupants can do many strange things, such as dematerializing before our eyes – almost as if they turned off the lasers powering a hologram – that standard extraterrestrials evidently have never learned to do. Rogo believes that "abductions really do occur, but they are produced jointly by the minds of the witness (sic) involved through the materializing abilities possessed by the Phenomenon." The mere extraterrestrials at the Bureau of Standards evidently can neither materialize nor dematerialize nor become involved with the minds of abductees. They simply do not yet have the technology to do so, or so Rogo seems to be claiming. Finally, of course, UFOs aren't even held together with nuts and bolts as is the standard extraterrestrial machine on file at the Bureau.

I have read many objections to the idea that the Bureau of Standards' extraterrestrials are responsible for the UFO phenomenon, though they *might* have been in the 1950's. Each objection is a demonstration of anthropomorphic reasoning. Rogo quotes Dr. J. Allen Hynek: "These beings are reported to have ... hands that don't have flexible fingers that we possess. It is hard to imagine an advanced technology developing from a race of people who have clawlike hands. How could they manipulate transistors, for instance, or perform fine adjustments, or do the kind of delicate work it takes to make machines run? Another problem is that the occupants appear to be so completely at home in our gravity and atmosphere. If they were physical entities coming from different planets, you would expect them to have difficulty in that regard."

Leaving aside for the time being the cases that have surfaced since that 1977 statement, and which describe UFO occupants as possessing long, thin, flexible fingers, and showing difficulties walking in our environment, are these objections even relevant? Are the figures with claw-like hands living beings who develop and manipulate transistors? Who knows? I assume the Bureau of Standards extraterrestrials must be, each and every one, extremely adept at dialing radios. Are the apparently air-breathing UFO entities which are seen in our environment for short periods of time actually alive? Is this any stranger than Japanese pearl fishermen who operate so gracefully without gear 50 feet below the ocean's surface? Who knows? I surely don't.

I am afraid that the nuts-and-bolts extraterrestrial in the drawer at the Bureau of Standards is indeed filled with straw. We have set him up and then decided that he is incompetent to do the various things that UFO occupants are reported to be able to do. Since our straw man is so dreadfully limited, we have replaced him with Cosmic Control Systems, a medieval demonology with good and bad demons, even Rogo's "Phenomenon," the latter differing from other mystical or psychic phenomena largely in that its first letter is imposingly upper case. Your standard extraterrestrial beings, able to "get here from there," have lately been granted an arbitrary range of nuts-and-bolts skills slightly in advance of Neil Armstrong's. And since that doesn't take care of much of the UFO phenomena as reported, we have decided to strike down this obviously straw-filled quantity and to replace it with more comfortable – and pretentious – "paranormal" concepts.

I am certain that much of the technology we take for granted today, including, for example, such techniques as hypnosis, would appear "paranormal" to Cro-Magnon man. "Paranormal" may be nothing more than a catch-all phrase for techniques and mechanisms that have not yet been mastered. Since much of the UFO occupant's behavior during abduction has overtones of hypnosis as we currently understand and practice it ourselves, what other techniques might be known by advanced extraterrestrial beings?

One of the simplest and safest deductions we can make about how extraterrestrial visitors *might* behave is that they might investigate us. These investigations could involve actual physical examinations of human specimens. These examinations could be

(Continued on next page)

("Paraphysical, continued)

general with one or two typical specimens standing in as types, or they could be highly individualized, requiring the variety of many specimens. Who knows? At any rate this seems to be happening and so far as it goes it's not totally outrageous.

Dr. Robert Jastrow once made a remark that I remember imperfectly, but the gist of it is this: "If the UFO phenomenon is actually an extraterrestrial probe of some sort, they have to be technologically greatly in advance of us. And if this is true, whatever they do will not make complete sense to us. If it does seem completely logical and consistent it is probably not extraterrestrial in origin." In other words *only* if their behavior seems "paranormal" are we possibly dealing with true extraterrestrials. The types down in Washington in the Bureau of Standards are obviously frauds. Probably they are just disguised Russians left over from the Cold War, nuts and bolts and all.

All this work to invent "cosmic control systems," to update medieval demonology, even to revivify moribund Jungian archetypes has been, though creative, beside the point.

We must start again in a simple way by trying to decide, so far as we can, exactly what has happened in each UFO case, and to postpone for the moment the human need to give the event meaning. The UFO phenomenon has always eluded efforts to tie it down, to give it limits, and the resulting frustration has led to a simple fallacy: If we can name it, we have understood it. Calling the UFO phenomenon a "control system" – defining it in terms of one man's guess about its ultimate purpose – is an attempt to get at least one conceptual rope around it. Equally human and touching is the attempt to merge the phenomenon with traditional earthly concepts of good and evil.

We must finally admit the probability that life exists elsewhere in our galaxy, and that some of it is probably far in advance of us. If this is so, and we should one day receive a visit – or, indeed, currently be receiving visits – it will be easier for us to invent and polish earthly, though "paranormal" or even quasi-religious "explanations" for what we observe than to understand the technologies, values, and methods of another world.

MILITARY SECRECY: SAILORS, SOLDIERS, AND AIRMEN

By Richard Hall

If UFOs have been sighted four or more times from one U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, how many other suppressed military UFO sightings are there? This issue was raised on the weekend of the Smithsonian Institution UFO symposium in September. Four UFO organizations worked together in an unprecedented display of cooperation to highlight the problem of prying loose highly significant UFO sightings known to be withheld from the public.

At a press conference sponsored by the Fund for UFO Research, September 5, Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee (chairman of the Fund and MUFON Maryland State Director) called for the government to release sightings to responsible civilian groups after screening for proper security clearance. Supporting him on the panel were Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director of the Center for UFO Studies; Peter A. Gersten, attorney representing Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS); and Stanton Friedman, all of whom cited examples of suppressed military reports.

That same evening Dr. Hynek lectured at the University of Maryland, after which Maccabee, Friedman, and the present writer formed a panel for further discussion and audience questions. A dramatic confirmation of the point came from the audience when, in response to a poll, a man identified himself as a former Air Force radar controller who had tracked a UFO at an east coast base in the 1950's and vectored jet interceptors to its location. The pilots detected it on their airborne radar and saw "a string of blue lights" that made a sharp turn and sped away.

Shortly afterwards, a team of investigators from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, arrived, interrogated everyone, and confiscated all of the records. He was instructed "not to talk about it for 10 years.."

On the same program, I summarized what was known to date about several UFO sightings on board the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Franklin D. Roosevelt* (CVA-42), a cooperative investigation project by MUFON, CAUS, and the Fund for UFO Research. A pioneer in this investigation was Ralph C. DeGraw in his now-defunct *The UFO Examiner*. The prime informant, Chester C. Grusinski, was a sailor on the carrier in September 1958 during a shakedown cruise from Florida to Cuba, when (he says) he was among numerous witnesses to a UFO with windows, with humanoid figures outlined behind them, that approached and hovered near the ship. Troubled by the experience and personal problems, Grusinski had later gone AWOL, casting doubt on his credibility as a witness. However, his request for documentation of the incident has been open and honest, and has gotten results.

In the process, Grusinski wrote to many UFO groups and individual investigators asking for help. (Anyone who has information bearing on the case is invited to share it with MUFON and CAUS so that the investigation can be coordinated.) We have been able to obtain enough confirmatory evidence to suggest that the case is an important one. CAUS has filed Freedom of Information Act lawsuits, and an effort is being made to obtain statements from other officers and enlisted men.

The same carrier had been involved in a UFO sighting on September 20, 1952, during "Operation Mainbrace"

(Continued on next page)

(Military Secrecy, continued)

1952, during "Operation Mainbrace" NATO maneuvers in the North Atlantic. Several ships and aircraft of the fleet reported separate UFO sightings. On board CVA-42, witnesses saw and photographed a silvery spherical object "moving rapidly." Although the incident was reported by Capt. Edward J. Ruppelt, former chief of Project Blue Book (page 257 of his book), no intelligence report or film analysis has ever been released. (See also *The UFO Evidence*, p. 162)

Through Grusinski's efforts to confirm the 1958 incident, another separate sighting recently came to light. A retired Navy commander who had served on CVA-42 had not been aboard during the Cuba cruise, but had been involved in a radar-visual UFO sighting during a Mediterranean cruise in 1953: (Documentation has been provided to the Fund for UFO Research.) The same source volunteered that while on active duty in 1958 as a jet pilot instructor at Pensacola, Florida, he had been asked to investigate – and had seen – a UFO. This case is not on public record either.

A popular magazine (unidentified clipping) has provided another lead, yet to be confirmed, that about 90 crew members of CVA-42 were involved in still another UFO sighting on May 1, 1975, off the coast of Italy. A Lt/j.g. Arthur Pezzano is quoted as saying that a UFO emerged from the water, flew around the ship, then plunged back into the water. Allegedly, it was grayish with portholes on its rim.

Reports from the Fall 1958 period, during the Cuba cruise, suggest that more than one UFO sighting occurred, including strong rumors of a sighting at Guantanamo Bay about the same time. Thus, four (minimum) to seven separate UFO sightings are involved.

At the end of September, Dr. Peter Rank, a radiologist at Methodist Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin (Board Member of the Fund for UFO Research) visited Washington, D.C., and met with a group of UFO researchers in the area. He described his experiences as an Army flight surgeon in Korea, with his pilots reporting frequent UFO sightings. They were interrogated by Air Force investigators who had large books of UFO pictures for comparison (something many of us have heard of before). The investigators refused to discuss what they knew, and after a while the Army pilots stopped reporting their sightings which, they said, were only going down "the sink," their term for the taciturn Air Force investigators who would not share information with their supposed colleagues.

This self-defeating policy of alienating potentially good witnesses is not unprecedented. In his revealing book about the "military mind" as applied to UFOs, Capt. Ruppelt discussed at length the patch-up work he had to do in order to persuade the best qualified witnesses to report their sightings to the Air Force. Previous investigators had insulted their intelligence by carefully questioning them while pretending that nothing of any consequence was going on. It was a one-way street; all information going in and none coming out. The pilots, engineers, radar operators, and other trained personnel who knew they had seen something unusual resented being treated like children.

Ruppelt himself revealed for the first time many military cases that otherwise would not be known to the public. Major Donald E. Keyhoe, USMC (Ret.), who has been much maligned for his insistence that the Air Force is keeping important UFO secrets, has in fact been more correct than his detractors all along. The evidence continues to mount that the important military cases known to the public (radar, photographs, physical evidence) are only the tip of the proverbial iceberg.

My conclusion, based on information from a wide variety of military and scientific sources over a 25-year period, is that we have only scratched the surface of suppressed military UFO sightings, some of a highly spectacular nature. Until witnesses feel free to talk without fear of reprisal, we will be left with incomplete documentation. We may "know" by our own lights that we are right, but we won't be able to prove it. □

CLOSE ENCOUNTER CASE UNDER INVESTIGATION

What may turn out to be a CE-II case was reported about 4:20 a.m. on the morning of September 11 in Anderson, South Carolina, by Jerry McAlister, an electrician. The case is under investigation by MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies. A complete report will be published later.

According to preliminary information, McAlister and his wife were awakened by a loud noise which they thought might be a helicopter crashing, and saw from their window a huge ellipse or disc with windows hovering over the trees. The UFO tipped up and moved away toward the NNE. The McAlisters suffered eye discomfort from the brilliant light.

The sheriff's department was called and deputies came to the scene. Early reports disagree as to what they saw, but some at least saw an unexplained distant light. People in the neighborhood than watched a bright light in the NNE for over 2 hours, using a telescope and binoculars. Since Venus rose in that direction shortly after 3:00 a.m. and would have been about 20 degrees above the horizon at the time of the sighting, the "distant light" may have been Venus.

Don Roberts, MUFON State Director for South Carolina, is investigating, and his report is expected to clarify presently uncertain features of the case.

NEW SAC BASE SIGHTING

The Center for UFO Studies is investigating sightings August 20, 1980, by security police at Francis E. Warren AFB, Wyoming. The reports and witness statements were received from the Commander, Headquarters 90th Strategic Missile Wing (SAC) in a letter dated September 2, who said the Air Force so far had been unable to account for the sightings. (From CUFOS Associate Newsletter, October 1980, 1609 Sherman Ave., Rm. 207, Evanston IL 60201.)

From the Humanoid Study Group Archives - I

HERR LINKE AND THE FLYING WARMING PAN

By Ted Bloecher

Date of Sighting: Saturday, June 17, 1950.
Time: 0230 Central European Time.
Locale: Near Haselbach (Southern Thuringia), East Germany.
Witnesses: Herr Oskar Linke (48), mayor of Gleimershausen; his 11-year-old Daughter Gabrielle.
Closest Proximity to Entities: 15 meters (about 33 feet).
Investigators: Antony Terry, for the London *Sunday-Graphic*; Dr. Leon Davidson, White Plains, N.Y. (1958-59).
HumCat Classification: Serial #0183, Type B (entities seen entering UFO).
Translations from German: Dr. Davidson, Douwe Bosga, and Lex Mebane

Background

Oskar Linke was born on June 15, 1901, in Breslau (now Wroclaw, Poland). At the time of his UFO encounter in June 1950, he was mayor of the small East German village of Gleimershausen, in Southern Thuringia, approximately eight kilometers west southwest of Meinengen, near the West German frontier. Herr Linke had four children in 1950: Gabrielle (11), Norbert (9), Ossi (3), and a baby, Hanna. Because he feared the Russians would learn that he had seen what he believed was one of their manned secret missiles, Herr Linke fled from East Germany into West Berlin on April 20, 1951, with his family, which included his aged mother. More than a year later, something prompted Herr Linke to report his 1950 sighting, for on July 1, 1952, he made a sworn statement about his experience to a West Berlin notary, Dr. Oskar Krause. The press heard of the sighting through the West Berlin police, and almost immediately the story was a sensation, appearing in newspapers around the world.

There seems to have been no official Air Force inquiry into the Linke UFO sighting for it cannot be located in the archives of Project Blue Book; nevertheless, the former East German claimed in 1959 that among the many intelligence people who interrogated him in West Berlin in 1952 was an unidentified American colonel.

Linke's story, as told to Antony Terry of the London *Sunday-Graphic*, was published on July 6, 1952; within days the United Press and the North American Newspaper Alliance had their own stories on the wires. A first-hand account was published in the West Berlin newspaper, *Nacht-Depesche* (Night Talk), issue #188 (date of publication unknown, but most likely within the first week of July 1952).

Herr Linke's sighting was also briefly mentioned in some early books on "flying saucers." Desmond Leslie recounted it in his half of George Adamski's 1953 pot-boiler, "Flying Saucers Have Landed," and Harold Wilkins provided a summary in his 1954 book, "Flying Saucers on the Attack." In 1966, a particularly error-strewn account, citing NANA as the source, appeared in Frank Edwards' book, "Flying Saucers -- Serious Business." Among other omissions and distortions, none of these sources provided the correct date or time of Herr Linke's encounter.

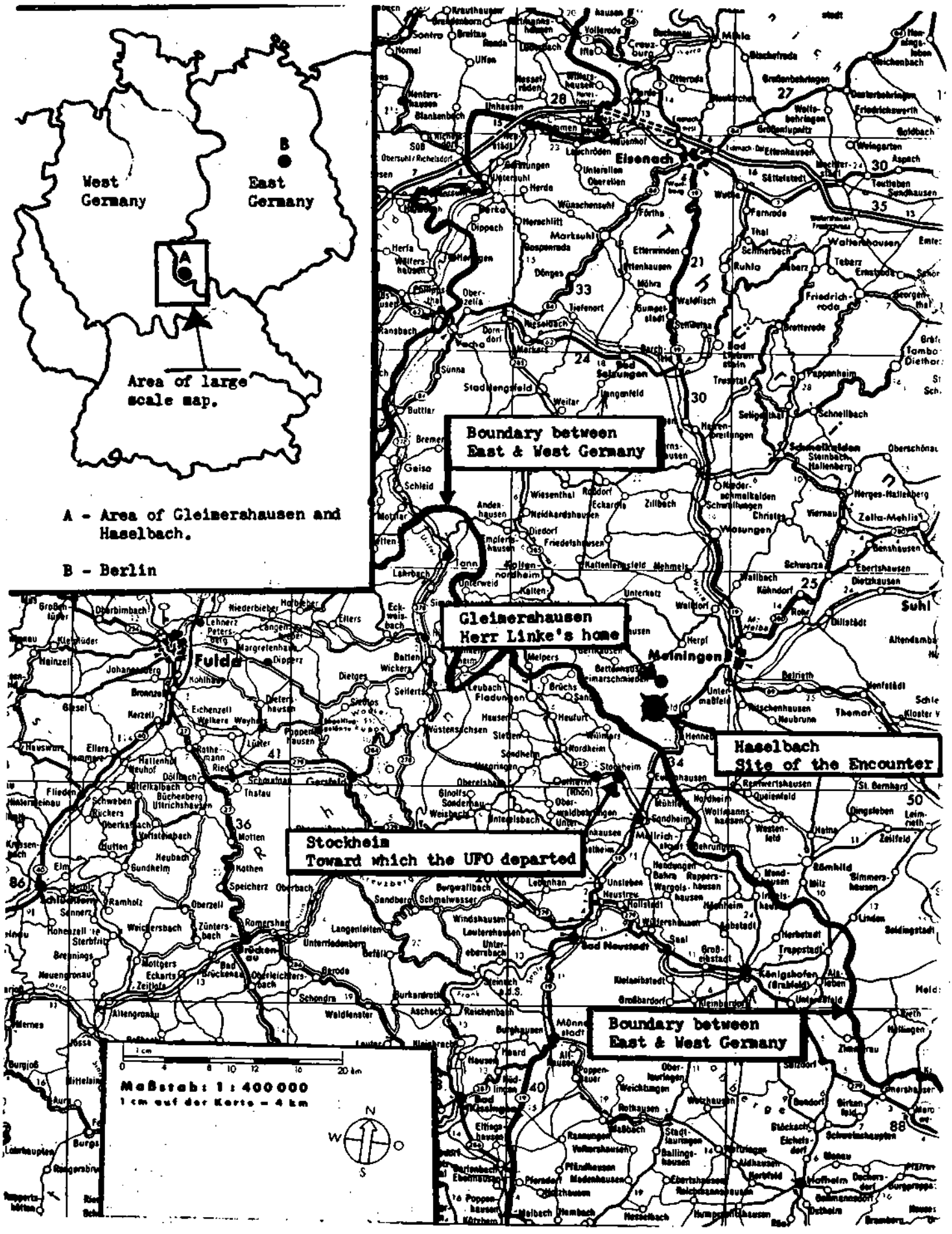
The following summary of Linke's 1950 sighting is compiled from Antony Terry's *Sunday-Graphic* story; from the account in *Nacht-Depesche*; and, most importantly from the witness's own first-hand account as written to Dr. Davidson in 1959. We are indebted to Leon Davidson for providing us with these valuable data.

The Sighting of June 17, 1950

Herr Linke and his 11-year-old daughter Gabrielle set out early from Gleimershausen for Haselbach by motorcycle, with Gabrielle in the side car. It was 2:30 a.m. and the first vestiges of dawn were apparent in the east. They were several kilometers outside Haselbach when a tire blew out, so Herr Linke and his daughter continued on foot, pushing the machine.

Something in a field about 150 yards away caught Gabrielle's eye: "Look there, father," she called out, "two deer in Gopfert's Meadow!" Her father, thinking that he might be able to catch one, left his daughter with the disabled motorcycle at the roadside and made his way through the brush and small fir trees toward the field. "As I approached the deer up to about 80 meters through the hilly field," he told the *Nacht-Depesche* reporter in 1952, "I recognized (they were) not deer, but two human figures. They were dressed in heavy garments, like people wear in polar regions." These garments, he said, appeared to be made of "a shimmering, metallic substance."

At a distance of about 50 yards from the figures, he watched them as they bent over, "as if studying something on the ground." Believing that they were Russians, he made his way cautiously to a distance of about 15 yards. "Peering over a small ridge, I noticed a large object, which I judged to be 40 to 50 feet across." He said that it was in the shape of an oval warming pan or flask (*not* a frying pan), without a handle, and stood about 8 feet high. "There were two rows of holes along the sides, about a foot in diameter. Each row was roughly a foot and a half from the next. Out of the top of the metallic object rose


West Germany
East Germany
A
B
Area of large scale map.
A - Area of Gleimerahausen and Haselbach.
B - Berlin
Boundary between East & West Germany
Gleimerahausen Herr Linke's home
Haselbach Site of the Encounter
Stockheim Toward which the UFO departed
Boundary between East & West Germany
Eisenach
Meiningen
Fulda
Suhl
Maßstab: 1 : 400000
1 cm auf der Karte = 4 km
N
W
O
S

(Herr Linke, continued)

a black, cylindrical 'conning tower,' about 10 feet high."

Herr Linke watched the two men communicate with each other, "using a lot of gestures," although he could hear no voices. One of the men had a light on his chest that blinked on and off at intervals. The light appeared to be on a small box-like device on his chest.

Linke continued to observe the men and the machine at close range for 25 minutes. All this while Gabrielle stood alone by the road. Finally she called out to her father. "I was now alarmed by my daughter, who had remained some distance back," Linke told Antony Terry. "The sound must have reached the two figures, for they rushed back to the object, clambored rapidly up the side to the 'conning tower,' and disappeared inside." In one of his letters to Dr. Davidson, in which he responded to a question of whether the figures were human (menschlich), or *humanoid* (menschenahnlich), in appearance, Herr Linke said: "It is difficult to say whether the two forms who stood in front of the object and then flew off were men. I would say they could also have been other creatures since their (manner of) locomotion was a glide, similar to that of bears."

With the disappearance of the two beings inside the "conning tower," other things quickly began to happen: "The outer edge of the warming pan, in which the holes were sunk, now started to glow," he told reporter Terry. Other sources described this glow as being red and green. "At the same time I heard a slight hum," Linke added. As the glow and the sound intensified, Linke saw that the "conning tower" was retracting into the main body of the object – or, rather, that the object itself was rising up around its central core, for it could now be seen emerging at the bottom. Exhaust flames were being emitted from around the edge. Linke noted, "From the swirling effect of the glowing 'exhaust,' I got the impression the whole object was spinning like a top. It seemed to be resting on the cylindrical piece which had sunk through the object and was now protruding from the bottom and standing on the ground. The 'warming pan,' with its glowing outside ring of flame, was now some feet off the earth."

According to his account in *Nacht-Depesche*, Linke said that "a powerful cold airstream came from the object, which caused the grain in a neighboring field to flatten down." The object was now completely airborne and hovered briefly at about 100 feet; Linke could see that "the cylinder on which it had rested had now disappeared inside the center and reappeared through the top. The rate of ascent now became much greater, and at the same time my daughter and I heard a whistling sound, rather like the noise made by a falling bomb, but not nearly so loud." *Nacht-Depesche* quoted him as describing the sound "like a siren."

Gabrielle, who was watching from the road, said: "I heard a very loud noise coming from the meadow and I saw how a burning disc flew up into the air and disappeared toward Hildburghausen." Her father said, "It rose in a horizontal position, swerved away toward a nearby village, and disappeared, still gaining height over the hills and forest toward Stockheim." According to the map Herr Linke sent to Leon Davidson, Stockheim is situated about ten kilometers south-southwest of Haselbach, in the West German sector.

Herr Linke and his daughter examined the area where the object had been and found "a circular depression, evidently freshly made, where the earth had been driven down. This was exactly the shape of the 'conning tower'," he told Antony Terry. Later that day, several local people told Herr Linke that they had seen some aerial phenomenon they took for "a comet" early that morning. George Derbst, a shepherd, was about a mile and a half from Linke's position when he thought he saw "a comet bounce off the earth." A sawmill watchman told Linke he had seen what he thought was "a low-flying comet" flash away from the hill where Herr Linke and his daughter saw the object.

Still believing that he had seen a secret Russian missile and its pilots, Herr Linke said little about his sighting, fearing reprisals. But as time wore on, word of it began to spread and he became fearful for his safety. "I was never taken notice of by the Russians," he wrote to Dr. Davidson, "but as it became known among the people that I had seen something, I fled with my family to the west." It was not until after he resettled in West Berlin that Herr Linke learned about "flying saucers."

Comments and Conclusions

If there were any doubts about the real identity of Herr Linke and his credentials, as presented in the 1952 news reports, Leon Davidson put them to rest in a series of written inquiries begun in 1958. On September 24, he wrote to the Berlin Bureau of Justice requesting the address of Dr. Oskar Krause; upon receipt of that information, he wrote to Dr. Krause on October 9 requesting verification from the notary of Herr Linke's deposition of July 1, 1952. The following reply, in part, was received from Dr. Krause in a letter dated October 13, 1958:

> The document certified by me on 1 July 1952 came from a Herr Oskar Linke. He was at that time not known to me by his appearance, and he therefore identified himself through the presentation of his identity card with photograph and data from the Police Chief of Berlin ...

On October 16, Dr. Davidson wrote to the West Berlin Chief of Police requesting information about the registration of Herr Linke; he received the following reply (in part) from Police Chief Liefke in a letter dated October 31:

> Under these four bearers of the name (Linke) is one Oskar Linke, who entered from East Germany, born June 15, 1901, in Lobruck Krs. Breslau, who is now listed by the police at Berlin-Charlottenburg ...

Having obtained Herr Linke's address, Davidson wrote to him on November 18, inquiring if he was the former mayor of Gleimershausen, and requesting permission to correspond further; he received an answer from Linke's eldest son, Norbert, written in English and dated December 10, in

UFO CRASH/RETRIEVALS: A CRITIQUE

By J. Richard Greenwell

The UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome. Status Report II: New Sources, New Data. By Leonard H. Stringfield. Seguin, Texas: MUFON, 1980.

According to my *Dictionary of Behavioral Science* (Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1973), a syndrome is a "cluster of symptoms indicative of a clinical entity." In examining Stringfield's new publication, it becomes quickly apparent that a "clinical entity" is indeed involved – the "symptoms" in this case being the many reports received by Stringfield on the recovery of crashed UFOs and their small humanoid occupants. The question is: Does this clinical entity represent factual occurrences, or does it represent a series of hoaxed stories emanating from different sources?

First, I suppose I should confess that I am, in principle, very skeptical about such accounts. I do not even think that the federal government has a "secret study" concerning UFOs, or is even interested in them – much less "recovering" them. There are several reasons for this, the main one being that such secret studies, particularly those involving "recovery" incidents, would necessarily involve hundreds of specialists in such physical science areas as metallurgy, aerodynamics, celestial mechanics, electrical engineering, and probably several areas of physics; and, in the biological sciences, physiology, neurology, genetics, internal medicine, and physical anthropology, including osteology and biomechanics. Specialists in comparative and physiological linguistics would probably also be involved. Have any of these specialists stepped forward to identify themselves publicly? None have had doubts about their secret involvement? Nobody has been tempted by the subsequent fame and fortune? The answer to these questions, regrettably, is "no."

Maybe, instead, they have spoken to family and close friends, and the "secret" has become so widespread that it is common knowledge in scientific circles? Again, the answer is "no." Norman Hilberry, a nuclear scientist at the University of Arizona, was Associate Director of the Metallurgical Project (popularly known as the Manhattan Project) during World War II, and I have often discussed with him that similar situation. Although the public was not aware of the atomic bomb development, centered at The University of Chicago, many scientists knew that "something big" was up. Hilberry and Co., by his own account, stole too much specialized equipment and too many top people from too many other institutions to keep the operation totally under wraps for long.

More recently, we find another example. On August 22, 1980, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown announced the existence of a highly secret project called "Stealth," which would eventually make possible the penetration of Soviet air defenses by U.S. bombers and Cruise missiles without initial detection. The technology involves special coating materials, which reportedly disperses radar beams, and methods for making aircraft and missiles less detectable by Soviet heat sensing equipment. At a Washington news conference, Secretary Brown stated: "We would have preferred to keep the secret longer," but that "the circle of people knowledgeable about the program has widened, partly because of the increased size of the effort ..." So, even in 1980 we have a project of immense strategic importance to the Western world, and only *three* years in operation, being publicly revealed by the nation's prinpal military official in order to avoid a "leak."

(Continued on next page)

(Herr Linke, continued)

which he confirms that his father was indeed the mayor of that town until 1951, when he fled with his family to West Berlin. He told Davidson that his father had been ill, but that he would reply directly to any further communications.

There followed over the course of the next year an exchange of six letters between Leon Davidson and Oskar Linke in which a number of specific questions were answered by the former East German mayor. All of the pertinent points touched on in those letters have been incorporated into this report. Missing from the case file, unfortunately, is a copy of the original deposition – although Dr. Davidson had requested a copy from both Herr Linke and Dr. Krause, he never received it.

There is always, of course, too little information about any UFO experience of special interest to satisfy the demanding investigator, and it is no different in the case of Herr Linke's experience. We have not even had the opportunity to meet the witness face to face. But the information that we have managed to compile argues favorably for the credibility of the witness, and the reality of his experience, as he perceived it. The internal consistency of Herr Linke's story, and the unprecedented details it contains (such as the unusual embarkation of the UFO) argue persuasively in favor of its authenticity.

In short, it must be reasonably concluded, on the basis of the available information, that Herr Linke witnessed a phenomenal occurrence in June of 1950, involving the appearance on the ground and in flight of an extraordinary vehicle and its operators. Until further information emerges that casts doubt upon the data already assembled, this sighting should be included among the list of unexplained UFO reports.

(Retrievals, continued)

And so it would be with a secret UFO project. Instead, in the Stringfield scenarios, we generally find a mixed bag of junior military personnel who somehow managed to be at the right place at the right time. We must further envision that, while none of the senior specialists have talked, the junior people have been permitted to observe highly secret material, material which they had no business seeing, and, further still, that they are talking about it.

Let us now examine the status of Stringfield's 10 new informants:

* U.S. Army Warrant Officer
* U.S. Air Force Sergeant
* "in Army Intelligence"
* U.S. Air Force Major
* U.S. Air Force Sergeant
* "former CIA employee"
* medical doctor
* U.S. Army Private First Class
* U.S. Air Force "radar specialist"
* U.S. Air Force Major

Hardly a group I would pick to keep *my* national secrets! And we even have, in one case (A5), a sergeant being shown a Top Secret UFO retrieval document by an Air Force General. Other subtle telltale clues are noticeable to those with a critical eye, such as in Case A1, where a UFO was supposedly picked-up prior to crashing by "special tracking equipment" at the Mount Palomar Observatory in California (Mount Palomar has no such tracking equipment). In Case A9, the U.S. Air Force "radar specialist" (who was part of a "small select group of radar specialists" to be shown a retrieval movie) was actually only 20 years old. And so forth. (For those interested in other problems with these kinds of stories, see my entry "Conspiracy Theories" in *The Encyclopedia of UFOs*, Doubleday, 1980).

If these accounts are not true, why are people reporting them only to Stringfield? (I am assured that Stringfield is completely honest, and is as puzzled by the accounts as anybody else.) According to some, the reason is Stringfield's book *Situation Red, The UFO Siege* (Doubleday, 1977). However, dozens of other books were published on the topic in the 1970s, and none of the authors have, to my knowledge, been bombarded with these kinds of stories. To put things in a clearer historical perspective, seven representative books by major authors, with their corresponding publication years, are listed below:

The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry by J. Allen Hynek, Chicago: Henry Regnery (1972)

Aliens From Space: The Real Story of Unidentified Flying Objects by Donald E. Keyhoe, Garden City: Doubleday (1973)

UFOs Explained by Philip J. Klass, New York: Random House (1974)

The UFO Controversy in America by David M. Jacobs, Bloomington: Indiana University Press (1975)

The Invisible College: What a Group of Scientists has Discovered about UFO Influence on the Human Race by Jacques Vallee, New York: E. P. Dutton (1975)

The Hynek UFO Report by J. Allen Hynek, New York: Dell (1977)

Situation Red, The UFO Siege! by Leonard H. Stringfield, Garden City: Doubleday (1977)

One can observe that all the informants of recovered saucers and occupants by-passed no other than "Mr. UFO" himself, astronomer Hynek (in 1972); the famous Major Keyhoe (in 1973), this even though Keyhoe had been battling a supposed U.S. government UFO conspiracy for about 20 years; UFO debunker Klass (in 1974), who many would love to prove wrong and who would probably give his eye teeth to get information on UFO hardware for his magazine *Aviation Week and Space Technology*; historian Jacobs (in 1975), who completed no less than a Ph.D. dissertation on the UFO topic; and, for those whose imaginations may have slipped completely over the edge of reality, Jacques Vallee (in 1975). But the informants had another chance to decide who to pick because Hynek published a second UFO book in 1977, the same year as Stringfield's book. However, people "in the know," it seems, all decided on one person: Len Stringfield.

The reason for this, I have been told, is that Stringfield specifically raised the issue in his book. It is true that nine pages (four percent) of Stringfield's book are allocated to such retrievals. Whether or not this would be sufficient cause for all the informants "in the know" to approach him and only him, is, I suppose, for every individual to decide for him/herself. But before doing so, it might be wise to look at the above list of books again, and to remember when the epic science-fiction movie *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* was released. The movie probably had a more profound effect on the national psyche than is realized, and, at its climactic ending, it depicts small humanoids with large heads, very much like our supposed bodies hidden away in government labs. The movie was released in late 1977, in time for the Christmas market, the same year as Stringfield's book. Could this movie, which surely everyone with even a passing interest in UFOs saw, have been the triggering mechanism? Would some individuals who saw the movie *and* read Stringfield's book decide to have some fun? Stringfield himself states (Case A1) that the September 1977 informant "was my first encounter with a first-hand witness." It is true that the movie had not been released by September, but considerable publicity about it was underway.

If all these reports are hoaxes coming from different sources, why are they so similar? The key may be in Stringfield's own use of the word syndrome in his title, which means: "a cluster of symptoms indicative of a clinical entity." The "clinical entity," in this case, may be a result of several kinds of socio-psychological phenomena, influenced by media imagery, and facilitated by a receptive target individual.

Maybe I am wrong. If one day it is revealed that crashed UFOs and their occupants have been recovered, I promise never to write about UFOs again. But then I won't have to. They will no longer be unidentified.

RESPONSE TO GREENWELL CRITIQUE

By Leonard H. Stringfield

I wish to commend J. Richard Greenwell for his objective critique of my monograph, "The UFO Crash/Retrieval Syndrome." Certainly his opinions, tactfully presented, should be carefully considered as we all seek the truth in this crucial issue alleging that crashed alien craft and occupants have been retrieved and some secretly preserved and studied. Indeed, we must all ponder all factors of this seeming fantasy.

To get to the crux, either most of my firsthand informants are telling the truth about their observations and/or experiences, or they *all* have been manipulated to deceive me for an ulterior purpose, or they are *all* expert falsifiers to deceive me for the fun of it. Whatever the case, it all boils down to a simple fact: you can't be half pregnant.

Seriously, we must also consider that even if one informant is telling me the whole truth, then my rhetorical "syndrome" may deserve more professional attention. At this writing, I have 19 firsthand independent sources, each who seems to be of reliable character, and for the most part, hold responsible jobs. I also realize that to convince the scientific community, I must produce the tangible evidence -- the actual alien cadaver -- not anecdotal testimonials or a document or photograph which can be easily faked.

If official secrecy prevails, as I believe it probably does and will in my lifetime, I will never prove the data I present. Even if I had the best information available such as bona fide documents and photos, I still could not establish them as final proof. We would still need official confirmation. The subject of secrecy, which Greenwell questions, is another issue, and there is much data available known to researchers alleging it does exist.

To comment on Greenwell's postulate that the popular blockbuster movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," may have triggered people, emotionally disturbed or as pranksters, to come forth with UFO retrieval and little green men stories, I wish to emphasize that most of my firsthand sources just don't seem to fit the psychotic or weirdo types. Most, working initially through an intermediary, have shown a reluctance to talk too much until I assured them of anonymity and confidential treatment on other details relative to military or personal matters.

Notably, almost all sources indicated no inclination to take an active part in UFO research for fame or fortune, either because they were fearful of reprisals based on their secrecy oath, or the desire for privacy for business or family reasons. Interestingly, most were not sufficiently attuned to the subject of UFOs to even keep up with the current literature. Only one source admitted that he read my book, *Situation Red: The UFO Siege*, before he called to relate his experience.

My medical source referred to in my late paper, for instance, was known to me prior to the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and all of its promotional gimmicks. The anatomical data he related descscribe the recovered humanoid both externally and *internally*. He had no guidelines to sway his disclosures.

Yes, I realize that I could have been duped by clever people, working alone or in collusion for ulterior purposes. Then, one may ask, is there orchestration? Perhaps, but no proof of it. However, orchestration could work at either end of the spectrum. Maybe, for the sake of argument, some of the information coming from seemingly reliable people *is the truth*, and there is a master plan with a tentative timetable to release information, spoon-fed slowly.

Significantly, my ranks of informants are growing. Besides the 19 in hand, there are prospective others. In fact, several; and, my intermediaries who may allow me to reach them are above the average cut. Are they all nuts or are they paid deceptionists? And, will I be willing to buy their Brooklyn Bridges? I don't know, but I will report their testimonials for whatever they are worth for all to judge.

In this endeavor we need more professional people like Greenwell to come forward. I believe that my published material should be analyzed and be open for criticism. In the meantime I hope to continue my probes and to publish my new findings for critical review.

Maybe somewhere out there is the one airtight case that will verify the potentially greatest story on Earth -- or maybe, in time, we'll get enough negative evidence to relegate the whole crash/retrieval story to the heaps of science fiction.

Frankly, I'm seeing a lot of fire under the smoke. -- September 24, 1980.

STAMP DONATIONS

MUFON members and subscribers have responded steadily to requests for contributions of cancelled foreign stamps; these are passed on to a collector who, in turn, donates money to MUFON to be applied to international exchange of UFO information. Some of the proceeds have been applied toward sending air mail copies of the Journal to MUFON Representatives at distant points around the globe who otherwise would have to wait weeks or months for their copies. Foreign stamp contributions should be submitted to Richard Hall, 4418 39th St., Brentwood, MD 20722.

We acknowledge stamp contributions from Larry W. Bryant, Arlington, Va.; Lucius Farish, Plumerville, Ark.; William D. Leet, Texarkana, Ark.; Barbara Mathey, Los Angeles, Calif.; and Project Starlight International, Austin, Tex.

ITALIAN UFO WAVE OF 1978

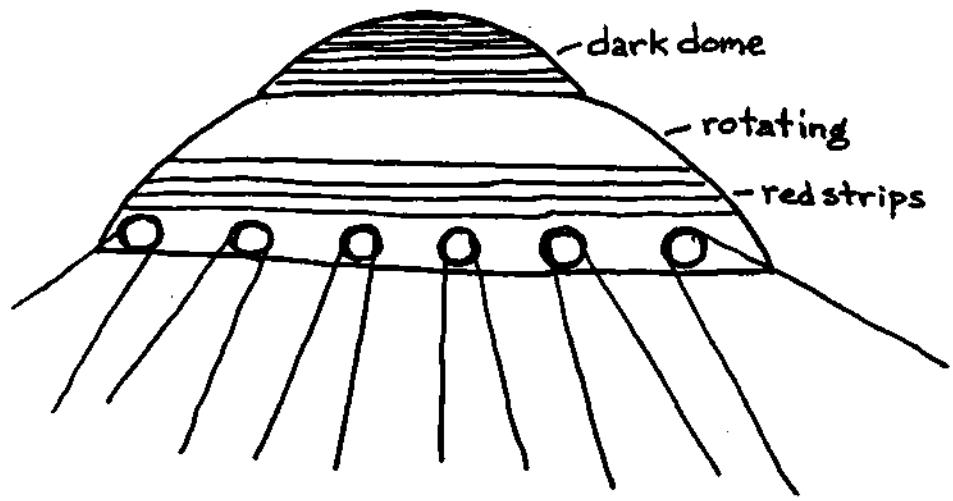
By Richard Hall

(Note: This summary was compiled from data supplied by Edoardo Russo of Centro Ufologica Nazionale, Milan; Massimo Greco, Brescia; and Maurizio Verga, Cermenate.)

A major wave of UFO sightings occurred in Italy during 1978, mostly concentrated in the period from October through the first few days of January 1979. More than 500 cases are on record. At least 130 of them were close encounters, 25 involving humanoid entities, 20 physical trace cases, 30 cases with physiological or other temporary effects, and at least 50 photographs. Although the sightings led to unprecedented public discussion and debate, even in the Italian Parliament, they were essentially ignored by conventional news media in the United States.

As was true of the 1973 wave in the United States, a small percentage of the sightings involved very bizarre, roughly humanoid entities and "high strangeness" activities. Coinciding with the peak of the Italian wave were the October 21 disappearance of Australian pilot Frederick Valentich, the November oil field landings in Kuwait, and the December radar-visual and film cases in New Zealand. As reported in the Journal (No. 133), UFOs also were seen and photographed in several Arab nations during December that year. It now appears that a major UFO wave occurred under the noses of international news media in Fall and Winter 1978, and went largely unreported except locally.

The reports from Italy are too numerous to cover completely; some representative close encounter cases, types I-III, are reported here. Additional details are available from the Italian groups, whose addresses appear below. The reports still are being investigated and evaluated by serious researchers in Italy (which also has its "contactee" cults and skeptical scientists).



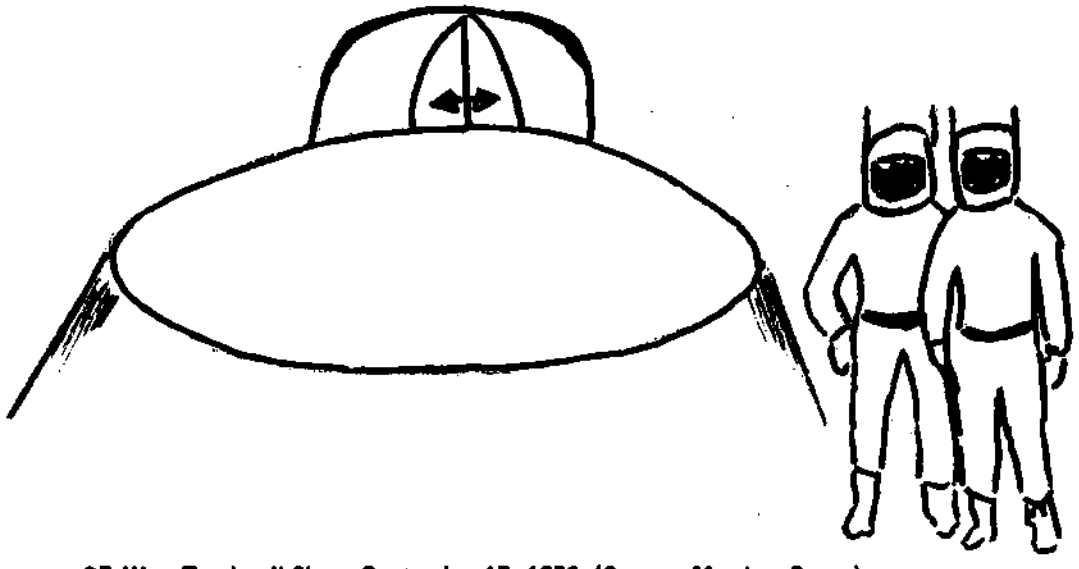
UFO emitting light beams, Napoli, July 3, 1978. (Source: Maurizio Verga)

According to E. Russo, the earliest sightings of interest took place in the far northern provinces. On March 11 three radio amateurs from Friuli, Udine province, were practicing their avocation on Mt. Bernardia when they saw an orange ball pass over their car and land in nearby woods. Curious, they approached to investigate but were frightened away by the brilliant glow from the landed object. On March 20, one of the men was urged by a "telepathic message" to return to the scene; there he encountered a 2-meter-tall humanoid being wearing a one-piece suit and helmet. The being extended its hand, and when the man took it he felt pain and had to struggle free from the grasp. The being then returned to a craft and was transported inside it by a conical beam of light. The witness reported that his hand burned for several weeks. He received a message that the being would return.

On March 29 in the same province, a lighted object was observed to land and the radio of an amateur operator went dead. About 10 witnesses approached the landing site to investigate, but again the brilliant illumination frightened them away. Next day, an 8-meter circle of burned grass and soil was found at the site. Similar landing traces associated with unidentified lights were found elsewhere in the province. At one site in Mortigliano, plants in an area about 17 meters in diameter later showed unusual growth and greenness.

On July 3 at Napoli, a woman was awakened at 1:40 a.m. by an intense light and saw a hemispherical or dome-shaped disc (see sketch) hovering about 100 meters away, emitting orange-tinted light toward the ground and beams of light from its lower edge. After about 40 seconds, the UFO moved slowly away and disappeared in the distance.

On July 4 military personnel from the Navy Air Base at Catania felt a complusion to ascend the slopes of Mt. Etna, and there saw three red, pulsating UFOs, one of which landed. It was a domed disc about 12 meters in diameter with red and yellow body lights. The group then encountered two tall, golden-haired, white-robed beings ac-



CE-III at Torrita di Siena, September 17, 1978. (Source: Massimo Greco)

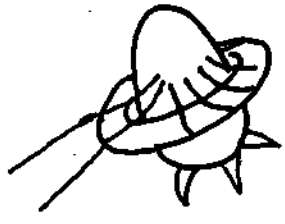
companied by three or four shorter beings wearing helmets and "space suits." The witnesses are reported as having their curiosity "satisfied" and departing! They had been exposed to the lectures of a notorious local contactee, casting doubt on the credibility of the story, but appeared to be responsible people. Also, independent witnesses in and around Catania had reported UFO sightings about the same time.

At San Michele, Alessandria, September 2, about 8:10 a.m., a man heard a hissing sound and saw a metallic-appearing, cigar-shaped UFO about 10 meters long rise from a field of maize. At the site, an area of crushed and dried plants measuring about 3 meters by 6.5 meters was found.

Also in September (date not specified), at Penna Sant'Andrea, four people in a car were driving toward Teramo when they saw a UFO descending into a ravine about 50 meters away. The object was egg-shaped, grayish, and had a central ring and three leg-like protuberances on the underside. (See sketch.) A flame or light was being emitted from one side. No sound could be heard.

The pace of sightings began to pick up in September. At Torrita di Siena, September 17, about 8:15 p.m., a woman and her son saw a descending red ball illuminating the area, and watched houselights in the area black out. Shortly afterwards, a barber got into his car and drove a few meters, and suddenly his engine and lights went out and a bright object descended over the road just ahead of his car. Hovering about a half-meter above the road was a 3-meter diameter orange-red object with a dome, appearing hat-like in shape. Three light beams were extending from the object to the road.

A panel opened and two humanoids emerged and "floated" toward the car, their feet never touching the ground. They were about 1-2 meters tall, wearing green coveralls and helmets with two protrusions ("aerials").



UFO near Penna Sant'Andrea, Sept. 1978. (Source: Maurizio Verga)

The beings circled the car, apparently more interested in it than in the passengers, then re-entered the UFO which took off with a flash of light and explosive sound. Three scorched circles about 50 cm in diameter and about 4 meters apart were found on the road surface (apparently corresponding to the three light beams from the UFO). Soil and trace analyses have so far shown nothing extraordinary.

October - December Peak

Coinciding with the peak of the wave was a series of anomalies along the Adriatic coastline from mid-October into December: strange disturbances in the water, including tall columns of foaming water; light phenomena harrassing fishermen; objects seen entering and leaving the water; electromagnetic effects on radar and radio in fishing boats; and severe television interference. Since the fishing trade is important in that area, the Navy sent two ships to patrol the coastline, amidst a public clamor for a government investigation of UFOs. "Experts" came forth with often self-contradictory shotgun explanations, and a rush of IFO reports came from an excited populace that suddenly focused on bright planets or stars that they had not noticed before.

At a mountain site in San Donati di Tagliacozzo, October 25, about 5:00 a.m., a farmer was searching for a cow missing since the night before, when he came across a strange object on the ground. It was a brownish lenticular disc about 3 meters in diameter and 1.5 meters tall with round windows around the circumference. Inside he could see 4-5 green-dressed beings wearing conical caps and two smiling, pink-skinned women. Frightened and confused, he hid behind bushes, but when he looked again the apparition

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(Italy, continued)

was still there. He closed his eyes for several minutes, and when he looked again the object was gone. Some rocks had been removed from the site and the grass had turned yellow.

Amidst the numerous reports from average citizens were some by well-qualified observers, such as Air Force personnel and control tower operators at Rome-Fiumicino Airport. On November 12 at 7:30 p.m., they saw three unidentified orange spheres approach from the sea, one descending and slowly crossing the landing approach path of airliners and threatening a collision. Before they could react, the objects disappeared to the East.

About half of the more than 500 cases occurred in December, including one of the few abduction cases known in Italy. Night watchman Fortunato Zanfretta, 26, was patrolling an area of Torriglia in the late evening of December 6, when, at 11:45 p.m., he saw lights in a courtyard and approached to investigate. As he did so, his car engine and all lights failed; when he tried to report to his base station, his radio would not work. Undaunted, he approached on foot and tried to surprise the supposed burglars.

Zanfretta suddenly clashed with a 3-meter-tall being or creature whose physical appearance shocked him (see sketch) and may have caused a memory blackout. The being seemed to disappear in thin air, and Zanfretta fled toward his car. He heard a loud hiss and felt a wave of heat, and saw a huge triangular object rise from behind the house and disappear toward the sea. The electrical system of the car was now functioning normally, and at 12:16 a.m. the base station heard him exclaiming over the radio, "They're not men!"

Zanfretta could not account for the time lapse, and suggested that he may have fainted. He was found by his colleagues at 1:06 a.m. lying in a meadow 80 meters from the house – a second time lapse, since he had another memory gap after reporting in on the radio. Nearby in the field was a horseshoe-shaped darkened area measuring 2.5 by 8 meters, and about 3 cm deep, with flattened grass. Next morning

Creature reported in abduction case December 6, 1978. (Source: Massimo Greco)

similar traces were found behind the house where the UFO had been seen taking off. Independent witnesses were found who had seen a yellow, triangle-shaped object approaching Torriglia at 9:00 p.m.

Zanfretta had a bad headache which persisted for days. Under regressive hypnosis on December 23, he described not one, but several, "monstrous beings" who indicated that they wanted him to go with them. Unable to resist, he was taken to a hot, round room where something was placed on his forehead that caused pain. Left alone, he fled yelling for help. Due to the anxiety he exhibited at this point of the hypnosis, the session was ended and another one was scheduled for December 30.

Back on his job on December 27, at 11:46 p.m. his base station heard him on the radio complaining about a headache and a blinding mist; he described losing control of the car, which moved at a high speed and then stopped abruptly. At that point he saw a bright oval object. At 11:50 p.m. he was heard to say, "I've arrived; there's a bright light out here; I have to go." His colleagues began an immediate search, but did not find him until 1:09 a.m. When found, he was hot and confused, and his face appeared sunburned.

A follow-up hypnosis session was held on January 7, 1979, at which time he recalled being taken on board a yellow triangular craft by a green light beam and encountering 10 or more beings who were tall, greenish, with yellow triangular eyes and human-like hands and legs. Instead of mouths, they had "nets" that emitted light. On February 6, Zanfretta underwent sodium pentothal examination at a major medical center in Milan, under the personal supervision of the Director. His story was exactly the same as previously told consciously and under hypnosis.

Most of the December cases came from southern Italy, with scores of reports by police and military witnesses. Photographs were taken (and published in newpapers) by Gendarmerie patrols in Palermo on the nights of December 11, 12, and 13. Electromagnetic effects were associated with several of the sightings, typically disturbances on police radio while the UFOs were present. At the same time, a public "UFO psychosis" was evident, with numerous reports clearly attributable to Venus, Jupiter, meteors, and other conventional objects.

A sort of climax was reached on December 15 when there were three CE-III reports from three separate provinces. In Ragusa province at 11:50 p.m., a truck driver experienced radio failure and stopped to repair it, when he encountered two humanoid beings about 2 meters tall dressed in tight-fitting coveralls and helmets. From a distance of about 5 meters, two bright beams of light were emitted from their helmets and illuminated the truck cabin. The beings then came closer, uttered unintelligible sounds, then turned and left. A few seconds later the truck driver saw a dome-shaped object take off with a bright flash, after which his radio worked normally. A strong smell of sulfur permeated the air.

Commentary

This sighting wave illustrates an important point applicable in all countries. Given the bizarre story content – the "high strangeness" – of many of the reports, it should not be surprising that scientists and officials express skepticism about UFO reports. Especially those who have little background knowledge about the UFO subject. When – on top of "tall stories" – the same people find evidence of careless or incomplete investigations, reasons to believe that large numbers of sightings have conventional explanations, and premature theorizing about poorly

UFO Secrecy in the Courts

By Larry W. Bryant

When Stanton T. Friedman, the Ralph Nader of UFOlogy, declared in a recent lecture that the Cosmic Watergate (i.e., the Federal Government's 33-year-old UFO coverup) is epitomized by the USAF Project Blue Book's apparent systematic exclusion of hard-core sightings experienced by military personnel, he touched upon the essence of the issues now in litigation at the Federal courthouse in Washington, D.C. For in retrospection by any seasoned observer of the UFO scene, there's no doubt that the public-relations exercise of Blue Book (and its predecessors) was just that – a propaganda campaign to divert the public from critical appraisal of the true nature of the UFO enigma, whatever that nature be. According to some critics, Blue Book was a carefully orchestrated conspiracy of silence/misrepresentation/news management. Even today, 11 years after closure of the project, its spirit still lingers as a handy vehicle by which government officials may dodge the efforts of persistent inquirers.

One such seeker is New York City lawyer Peter A Gersten. It is to his credit that the public has gained access to several thousand pages of intelligence documents relating to the ubiquitous UFOs. He began his quest for the long-supressed UFO documentation over 2 years ago, culminating in the Freedom of Information lawsuit of *Ground Saucer Watch, Inc.* [GSW-Phoenix, Ariz.], *Versus U.S. Central Intelligence Agency*. The partial success of that suit – resulting in the Agency's release of almost 1,000 pages of documents late in 1978 – is a matter of record in the annals of privately funded UFO reasearch.

The considerable expenditure of time and funds on Gersten's part is not over, however. For on May 30, 1980, in a memorandum of opinion issued by Federal Judge John H. Pratt, the CIA, through a "motion for summary judgment," succeeded in having the case decided in the Agency's favor – an event not unexpected by the more cynical among UFO-oriented citizens. Even so, Gersten is not one to be dismissed so lightly, especially if there be the slightest chance that the appeals court would send the case back to the lower court for a redetermination as to the reality of the Agency's *de novo* records-search mandated by stipulation. At issue, of course, is the veracity of the Agency affidavits that the search was indeed real and adequate. So on June 24th Gersten filed a notice of appeal with the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, thus ringing in round No. 3 of Civil Action No. 78-859.

But that's not the only action Gersten had a hand in filing on that busy court day of June 24th. The battle for free access to the supposedly vast reservoir of Federal UFO documentation was escalated by the filing of three additional suits – one each against the supersecret (and almost sacrosanct) National Security Agency (NSA), the equally taciturn Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), and the even more bureaucratically burdened Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Gersten's client this time is the Washington, D.C.-based public-interest group Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS).

Let's look at each of these cases in relation to one another and in the respective of their overall impact on the future of FOIA-assisted UFOlogy.

NSA (Civil Action No. 80-1562). The history of FOIA action against this Fort George G. Meade (Md.)-based enterprise of communications surveillance and intelligence collection offers little encouragement to advocates of the public's right to know. Indeed, were the Agency's self-serving efforts to prevail in legislative and judicial circles, it wouldn't be long before it would have total exemption from the provisions of the Act – a development that could close the door of public access to all past, present, and future UFO data in the Agency's possession.

Thanks to the foot-in-the-door provided by Gersten's action against the CIA, the "burden of proof" of nonreleasability of existing NSA-held UFO documentation still rests with the Freedom of Information Coordinator at NSA headquarters. It was to that official that the CIA, based on some prestipulation records-searching, referred 18 classified documents for a releasability determination. NSA's top management not only has refused to clear those documents for release, but also has reiterated its position that, in

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(Italy, continued)

confirmed data, they are more than a little justified in their skepticism. If self-proclaimed "UFOlogists" wish to live up to their claims, they must make a strong effort to weed out explainable or trivial cases and to thoroughly investigate and document the potentially significant cases.

ADDRESSES OF CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:

Edoardo Russo, C.U.N., via Vignola 3, 20136, Milan, Italy.

Massimo Greco, via Gramsci 12, 25100, Brescia, Italy.

Maurizio Verga, via Matteotti 69, 22072, Cermenate, Italy.

(Secrecy, continued)

the words of a March 12, 1980, letter to me:

> . . . there are no NSA/CSS [Central Security Service] directives that address authorities and procedures for processing UFO-encounter reports. The production of any such report would be only incidental to an assigned task and would be done in accordance with procedures for miscellaneous reporting.

Could such an "assigned task" be the analysis of, say, the human survival implications inherent in the UFO phenomenon? That question will be at the forefront of the interrogatories expected to be submitted by Gersten. For it's prompted by the curious, highly censored, 6-page, "unofficial" (though officially released) NSA document titled "UFO Hypothesis and Survival Questions," which apparently was drafted in 1968 by an unnamed NSA analyst. Gersten's complaint cites this controversial "nondocument" as Exhibit H, along with another classified, 7-page paper headed "SUBJECT: UFO's" (Exhibit I), which discusses the psychological reactions to the "degree of strangeness" in UFO encounters.

As the tip of the UFO iceberg at NSA headquarters, these two documents have not just historical value as a portion of documentation apart from the Project Blue Book files; they also serve to show that our government is ever ready, behind the scenes, to wade into that tricky sea of investigation known as UFOlogy. But in case it wades too deep, it wants an escape route. That route – that life preserver, lifeguard, or scuba gear – is embodied in the ability of government officials to classify, and keep classified, the product of their investigations. Not only may Gersten's efforts to remedy that practice make judicial history, but they also might reveal that UFOs constitute not so much a matter of "national security" as a matter of national *in*security.

The latest development in the NSA suit occurred on September 3, 1980. On that morning, in the chambers of Judge Gerhard A. Gesell, counsel for each side met for about 10 minutes in a "status hearing." After listening to, and apparently concurring in, the CAUS position that any official intelligence document on UFOs readily can be sanitized to protect sources and intelligence-gathering methods, the Judge ordered the U.S. attorney's office to identify the documents in question and to tailor its nonreleasability affidavits to the content of each document. "How many documents are we talking about here?" asked the Judge. The answer itself certainly makes UFOlogical news, for the U.S. counsel replied, "135 documents" – a fact which heretofore the Agency had refused to divulge.

This documentation probably includes the highly censored teletype message dispatched by the U.S. Defense Attache's Office in Lima, Peru, on June 2, 1980, to the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff (with "information copies" relayed through the Defense Intelligence Agency to the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency, among others). Existence of the message had been confirmed in an alleged double-check records review conducted by the Defense Intelligence Agency in response to the CAUS complaint. "This is exactly the kind of material we're seeking," explained Peter Gersten to the Judge. "We don't care about the who-and-how of the acquisition of the information – what we care about, for the sake of making data available for appropriate study, is that on such-and-such a date Peruvian air force jets tried to intercept and destroy one or more UFOs in southern Peru."

DIA (Civil Action No. 80-1563). Like the NSA suit, this action seeks to enjoin the Agency from preventing access to its supposedly nonexistent UFO records. Back on March 6, 1977, when I submitted an FOIA request for all documents pertaining to the now-famous Iranian UFO encounter of September 19, 1976, I was told by the FOIA officer that "The organizational structure of DIA does not encompass a UFO Directorate [the hypothetical office to which I addressed my request], nor do we have the authority to collect data on this subject since it is not an element of our mission. For UFO information it is suggested you write to [the University of Colorado's Joint Institute for Astrophysics]." With that glib kiss-off, the officer disposed of yet another nuisance exercise of the citizens' right to know. Little did he realize, then, how that leaked UFO-sighting report would return again and again to haunt him and his agency. The hollow ring of his protestation about DIA involvement in official UFO research is matched in phoniness by his reference to the University of Colorado – which is a throwback to the mercy killing and burial of Project Blue Book by the University's Condon Committee in 1968.

If agencies like the CIA, NSA, and DIA really have no formal charter to collect, analyze, and disseminate UFO information, then why do they continue to crop up on various distribution lists as addressees for UFO-sighting reports and UFO policy documents? This question is central to the suit, and in any pretrial negotiations there's no escaping it. If the continuing UFO paper chase is to mean anything, it must mean that government officials are to be held accountable for conspiring to suppress vital UFO data in their possession. Ultimately, the success of this suit and the related ones could foster reform in the negative attitude and malfeasance of the UFO policymakers throughout the Executive Branch.

FAA (Civil Action No. 80-1564). The "politics of UFOlogy" is rife with governmental indecision, bureaucratic bungling, coverup/foulup, and the vested interests (too often competing) of individuals and organizations both public and private. There's no more fertile ground than this for mass confusion and misinformation to flourish – at the expense of the taxpayer and maybe to the detriment of our national security. So when a Federal Agency is observed sitting on its hands or, worse, deliberately contravening the letter or spirit of the Freedom of Information Act, you can expect some outcry from concerned citizens. In this case, the agency is the one charged with monitoring the safe, efficient operation of our airways – the Federal Aviation Administration. And the accuser is CAUS counsel Peter A. Gersten. It's his contention that the Administration, in responding to a CAUS FOIA request for access to all FAA-possessed UFO documentation, failed,

UFO DATA MART

Note: This service is available free to individual MUFON subscribers, but not to commercial dealers. We reserve the right to reject notices that are not in accord with our editorial policies. If you wish to remain anonymous, we will print coded notices and relay responses to you on a private basis. Otherwise, we will publish your name and address for direct contact. For coded notices, direct responses to Richard Hall, Editor, MUFON UFO Journal, 4418 39th St., Brentwood, MD 20722.

TRADE: Various UFO/Fortean books for others, old magazines, especially *Flying Saucer Review*, etc. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for list. William H. Banks, 3616 Emerson St. #6, Oakland, CA 94610.

WANTED: Various books, booklets, pamphlets, magazines, and bulletins on UFO/Fortean subjects. Especially need 1950's and early 1960's publications, or earlier. Specific want lists available. Will respond to all quotations. Lucius Farish, Rt. #1, Box 220, Plumerville, AR 72127.

(Secrecy, continued)

to conduct an adequate records-search and unjustifiably levied exorbitant search-and-reproduction fees for the few dozen documents produced. The question of fees always has been a sore point among requesters. That different agencies have different fee schedules (and often apply them haphazardly) complicates the issue. If CAUS prevails on this point, the way will be cleared for across-the-board waiver of all search/repro fees as regards *any* agency's FOIA production of official UFO data.

If an objective, though debatable, conclusion can be drawn from reviewing the several thousand pages of FOIA-produced UFO documentation over the past 2 years, it's this: the Federal Government has yet to tell us all it knows about official UFO research. Whether the government is justified in resisting wholesale disclosure of its UFO-related data and investigative findings is a matter for our judicial system to determine. Meantime, privately funded researchers like Stanton Friedman will continue to chip away at the paper curtain that still surrounds the gathering, processing, and storing of official UFO data.

LETTERS INVITED

A Journal should be a forum for information, discussion, idea exchanges, and criticism. If you have a comment or criticism about anything published in the Journal, address a Letter to the Editor and it will be considered for publication. Letters should be brief and concise, and are subject to editing. If you cannot express your comment in 300-400 words, then submit a short article (up to 1,000 words). Another forum has been provided for MUFON members/subscribers in UFO DATA MART (see elsewhere in this issue) to exchange information or published materials.

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Letters

Symposium Correction

Editor,

It has been brought to my attention by MUFON-CES (Europe) that I did not give proper credit to my sources of information in my paper on the Unified Field Theory of Burkhard Heim which appeared in the 1980 MUFON Proceedings (U.S.A.). For this oversight I must take full responsibility and offer my most humble apologies to MUFON-CES and especially to their editor Diplomate Physicist Illo Brand von Ludwiger. I wish to assure all the parties involved that this unfortunate oversight was not in any way intentional.

If I recall correctly, as I was writing the paper my mind was concentrating fully upon the magnificent contributions of Mr. Heim and how I was going to make his work better known to the American people. While making up the list of references I was trying to find articles that were readily accessible to the American public. For this reason I left out the very important and indispensable work of Mr. I. Brand von Ludwiger. Much of Mr. Heim's work would be completely unknown to us if Mr. I. Brand had not written about it extensively and added to it his own fine contributions. It is from his writings that I obtained most of the information contained in my MUFON paper and also he has been kind enough to send me several articles of Mr. Heim's which would have otherwise been completely unavailable to me. The "filmblock" concept, and Figures 6, 8, 9, 11, and 12 are due to Mr. Illo Brand. The summary of the basic ef-

(Continued on next page)

Mark R. Herbstritt

Astronomy Notes

THE SKY FOR NOVEMBER 1980

Mercury – Inferior conjunction occurs on the 3rd, but by the 19th, the planet is at greatest elongation west (20 degrees), and stands about 17 degrees above the southeastern horizon (near Spica) at sunrise. Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn, along with Regulus and Spica, make a pretty sight in the morning sky.

Venus – It rises about 3 hours before the sun and is well up in the Southeast at sunrise. It passes 0.6 degree south of Saturn on the 3rd.

Mars – It is very low in the Southwest just after sunset.

Jupiter – In Virgo, midway between Regulus and Spica, it rises about 4 hours before the sun and is well up in the Southeast at sunrise.

Saturn – In Virgo, it rises about 4 hours before the sun and is well up in the Southeast at sunrise.

The Leonid meteor shower occurs November 14-18.

Moon Phases (E.S.T.):

New Moon, Nov. 7 at 3:43 p.m.
First Quarter, Nov. 15 at 10:47 a.m.
Full Moon, Nov. 22 at 1:39 a.m.
Last Quarter, Nov. 29 at 4:59 a.m.

(Letter, continued)

fects which are produced by gravitationally driven spacecraft is also derived from the work of Mr. Illo Brand. Finally, this is the first time that I have contributed a paper to a journal; thus, I was not fully aware of how important it is to make certain that proper credit is given for all ideas which are not original. The shock of this experience makes it a certainty that such a mistake will not be repeated by this author in the future.

I still have a great deal of work to do before I understand Heim's theory and Mr. I. Brand's contributions to the extent that I desire. Only after I have achieved such understanding will I be able to make contributions to this theory in an original manner. However, while obtaining this understanding, it is necessary to translate from German the work which has been done by these two fine theoretical thinkers. Mr. I. Brand has been kind enough to send me Heim's book: "Elementary Structures of Matter" which I am now in the process of translating. It is my hope that I will have this translation ready by the time of the next American MUFON conference.

The following are additional references which should be added to my paper "The Unified Field Theory and the UFO" which appears in the 1980 MUFON Symposium proceedings:

1. I. Brand: "Ungewohnliche Gravitationsphanomene", ed. by I. Brand, MUFON-CES - 1975 Conference Report, pp. 147-220, Feldkirchen-Westerham, Germany
2. I Brand: "Ungewohnliche Eigenschaften Nichtidentifizierbarer Lichterscheinungen", ed. by I. Brand, MUFON-CES - 1979 Conference report, pp. 227-377, Feldkirchen-Westerham, Germany
3. B. Heim: "Elementarstrukturen der Materie", Part I, Resch, Innsbruck, Austria, 1980.

I would appreciate it very much if all of those who have a copy of my paper in the 1980 Proceedings, pages 77-101, would attach to it this apology and correction.

Dr. Henry C. Monteith
Albuqerque, N.M.

(Director's Message, continued)

Ilkka Serra, Representative for Finland, visited in the MUFON offices prior to attending the Eleventh Annual MUFON UFO Symposium where he was a speaker. In the October 1980 issue of the Finnish magazine called "ULTRA", Mr. Serra reported upon the symposium in Clear Lake City giving a comprehensive review of each speaker and provided numerous photographs. Photos included R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D., Stanton T. Friedman, John Schuessler, Ray Stanford, Alan Holt, and Walt Andrus. Ilkka's presentation at the symposium was an update on the UFO status in the Scandanavian countries. Ilkka attended his first MUFON UFO Symposium in Kansas City, MO in 1973.

Some observant readers of the JOURNAL may have detected a new crisp appearing type or a change in headline letter style in the September 1980 issue. This was the first issue to be printed in Seguin, TX by Tommy Brown Printing. The November issue and subsequent issues will be printed locally in order to reduce the logistics of shipping the JOURNALs from Morgan County Printers in Versailles, MO to Seguin, TX for mailing. This is one of the major steps designed to provide more current information to our readers in a timely manner. As many of our members may know, our editor Richard H. Hall lives in Brentwood, MD, therefore a few days elapse between typesetting, proof reading, and patch-up, before the printing process may occur. We sincerely believe you will like the improvements.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

1. Title of publication: THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL (USPS 002 970)
2. Date of filing: October 13, 1980
3. Frequency of issue: Monthly
4. Location of known office of publication: 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155
5. Names and complete addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor:

Publisher: Walter H. Andrus, Jr., 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155

Editor: Richard H. Hall, 4418 39th St., Brentwood, MD 20722

6. Owner: MUTUAL UFO NETWORK, INC. (MUFON), 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas 78155

A Not-for-Profit corporation incorporated under the State Laws of Texas

Trustees: Walter H. Andrus, Jr. (International Director), 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, TX 78155; Sam Gross (Corporate Secretary) R.F.D. 2, Seguin, TX 78155; John Donegan (Treasurer), 1901 Mount Vernon, Seguin, TX 78155

7. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: NONE

8. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates: NO CHANGE

9. Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average No. Copies each issue during preceeding 12 months	Actual No. Copies of single issue published nearest to filing date
A. Total No. Copies Printed	1217	1200
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales.	0	0
2. Mail Subscriptions	1001	1002
C. Total Paid Circulation	1001	1002
D. Free Distributions by Mail, Carrier or other means: Samples, complimentary, and other free copies	106	70
E. Total Distribution.	1107	1072
F. Copies Not Distributed.		
1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	109	128
2. Returns from News Agents	0	0
G. Total	1217	1200

(signed) Walter H. Andrus, Jr.
Publisher

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

by Walt Andrus

Marvin Taylor and Paul Cerny are the recipients of an accolade from the Mutual UFO Network for their work in sponsoring "A Mother Lode UFO Symposium" on Saturday, October 11, 1980 at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds Main Building in Sonora, California under the auspices of MUFON. The speakers and their subjects were: J. Allen Hynek, Ph.D., "The Coming Age In UFOlogy"; Paul Cerny, "California Report and Ancient Sightings"; Tom Gates, "The Effect of UFOs on Society"; Marvin Taylor, "Society's Reluctance in Accepting UFOs"; Richard Boylan, "The Use and Abuse of Psychology and Hypnosis in UFOlogy"; John Dunlap, "UFO Propulsion Theories"; Phil Haydn-Myer, "International Sightings Since 1947"; Bill Lundgren, "Government Intervention and Response to UFO Phenomena"; Dick Morris, "UFO Movie and Slide Presentation"; and Larry Stanley, "Field Investigator's Practices".

On October 16th, MUFON under the direction of Paul Cerny, Western Regional Director, sponsored a UFO lecture at the Civic Auditorium in Redding, California featuring Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Tom Gates. Between speaking engagements, Dr. Hynek was introduced to steelhead fishing by Mr. Cerny in northern California. Dr. Hynek's public appearances in the "Golden Bear State" under the auspices of MUFON is indicative of the fine cooperation that exists between CUFOS and MUFON.

George D. Fawcett, MUFON State Director for North Carolina since 1974, was honored for his services by the Tar Heel UFO Study Group at the MUFON-NC Fourth Annual Training Conference in Winston-Salem on June 21 and 22, 1980. A tape recorded message, congratulating Mr. Fawcett for his dedicated service from Walt Andrus, was broadcast to the assemblage.

Stanley C. Ferguson, State Section Director for the Dallas, TX metroplex area, was instrumental in organizing a meeting for all MUFON members and interested people on October 15, 1980 at the home of the Reverend G. Neal Hern in Dallas. Its purpose was to organize the field investigators into a cohesive and trained team so as to respond to UFO sighting reports. The formal program consisted of two video taped films, "UFOs Are Real", a documentary co-written by a scientific consultant, Stanton T. Friedman; and Linda Howe's documentary on cattle mutilations, titled "A Strange Harvest". Stan and Neal are to be commended for initiating this activity in order to revitalize this part of the Lone Star State. This also became the occasion to introduce and announce the appointment of G. Neal Hern, an Episcopal Priest, as the new State Director for Texas, replacing William A. Dexter. Neal and his family reside at 4329 Irvin Simmons Drive, Dallas, TX 75229; telephone: (214) 358-4863. This is a culmination of several personal meetings between Rev. Hern and your director over the past year.

The continuity of MUFON's state organizations is maintained through planned transitions by retiring state directors, recommending and cooperating with their successors. Dan R. Wright, a former State Section Director, is succeeding Ron Westrum as State Director for Michigan. Ron will continue his relationship as a Consultant in Sociology and Field Investigator. Dan has his Masters Degree and is professionally a social research analyst. He may be contacted at 113 Sandstone Creek, #17, Grand Ledge, MI 48837; telephone: (517) 627-9497. David Fideler, P. O. Box 1479, Grand Rapids, MI 49501 will continue as Assistant State Director for Michigan.

After serving as State Director of North Carolina since 1974 and State Section Director in both Tennessee and North Carolina starting Sept. 3, 1971, George D. Fawcett has asked to take a less active role due to his business obligations. Henry H. Morton, Jr., 100 Covington St., Wadesboro, NC 28170; telephone (704) 851-9660, a field investigator and amateur radio operator (WA4IAT) has accepted the position of State Director for North Carolina. Henry has been the master of ceremonies for the third and fourth MUFON-NC UFO Training Conferences. Mrs. Gayle C. McBride will continue as Assistant State Director for NC.

As noted in the October issue of the JOURNAL, Stanton T. Friedman and family have moved to 110 Kings College Road, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 2E7, Canada. In addition to serving MUFON as a Consultant in Nuclear Physics, Stan has accepted the position of Provincial Director for the Atlantic Provinces, which includes New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island. Stan has been the most consistent featured speaker at our annual MUFON UFO Symposiums with his first in 1971 in St. Louis, MO.

L.J. Watson, Ph.D., a scientist in physical geography and remote sensing, has volunteered as a Consultant in his field of expertise. Dr. Watson resides at 5621 Terrace Drive, La Crescenta, CA 91214. He specializes in the areas of biogeography, climatology, remote sensing (use of aerial and LANSAT imagery to study the physical environment) and environmental assessment. Arlan K. Andrews, Sr., Sc.D., a Consultant in Mechanical Engineering to MUFON since 1972, is now living at 10140 Guilford Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46280.

Lee Mehciz, 301 North 8th St., DePere, WI 54115 has been reassigned as State Section Director for the Wisconsin counties of Brown, Kewaunee, Door, Outagamie, Calumet and Manitowac, having originally joined MUFON in 1973.

(Continued on page 18)