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COVER: Bryan Gresh (left) and George Knapp in Moscow; Courtesy Altamira Communications Group

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SOVIET UFO SECRETS

The breakup of the former Soviet Union opens up a hidden vault of Iron Curtain UFO files.

A Special Exclusive Report by Bryan Gresh

No meeting was ever complete without food. Whether tea and "special occasion" cookies offered by a government biologist who studies reported UFO landing sites, or the homemade cabbage pie served by a retired Red Army colonel who ran an unprecedented ten year study of UFOs in the former Soviet Union, we never left an interview hungry. Our Russian hosts were warm, sincere, friendly and, despite fixed incomes that amounted to little more than 25 or 30 US dollars a month, happy to share a meal with their American visitors. They also shared with us the secrets of decades of study into the UFO phenomenon in the vast Soviet empire.

During our 10-day Russian stay in March of this year, colleague George Knapp and I met, and conducted lengthy interviews with, a previously hidden echelon of researchers and scientists, dedicated professionals who had pursued their interest in UFOs during the long, dark reign of the Communists. Their findings were not known to the outside world—until now. Among our contacts: one of the architects of the Russian "Star Wars" program who emphatically claims the exchange of information between aliens and humans was incorporated in Russian "beam weapon" technology; a Moscow professor who has spent 30 years studying reported UFO landing sites, including many in and around Moscow; a Russian scientist with first-hand knowledge of the reported crash of a UFO near Roswell, New Mexico in 1947; a quiet, shadowy figure who heads the ongoing Ministry of Defense studies into UFOs; and an author and scientist who became, in essence, a non-person for talking publicly about the UFO phenomenon.

The trip to Russia took seven months to set up and was arranged by our man in Moscow, Nikolai Kapranov. Kapranov is a Russian physicist who served as Security Advisor to the Soviet Parliament. We met Kapranov during a lecture tour of the United States. The UFO subject, it seems, had been talked about for years among Kapranov's circle of friends and associates, including scientists, military officers and KGB operatives. We set Kapranov up in Moscow with an office and a salary and asked him to see what hard information he could find.

What we had hoped, as odd as it sounds, was to find out a little of what America knows about UFOs by talking to the Russians. It has long been assumed if the US government were secretly monitoring UFOs, the same might be going on in the Soviet Union. If the American government had been stockpiling this infor-

mation under the national security blanket, maybe the Russians had been doing the same. We all know how little our government has made public on the subject, but this was a new day in Russia. The new freedoms the Russians were experiencing might extend to the subject of UFOs. Maybe the veil of secrecy would be lifted, if only to offer a peek. But it wasn't going to be easy.

When we stepped off the plane at Moscow's airport on that bone-chilling, late winter evening, the New Russia's ongoing political turmoil was as much on our minds as the UFO research we had come to do. The emerging democracy in this post-Communist era had spawned tension and upheaval. During our stay, loud, angry demonstrations were a daily occurrence. It seemed as if with each passing day, Russian President Boris Yeltsin was that much closer to being ousted. On our last day in Moscow, the Russian Parliament was meeting to consider impeachment (a process which, unlike in the United States, could take all of five minutes). Russian Army tanks rolled through the streets, trucks filled with troops convoyed near Red Square. Despite not knowing how, or when, our visit would end, the window of opportunity was open—and the lure was too great.

Stories on UFOs from inside the Soviet Union have filtered out for years. Thanks to the work of Dr. Richard Haines, Jacques Vallee, Bruce Maccabee, Paul Stonehill and others, solid indications have surfaced of long-term, large scale UFO studies. Our goal was to talk, face to face, with those who were in the know, knowledgeable individuals who had not been quoted in the Western press before, or even the Russian press for that matter. For the record, we have nothing against the Russian ufologists who are already known in the West. We were simply looking for a new layer of information and, hopefully, a treasure trove of UFO secrets.

One of the bigger gems was Boris Sokolov, a retired Russian colonel from a distinguished military family. Sokolov ran an unprecedented study, the likes of which, he is undoubtedly correct in saying, will never be repeated. "For 10 years," Sokolov says, "the entire Soviet Union became one gigantic UFO listening post."

The year was 1980. An amazing order came down from the Ministry of Defense: Every military unit in the vast Soviet empire was to report any and all UFO sightings. Pilots, soldiers and sailors were ordered to

Is the UFO phenomenon for real, we asked. "My colleagues and I don't even think that's a question!" Rimili Avramenko bellowed. "Of course they are real!"

observe the behavior of the craft, and, if possible, take pictures. Later they would provide full and detailed statements to investigators. All reports would make their way up the military ladder, and land in the lap of Sokolov. The reports were numerous, the findings never before made public.

"We had 40 cases where our pilots encountered UFOs," said Sokolov. "Initially, they were commanded to chase, then shoot, the UFO. But when our pilots would engage, the UFO would speed up. The pilot would give chase, lose control and crash."

That happened three times. Twice, the pilots died. "After that," Sokolov said, "the pilots received another order: When they see a UFO they should change course — and get out."

The pilots reported the UFO seemed to possess an extraordinary intelligence, enough to know how far to push the pursuing Soviet aircraft to the point the pilot would lose control. The pilots viewed the UFO as a definite threat.

With the exception of the original "engage" order, Sokolov says the Soviets adopted a passive observation stance — if they saw a UFO, fine. The Soviet attitude was unlike the Americans, Sokolov says, who had set up some 30 radar stations to track UFOs.

Sokolov says the military was interested in UFOs for a number of reasons, including the belief if the secrets of the UFO could be discovered, the Soviets would be able to win the competition against prospective enemies by incorporating what extraterrestrials knew of velocity, materials — and stealth. Sokolov told us the search for stealth technology was prompted by the capabilities of UFOs.

October 5, 1983 is a date Sokolov will long remember. He received an order from his commander to leave immediately for an ICBM base in the Ukraine. The reason for the urgency? A report from the base commander to the Chief of the General Staff that the day before, from 4 until 8 that evening, a UFO had been observed near the base. During that time, the lights had lit up on the base control panel — the launch codes for the ICBM's had, mysteriously, been enabled.

"They received an order to prepare the launch of the ICBM's," said Sokolov. "The chief of the General Staff wasted no time in sending in our UFO experts."

Fortunately, no missiles were launched. But in an article six years later in an issue of the magazine *Soviet Military Review*, Soviet military leaders made a strong case for exchanging UFO information, on a regular basis, with the West. It was suggested if the



Protesting crowds gather in Kremlin Square.

two sides did not communicate on this issue, a UFO might someday trigger a nuclear exchange between the superpowers. The Soviet authors admitted UFOs were tracked by Soviet defense systems and suggested the same must be true in the United States.

Sokolov reports a number of cases involved military sentinels stationed through the Soviet Union who shot at approaching UFOs. He says when the guards started shooting, the UFO would take off.

Thousands of cases came to Sokolov during the 1980's. From his voluminous files, he's compiled the 400 most intriguing cases. Amazingly, we were allowed to purchase the entire file, and are now in the process of having the documents translated. From the archives, Sokolov says, it can be determined that an overwhelming number of the military sightings can be explained in conventional terms. Still, many remain a mystery. Says Sokolov, "It's a phenomena that cannot be explained away so far."

Sokolov is quick to point out that, during the entire length of the study, not one piece of material evidence was left behind. However, Sokolov is aware of one piece of recovered, although unidentified, material which has been sent to four different Russian institutes for analysis. All four centers agree, the elements which form the material cannot be combined on earth.

Though a modest man, Sokolov admits no one else in the former Soviet Union has more information on UFOs than himself. As for the aging colonel, he is quite certain the UFO phenomenon is for real, and is convinced we will someday find the physical evidence to prove it. "Our world is not unique," he says, "it can be imagined."

Rimili Avramenko's world is somewhat unique. He is one of the chief scientists working on Russia's version of SDI. Avramenko has been entrusted with the highest possible clearances. So high that, for much of his life, he hasn't been able to use his real name. If he wanted to publish something, he would have to use an alias. We began our interview of this highly-regarded scientist with what we thought would be a good ice-breaker: Is the UFO phenomenon for real? The question was quickly brushed aside, in no uncertain terms.

"My colleagues and I don't even think that's a question!" he bellowed. "Of course they are real!"

The exchange of information between aliens and humans, the scientist claims, has led to the development of what he referred to as the "weapon of the aliens," the plasma beam. The space age weaponry was incorporated into the Soviet version of SDI. Dr. Avramenko also confirmed for us that Russians knew UFOs were from somewhere else as early as 1959. The Americans knew that too, he said, because both sides had the same type of satellite defense warning systems.

Dr. Avramenko shared with us a couple of other startling pronouncements: during the Vietnam War, he said, a massive UFO flew over Hanoi. Although every major weapon in that city had its sights set on the craft, it didn't budge. Dr. Avramenko also slipped up and told us the only craft which can approach the speed of UFO is the American "Aurora" which is being flown in Nevada. When the look of amazement registered on our faces, Avramenko quickly backtracked and said his information was based solely on articles in the popular press.

Both Sokolov and Avramenko admitted to us military studies of UFOs are still underway in Russia. Some of the still-classified documents we were able to get out of Russia bear that out. The documents make it clear the Russian military maintains an ongoing, high level interest in the UFO subject. The documents reveal the Russians are far beyond the "Are they real?" question. They not only know they're real, the Russians are trying to find out how to take advantage, technologically, of that fact. The documents also show the Russians are monitoring ufology on a worldwide basis. We have found references to MJ-12. Still other American references in the files have never been made public in the West.

Another of our meetings put us across the table from the Ministry of Defense official who is in charge

Another of our meetings put us across the table from the Ministry of Defense official who is in charge of the current UFO study. By agreement, we are not yet able to make his name public, but we can give the name of the study, "Thread-3."

of the current study. By agreement, we are not yet able to make his name public, but we can give the name of the study, "Thread-3." One illuminating section of those papers contains details of UFO sightings by Soviet cosmonauts. Unlike American astronauts' reluctance to talk about the subject, UFO references were reported from the very beginning, with Yuri Gagarin himself. In the documents, Gagarin is quoted as saying UFOs are real, they fly at incredible speeds and that he would tell more about what he had seen in orbit—provided he be given permission to do so. The documents also provide information on American space encounters, including several references to things seen on the moon by our astronauts, and how that information was removed from NASA's public files.

What do the Russians know about the most celebrated of all UFO crashes, the July, 1947 report of a crashed disc outside Roswell, New Mexico? If the incident were "real," the Russians should have known about it. After all, atomic bomb research was going on in the New Mexican desert at the time. Could Russian spies be far away? Our next interview made it seem apparent that, even in the 40's, the Russians weren't buying the weather balloon explanation being proffered to the American people at the time by the US military.

That interview was with Valeriy Burdakov, a man who, to my knowledge, has never granted an interview to a Western journalist. In the 1950's, Burdakov was a scientist at the prestigious Moscow Aviation Institute, birthplace of the Soviet space program. Burdakov's interest in UFOs led to lecturing on the subject, lectures which came to the attention of Sergei Korolyov, the dean of Soviet rocketry and the founder of the Russian space program. But Korolyov did not admonish the younger Burdakov, instead he confided in him.

As the now-60-something Burdakov relates, Joseph Stalin invited Korolyov to a meeting in 1948. The dictator brought Korolyov to a room where, spread out on a table, were piles of material and information collected during a top secret study. Some of the information was gleaned from reports of Soviet operatives in place in New Mexico at the time of the alleged crash. Stalin was anxious to know, what did Korolyov make of this reported crash of a UFO near Roswell?

"Korolyov said, 'O.K., I'll collect the materials and bring them back in two days,'" said Burdakov. "But Stalin told him, 'No, you can't take any of this.'"

Burdakov says Stalin instead ordered Korolyov to work in the room for as long as he needed. Stalin offered to supply translators and anything else Korolyov needed to get the job done. When he finished, Stalin asked Korolyov for his opinion.

"Korolyov told Stalin the phenomenon was real," said Burdakov. "He told him the UFOs were not dangerous to our country, but they were not manufactured in the United States, or any other country. Stalin thanked him, and told Korolyov his opinion was shared by a number of other specialists."

Our interview with Burdakov revealed other first hand accounts from the annals of Soviet ufology. Burdakov says the founding father of the Soviet UFO movement, Felix Zigel, was asked to lecture the KGB on the UFO phenomenon. Burdakov says he, too, found himself on the secret speaking tour, appearing before the Atomic Energy Institute and other "closed secret institutes" to share what he knew about UFOs. Burdakov says he was guaranteed his lectures would be kept quiet.

Burdakov says he has no doubts about the extent of the American government's involvement in the UFO phenomenon. Several branches of the American military, he says, are involved in active research and study.

"We know that the United States Air Force possesses plenty of material," says Burdakov. "The U.S. Navy has a big amount of material as well. We know that special orders have been given to keep all materials secret. When curious people ask for the materials they are told they're not there, that they've been destroyed."

The study of UFOs in the Soviet Union didn't always enjoy an unobstructed field of view. Several times, Soviet ufologists found themselves on the outs with the Soviet hierarchy. Even before Zigel, there was Yuri Fomin.

Fomin's interest in UFO dates back to the early 50's while connected with a Moscow institute working on industrial/electronic techniques. During lectures he delivered to the Soviet military, he became intrigued by the number of audience members who were witnesses to UFO events. His interest, though, was not something the Soviet system thought he should publicly share. Whether out of jealousy or fear, the Soviets ordered Fomin to put a lid on it. Despite a very public attack in *Pravda*, Fomin refused. It cost him. Fomin would become a non-person for talking openly about the subject. Still, he would not give up. During those dark days, Soviet ufology was driven underground. Yet despite public censure, Fomin and Zigel were asked to deliver classified lectures to government and military officials on the very subject they were being persecuted for talking about publicly.

The Academy of Sciences has undertaken continual, private studies of UFOs since the 1970's. Over the years, as many as ten different institutions have been

Most American scientists will tell you the UFO phenomenon doesn't exist because they don't have any evidence to study. No evidence equals no study. The Russians, apparently, haven't heard that equation. They've been conducting field studies for a quarter of a century.

involved in the studies, resulting in thousands of case files. The Russians, of course, have their skeptics, but even their skepticism offers a refreshing change to what Americans face. The Academy's Institute of Terrestrial Magnetism houses the country's best known skeptic, Yuri Platov. Yes, Platov says, 90% of Russian UFO sightings are misidentifications of rocket launches, planes and the like, but even a skeptical Platov admits some cases cannot be easily dismissed. Science, he says, should be interested in pursuing the unexplained, without the baggage of preconceived notions. Platov does not rule out the possibility of extraterrestrial visitations.

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Rem Varlamov of the Moscow Technology Institute believes evidence abounds. We met with Dr. Varlamov at his small apartment outside Moscow for an in-depth interview. Dr. Varlamov has traveled to a number of reported UFO landing sites in Russia, including ten in the direct vicinity of Moscow, to conduct a variety of tests on physical and chemical changes in the soil and the environment. Among his voluminous findings: Identical quartz timepieces, one placed inside a landing site, the other just outside, record time at two different speeds. The quartz timepiece inside the landing circle speeds up. Dr. Varlamov has also discovered that inside the reported landing site circles the land is all but sterile, yielding just a few individual samples of single-celled animals per cubic centimeter of soil. Just outside the circles, tens of thousands of single cell animals flourish in every cubic centimeter.

Varlamov told us the main thrust of his work is not to contact "the space intellect," but, rather, to understand how the universe works. Among his other fascinating findings: evidence of what is known as "angel hair," a type of by-product of UFO exhaust. Varlamov has obtained a sample to analyze the content. Dr. Varlamov also claims at least six attempts have been made to make pre-arranged contact with alien intelligence. Some of these contacts, he claims, were successful.

Varlamov's findings are supported by a government biologist and close colleague. His name is Yuri

Simakov. Simakov has not been known outside of Russia until now. Dr. Simakov has also traveled to a number of Russian landing site cases, gathering data and conducting numerous tests. One of those experiments involved flies.

"We placed flies in a dish and put the dish over a landing site," Dr. Simakov said. "The flies went wild, buzzing and flying around."

Most intriguing, however, was Simakov's discovery of tiny, glass-like balls recovered from soil inside the landing site circles. Russian scientists, as yet, have not been able to identify these microscopic marbles. Simakov has a couple of theories.

"They may be formed as the result of transmutation," he said, "when oxygen was transformed into sodium under the influence of the UFO." Or, he says, they may be containers to carry life from one planet to another.

Although Dr. Simakov did not have many of these "seeds," he did give us some, in hopes American scientists might be able to solve the mystery. A highly reputable lab in the United States has analyzed the material. We are not yet in receipt of the written report, but this much is known: a team of experts which tested and analyzed the little balls has absolutely no idea what they are. These folks are experts in plant pathology and micro organisms, they suggested we next contact a chemist. They say the material appears to be similar to glass in composition, and someone familiar with how glass forms in soil may provide some insight.

Another of Dr. Simakov's discoveries comes from two reported landing sites in Siberia. Simakov found microscopic worms in the soil. Nothing too unusual there, except these worms are particular to Mexico, and don't occur naturally anywhere in the former Soviet Union.

A sizable portion of our time in Moscow was spent with a military official whose area of expertise may offend the sensibilities of mainstream American ufologists. His research has a distinct, New Age flavor. Though at first glance, it may be easy to dismiss this work as so much mumbo jumbo, it is important to remember who is behind it: the Russian military machine. Also important to remember: it is a subject taken very seriously. Again, because of an agreement to protect his identity, we cannot divulge his name. However, he is no lightweight. His boss reports directly to the Russian version of Colin Powell.

In the West, it would be called a "remote viewing" program, the ability to "see" classified materials locked away in a safe thousands of miles away. But for the general in charge of this program, it entails much more.

We were shown films which detailed the training of Russian soldiers. At the completion of the program,

these soldiers would be able to track military targets without the benefit of any equipment. No radar, no satellites, no night vision glasses—just their minds. We were told the success rate hovered around 70%. Some of what the general is working on has already been put to use by Russian law enforcement.

For the general and his staff, the connection with UFOs is one of communication. Several times during our trip, we heard reference to the "universal brain" and the "cosmic intellect." These disciples of ufology believe it is possible to communicate with alien intelligence on an ongoing basis. Not just "grays," but dimensional, spatial beings that live with, and around, us on Earth. Yes, it's "out there"—but no one snickers when the subject is talked about it.

The study of UFOs in Russia is huge, serious and ongoing. All the secrets cannot be found out in one trip. Fortunately, we have been invited back to Russia to continue our investigation behind what was once an iron curtain. The Ministry of Defense has invited us to take part in a UFO safari to study a high concentration sighting area in Siberia. We would be not only the only Westerners, but the only reporters. Unfortunately, the trip had to be cancelled for this year, because of a lack of Ministry of Defense funding. Hopefully, we'll make the trip next year. In the meantime, our company is in the process of putting together a series of videotaped documentaries on the "Best Evidence"—both in the US, Russia and around the world. The first tapes should be available in early 1994.

Perhaps the "new" Russia will bring new opportunities for American and Russian UFO researchers to compare notes, and exchange vital information gathered from opposite sides of the world. To that end, our company has signed an agreement with the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences to establish a joint American-Russian research institute to foster the exchange of information between both sides. The UFO phenomenon is, after all, a subject too important to be left solely up to governments.

Bryan Gresh is Senior Vice President of Altamira Communications Group. He spent 15 years as a television news reporter in a number of markets around the country. Before joining Altamira in January of 1992, Bryan was an anchor/reporter at the CBS affiliate in Las Vegas, KLAS-TV.

It was while in Las Vegas that he began working with renowned UFO researcher, George Knapp. Knapp and Gresh have teamed up to produce a series of videotape documentaries on the UFO phenomenon, the first of which will be available later this year.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ROBERT LAZAR

From inside the Little A'Le'Inn, shadow physicist Bob Lazar fields questions about Area S-4 and UFOs

By John Kirby

For many of those who attended the "Ultimate UFO Conference" at the Little A'Le'Inn in Rachel, Nevada, just outside the boundary of Area 51, there were interesting presentations and some disappointments. George Knapp, the Las Vegas television reporter who gave a great deal of air time to the Bob Lazar story and Gene Huff, a close associate of Lazar, were unable at the last minute to attend the conference. However, on Saturday, May 1, Bob Lazar came to meet with the attendees and answer questions. For most people his attendance was the highlight of the conference.

Lazar, who arrived in a car with Nevada license plate "MJ-12," was cordial and seemed a bit uncomfortable in the spotlight. He had no planned formal presentation but was willing to answer nearly all questions put to him. The only ones he declined to address had either to do with specific people who preferred to remain anonymous, or with patents which he is currently working on.

Lazar's main presentation took place in a large tent erected outside the Inn for the conference. But since a presentation was in progress when he arrived, he agreed to sit and answer questions for a small group of people inside the Inn itself before the main session. A tape recording was made of this informal "press conference," portions of which are printed here with Lazar's permission.

WHO IS BOB LAZAR?

Before delving into the transcript, it would be appropriate to review Bob Lazar's claims and his background. Lazar claims to have degrees in Physics and Electronics Technology and claims to have attended Cal Tech and MIT. In the mid to late 1980s, Lazar worked at Los Alamos Labs in New Mexico. Then, over a period of five or six days between December of 1988 and April of 1989, he was allegedly employed at a desert test area called S-4, a job which he believes may have been arranged through the efforts of the famous physicist Edward Teller. S-4 is about 15 miles south of Area 51. Some 125 miles north of Las Vegas, Area 51 has been the secret test site for such aircraft as the U-2 and Stealth Fighter. Lazar claims that no alien craft are being tested at Area 51.

After his arrival at S-4, Lazar claims to have received a short briefing paper about two pages long which essentially stated that extraterrestrials exist, they have been involved in human history and their spacecraft are being housed at S-4. Bob was told that it was his assignment to assist in "back engineering" the propulsion system of one of the craft. Back engineering means an-

alyzing something that already exists and figuring out how it works. Efforts by Lazar and others were allegedly successful—the propulsion system's basic theory of operation was determined, although there was only minor success duplicating the engineering with earthly technology.

Test flights of the craft were held periodically in the immediate vicinity of S-4. Lazar had access to the test schedules. After working at S-4 for a time, he met John Lear, son of the founder of the Lear Jet enterprise. He invited or agreed to take John to a location near S-4 to view one of the tests, and in the process was discovered by base security. This and some other factors led to Lazar's subsequently leaving the program. His experiences were made public shortly thereafter.

Since that time, Lazar has made few public appearances, but did make a video tape which summarized his experiences and explained the basic operating theory of the crafts' propulsion system. His appearance at the A'Le'Inn conference was one of those rare appearances.

THE TRANSCRIPT

The transcript which follows is nearly verbatim. However, exact transcripts, filled with awkward phrasing, along with "I mean's" and "you know's," are difficult to read. Therefore, some of the phrasing is changed and some extraneous words are deleted. Where non-trivial paraphrasing was done, or where words were added to clarify statements, those changes and additions are enclosed in brackets. Editorial comments are enclosed in brackets with "Ed. note" added. "Q" refers to questioner (there were about ten people present). "BL" refers to Bob Lazar. To protect the privacy of certain individuals, some full proper names have been deleted.

Q: You mentioned that you didn't like the way work was being conducted at S-4. What did you mean?

BL: What I meant was that it was being conducted by unqualified people, they were looking at duplicating the hardware and not trying to back engineer the theory. I contend that there was certainly no reason to pick me to work on the project except that I would come at the problem from a different angle. That was my main complaint. The second complaint was that there was definitely a lack of equipment there, and in any kind of project along those lines, that high level of security does not go well with scientific research. You couldn't get

things out of rooms, you had to be escorted all the time. I'm at a loss for words. A scientific environment just can't be like that.

Q: Where is S-4 relative to Papoose Lake? Is it at the base of Papoose mountain?

BL: Yes. If you're on the lake, it's just west of Papoose Lake. You can look out of the bay doors at S-4 and see the lake out there.

Q: What was the ratio of security people to scientists out there?

BL: (Laughs) A million to one.

Q: Why?

BL: I have no idea. You're talking about 22 people [unintelligible phrase]. You're secure in the test site already, and it's not like there's going to be an invasion team coming over the hill. I have no idea what the level of security was for. It's possible that security during my time was increased because around the time I got there, I know that the Russians were involved in what we were doing.

Q: Why was that?

BL: I don't know. All I know is that some large discovery was made. Exactly what that was, I don't know. I think security was more concerned about the Russians, maybe there was a fear that the Russians would latch on to one of the U.S. scientists.

Q: What time were the Soviets kicked out?

BL: Right after I got there, around the first of '89.

Q: Did you ever personally work with any Soviets?

BL: No, I never did see them; I just heard that they were there.

Q: I was wondering, do you have formulas written down concerning element 115 as to how it emits the gravity waves?

BL: Just stuff that we scribbled down.

Q: Can it be reduced to formulas?

BL: I'm sure everything can. You know you need to play around with it some more.

Q: Did you live on the base?

BL: No. But I know that people do.

Q: So they moved you to and from Vegas each day?

BL: Yeah.

Q: Who runs security? Do they have a parent organization? Wackenhut?

BL: No, don't think it was Wackenhut. I don't know who they were but I never paid attention to it there.

Q: Did they have names on their —

BL: No.

Q: How would you describe their uniforms?

BL: Some guys just had straight dark blue on. Other guys that were outside had that desert camouflage — you know that beige-colored stuff — on. But for the most part, they had dark blue uniforms on.

Q: There were people who confirmed your informa-

tion to George Knapp; do you know who they are?

BL: Yeah. He knows one of the guys in blue. So I think George knows what organization they're a part of.

Q: Did they give George their names? Did he talk to you to confirm that they were associated with S-4?

BL: Well, one person related information to George, and so George asked the person to describe stuff that I haven't told other people, for example, where various things were located in the complex, and everything the person said was right, so there's no doubt that he was there.

Q: Did you have friends you worked with that you also socialized with?

BL: No. [unintelligible] I was becoming friends with one guy I worked with but—

Q: Do you speak now to anybody from that time period?

BL: No, but I wish I could.

Q: In your tape, you talked about possible alien influence in history. You said you read some things about that in your initial briefing at S-4, but you did not go into the details in your video tape. Can you share anything more about that?

BL: All I know is really what I said in the tape: that there were 65 or 66 corrections [Ed note: referring to past alien genetic corrections of the human race, I believe] but you know, I can only put so much credit in that stuff.

Q: You said that there were actual video tapes that existed of historical events, apparently made by aliens. I think you mentioned that in your video tape. Were those alien tapes seen by you or were they just indicated in the briefing?

BL: No, it was indicated.

Q: Before the theory was pieced together as to how these craft work—the propulsion system, that is—what were the previous theories? Were they pursuing any other methods to accomplish the same type of travel?

BL: Well, they always knew it was some sort of field propulsion just because there were no high pressure areas, propellers, or nothing along those lines coming out of the craft, so they knew it was some soft of field propulsion, maybe electromagnetic. Essentially, they couldn't measure anything coming off the craft except by-products of the electromagnetic energy from the reactor. I think they're only pursuing gravitational propulsion.

Q: I read in a book somewhere that there was an inventor. I guess in the 40's or 50's, named Townsend Brown. From what I remember, he took an electromagnet, and when you first turn an electromagnet on, it moves. And he said that he could harness that energy to create flying crafts or whatever. Is stuff like that feasible?

- BL: No. I've seen all kinds of crazy claims about how they [the craft] operate...and I mean most of them are ridiculous.
- Q: Bob, other than the propulsion technology, which is obviously the most amazing of the whole picture, was there any other technology that you saw that would be as amazing to us, maybe their communication technology?
- BL: I don't know. Like I said, I was only privy to information about propulsion, but the communications really concerns me. It bothers me because it doesn't make sense. If you're dealing with an intense gravitational field that distorts everything around the craft radio waves would not be able to penetrate [the field to reach] the craft: they should be distorted just like light is around the craft. Yet, the ground controllers at S-4 were in contact with the craft during test flights. There's things that I want to know about it, and one of them is the communications. One possibility is that it is some sort of modulated gravity communication which would be unbelievable.
- Q: What did you know about Project Looking Glass? [Ed. note: allegedly a project to look backward in time]
- BL: Very, very little.
- Q: Is that project being run out of S-4 as well or is that at another location?
- BL: No. All that's at S-4.
- Q: When you were threatened before going to Japan for an interview, why do you think that they haven't made threats like that while you're here in this country?
- BL: What do you mean? Why don't they threaten me now? I don't know. A lot of time has gone by. I can't even guess. You know, maybe that was before much word got around, and they were more concerned about it back then.
- Q: Have you had any network exposure, I mean with major networks like ABC or CBS?
- BL: Some of the trash stuff, like "Current Affair," have picked up on the story.
- Q: There were no serious attempts to get your story?
- BL: Oh, yeah, there was CNN and a bunch of other places that did run something. Yeah, there was quite a bit.
- Q: Anything from scientific groups?
- BL: Not that's published and that's ongoing now.
- Q: Why do you think it's taking so long for mainstream science to—
- BL: Oh, they hate stuff like this—not UFOs, but they hate it if you come up with another theory that essentially disproves everything else. You can't believe the jealousy in that field. They'll spend the rest of their careers just trying to [academically] assassinate you and ruin your credibility.
- Q: Ego?
- BL: Oh, absolutely. Especially if you're a young guy and haven't been involved in their work. I mean they might have worked their whole lives in the thing and they can't—
- Q: Your co-workers at S-4, did you detect an arrogance or ego on their part?
- BL: No. Not at all. They really feel privileged, as I did when I was there, to be involved with it. And we kind of pushed off everyone else. The feeling was something like, "you're right, this *should* be secret, to hell with everyone else." [laughs]
- Q: I would agree with that, that's what I would do.
- BL: Yeah, believe me, when you're involved with it, you feel like, "hey we're *it!*" That's really the attitude I had when I was there.
- Q: You made the statement that there is some information which you choose not to reveal. I imagine that's because of national security.
- BL: Oh, there's information about weapons and things like that —
- Q: [unintelligible] so didn't you feel like you were breaking some kind of an honor code by—
- BL: Well, not just honor but legally [unintelligible] but—
- Q: Why *were*'t you imprisoned?
- BL: Well, what are they going to bring me up on? For them to do that, they would have to say that this is secret information.
- Q: Does it concern you that nobody else has come out publicly? [Ed note: at the Triad UFO conference in July 1993 in Seattle, George Knapp, the TV reporter who has been following this, said that he has had several sources separately confirm elements of Lazar's story.]
- BL: Well, yeah, publicly it bothered me, but you know, privately, people have.
- Q: Did you ever speak among your co-workers and say, "God, this is so incredible..."
- BL: Yeah, to another guy [name deleted]. That's why I'm really anxious to find him...because he seemed like, with coaxing at that time, he would have said something.
- Q: Do you know of any other place where this kind of work's going on?
- BL: I was told when I was there that S-4 was the only place. You know there were stories of Hangar 18 and other Air Force bases that...purposely everything is kept at one location.
- Q: Did you ever get the feeling that maybe if you had stayed in this just a little longer, you'd have more to tell? Why didn't you go that route?
- BL: Oh, well, there's a big long story why I left. [Ed note: Later in the conference, Lazar told the story in which he, John Lear and others were caught near S-4 watching a test of one of the crafts of the type Lazar was allegedly working on. This and

- related circumstances caused Lazar to leave the program.]
- Q: I know they kind of threatened you because of meetings with John Lear.
- BL: Yeah, but there's a big chain of events that happened, I mean they—
- Q: Bob, there's a lot of speculation as to why, right after you started, you spoke to John. Did you feel morally obligated to come out and tell the story so the rest of us would know?
- BL: I haven't the slightest idea why I told John. I really didn't know him that well then. But I found out that the things they [people at S-4] told me about John were essentially a lie. And John has spent a couple of years trying to track this [the S-4 story] down. And, because at the time I had the flight schedules, really all I did was say "at 9 o'clock this day, there's going to be a flight, you want to see something?" And we went out there and watched, and [after that] I said, "that's it, let's drop it."
- Q: Did John ever express any doubt about your work or the things you were telling him?
- BL: Well, there wasn't much time from when I told him about the flight to when we went out to watch it. He brought out his Celestron telescope, and when we got out there, he whipped this big telescope out, and I said, "oh, my God, okay, John, that's it!"
- Q: Did you at any time think you wanted to go to the regular media with this?
- BL: No. Obviously not.
- Q: Would you go to White Sides anytime, say, in a couple of hours maybe?
- BL: White Sides? What's that?
- Q: The mountain. White Sides, from where you can see Groom Lake.
- BL: But nothing's at Groom Lake [Area 51]. [Ed note: remember Bob claims alien craft are tested at S-4 not Area 51.]
- Q: Where would you go if you wanted to view what's going on at S-4?
- BL: People often go to the Mailbox Road [intersection of Mailbox Road and Highway 375] but you really can't see [any S-4 activity] from Mailbox Road; You want the road further up [a few miles south], the other long line on the map, Groom Road. That's where we viewed it from. We went all the way up and to the left [on Groom road] so we could get closer to S-4.
- Q: My friend works for Centel [a regional telephone company], and he says that if you go over by Mount Charleston—I can't remember exactly where right now—you can see right down on [unintelligible] and you can actually see the vehicles moving from that area.
- BL: From Mount Charleston? That's a *hundred* miles away, though.
- Q: But he said he goes up there all the time and other Centel people do: they can see the vehicles moving.
- BL: [Went on to the next question.]
- Q: When you were working there, were there any connections with any projects in Australia?
- BL: None that I heard of. I know that there are connections in the Soviet Union, but nothing in Australia.
- Q: Bob, some people that have been hanging around the Mailbox, people that George Knapp used to corroborate your story, said that they saw a saucer-shaped object hovering around the Mailbox—actually, it was about a hundred yards away. Would that be something totally different from something going on at S-4, non-exotic technology?
- BL: Well, you know, down at Groom, they're working on all types of secret aircraft.
- Q: So you think that craft was terrestrial technology?
- BL: I don't know, that depends on what they saw. If it's hovering silently, and it's a large...it's hard to say until you actually see it. I'm not privy to all the information, but I really don't know of any kind of vertical take-off and landing craft being worked on right now at Area 51, though there may be.
- Q: Did they ever indicate that the technology that you were working on was associated with Roswell or previous crashes or anything like that?
- BL: No.
- Q: Bob, would you characterize your work at S-4 as being the most exciting thing you've ever worked on?
- BL: [smiles] Oh, of course, yeah. Without a doubt.
- Q: Do you think they'll be able to replicate a vehicle sometime in the future?
- BL: Some of the technology, yeah, but not the propulsion. Because you'd need the reactor and the reactor is a technology that doesn't even exist yet [unintelligible]. You could certainly make a weapon out of the fuel, though. That would be very easy to do.
- Q: John [Lear] said that you were the source of some information about the fact that the Grays were a mercenary force that was interfering.
- BL: No.
- Q: You said it's very difficult to get this propulsion system going: are the things that are flying strictly reactors built by alien technology? No terrestrial technology?
- BL: No, absolutely. Nothing. One of the things we were trying to do was, starting with [alien] operating reactors and operating amplifiers, we tried to substitute different pieces of man-made material in various parts of the system. The only thing we got to work was essentially substituting a wave

guide, and of course that's essentially a pipe. But when we made any changes to the gravity amplifiers they stopped working after that. You know, everyone was really afraid to fool around with the reactor too much.

Q: You said in your video tape that they [technicians trying to figure out how the reactor worked] were playing with the reactor and there was an explosion. [Ed note: Lazar said in his video tape that this explosion happened in May of 1987.]

BL: Yes, supposedly the history of what happened before me was that—

Q: Why were they cutting it open? What were they trying to achieve?

BL: I read the notes from the guys and, believe me, cutting open an operating reactor under load is the *last* thing I would do. I think they reached a point of frustration, and were probably pressured, for example, "you guy's gotta come up with something." And I think they cut into what they thought was the most innocuous or safest part of the reactor, and why they chose to do it when it was operating, I have no idea.

Q: Why were they killed? Why were they co-located with the device or even the vicinity? Wouldn't you do this remotely?

BL: They *were* doing it remotely. If you've ever seen any of the [blast] rooms they have there [where nuclear weapons are tested underground], they have an area where the device goes, and removed back, there are blast doors where there's recording equipment. And you know, usually you can get the recording equipment after the detonation. Well [laughs] those two [blast] doors apparently weren't together and that room was destroyed.

Q: Bob, you left there in what, '89, four years ago?

BL: Something like that.

Q: Do you think they've evolved to the point in their back-engineering work that they're flying the craft a little bit more? How fast were they evolving?

BL: *Extremely* slow. *Extremely* slow.

Q: Before they would fly these craft around the world or take them out in the solar system or something like that, do you think?

BL: They've never left the atmosphere with the craft. Positively not.

Q: [Do you know if it] will take 10 years, 20 years to do that?

BL: I don't know if they'll do that. They are so paranoid: when the thing lifts off the ground and over to the right [laughs], people are sitting there praying that it comes back, and they never—

Q: It's an extremely complicated thing to pilot?

BL: I don't know. I have no idea how to navigate the thing. If someone threw me in the middle of it, I wouldn't have the slightest idea how to get it off the ground.

Q: You mentioned when you went inside the sport model [Bob's nickname for the particular craft he worked on] it had really short chairs. Do you think they accommodated these to fit human pilots for the [tests]?

BL: They must have.

Q: Do you regret now having gone public?

BL: In some ways, yeah, but for the most part no.

Q: Were you glad you did it?

BL: Well it was more or less for selfish reasons because I [two words unintelligible] that's essentially what it was. Was I concerned that the world knew? No. [laughs]

Q: How do you feel about coming out [here to this conference] today?

BL: Coming out here today? I have no problem with it. Enough time has gone by. They say time heals all wounds. So—

Q: Do you feel like you've done the right thing?

BL: Ah [pauses], yeah, yeah I do. I *really* wish I had stayed with the project longer, though, because I really do want to know more about the technology.

Q: Were you ever briefed or made aware of any other propulsion system other than the one you worked on?

BL: [No verbal answer, but I assume he was shaking his head no.]

Q: Bob, usually when they have people like yourself working on something like propulsion, it [the secret information] is very highly compartmentalized. They don't talk about anything else [except what you need to know], but you said that when you first got there, they showed you briefing papers about various topics. Why do you think they did that?

BL: Yeah, virtually everything [is compartmentalized]. I imagine that was just to relieve any possible questions. But remember, when I talk about briefings, I'm talking about two sheets of paper, just like "this is what's going on with the rest of the craft, this is what you're working on." And then the bulk of the information—99.8 percent—dealt specifically with what I was going to be working on. So, anyway, it was to alleviate any questions of "Well, where did this come from?"

Q: You said you had 38 levels [of security clearance] above "Q." [Ed note: "Q" is itself a high-level clearance]

BL: Yeah, that's what I was told.

Q: How many levels are there?

BL: I don't know.

Q: Have you ever heard of higher levels?

BL: It never came up.

Q: Did you ever hear rumors of major government officials coming in to get tours, like congressman or whatever?

BL: I heard rumors of that, but you know, from what

I was told when I was there, no one has ever stepped in there from any faction of the government, Navy or whatever. People get tours of [Area] 51 all the time, but I've never heard of anyone coming up through there [S-4].

Q: Have you talked to any astronauts? Anybody who's walked on the moon?

BL: Yeah.

Q: And corresponded with them?

BL: Well, they've come out to visit me.

Q: They approached you? They initiated contact with you?

BL: [Non-verbal answer but from the flow of the following questions, I assume Lazar nodded yes.]

Q: Like [astronaut's name deleted] or somebody like that?

BL: No, not [astronaut's name]. [Ed Note: the questioners proposed some additional names to which Lazar did not respond.]

Q: You can't say who?

BL: One of them was [name deleted]. He was the [number deleted] man on the moon.

Q: What did he have to say to you?

BL: Well, there's a faction of those guys that are...they're into it, but I guess it's dangerous. Well not really "dangerous" [but difficult] for them to express interest, but you know, these guys are on pensions for the rest of their lives and—

Q: What did they say to you? Right on?

BL: Yeah, that was essentially what they said to me.

Q: Bob, if you could return to work on the project, would you go?

BL: No.

Q: You would *not* go?

BL: No. Just because I don't trust them. If I could go with a little army [to protect me], I'd be...you know, no problem. If they'd give me stuff to do at home...[laughs] But no, I don't want to go back to a secure area in the middle of the desert.

Q: In other words, go back completely on their turf?

BL: Yeah. Not a chance.

Q: How do you feel about being such a celebrity in this area? Is it a nuisance to you?

BL: No, it's not [a nuisance]. I just don't [unintelligible reference to being low-key].

Q: What kind of work do you feel could get you excited again right now?

BL: Ah, weapons.

Q: Weapons? Because of the financial rewards?

BL: No, I like [laughs] really destructive things.

Q: [Laughter in group] That's a surprising comment!

BL: Well, you know, actually, I would have rather worked on Project Sidekick which dealt with them.

Q: Really.

BL: It would have been more along my lines; I don't

know what I was doing [assigned to propulsion].

Q: Do you think you'll ever get an opportunity to work in the field you want to again?

BL: Not at that level, no. But in other weapons development, I do [one word unintelligible].

Q: You can imagine what a burst of gravity waves would do to something solid.

BL: It could be used for a lot of things.

Q: What is your background, Bob? You have a master's and bachelor's [degrees] is that right?

BL: Physics and Electronics Technology.

Q: It was MIT and—

BL: Cal Tech.

Q: If you had a craft with a gravity propulsion device aboard, and you were to intensify the gravity field around the craft, could it cause light to bend around it such that the craft would be cloaked from view?

BL: Yeah. It does [cloak a craft from view]. It depends where you are viewing it from. If you're directly under the craft, you see the sky above it.

Q: And if there's a mountain in back of it?

BL: I don't know how it...without actually observing it like that. I don't know what you'd see from the side or [how light waves] would travel along the side of the craft.

Q: It seems like they could operate in daytime perhaps with impunity in this way.

BL: Oh, yeah. From certain directions, I would think so.

Q: Do you think the crafts can operate invisibly, or is there always going to be some light accompanying them?

BL: No matter what, at night there's going to be a light accompanying [it]. You're dealing with a fluorescent tube essentially of a rare gas in the atmosphere and a tremendous amount of energy being generated. So the atoms in the air are essentially emitting photons.

Q: It's like a neon effect.

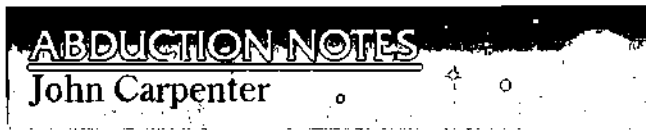
BL: Yeah, that's exactly what's happening. It doesn't happen in space because there is no rarified gas to illuminate. And at different levels of power you get different colors of glow. But for the most part, it *should* be blue: you may get a sodium yellow-orange type color.

Q: [Somewhat difficult to hear exactly.] As you get different power levels—

BL: Yeah, it will get brighter as it [the power level] goes up. [unintelligible phrase] The gravity field should distort that light, too, but it doesn't, so... [laughs]...there's a lot that doesn't make [sense].

Q: That would probably be the argon in the atmosphere that would turn blue?

Continued on Page 16



Still More Explanatlons (Part Two)

At the other extreme — as one reader correctly indicated — are those persons who accept *everything* as true and undeniably real. Every unidentified light source automatically becomes an extraterrestrial spacecraft, every odd-shaped cloud harbors a large “mother ship.” Every unidentified click on the telephone is another government agent listening in, every morning bruise, bump, or scrape *must* indicate yet another forgotten nighttime snatching. Every creative thought is now assigned as coming from some celestial guardian rather than possibly from their own imaginative processes. These people are not hard to screen out from serious research because there is not one skeptical or sensible bone in their bodies. They differ from “genuine” abductees in that they seem to have no doubts, skepticism, uncertainty, or any desire for the experience to go away. They are not so much “attention-seeking” as in *need* of an experience. Practically none of the eighty cases I have researched have had these rather obvious traits.

Still, the need to *disbelieve* takes many forms. I’ve been talking with a level-headed, polite, and rather cautious woman about her numerous unusual experiences—which she would prefer *not* to have occurring. Some encounters were quite disturbing, with other members of the family consciously aware of these strange events taking place in their home. Ultimately she settled for someone with whom she could work locally, talking to as many as five different investigators. Each one gave her various “explanations” for each of her many symptoms. She entered investigation with just one mystery, but exited the interviews with at least 12 new and different problems. Her “missing time” was declared to be the first sign of a new epileptic condition for which she had never had any true symptoms or history. Her memory of a “pear-shaped head,” she was told, resulted from her unresolved trauma from a previous miscarriage. However, she had successfully completed therapy for that issue years earlier and was puzzled by this assumption.

Golf-ball-sized lights, darting about in the interior of the home, were “obviously” the spark-like products of tectonic stress shifts in the earth’s crust, never mind that there had been no recent seismic disturbances. When her six-week old baby went missing from her third-floor bedroom crib, only to be discovered neatly tucked away in the bassinet one floor below, she was told that either she or someone else had moved the baby without realizing it. When she found leaves in the crib — on several occasions — it was suggested

that they blew in through an open window—which was never open — landing neatly and only in the crib.

When details of what we might characterize as an “abduction scenario” began to surface consciously, she was told repeatedly that she suffered from a Fantasy Prone Personality disorder, and that she should refrain from talking with any researchers who actually believed in UFO abductions. She was shocked when her recollection of geometric shapes and symbols was interpreted as “triangulated family problems” and “hidden marital discord.” Unaccounted-for scratches, “incisions,” and triangular bruising, as well as “glowing eyes” in the bedroom, were all blamed on the house cat — despite the cat having been declawed and routinely kept behind locked doors downstairs at night. Finally, when she described a clear recollection of “gray things coming through the window,” it was announced with certainty that she had “ghosts”!

FANTASY PRONE PERSONALITY

The term “Fantasy Prone Personality” is *not* a recognized or accepted psychiatric diagnosis or category. It does not appear in any of the official Diagnostic and Statistical Manuals of Disorders which all mental health professionals know well. In fact, it is only discussed in UFO-related articles and research. Why? Because its creator is Keith Basterfield, a fine UFO researcher from Australia, who sincerely directed some studies to see if there actually was a tendency toward fantasizing among the population of alleged abductees. His results were negative or not significant, and he promptly withdrew the theory and its terminology at the M.I.T. Abduction Study Conference in June of 1992 (where we were roommates). However, there are researchers and skeptics still waving the flag for “FPP” despite its lack of validity and recent burial.

REPPRESSED SEXUAL TRAUMA

Repressed sexual abuse or trauma is frequently blamed as the source of all or most abduction accounts. There are many problems with this particular “explanation.” First of all, after gathering specific background information and interviewing nearly 100 abductees, the incidence of any sexual trauma is not high and is quite similar to the incidence of sexual abuse reported in a random sample of the general population. By sharp contrast, persons diagnosed with Multiple Personality Disorder nearly always have sexual trauma in their childhoods, and it is a strong contributor to the disorder itself. Clinicians expect to find severe abuse with this kind of disturbance. Abductees do not exhibit any typical pattern of sexual abuse in their backgrounds. And if there has been some kind of sexual experience, it does not seem connected to or symbolically represented in their particular abduction report.

Secondly, any internally-generated material influenced by one's personal experiences is going to have the details and dynamics of that individual's life woven into a tapestry characteristic and symbolic of those private matters. It is inconceivable that thousands of others could have such strikingly similar accounts with matching details down to types of alien uniforms, insignias, procedures, movement, communication, crafts, interiors, lighting, actions, or physical descriptions. Humans do not even have the same exact nightmares every night because the realm of one's imagination affected by intense emotions is so infinitely vast and boundless as to the creative possibilities. Thirdly, an abduction account with multiple witnesses or participants rules out the repressed trauma notion unless one is to believe that an eruption of repressed material can occur simultaneously in two or more different persons with matching and shared details rather than individualized scenarios reflecting the private pain of different backgrounds, families, and traumatic actions.

FALSE MEMORY SYNDROME

This particular syndrome *does* occur in suggestive situations with suggestive subjects and pushy, less-skilled therapists. As a means of pleasing the hypnotist or interrogator, details can be innocently produced by the subconscious mind in order to fill-in blanks where the mind does not actually recall what happened. In the suggestive state of hypnosis these details can be reinforced to the point of seeming to have occurred without any doubt whatsoever. Despite this sounding like the bell tolling for the end of hypnotic regressive research, there are many problems with this "explanation" — which *on the surface* seems to explain how abduction scenarios might be created. One problem is that much of the data produced in an abduction hypnotic regression session is unknown in its significance either to the subject himself, or to both the subject and researcher. In many sessions material was produced that neither the subject nor I had any idea or preconceived belief about. Until I compared notes with other researchers, I had no idea that I had 20 specific matches in details that I had never heard about previously.

Many skeptics jump to the conclusion that if any confabulation occurs, then the whole encounter or experience can be discounted. Confabulated details can be as simple and non-significant as which door of the car a witness recalls opening. This does not destroy the core experience, nor does it cause a major problem with the flow of events. Major contradictions might involve one witness stating the craft landed and lowered a ramp while a second witness recalls the craft just hovering and being "beamed up." This type of discrepancy is problematic and suggestive of confabulation on one or both witnesses' parts. Memory is not infallible and less important details can be manufactured innocently to "fill in the blanks." Confabulated details are unlikely to match

other accounts well. The test of any data over time is the frequency of its occurrence in hundreds of reported experiences, the specificity of its matching other reports, and the unlikelihood of its origin being from an external source such as a form of the media. For example, when a witness describes a "classic" abduction scenario, I listen for *unpublished* factors and details that have only been discussed in private talks with other researchers. Without correlation to other reports confabulated details will drop out of data patterns in time and usually end up in the "gray basket" forever.

In the two-part article, "Remembering Satan" (*The New Yorker*, May 17-24, 1993), an upstanding policeman is accused of sexual crimes against his own children that he doesn't remember — at least until pushy interrogating leads him into thinking that he must have done it. The point here is that none of the accusations or confessions among all that were supposedly involved ever matched well — which is what one would expect with false, confabulated memories. Contradictions and embellishments abounded. With UFO abduction participants, two or more persons abducted or involved in the same incident tend to find their independent reports correlating with amazing consistency and very few contradictions at all — suggesting an experiential base and foundation in reality. How could two people dredge up the same scenario, time sequence, and specific details just from imagination? How could they see each other aboard an alien craft and know what each was doing and when he did it if the experience was not real?

My own style of asking suggestive hypnotic questions which lead toward commonplace logical responses would certainly succeed with subjects who were manufacturing stories. To not fall for such leading suggestions means the subject must go against the logical flow and produce an illogical or seemingly irrational response in order to unknowingly match actual patterns of abduction data. Conscious observations of landed crafts and little beings match the accounts retrieved through hypnosis. And, finally, an important study performed on data from 519 cases of traumatic crimes (homicides, rapes, robberies) in the files of the Los Angeles Police Department add important support to the accuracy of hypnotic recall for events involving trauma. In 80.6 percent of the cases involving investigative hypnosis, additional information was obtained. In approximately half of those cases the accuracy of the new details could eventually be determined. Verified accuracy of the hypnotically retrieved information was rated at 90.7 percent with only 9.3 percent of the information proven to be inaccurate (Reiser, Martin [1982], "Erickson and Law Enforcement: Investigative Hypnosis" in Jeffrey Zeig [ed.], *Ericksonian Approaches to Hypnosis and Psychotherapy*, New York: Brunner/Mazel).

I would be among the first to study this abduction scenario as only a psychological phenomenon if it were not for the following considerations: (1) conscious visual sightings of unusual objects in the sky, (2) photographic and videotape footage, (3) conscious observations of same beings, (4) radar confirmation of UFOs, (5) intense and unusual physical interactions with soil, plants, and trees, (6) neighbors who witness strange lights in correlation with nights of alleged abductions, (7) correlating independent accounts of multiple participant abductions, (8) peculiar geometric bruising, "injection," and incision marks that correspond to recalled encounters, (9) periods of amnesia that are shared by two or more persons with simultaneous onset and release, (10) muddy feet and grass blades in the bed, (11) documented absences of those abducted, and (12) incredible physical displacements in time and space.

NEXT COLUMN: "Coping Responses and Credibility"

LAZAR - *Continued from Page 13*

- BL: No, not the argon, the nitrogen would be bluish-white [word unintelligible] like lightning. Argon will glow blue, too, but there's just trace amounts in the atmosphere.
- Q: Did you notice the passage of time being any different inside the craft as opposed to outside?
- BL: We didn't have watches. Watches, wallets and all that stuff were left at [unintelligible].
- Q: When you got to observe the craft take off, did they give you instructions about things to look for?
- BL: No. It was already taking off when I went out there. Dennis who was my...I think he was my supervisor...came through and said, "there's a test in progress. Come on out here."
- BL: I guess we should get out of here so people can get to the bar.
- Q: Thanks, Bob.

John Kirby is an electrical Engineer, MUFON Research Specialist, and MUFON State Section Director for Portland and Multnomah County, Oregon, now employed with Intel.

**UFOs, MJ-12 AND THE GOVERNMENT:
A Report on Government Involvement in
the UFO Crash Retrievals (113 pages)**

by Grant Cameron and T. Scott Crain

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

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

■ **Log #930603j:** On 8 February 1993 about 8:05 p.m., a woman was driving home with her young daughter on Route 26 at Colebrook, NH when the girl pointed out a glowing, orange object in the sky; investigator, Sandra Black. With a "color like fire," it was at least the size of a baseball field, according to the two witnesses, and hovering about a mile away from them above Titus Hill. As they watched, it moved off and eventually disappeared, leaving the little girl badly frightened.

■ **Log #930604j:** The next night, Feb. 9 at about 7:25 p.m., again at Colebrook, NH, another sighting in the vicinity of Titus Hill was also first noted by a child and called to the attention of adults; investigator, Sandra Black. A nine-year-old boy stepped out of his house and saw a disk shape with multicolored lights around the rim approaching from the northeast. He got his stepfather outside where they observed two of the disks now hovering, dark except for a single "pink-orange" light on the opposite side of each object. They were each "larger than a house," hovering silently only 50 feet above the ground and 3 or 4 feet apart. The shape was like inverted, shallow pie-pans with a flattened dome on both the top and bottom. Their steady lights began to flash, as if they were signalling to each other, then they disappeared in place simultaneously. The two witnesses were joined outside by the boy's mother, and they were talking about the event when lights in a round pattern approached, again from the northeast. This object, shape not clearly discerned behind the lights, passed over like an aircraft and even had the sound of jet engines, but was much lower than any aircraft should have been. The witnesses' drawings indicated a lighting pattern quite unlike aircraft lights.

■ **Log #930805E:** Back in October of 1978, on a moonlit evening about 8:30, a man age 33 stepped out of his brother's house in Ludlow, VT and heard a "high-pitch" whistling sound overhead; investigator, Robert Heslop. He looked up to see a dark, concave, rounded boomerang shape, 1000-1200 feet high, moving east along a power line and descending. In the distance, he could see multi-colored lights flashing in groups around the perimeter, and a low central dome on top. Near the hilly eastern horizon, the object suddenly banked left and broke into 20 or 30 rectangular pieces that fluttered

Continued on Page 18



The Unexplained by Jerome Clark

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

The first thing that needs to be said about this latest ambitious undertaking from Jerome Clark, a Vice-President of CUFOS, editor of the *International UFO Reporter* and a former *Fate* columnist, is that it comes in two formats — paperback and hardback. Many books do, of course, but here the differences are considerable. The popular paperback edition (\$14.95) consists of a “mere” 443 densely-packed pages with numerous illustrations, but no index. For the record, ask for *Unexplained!*, subtitled “347 Strange Sightings, Incredible Occurrences and Puzzling Physical Phenomena.” from Visible Ink Press. Handsomely designed, *Unexplained!*, even in this somewhat truncated version, is an entertaining reference work that no serious anomalist will want to be caught outside his or her body without.

The hardback version, the *Encyclopedia of Strange and Unexplained Physical Phenomena*, is available from Gale Research, Inc. for \$49.95. Although the page count (395) is slightly smaller, the word count is actually larger, and there are considerably more illustrations plus a good working index. Both books are arranged alphabetically by subject, although the hardback follows the more familiar format of a one-volume encyclopedia or dictionary and includes organizations and individuals left out of the paperback.

Before going any further, I should point out a potential “conflict of interest”: I wrote one of the essays (on Crop Circles) that appears in both versions and contributed several pictures to same, one of which appears on the cover of the hardback. However, Clark wrote the utterly overwhelming majority of both books and I’m not receiving any royalties from the sale of same, so I have no hesitation in wholeheartedly recommending either. Let your credit card be the guide. If you can’t afford the extravaganza of the *Encyclopedia*, opt for the bargain paperback.

Alphabetically, the topics treated range from “Airships, Unidentified” to “Yowie,” the Australian version of Bigfoot, or Sasquatch. Sea Monsters are covered as well, along with UFOs, abductions, cattle mutilations, mad gassers, men in black, falls of strange matter from the sky, disappearances, teleportation — the whole panoply of paranormal, or so-called “Fortean” phenomena, after Charles Hoy Fort (1874-1932). Fort himself has a listing (pp. 115-17) in the hardback, as do the Fortean Society and *Fortean Times*, which you won’t

Hufford’s argument has revolutionary implications in its assertion that rational people are accurately reporting experiences that at least *seem* to be extraordinary and that those who have attempted to explain away such accounts have not made their case or even understood what they are trying to explain. As a consequence, scholars have failed to come to grips with a significant part of human experience...There is also what British ufologist Jenny Randles has called the “Oz factor”...the “sensation of being isolated or transported from the real world into a different environmental framework...where reality is slightly different.” For example, a witness may observe a spectacular UFO display on a well-traveled highway during rush hour and note the utter absence of other traffic.

— Jerome Clark
(From the introduction to both volumes.)

find in the paperback. (So does the Mutual UFO Network.)

Ironically, given the author’s previous massive three-volume encyclopedia on the subject, the entry on Unidentified Flying Objects as such seems relatively weak. Or perhaps *wan* is the better word. This isn’t a complaint *per se*, and the “problem,” such as it is, is more than ameliorated by the fact that at least another dozen entries directly impact one way or the other on the UFO phenomenon as a whole.

The bottom line is that both works are a labor of love. (And anyone who thinks authors automatically make a comfortable living from their chosen profession is obviously employed in another one.) That doesn’t mean that every reader of this review need to rush out and buy a copy. But anyone who wonders (or worries) about the outré extremities of human experience — and the ultimate nature of reality — should. As it turns out, there is a lot more unexplained and unknown about the world at large than UFOs alone.

ROUND IN CIRCLES

By Jim Schnabel

Hamish Hamilton, London, 295 pp., photos, £16.99

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

Not yet 30, Jim Schnabel has already made a name for himself in the field of the paranormal. In some circles that name is a curse word, his first book, *Round in Circles*, being the case in point. If you’re not mentioned by name, you may feel it’s one of the best books on the so-called paranormal you’ll ever read — at times insightful, witty, ironic and falling-down funny. But if

you're English and your name is mentioned more than twice, there's a good chance you've already consulted your solicitor in hopes of suing the author. Some of the reviews that have appeared in the UK press, both cereological and mainstream, have been downright vicious, and in at least one instance outright libelous. Among cereologists, it seems, a sense of humor is directly proportional to one's distance from the phenomenon.

Schnabel's "crime"? For one thing, he's an "upstart" American living and studying in England. Secondly, he had the effrontery to look at crop circles from the wrong end of a dowsing rod. Instead of being mesmerized by these circular cutouts, he asked himself an obvious question: might I not be able to do the same thing by hand? And thus began his own hoaxing career and descent into controversy. In almost less time than it takes to carve out a large pictogram, Schnabel was soon accused of being the central cog in a vast conspiracy aimed at discrediting — or seemingly worse, disinforming — the crop circle phenomenon. Innuendo had it that at one time or another he was in league with the CIA and other "dark forces," and even the Vatican itself, although why any of the above would be overly interested in crop circles per se the conspiratorialists never quite make clear.

Nor does Schnabel himself dwell on ultimate explanations. More than anything, *Circles* is an entertaining examination of the human and historical side of cereology, of the particular personalities involved, and how their quirks and penchant for perks (supplied by media attention and burgeoning book and video sales) resulted in a sort of self-imposed disinformation process of its own. Schnabel demonstrates quite convincingly that most researchers approached what was supposed to be a remarkable new development with the baggage (or learning, if you prefer) of their past relatively intact. Thus, for a meteorologist like Terence Meaden, the circles almost *had* to be a byproduct of the weather, leading him to develop the theory of a whirling plasma vortex. Bestselling authors Pat Delgado and Colin Andrews (*Circular Evidence*) approached the phenomenon with their previous prejudices intact, too. In short, dowers quickly demonstrated that the mysterious energy causing the circles could be dowsed, ley line enthusiasts concluded that they were oriented in the direction of ancient stone henges, white horses and other monuments, mediums that the "higher intelligence" responsible could be channeled, ufologists that the circles were the product of an unknown aerial phenomenon and so on. Eventually, even the Earth goddess Gaia and the Hopi Indians were dragged into the fray. The circles were either harbingers of global changes or omens of disasters to come. And then there were the confessed hoaxers like Doug Bower and David Chorley, complaining that their hand-made templates were appropriated art for which they weren't receiving their proper due (and pay). The only thing that can be said with safety concerning circles is that *everyone* can't conceivably be right.

Rob Irving was interrogated by the police one day, but only because they thought he had information about other people who were hoaxing circles. Alas, he didn't, and in a telephone conversation that ensued with a Pewsey policeman Irving tried to explain that there were many hoaxing groups, and that all of the formations were hoaxes. There was a moment of stony silence, and then the policeman said, "I don't want to get into a philosophical discussion with you, but they can't all be hoaxes."

— Jim Schnabel
(Round in Circles)

Round in Circles won't end the ongoing controversy, either. Believers will continue to believe and nonbelievers won't. Middle ground is still hard to come by, and those who try to approach it largely ignored or castigated as contributing to the conspiracy of disinformation. Read Schnabel for yourself and draw your own conclusions. I doubt it'll be published in an American edition, but you should be able to obtain a copy through Arcturus Books. However you get hold of it, I doubt you'll be able to look at another crop circle in quite the same light again.

CASES - Continued from Page 16

down out of sight in the moonlight. There was no explosion or crash, just this odd breaking apart. One piece was cigar-shaped and seemed to be in a controlled fall at a 45° angle. It emitted one white beam of light toward the sky from its upper end before it was lost to view beyond the horizon. The witness reported what he had seen to the local police by telephone. Within a half-hour, the chief of police, a Vermont state police officer, and "3 U.S. Government plainclothesmen" arrived at their house in this rather small Vermont town in several official vehicles, some bearing "U.S. Government" license plates. He was questioned at length by the "plainclothesmen," whose names and affiliation he did not remember, but he got the clear message from them that "he did not see what he thought he saw" and this left him bitter and angry. One "government man" made a big show of telephoning several small, nearby airports in the presence of the witness and his brother, and inquiring if anything had been tracked on their radar, with apparent negative responses. MUFON's investigator checked on the airports that the witness remembers from that night, and found that they had no radar facilities; some even should have been closed at that hour. The witness, now age 46, saw a newspaper announcement for a MUFON public lecture in May 1993 and decided to attend and relate his story to investigators.

MUFON FORUM

Letters to Mufon UFO Journal

TRANSCRIPTION PROJECT

In reply to the letter by Jeanne Robinson, I certainly share her concern regarding anonymity of CE-4 subjects and confidentiality of their accounts, for I live with it every day.

In fact, as a precondition, every MUFON volunteer transcriber must sign an affidavit by which (s)he agrees that: (a) no one else may listen to any audio-tape or read any resulting transcript; (b) no one, including the transcriber, may copy a tape, computer disk or transcript; and (c) the transcriber is not permitted to discuss the contents of any such case with anyone.

The affidavit concludes with the statement: "Failure to adhere to these conditions will cause your dismissal from MUFON, and you can be sued in a civil action."

Ultimately, as the Abduction Transcription Project Manager, I am responsible for protection of subject identities. Telephone calls and correspondence, including frequent newsletters, underscore this crucial matter to our transcribers.

Moreover, we routinely delete surnames and any address or phrase by which a subject or family member might be identified. Through the first year, well over 300 tapes have been processed with no security breach.

Could a subject's name or story still be revealed inappropriately? Of course. It is also possible, but just as unlikely, that the researcher conducting the sessions would betray such a trust.

Obviously, all subjects should ask about the final disposition of the audiotapes of their sessions. And, speaking for the dozen researchers participating in the Project, none would forward any tape for transcription over the objection of a subject.

I am unabashedly proud of our exceptional group of transcribers, many of whom are CE witnesses themselves or have experience as MUFON field investigators. They, the researchers and I seek only to contribute to resolving this baffling enigma with assembled facts. We are not interested in holding any subject up to public scrutiny.

There are a multitude of entity types and circumstances presented in the assembled transcripts. Time and financial demand on our dedicated abduction researchers prevent their preparation of transcripts by other means.

Given those conditions, I'm willing to take a personal risk in order to prepare materials for analysis and thereby answer the fundamental question, "What's going on?" I hope any other CE-4 subjects who read this likewise want to be part of the solution.

MUFON members interested in transcribing tapes under our strict guidelines are invited to write to the address below.

— Dan Wright
117 W. South St.
Morrice, MI 48857

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

Regarding John Carpenter's "Abduction Notes" in the August 1993 Journal: When one is maligned in print and accused of offenses one did not commit or had no part of, or when words are put in one's mouth that he did not utter, or when statements made over the telephone to a reporter are garbled in the time interval between utterance and publication with no opportunity for perusal or clarification — one has no choice but to try to set the record straight.

In reference to the statement attributed to me by reporter Huznik in the *USA Weekend Report*, it went in correctly but came out confused. What I intended to say or did say (which was garbled), or what I meant to say was simply that "It is possible for two people in the same situation at the same time, for example a haunted house, who are exposed to the same environmental situation and who have the same set of expectations (about ghosts, for example), when exposed to the same stimulation (a flash of light from a passing car) to report they saw a 'ghost'. When the true believers then discuss and compare their experience — reinforcement and confirmation is the only predictable outcome."

Concerning my professional background and training and experience with hypnotic regressions and as a "clinical or direct practice psychologist" — all Carpenter had to do was to call or write me. Instead he made it appear that I have had no experience of any sort "in the real world." In my 40 years of *applied* psychological practice I have worked as a clinical psychologist for 4 years, forensic psychologist for 8 years, industrial psychologist for 8 years, and military applied psychologist for 16 years. I have been an American Psychological Association Fellow for the last 25 years and a member of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis for many years and have carried out research on hypnotic regression and progression, memory, memory distortion, confabulation, hallucinatory phenomena and delusions over the past 20 years. Moreover, in the process of doing this research on hypnosis and memory I have "hypnotized" well over a thousand individuals and have studied their fantasies and imaginative productions such as "past lives," "future lives," "early memories," "false memories," "delusions and hallucinations."

In the course of these investigations I have encountered a number of clients who imagined: 1) they were living on another planet in a distant galaxy; 2) they were being pursued by an invisible demon who would only show himself whenever they attempted sexual intercourse; 3) they could control any and all electrical de-

vices via mind power alone; 4) they were the reincarnation of their own grandmother on their father's side; and 5) they personally had been empowered by God to control the course of floods, earthquakes and hurricanes. Interestingly enough, none of these individuals were so deranged or disturbed that they were in need of either hospitalization or medication. They all were fully capable of holding their jobs, interacting successfully with others, caring for themselves and their needs, and they were in no way dangerous to themselves or others.

Mr. Carpenter may find this hard to believe, but over the past decade and since the publication of Strieber's *Communion I* actually did, honest to God, encounter six, repeat six, perfectly normal but deluded individuals who recalled, after so-called "hypnosis," memories strangely like those that have been widely reported in the media as "alien abductions." Two of these individuals suffered sleep paralysis with the accompanying familiar hypnopompic hallucinations; two others gave reports that were based on their extensive readings of the UFO literature, and as for the other two, one had persistent hypnogogic dreams of alien visitations and interviews with the alien on the cover of Strieber's book, and the last one suffered from insomnia brought on by the fear that if she did, indeed, fall asleep she would be abducted and raped by alien monsters. All six of these clients were assured that no abductions took place, that the human imagination and normal sleep and memory processes can prove to be very deceptive, that they were in no way crazy or insane, and that they had nothing whatsoever to fear. None of the six continue to believe their fantasies and delusions and hallucinations were or are veridical.

Other stories of this sort any interested reader can find in my two books, *They Call It Hypnosis* (Prometheus, 1990) and *Hidden Memories* (Prometheus, 1992). In closing, I would like to encourage Mr. Carpenter and other therapists to be very skeptical of stories they are told by clients who fall into the category known as *The Eccentric Personality* (Schizotypal Personality Disorder). These people hold strong beliefs that resemble the

delusions seen in schizophrenia, but they are otherwise completely rational and have none of the cognitive deficits or other problems of the truly psychotic. Their fantasies should not, however, be believed.

— Robert A. Baker, Ph. D.
Professor Emeritus
Department of Psychology
University of Kentucky

UNITED NATIONS VIDEO

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

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AREA 51 VIEWER'S GUIDE: Detailed milepost log of Nevada Hwy 375, home of Black Mailbox & many UFO reports. Viewing sites, back roads, services, maps, references. \$15+\$3.50 priority postage. Glenn Campbell, HCR Box 38, Rachel, NV 89001. (702) 729-2648.

SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER (SUN) by Philip J. Klass, published bimonthly, offers a different perspective. Send \$2.00 for recent sample copy to: Skeptics UFO Newsletter, 404 "N" St. Southwest, Washington, DC 20024-3702. All members of MJ-12 subscribe, so perhaps you should, too.

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INDIANAPOLIS, SEPT. 20-21: "Are We Alone? Current Case Studies for the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis." Adam's Mark Hotel. Budd Hopkins, John Carpenter, Dr. Brian O'Leary, Michael Lindemann, Forest Crawford & Skye Ambrose. \$45 thru Nov. 13, \$50 after. Workshops, banquet optional. Call (417) 882-6847 or write TRIAD Research Conferences, 4033 S. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807.

IS MANKIND UNDER COMPUTER CONTROL? A new book by Gary G. Reibsam explores that distinct possibility. S.T.A.R. suggests that the computer-control theory could explain much that remains unexplained, including half of the UFO sightings. oversized format, 244 pages, \$27.77. Book Call will take orders 24 hrs/day at (800) 255-2665.

PHOENIX, AZ: JAN. 22-23. "Are There Intelligent Lifeforms Out There?" Sunburst Hotel & Conference Center, Scottsdale. Dr. John Mack, John Carpenter, Dr. Jack Kasher, Colin Andrews, Yvonne Smith, Michael Lindemann, Skye Ambrose, others. \$50 until Jan. 15, \$55 after. Banquet, workshops optional. Call (417) 882-6847 or write TRIAD Research Conferences, 4033 S. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807.

END UFO SECRECY! Our July 5 White House Demonstration gained serious mainstream TV & newspaper attention. Join our Congressional lobbying campaign & lawful demonstrations to

end the government's UFO cover-up. \$15 or greater contribution gets newsletter subscription. Operation Right to Know, P.O. Box 3173M, Gaithersburg, MD 20885.

CROP CIRCLE LECTURES: Erik Beckjord, fresh from 1993 English crop circle & UFO season is available to speak on "Communicating with the Circles-Making Aliens." Includes info on Operation Magpie 1993, which created designs that drew forth an alien response, plus UFOs seen and videotaped by the team. Slides & video. Terms negotiable. (310) 456-0583.

TAMPA, FL, Feb. 19-20: "Do We Have Visitors From the Unknown? Scholarly Study of Extraterrestrial Intrusions." Holiday Inn. Linda Howe, Dr. John Mack, George Knapp, John Carpenter, Yvonne Smith, Skye Ambrose, others. \$50 until Feb. 12, \$55 after. Banquet, workshops optional. Call (417) 882-6847 or write TRIAD Research Conferences, 4033 S. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807.

UFO TRACE/CROP CIRCLE CATALOG: Catalog of 100 UFO landing trace cases related to crop circles compiled from international sources. Arranged in chronological order with concise case descriptions. Trace measurements in Metric & English. Five graphs. \$12.00 U.S. or \$15.00 international. Erich A. Aggen, Jr., 4319 Holmes, Kansas City, MO 64110.

SAN DIEGO, CA, MARCH 26-27: "Is There Hard Evidence for Extraterrestrial Visitations?" Hotel Del Coronado. Budd Hopkins, John Mack, John Carpenter, George Knapp, Colin Andrews, Skye Ambrose, more. \$50 until March 19, \$55 after. Banquet, workshops optional. Call (417) 882-6847 or write TRIAD Research Conferences, 4033 S. Belvedere, MO 65807.

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OHIO UFO NOTEBOOK: Nationally recognized. Subscription, four issues, \$20, approximately quarterly, 30+ pages each issue. William E. Jones, MUFON Ohio State Director, c/o MidOhio Research Associates, Box 162, 5837 Karric Square Drive, Dublin, Ohio 43017. (The Ohio MUFON publication).

GHOST ROCKETS & FOO FIGHTERS: I am looking for the book or a copy of Mystery of the Ghost Rockets, or any other information on Ghost Rockets and Foo Fighters. Please contact Todd Biggs, 710 Belmont Place E. #302, Seattle, WA 98102 (206) 726-0121.

AT LAST 1993 New UFO Info. Vital material from inside A.P.S.T. source, France. Also Pine Bush, Gulf Breeze, NY state. Newsletter on all 4 plus 2 hr video of 2 landed & world UFOs. \$40 to UFOs Today, Jim Gialpis, U. F. O. N., 50 Sleepy Hollow Rd, Niantic, CT 06537. Rush service \$10 more.

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November 1993

Bright Planets (Evening Sky):

Saturn (magnitude 0.8), in Capricornus, is low in the SSE at dusk and sets later in the W shortly before 11 PM in mid-month.

Bright Planets (Morning Sky):

Jupiter (-1.7), in Virgo, reappears in the early morning sky, rising in the E about 4:30 in mid-November. Venus, some 8 times brighter (at -3.9), rises about half an hour later. Earlier in the month, on the 8th, Venus closes to only half a degree above Jupiter and then passes below the larger planet. The planet pair forms a nice triangle with the lunar crescent on November 12, with Mercury below. From the 18th to 26th, Venus, Mercury, Jupiter, and the star Spica all line up. Since all of these dawn events take place low in the sky, binoculars should be used to get a better view.

Total Lunar Eclipse:

On the night of November 28-29 all of North America will see a totally eclipsed full moon — weather permitting. This is the 2nd such eclipse this year. The Moon enters the dark central shadow of the Earth at 11:40 PM (EST) and then progresses gradually toward totality. Our satellite is completely covered from 1:02 to 1:50 AM. Since the Moon passes through the southern edge of the shadow, there should be an interesting range of brightness visible on the lunar surface. The Moon's disc is fully restored at 3:12.

Transit of Mercury:

The solar system's innermost planet Mercury crosses in front of the Sun about 13 times per century. This will occur for the first time in 7 years on November 5. In the U.S. only persons in Hawaii and the Aleutians have a chance to view the first part of this rare show. A small telescope is necessary in order to glimpse the planet's tiny black silhouette (10 seconds of arc) slowly skirting the SW limb of the Sun. Mercury first notches the S edge of the solar disc at 5:06 PM (Hawaii-Aleutian time). However, the Sun sets before Mercury's mid-transit. For safety, the Sun's image should be projected through the telescope eyepiece onto a white surface. (On a projected view the round dot of Mercury moves from the bottom of the Sun up along the left edge of the disc.)

Meteor Showers:

A bright gibbous Moon interferes all night during the South Taurids peak on the night of November 2-3. The slow reddish meteors normally reach about 10 to 15 per hour before dawn. On the other hand, the swiftest of all shower meteors, the bluish Leonids, achieve maximum (15 per hour) under dark skies on the morning of the 17th.

Moon Phases:

Last quarter—November 7



New moon—November 13



First quarter—November 20



Full moon—November 29



The Stars:

The bright star patterns of winter, such as Orion the Hunter and Taurus the Bull, show up now in the E during the mid-evening hours. Don't be fooled by the illusory flashes and apparent movements of dazzling Sirius when the star rises in the ESE about 10 PM (midmonth). Pegasus and its Great Square have drifted west of the celestial meridian in the S. And the Northern Cross (alias Cygnus the Swan) stands upright in the western sky.

In the N the Big Dipper rests in its worst evening position of the year, its handle-tip scraping the horizon. For latitudes below 40°, the dipper stars begin to vanish below the horizon.



October 22-24 — Gulf Breeze UFO Conference "The Search for Answers," Claron Suites Convention Center, Pensacola Beach, Florida INFO: Call Vicki Lyons at (904) 432-8888 or write P. O. Box 730, Gulf Breeze, Florida 32562

November 13 — The Second Delaware UFO Symposium: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Copeland Lecture Hall, Winterthur Museum and Gardens, suburb of Wilmington, DE. For reservations call (302) 328-3804 or (302) 737-6127.

November 20-21 — Indianapolis, Indiana "Are We Alone? Current Case Studies for the Extraterrestrial Hypothesis" at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Call (417) 882-6847 or write to the Triad Research Foundation at 4033 S. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807

November 20-21 — UFO Conference East, Ramada Pennsylvania Hotel, 7th Ave. & 33rd St., New York, NY. For more information call 1-800-322-0099

November 28 - December 5 — Third International UFO Congress, Film Festival and "EBE Awards," Las Vegas Showboat Hotel Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada For further information write to Robert Brown, 4266 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611 or call (510) 428-0202

January 22-23, 1994 — Sunburst Hotel, Phoenix, Arizona *

February 19-20 — Holiday Inn, Tampa, Florida *

March 26-27 — Hotel Del Coronado, San Diego, California *

July 8, 9 & 10 — MUFON 1994 International UFO Symposium, Hyatt Regency on Town Lake, Austin, Texas Theme "UFOLOGY: A Historical Perspective"

* Sponsored by TRIAD. For further information call (417) 882-6847 or write to Triad Research Conference Foundation, 4033 So. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE - Continued from Page 24**MUFON-BBS**

On September 12, 1993, John W. Komar, Administrator of both the MUFONET-BBS Network and the MUFONET Communications Group, announced that the position of Assistant Administrator of the MUFONET-BBS Network has been filled by **Pete Theer**, SysOp of Tex*Star BBS and MUFON State Section Director in Kempner, Texas. Pete has had extensive knowledge in BBSing and is the unofficial setup man for helping new SysOps in getting their BBS programs and front-end programs to be compatible. Mr. Theer has temporarily accepted the role of Administrator of the MUFONET-BBS. His Data Line is (512) 556-2524 and home number (512) 556-2746.

EASTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR ELECTION

Due to a vacancy on the MUFON Board of Directors for the position of Eastern Regional Director, candidates are being solicited immediately for a full four-year term. This is an opportunity for present state directors, assistant state directors, state section directors and other leaders in the eastern region to accept greater responsibilities with the Mutual UFO Network. The eastern region is composed of the following states: ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, NY, PA, NJ, DE, MD, WV, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, PR, and VI. The Regional Director is elected by the members within the above states. Any interested person is invited and encouraged to submit their name to either their respective state director or **Walt Andrus** in Seguin as a candidate for this vacancy by November 15, 1993, so an election may be conducted by mail. This prestigious position is only one of the four MUFON Board of Directors elected by the membership that they represent.

To date, only one candidate has been nominated. He is **Dana M. Schmidt**, J.D., State Section Director for the Rochester, New York area, who has been a member of MUFON since 1980. The deadline for nominations has been extended from October to November 15 to accommodate additional candidates.

Eastern Region State Directors should mail their UFO sighting reports to **Jerold "Ron" Johnson**, MUFON Deputy Director of Investigations, 12700 Silver Creek, Austin, TX 78727, until such time as a new Eastern Regional Director is elected.

MUFON 1994 SYMPOSIUM

The theme for the MUFON 1994 International UFO Symposium is "UFOLOGY: A Historical Perspective," commemorating MUFON's 25th anniversary and symposia. It will be hosted by Texas MUFON at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Town Lake in Austin, Texas, on July 8, 9, and 10. **Ellen R. Stuart**, State Director, is serving

as the host chairperson. Special events are being planned to celebrate MUFON's silver anniversary.

Several of the speakers will draw from the historical aspects of Ufology in their presentations. They are **James A. Harder**, Ph.D. (APRO), **Richard H. Hall** (NICAP), **John F. Schuessler** (MUFON) and **Robert O. Dean** (military) from Tucson, AZ. Other speakers confirmed are **George Wingfield** (English Crop Circles); **George Knapp** (Russian UFO Files); Rev. **Barry H. Downing**, Ph.D., author, minister, and consultant; and **Michael Lindeman** from Santa Barbara, CA.

WEATHER NEWS NETWORK

An essential aspect of each UFO report investigated and filed is the prevailing weather conditions at the time of the sighting. Weather reports can be secured from the local newspaper office file if the UFO sighting is a current report, however this is not feasible for older events. We now have a solution to this problem. **Val and Louise Rose**, new MUFON members in Michigan, operate a weather service business. They have been providing weather data to Michigan MUFON over the past two years. Now that they have joined MUFON, they want to provide this service free to all members. Previously, this information was only available from the National Weather Service in Asheville, NC for a substantial fee. They have prepared a special form titled "Weather News Network for Mutual UFO Network." Blank copies may be obtained by writing to Weather News Network, Val and Louise Rose, P. O. Box 190262, Burton, MI 48519; **Shirley A. Coyne**, 73 Borman, Flushing, MI 48433 or MUFON in Seguin, TX. Each State Director has at least one copy in his/her annual State Directors Meeting Minutes from Richmond, Virginia, dated July 2, 1993.

MANITOBA PLANETARIUM UFO SHOW

Ed Barker, Provincial Director for Manitoba, has been assembling a new planetarium show to be called "UFO Report," a first in Canadian history. He has been working primarily with **Michael J. Strainic**, Canadian National Director, and **Victor Lourenco**, Ontario Provincial Director. Their production will open October 18 and 19, 1993, in Winnipeg, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, when **Stanton T. Friedman** will be the featured speaker. **Ed Barker** is to be congratulated for this MUFON Canadian cooperative event in UFO public education.

MUFONET-BBS NETWORK

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Walter Andrus

NEWS FROM AROUND THE NETWORK

MUFON ANNUAL AWARD

Each year MUFON honors a person in Ufology who their colleagues select for having made the most outstanding contribution to the advancement of the UFO phenomenon during the past five years. The distinguished recipient will be presented with an engraved plaque and a monetary award of \$500 from MUFON. Candidates may live anywhere in the world and do not have to be members of the Mutual UFO Network to be nominated for this prestigious award. A deadline of September 1, 1993, was selected so the names of the candidates could be listed in the September issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal* Number 305 as the first step in the balloting procedure.

In order not to influence the election, but to rely entirely upon the individual's recognized accomplishments, only the candidates' names and state will be listed in alphabetical sequence. The following candidates were nominated for this honor: **Edith Fiore**, Ph.D. (CA), **John Ford** (NY), **Stanton T. Friedman** (NB, Canada), **Cynthia Hind** (Zimbabwe, Africa), **Budd Hopkins** (NY), **Linda M. Howe** (PA), **Pat Marcattilo** (NJ), **Dennis Stacy** (TX), **Leonard H. Stringfield** (OH), **Doris Upchurch** (TX), and **Donald M. Ware** (FL).

The balloting and election will be conducted by mail via a postcard or letter in the U.S.A. Members in foreign countries should use air mail for their ballots. Please select one person from the above list who you feel deserves this award for their outstanding work in scientifically advancing the UFO phenomenon. If a family membership is involved, each person may vote on the same ballot, indicating their choice and signing their name to the letter or postcard. The deadline for receipt of ballots to MUFON in Seguin, TX has been extended to December 31, 1993. Announcement of the 1993 award winner will appear in the February 1994 issue of the *MUFON UFO Journal*. Please vote now while the subject is fresh in your mind. A significantly large popular vote is essential if MUFON is to continue this annual award.

NEW OFFICERS

MUFON's new Representative for Turkey is **Ahmet G. Ozisik**, B.S., (Moda-Istanbul), a Civil Engineer, replacing Dr. **Gultekin Caymaz** (Maltepe, Ankara). **Hugh B. Horning**, B.A. (Wilmington, DE) has announced that **Jay J. Winslow**, B.A. (Newark) will become the new State Director for Delaware, moving up from State Section Director. In less than three

years, Mr. Horning has been responsible for increasing the investigative team in Delaware from one to 49 members — an outstanding achievement. Hugh will continue his association in Delaware as the Chief Investigator and Public Relations officer. Tennessee State Director, **John W. Komar** (Memphis) appointed **Randel C. Kjelland** (Collierville) to be his Assistant State Director.

Ohio State Director, **William E. Jones**, J.D. (Columbus) has selected two Assistant State Directors for geographical areas of Ohio to help facilitate investigations, training, and meetings. They are **Delbert E. Anderson** (Laurelville) for southeastern Ohio and **Patrick J. Packard**, B.S. (Fairfield) for southwestern Ohio. Mr. Jones also made three reassignments of State Section Directors: **Irena Scott**, Ph.D. (Galena) for Delaware, Marion, Morrow, and Knox Counties; **Ronald A. Nunnari** (Dayton) for Montgomery, Miami and Preble Counties; and **Franklin B. Rheams**, B.S. (New Albany) for Licking, Fairfield, and Muskingum Counties.

Other new State and Provincial Section Directors appointed this past month are the following: **Charles A. Harter**, J.D. (Washington, MO) for Franklin, Washington, Crawford, Gasconade, and Osage Counties; **Della I. Damrow** (Dighton, KS) for Lane, Scott, and Finney Counties; **Ray Cecot**, B.A. (Schenectady, NY) for Albany, Schenectady, and Rensselaer Counties; **Jon Spear**, B.A. (Victoria, TX) for Victoria, Goliad, Refugio, Calhoun, Jackson and Wharton Counties; **Daniel L. DeMar**, B.S. (Albuquerque, NM) for Bernalillo County; **Joseph A. Fisher**, B.S. (Wilmington, DE) for Sussex County; **Victor P. Alvarado** (Rialto, CA) for San Bernardino County; **Rob E. Nowatschka** (Penticton, BC) for Sector "B" (Kelowna); and **Donald K. Vanden Hoorn** (Burns Lake, BC) for Sector "F" (Prince George).

CONSULTANTS AND RESEARCH SPECIALISTS

New Consultants volunteering their expertise this month were **Ed R. Ballinger**, M.D. (Manhaca, TX) in Aerospace Medicine; **Chungpin Liao**, Ph.D. (Arlington, MA) in Fusion - Liquid Metal Magneto Hydrodynamics; **Roscoe H. Fales**, J.D. (Lewiston, ME) in Law; **Charles A. Harter**, J.D. (Washington, MO) in Law; and **Daniel W. Kwong**, J.D. (Alhambra, CA) in Law.

Four ladies joined MUFON as Research Specialists: **Marcia D. Daly**, M.A. (Muir, MI) in Clinical Psychology; **Carla Santilli**, M.S.W. (Palm Harbor, FL) in Social Work; **Helen I. Powers**, M.A. (Lynn, MA) in Counseling; and **Jeanne L. Siegel**, M.S. (Seminole, FL) in Nursing.

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