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OHIO UFO NOTEBOOK

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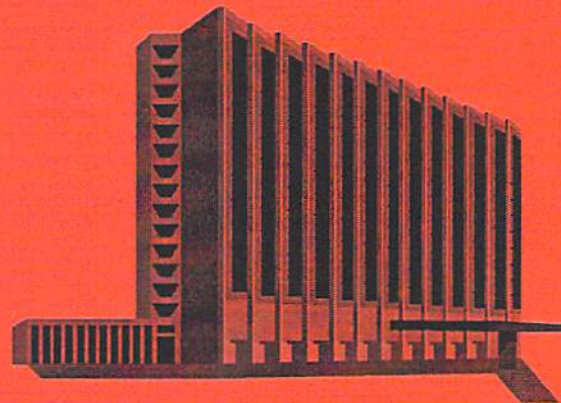
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**MORA Headquarters
 Dublin, Ohio**



"The Government will soon release information that the flying saucers are real and come from another planet!"

Max B. Miller, President, Flying Saucers International
Space Review, April 1953, Vol. II, No. 2, p 11

Behind the Illusion of Alien Visitation

by Peter Kor
Mayfield Heights, Ohio

I am sure you are familiar with the warning labels that come with certain products, explaining that the contents may be hazardous to your health. Well, this article should have come with such a warning because it is likely to be hazardous to your thinking about flying saucers. Since the publisher did not supply one, I will give you the proper warning by telling you something about myself.

I am not a ufologist, although I know a great deal about flying saucers. I was "there" at the beginning when World War II pilots were spooked by "foo fighters," and ghost rockets were reported over Sweden. In the 1950s, I started a saucer club, published a newsletter, and got to know the luminaries in the field – people like Donald Keyhoe, George Adamski, Len Stringfield, and Ray Palmer. Most important, I began a 50-year inquiry into the saucer mystery that, I believe, is unmatched to this day. My writings have been published far and wide for more than 40 years in such magazines such as *Fate*, *Saucer News*, *Flying Saucers*, *Search*, *Forum*, *Ground Saucer Watch Bulletin*, *Journal of UFO Studies*, *Caveat Emptor*, and *Kor's Kosmos*.

In spite of this life-long involvement, I do not think that saucer research, as an organized public effort, is worthwhile. In

fact, it does more harm than good. Many researchers are more interested in the psychological, social, and ideological trappings of saucer research than in honestly trying to figure out what is going on. Worse, the abilities of those who think of themselves as researchers vary greatly. Many, literally, cannot tell the difference between fact and interpretation or truth and assumption. Almost all of them subscribe to one version or another of the phony critical-mass theory, by which an unspecified large number of non-definitive cases miraculously transforms itself into a definitive conclusion. Even the professionals who have come into the field have sounded more like believers or propagandists than scientists.

The result is a hot-bed of sloppy investigations, wild speculations, and rumors that are more characteristic of a movement than a genuine inquiry. As is the case with all movements, a "group mind" exists in saucer research in which researchers – regardless of their differences – share the same basic beliefs about the saucers (visitors from beyond the earth as we know it), the government (engaged in cover-up and deception), and the future (humans are being conditioned or altered in preparation for a New Age). This collective mentality makes researchers highly susceptible to ideological

fashions and the thought control that such fashions make possible. For this and other reasons, the most effective research is private research.

Ufologists do not like to hear such things. They think that I am being negativist. They don't understand that true inquiry knows no boundary. The goal of the inquirer is to find the truth or its best approximation, not to defend a preferred conclusion or to shield the field from criticism. Thus, no truth is negative because all truth advances understanding. With that in mind, I am going to tell you the truth about flying saucers, as only an "outsider" can.

The truth is that the so-called alien visitation is a grand illusion. Notice, I did not say that it is a fiction or wrong conclusion. It is more than that. An illusion is an appearance that dramatizes a state of consciousness, instead of revealing a part of reality. I would call it a magic trick, except that what went into creating it was largely unintentional and unplanned – which is what gives the saucers their autonomy and mystery. Are you following what I am saying?

There is nothing simple or quaint about this illusion. It is a subtle, highly complex, and powerful "force" that is structuring the thought and experience of untold numbers of peoples around the world, especially in America. Although saucer research did not create the illusion, the role of researchers was crucial to its creation.

The Stage is Set

The role of researchers in this regard goes back to the beginning of the saga. The first sightings were of lights and

objects in the sky. What marked them as unusual were the odd shapes and apparently extraordinary speeds and maneuvers involved. Speculation about secret weapons soon gave way to the "perception" of alien visitation. That perception crystallized around several rapid-fire events. First and foremost, a retired military man, Don Keyhoe, published stories about government and civilian encounters that went far beyond previously public information. He claimed that there was a tug-of-war underway in officialdom between the silence group (bad cop) that wanted to suppress the truth about visitors from another world, and a contra faction (good cop) that was trying to prepare the public through education. Although there have been variations on this theme over the years, researchers have never been able to free themselves of this conception of the government's role in the saucer situation.

Soon, there was apparent confirmation of Keyhoe's framework of explanation. Frank Scully claimed that saucers from another world had crashed in the Southwest U.S. The wreckage and the bodies of the little men found inside were supposedly being studied at secret air bases around the country. Ray Palmer told of what appeared to be a military cover-up of another saucer accident that left fragments of the ship strewn over a wide area near Tacoma, Washington. In addition, there were sporadic reports of landings and little men seen in out-of-the-way places in the U.S. and South America.

People from all walks of life, young and old, were transfixed. A select few were especially affected. Those few spontaneously organized themselves by

linking up with one another through correspondence; forming clubs as bases for discussion and investigation; and publishing newsletters for exchanging information, ideas, and rumors. This network grew into what was to become the infrastructure of saucer research. Its basic mission was to spread the word about what almost everyone involved believed was an alien visitation or invasion.

Those were heady days. The air was electric with anticipation. A steady stream of apparently secret information was being leaked into the public domain through several key sources. The saucers, themselves, according to reports, were getting closer, as if conditioning people for a public announcement or dramatic contact. Hollywood did its part in building the illusion through the rapid release of such early mind altering films as *The Thing*, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Man From Planet X*, and *Red Planet Mars*.

Contact is Made

Then, what almost everyone in saucer research at the time expected to happen, happened: Contact was made! It did not take place on the White House lawn or with officials from the U.S. government or U.N. It happened in the middle of nowhere to a small group of nobodies near Desert Center, California. The ship's pilot disembarked, communicated telepathically with the group's leader, and left footprints etched with strange symbols in the desert ground. The leader of that group was George Adamski.

The effects of this story were dramatic and far-reaching. The immediate effect was a surge of energy throughout the

fledgling saucer network. Sensing that the culmination of their efforts was at hand, many researchers went about their task with renewed vigor. A steadily increasing number of people were drawn into "the subject." A special effort was made to get through to the public with what researchers believed was the greatest story of all time. Before long, contactees were springing up like wild flowers. A lecture circuit came into being that quickly and effectively spread their message about the visitors.

But underneath the euphoria, a storm was brewing that would change saucer research and add another dimension to the saucer illusion. From the beginning of the contactee era, there was a split in the ranks of researchers. While many were swept up in its wake, others pointed out that George Adamski had neither the credibility nor the evidence to back up his claims. To begin with, he was hardly the kind of person that emissaries from another world would honor with interplanetary contact. (We all know that only really important people would be picked, right?!) Also, the object shown in Adamski's close-up photographs looked more like an elaborate light fixture than a high-tech craft from Venus. And the eyewitnesses he produced to corroborate his story were known saucer activists, as well as his friends and supporters. What was worse, Adamski, himself, and the other contactees were soon telling tales that were taller than Adamski's original story, with even less to back them up.

Inquiring minds wanted to know: Why weren't the visitors being more public? Why were they showing themselves only to a select few people who were without portfolios and credentials? And, most

important, how could the contactees have been in such close quarters with the visitors and their craft without coming away with definitive proof of their existence?

As the contactee claims evolved, the line between purely physical encounters and psychic experiences was blurred. Indeed – although unknown to the larger saucer community – a debate ensued among the more well known contactees about how contacts should be presented to the public. Some contactees wanted to present contacts as purely physical encounters – even though they knew that many of them were not – else the public would lose confidence in the contact message. Others wanted to present the whole picture, believing that the truth would eventually come out anyway. Among other things, the contactee era – starting with George Adamski himself – was the first attempt to use the saucer situation to foster an ideological position (which, unfortunately, is another article).

The Search for Respectability

The injection of psychic phenomena into the saucer situation was the last straw for many researchers. A stand had to be taken. Either you were a serious researcher who followed a no-nonsense approach or you were a kook. A serious researcher investigated lights and objects in the sky, as well as selected close encounters (as long as there was no human involvement). The more way-out close encounters, contacts, and messages were out-of-bounds. In addition, the more respectable the claimant, the more credibility the claim was to be given. From every mainstream investigator and organization, the charge was the same: “Keep the kooks out. Don’t lower your

standards. Our credibility is at stake.”

The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) – the first word-wide saucer organization, headed by Don Keyhoe - was crucial in establishing this researcher code.

For the kooks, the answer to the riddle of the saucers was revealed in the more explicit way-out experiences which pointed to a reality from beyond the earth and, most likely, beyond materiality. “Serious researchers”, on the other hand, were still waiting for the official announcement or dramatic, conventional encounter that they thought was appropriate for contact with visitors from another world. In terms of how the saucer situation developed and what would eventually be counted as acceptable, the kooks were right.

The search for respectability had several unfortunate consequences. Not only did it put “serious researchers” in a posture with respect to the evidence that was much like the very government officials and establishment experts they accused of cover-up and short-sightedness; it also plunged them into dishonesty about the nature of their belief. Equally important, it cut them off from that portion of the saucer situation that was still evolving – the part that held the secret to what was really happening.

The dishonesty came into play as a consequence of the way the “serious researchers” distanced themselves from the kooks. This was accomplished by hiding behind a façade of neutrality and objectivity. Publicly, they posed as hard-headed investigators who had no vested interest in what flying saucers turned out to be. Like scientists, their task was to just get the facts and follow where they

led. Privately, however, they were just as convinced as the kooks that the facts pointed to alien visitors of some sort. By disavowing the more outrageous claims of the kooks, “serious researchers” looked rational and reliable in comparison. Those researchers never dreamed that the kooks might be on to something, something that would burst forth one day and sweep them off their respectable feet.

Slowly but surely, “serious researchers” reconstructed the image of saucer research. A key move in that regard was the gradual adoption of the neutral sounding term “UFO” to designate the object of their investigations. The idea was to present themselves in a more professional way. Eventually, saucer researchers became “ufologists” and saucer research became “the field of ufology.” Today, even those who still qualify as kooks use these terms – which is quite a testimony to the human need for respectability.

While the new terminology did wonders for public relations, it brought with it an illogic in the way that researchers think about the evidence that is still in play today. To wit: Referring to a light, object, or radar target as unidentified makes sense. The things reported are observed at a distance and/or under conditions that make knowing what they are impossible. Taken at face value, such things are identified: They are beings and machines that do not belong to the earth as we know it. That where those beings and machines specifically come from is unknown is beside the point. Calling them UFOs is carrying neutrality to an absurdity.

The case for the existence of an extraordinary reality depends on the more exotic claims, which is what the kooks were saying all along. What cannot be identified, by definition, cannot supply an answer. Thus, if the more extraordinary claims fail, so does the case for an extraordinary reality.

Researchers Turn Radical

Gradually, “serious researchers” began to see the incongruity in their approach more clearly. Eventually, the wall that they so painstakingly erected between mundane reports and way-out claims began to crumble, allowing them to embrace stories they would have rejected before. Although the pressure had been building for some time, a new form of saucer experience, (i.e. abduction) was required to breach that wall decisively. Today, even the most conservative, respectable researchers take seriously tales and speculations that would have made George Adamski blush! “Serious researchers” have become kooks.

What accounts for the difference? What is it about the abduction scenario that allows the same researchers who rejected contacts so vehemently to take abductions so seriously? The difference is not in the quantity or quality of the evidence. To the contrary, contactees offered photographs, artifacts, messages, and witness testimony, whereas ^{to} abductees offer virtually nothing back up their stories. Of course, the contactee evidence was anything but convincing, much less decisive. But is no evidence more convincing than unconvincing evidence?

Furthermore, contactees were few and far between and they usually met the space brothers in out-of-the-way places, which meant that the intrusion of such events into ordinary human affairs was unlikely. In contrast, there are literally thousands of abductees who supposedly are accosted in the most ordinary places without the kind of definitive effects that would be expected from such constant, highly public commotion. Yet, the contactees were scorned for always being out of public sight, while abductees are taken seriously. I ask you: Is an abduction where everyone should see, but doesn't, more believable than a contact that takes place where no one can see?

Some researchers say that the sheer number of abductions is what convinces them. Surely, they say, something cannot spread so far and so rapidly without there being a basis for it in reality. Oh, really? If the contacts spread in their day without a basis in reality, why not abductions and the other so-called close encounters? Don't you recognize a contagion when you see one?

The reason why abductions are more acceptable than contacts is not because they are more numerous or credible. It is because they are more suitable. Fashion, not evidence, is the deciding factor – which has a lot to do with how the illusion of alien visitation was created in the first place.

Specifically, in the context of their respective experiences: Contactees were conscious, willing participants in straight forward meetings with visitors from other planets; whereas abductees are mostly unconscious, unwilling participants in an experience they do not

understand. Contactees were told why they were being visited and how to make use of the information that was given to them; whereas abductees have no idea what is being done to them and why, by creatures who either do not communicate or are deceptive when they do. Contactees told of their encounters in a calm, clear manner, without confusion, pain, or suffering; whereas abductees are highly emotional and often hysterical about their experiences, and are usually in need of “counseling.” In other words, contactees were collaborators, whereas abductees are victims! An encounter seems to be more credible when the person involved appears to have no active role in it. Are you seeing through the illusion more clearly now?

Victims are treated in a privileged way. For one thing, victims cannot be held accountable for what supposedly happens to them. Collaborators can. Victims are not expected to give coherent accounts of their experiences. Collaborators are. And victims are not supposed to be interrogated, criticized, or rigorously tested. That would be blaming the victim. Right? Collaborators, on the other hand, are not protected from suspicion and investigation.

The status of victims is not only fashionable these days, it is politically charged – which is why so many researchers are reluctant to call a spade a spade. I am not reluctant: The abduction stories – in the terms in which they are presented – are baloney, pure and simple. They are merely more modern and acceptable versions of what used to be called psychic experiences. Hypnosis, the method most often used to produce these experiences, is the “scientific”

equivalent of channeling. The victim/hypnosis mode of operation is a way of smuggling claims into serious consideration without subjecting them to rigorous thought and investigation. That professionals and amateurs alike stand in awe of the highly emotional, mostly incoherent babblings of people who are not even fully conscious when they put forth their “wisdom” is a sorry sight to behold.

Why do all abductees tell basically the same story? Because all the stories are created basically the same way. The mind-tampering techniques used produce stories that accord with the culture and the conceptual orientation of the practitioner. Thus, Freudians come up with stories about sexual perversion; Jungians elicit tales about spiritual growth, dredged up from the collective unconscious; recovered memory therapists produces “experiences” of past abuse – and, surprise, ufologists create “encounters” with alien beings. Like magic, so-called mind doctors produce “evidence” on demand. If abductees were “treated” by practitioners of a different sort, the stories they would tell would change accordingly.

Are you starting to see the true picture? Hasn't the time come to start scrutinizing the process that produces these stories, as well as the people who worked so hard to plant them in the public mind?

That so many mainstream researchers have been radicalized so easily is a significant development in the history of the saucer saga. Unfortunately, it tells us much more about the state of our culture and the character of researchers than it does about beings and machines from

another planet or dimension. Radicalization went a long way toward establishing the illusion as a permanent phenomenon. After all, if so-called conservative researchers take abductions seriously, there must be something to it. Right?

Getting Free

To see through the illusion of alien visitation, researchers must break free from the mind-set that so tightly binds them. That will require an honesty, courage, and rigor that, unfortunately, few of them possess. For those few, the way to begin is to stop hiding behind the ambiguity of UFO terminology. While ambiguity may be convenient in promoting the saucer mystery, it also obscures what is really going on. To wit: Reports that deal with genuine UFOs (such as strange lights and objects in the sky) cannot establish the existence of an extraordinary reality, whereas the claims that point unambiguously to an extraordinary reality (i.e., alien beings and machines) do not involve genuine UFOs. Therefore, researcher belief in an out-of-this-world reality rides on the extraordinary claims, not on UFOs – which is why flying saucers is a more honest term for what is believed to be going on.

Realizing that the case for UFOs is stronger than for flying saucers, researchers go back and forth between the two categories as circumstances dictate – which has the effect of reinforcing the illusion of alien visitation. The game that researchers play in this regard is similar to the bait and switch tactic used by high-pressure salesmen. To illustrate the game,

consider this exchange that I had with a ufologist not too long ago.

Kor: What is it about the saucer situation that most convinces you that aliens of some sort are visiting the earth?

Ufologist: The sheer number of close encounters and abductions is what convinces me. All over the country and the world, people are telling the same basic story about strange creatures and craft intruding into human affairs.

Kor: Can you point to a single definitive case; one that establishes the existence of an alien presence?

Ufologist: No. But a definitive case is not necessary. There are too many cases that mutually reinforce one another for there not to be an objective reality involved.

Kor: Would you agree that a single definitive case would be enough?

Ufologist: Sure. That's true by definition.

Kor: Then how many non-definitive cases are necessary to add up to a definitive conclusion?

Ufologist: What do you mean?

Kor: You admit that there is not a single definitive case, yet you claim to have reached a definitive conclusion on the basis of a large number of cases. How many non-definitive cases did you need to reach your definitive conclusion?

Ufologist: There's no way to know that.

Kor: If you don't know the number, how do you know that you have a definitive conclusion?

Ufologist: Hmm. I see what you mean.

Kor: Do you see that, without a definitive case, there can be no definitive conclusion. And if there is no definitive conclusion, there is no basis for claiming that something real is involved.

Ufologist: Wait just a darn minute. Are you saying that UFOs aren't real? How can you ignore the countless reports of strange objects being tracked on radar, seen by airline pilots, and photographed world-wide?

Kor: You just changed the subject. I never said that UFOs aren't real. We are talking about claims involving alien beings and machines. Nothing about UFOs – sightings, radar targets, or photos – points unambiguously to such beings and machines, which is what you claimed could be proved.

Notice how the ufologist conveniently, albeit unknowingly, shifted his ground under pressure from the extraordinary claims (flying saucers) to the mundane reports (UFOs); from incredible tales about alien beings and machines to reports of lights and objects in the sky. By lumping UFOs and flying saucers together, researchers are assuming that flying saucers are UFOs up close. The mundane, more-sure reports (UFOs) are used to substantiate the way-out, without basis claims (flying saucers).

The truth is, however, that the two categories do not form a single body of evidence. Proof that things are reported that cannot be identified is not evidence

for the existence of alien beings and machines. Only the claims that are definitive in regard to what is claimed (i.e., close encounters, contacts, abductions) have even the possibility of being definitive vis-à-vis the existence of an extraordinary reality.

Once researchers realize that UFOs do not – indeed, cannot – provide an evidential ground for what they believe is going on, the picture changes drastically. That picture is one of almost constant close-up commotion, continuing for over 50 years – without one scintilla of definitive evidence to back it up. The visitors, it seems, are meddling in human affairs in a most intimate fashion but are, themselves, nowhere to be found. That's one heck of an illusion, isn't it?

A Greater Mystery

The time has come for researchers to stop pretending to know what they

cannot show. The time has come to stop inventing explanations (magical technology, other dimensions, time travel, etc.) for why the saucer commotion is without definitive demonstration. Rationalization only reinforces the illusion. Face the truth that there are no real saucers and get on with the business of figuring out how the illusion of saucers was created – and why.

The question to be asked now is not, "Where do the saucers come from?" or "Why are they here?" but, rather: "How, in the light of all the commotion, can there be no saucers?" The answer to that question will change your conception of the word we live in.

To communicate with the author or to receive a copy of Kor's Kosmos write to 1207 Cordova Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124.

Puerto Rico: The Mystery Continues

by Scott Corrales
Bradford, PA

Puerto Rico, the "Shinning Star of the Caribbean" as the ad agencies put it, became a U.S. possession in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War. The emerging superpower had just extended its borders to the China Sea (with the acquisition of the Philippines) and to the Caribbean (with Cuba and Puerto Rico). As early as 1890, military planners had realized that Puerto Rico represented an ideal location to establish naval bases. The hapless island was later run as a virtual garrison for decades until it

became a self-ruling "commonwealth" under the U.S. flag – not quite a state, yet not quite a sovereign nation.

The island holds an even greater attraction for beings from other worlds or dimensions: ever since the alleged UFO crash in El Yunque Rainforest in 1987, the island has been in the grip of what is quickly becoming the longest UFO "flap" in the phenomenon's history.

On November 27, 1994, a UFO described as having a triangular shape crossed the heavens at 5:00 p.m. witnessed by Aracelis Valentin, a resident of Mayaguez's Jardines Housing, who was "astonished" by the sight.

Mrs. Valentin explained that the UFO, which was "shiny and metallic," moved south from a northwesterly direction. "I was there with my 2-year old son, when I saw an object resembling a stingray," Aracelis averred during an interview with a journalist. She pointed out that the unknown vehicle was very large and clearly visible in the clear skies. As in other UFO cases, the craft allegedly sighted by Mrs. Valentin made no sound whatsoever. She insisted that it could not have been an airplane, helicopter, or balloon, since the object in question was incredibly bright and moved at a breathtaking rate of speed. "The phenomenon frightened me considerably," she told reporters from a local newspaper.

The Mayaguez resident was by no means the only one to report UFOs: unknown to her, an entire neighborhood had sighted a triangular UFO a week earlier in the town of Anasco, located to the north of Mayaguez. According to one of the residents of Anasco's Daguey suburb, the triangle "...crossed the skies silently, leaving a trail of light similar to a fluorescent lamp," as it crossed the evening skies on November 23, 1994.

One resident claimed to have seen the triangular UFO vanish rapidly, heading southward from the north. The object itself gave off a constant light and flew at a low altitude, which enabled the witness and three relatives to see it

clearly. "At first I thought I was seeing white pigeons flying in formation, but I later realized it was something none of us had seen before," said the witness, a government employee, who insisted on anonymity when interviewed by reporter Jose Victor Jimenez. "I don't want my sanity questioned, but my immediate family and other neighbors saw the very same thing."

The Amaury Rivera Debacle

1994 would also witness one of the most distressing situations to ever afflict ufology in Puerto Rico, and whose repercussions that were felt as far away as Spain: the raging, fratricidal debate concerning the reality of falsehood of the photographs taken by alleged abductee Amaury Rivera.

For those who have not followed the case, Amaury Rivera was allegedly abducted by a UFO in 1988, near the town of Cabo Rojo. He was able to take a sequence of impressive photographs showing a UFO being harried by F-14 interceptors. Six years and dozens of UFO conferences later, the matter remains as confusing as it was at the beginning, but with a notable difference: a group of "hoax busters" has apparently set out to prove that Amaury's photos are clever forgeries. Their analysis received considerable attention in UFO related publications in both the U.S. and abroad.

Spanish journalist Magdalena del Amo gallantly rose to the defense of Amaury Rivera and those who supported his claims. In a blistering article for Espacio y Tiempo, she uncovered a conspiracy that could (allegedly, of course) be

bankrolled by a major “scientific” UFO organization in the U.S.

Del Amos minces no words: MUFON, like NICAP, its predecessor, may have been infiltrated by interests that seek to discredit cases that are “too near the knuckle.” She suggests that certain UFO reports emerging from Puerto Rico are a concern to the ufological “establishment”, which seeks to render them harmless by discrediting them.

Amaury Rivera’s photographs had been validated by independent photo analysts from the U.S., Germany, and Japan. They agreed that no trickery could be detected in the photos. The article for Espacio y Tiempo alleges that Amaury’s downfall came about when he denied that Wilson Sosa – allegedly a witness to the event in which a UFO swallowed a Navy jet – was his business manager. Sosa, seeing a large money-making scheme unravel before his eyes, then allegedly vowed to “destroy” Amaury in anything concerning the photos. Mr. Sosa has allegedly accused Amaury of selling drugs from his small hot dog stand and of being a sexual pervert, among other things.

Magdalena del Amo also mentions a plan gone awry. In an attempt to force Amaury to part with the photographs of the Cabo Rojo UFO, Wilson Sosa allegedly hired five young local fishermen. He allegedly promised them the sum of \$5000 and instant fame if they claimed that the photographs were theirs and that Amaury Rivera had stolen them. Two of the youths backed off and confessed, blowing the lid on the situation.

Whatever the situation involving Amaury Rivera, Wilson Sosa, and the other players does not affect in the least the validity of the numerous cases reported in Laguna Cartagena and Cabo Rojo, a region profiled in the Summer 1994 special edition of Fox-TV’s Encounters. The incidents surrounding the inordinate amount of UFO activity in the vicinity of Laguna Cartagena – an island lagoon less than ten miles away from the village of Boqueron, in the southwestern corner of the island – have attracted much attention in the past two years. Unidentified objects of assorted geometrical configurations have been seen hovering over the water and plunging into it outright, amid government denials and claims that the lights are merely the reflected lights of nearby communities.

Military Occupation and UFOs

The UFO situation in Puerto Rico appears to go hand in hand with unusual maneuvers of U.S. military aircraft, vessels, and troops. Whatever the reason for the activity, it is a fact that the military has been somewhat lax about “playing its cards close to its vest,” perhaps out of overconfidence in its unique position in the undefined political condition of Puerto Rico. Following some religious apparitions in the area known as Montana Santa in 1994, two local residents were surprised to see an undetermined number of persons in protective clothing conducting what appeared to be scientific testing of some sort at 2:00 a.m. and who spoke English-accented Spanish. The witnesses were ordered off the premises and sent over to some soldiers dressed in cammo BDUs. One of them, seemingly in command,

said they were “with NASA” and were examining the area.

Investigator and author Jorge Martin, the only ufologist deserving of the name on the island, interviewed Civil Defense director Freddie Cruz, who made an interesting observation about an event that took place in the Olivares section of the town of Lajas. According to Cruz, there was unusual activity surrounding the controversial “aerostat” installation - whose avowed purpose was that of curtailing low-flying drug smuggling planes. A white truck with the letters “NASA” written in black on its side entered the installation, escorted by several armored personnel carriers. As Cruz wisely observed: “But if the aerostat is there for drug interdiction, what is a truck with [alleged] NASA personnel doing there?”

The Navy took great interest in the events that have taken place over the years in the waters off of Cabo Rojo, the island’s southwestern tip. Local fishermen were not at all surprised by this development. Over the course of many evenings, they would see the nocturnal lights going about their appointed rounds – shifting color from white to red and blue, spreading open like colorful fans which would fill the night sky. On other occasions the lights would hover menacingly over their fishing boats, bathing them with beams of light. Fighters from the carrier group stationed off shore would later be involved, to their detriment, in one of the most intriguing UFO cases to be reported on the island – the 1988 event in which a giant triangular saucer allegedly “sucked in” two F-14 Tomcats and their crews.

This increased military vigilance, however, has not contributed to a significant reduction in the number of sightings or close encounters. There exists the widespread belief that efforts are being made to staunch the flow of illegal drugs into the island are, in fact, closely related to monitoring the strange objects penetrating Puerto Rican airspace.

In May 1995, the U.S. Navy admitted that a multi-megaton nuclear weapon had been lost “during exercises” thirty years earlier in the shallow waters off Vieques. They also admitted that Playa Flamingo, a beach on the island of Culebra, to the east of Puerto Rico and north of Vieques, had to be shut down for clean up operations. It seems a large amount of unexploded ordnance lay on the beach, which had since become a major attraction for weekenders. The possibility of non-nuclear ordnance – equally lethal – being turned up by beachcombers sent shivers throughout Puerto Rico. But when the authorities casually announced that the Lajas Valley, one of the most productive regions on the island, was going to be turned into a colossal radar antenna “farm” similar to the one being built on Vieques, some wondered if their grip on reality was slipping.

The Lajas Valley radar complex, if constructed, will dominate the UFO-prone region of Puerto Rico that included Laguna Cartagena and its alleged underwater base. It has been speculated that the existing radar installation at Vieques, and its projected Lajas twin, are part of a defense or early warning network against unidentified flying objects.

Putting all speculation aside for the moment, what remains in black-and-white is impressive enough: the installation would occupy a 40 acre area, fenced in with wood and barbed wire. The perimeter includes 13 radar reception shacks spaced along the terrain, and four rights-of-way leading to adjacent terrain. The ground within the enclosure itself will be occupied by a reflective surface which will presumably function as a reflector dish to a series of seven hundred forty-four antennae aligned in two individual rows right in front of the reflecting surface.

The Navy press release stated that the Lajas facility is merely an over-the-horizon array (ROTHR), curiously adding the detail that it is “similar to the Very Large Array in the New Mexico desert.” The Lajas array would share the steerability of the VLA, but would it also peer into space? The press release concluded by saying the Lajas array would be used as part of the drug war, without making any mention of the fact that the installation far surpasses any other one used for a similar purpose in North or South America. Nor was there any discussion of the health risks posed by the system. The Navy tried to assuage the fears of the citizenry by saying that the Lajas Valley and Vieques did not constitute two radars, but merely two sides of a “triad,” in which the proposed Lajas installation would play the role of receiver while Vieques functioned as the transmitter. The third leg of the triad, the control center, would be over a thousand miles away in Norfolk, Virginia.

An Ever Present Mystery

At the foot of Puerto Rico’s enigmatic El Yunque Rainforest lies Luquillo Beach,

a fenced, recreational facility that is one of the finest strips of sand on the island. Not far away, along Route 3, is a service road containing two dozen rough-hewn seafood restaurants (locally known as “los quioscos”) which attract a large number of local and international customers. If stories were true, the seafood restaurants’ reputations have even reached visitors from the cosmos.

Angel Cruz, the owner of restaurant No. 4, “La Mas Sufrida” (“The Longest-Suffering”), looked like a man who would ordinarily not move away from his cash register if someone told him that UFOs were cavorting outside. Yet that was exactly what he did toward the end of November 1966, when he and dozens of his customers observed a celestial display over the waters of the beach which lapped the rear of his establishment. Mr. Cruz had been thoroughly affected by the experience – something that becomes more evident as we stood outside his restaurant conversing.

“There was something supernatural about the whole experience,” Cruz reminisced. “For an object to have lit up the entire coastline the way it did on that evening, it had to be otherworldly. It was too big, too big.”

Cruz was able to see the UFO anchored in mid-air, hovering over the water and bathing the area (which has terrible nocturnal lighting) in its actinic light. His patrons literally put their forks down to see what was going on. Certain that the object was neither a flare, nor a meteorite, Cruz added: “I was able to distinguish the sheer size and brilliance of the object. Never in my life had I experienced such a thing...I panicked. I

was scared because it was noiseless and so bright. Eventually, it disappeared into the water, and everything went back to normal. The sea was normal, the darkness returned...”

The businessman later added that he returned into his establishment and occasionally stepped outside to see if there would be a replay of the celestial phenomenon, but there wasn't. Cruz had friends and relatives in the nearby Colinas del Yunque development who had seen UFOs and strange creatures, but had never thought he'd see anything himself.

Conclusion

The year 1997 kicked off with a flurry of unusual activity, marked by a resurgence of triangular UFO sightings: during one particular incident in the town of Isabela, a witness reported seeing three such craft, but with a curious distinction. One of the craft was clearly of non-human manufacture, whereas the other two *made a noise identical to that of jet engines* as they hovered beside the first one. This was a low-level, daytime sighting.

In January of this year [1997], an anonymous man linked to a public safety agency was the unwilling witness to the UFO abduction of a Zebu bull from a stretch of farmland located along Route 30, which links the cities of Cagus and Humacao, at two o'clock in the morning.

The dumbfounded witness was attempting to follow the slow moving UFO in his car along the highway when he was swiftly overtaken by a black 4x4 pickup truck which pulled him over. Tall men in black uniforms emerged from the vehicle and walked up to the nervous witness, ordering him to kill the engine and remain by the roadside to avoid “getting into trouble.” According to the witness, one of the men said, “Just let us get on with what we are doing.”

The witness asked why, then realized that the unidentified man had spoken in the plural regarding the UFO. It suddenly dawned on him that these men were linked with the vehicle.

Who were these strange individuals whose black uniforms betrayed no insignia whatsoever? The fact remains that a cow was later found mutilated along Route 30, completely butchered and with its bones shattered, as if the helpless bovine had been dropped from a great height.

Fernald UFO Sighting

by Kenny Young, T.A.S.K.

While working at a UFO exhibit at the Cincinnati Convention Center during March 1997, I was approached by an individual who wishes to remain

anonymous. He advised me of a UFO sighting at the Fernald Uranium Processing plant near Ross, Ohio. This informant, who we shall name Matt, claimed to have been an employee at

Fernald in the months before and after the sighting. I told him I was interested in the account and asked how I could get in contact for a follow-up, but Matt hesitated and claimed to be afraid to give me a name. He said that the UFO had been videotaped by a guard at the guard shack on November 24, 1994. The situation was perceived as a security matter, and the FAA had been advised of the event. Matt said that several people at Fernald knew about the sighting, that it had been "hushed up" and people had been instructed not to talk about it. Matt noted that the videotape had been examined by personnel at Fernald. Images on the recording had been freeze framed and copied onto paper via a copier machine. These copies were then distributed to a few people who had access to the records. Matt implied he was one of these individuals.

I provided Matt with a business card and entertained high hopes that future contact might be made. Then on May 14 I received an envelope displaying no name or return address. Inside was a word processed letter which cryptically stated the following:

location: the U.S. DOE Fernald Environmental Management Project (now called Flour-Daniel Fernald)
contents: stills of a security video camera.

Enclosed was a large 11 x 17" sheet of paper bearing seven poor quality black and white images taken from a video camcorder. The date and time of recording is tagged onto the video as November 23, 1994 at 5:48 a.m. Note, Matt had earlier given the date as November 24, 1994. Of the seven

pictures, four contain complete image, the other three leave the page or are broken due to copier error. Two of the four clear images depict an object that resembles a lighted (luminous?) donut.

The Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) is located about 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati, Ohio. Between 1953 and 1989, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facility, then called the "Feed Materials Production Center," produced uranium metal products for the nation's defense programs. These products were used in production reactors to make plutonium and tritium at other DOE sites. In 1992, Flour Daniel Fernald assumed responsibility for managing all cleanup activities at the FEMP under contract with DOE. Flour Daniel Fernald is a subsidiary of Flour Daniel, Inc., based in Irvine, California.

On Saturday May 31, 1997 I set off for the plant with an associate intending to speak to a guard. The guard remained seated in the small shack that is situated at the main entrance to the plant as we drove up to the door. When advised that we were investigating a reported UFO sighting in the area, the guard stated, "I know of a security guard who you may want to talk to. He's not here tonight, but he saw one. It flew over one night on third shift." The guard confirmed that he had heard stories and said, "I've heard about it, but I didn't see it. There was something that was supposed to have come over."

When asked if there were any video recordings, the guard answered, "I'm not sure if there were or not." The guard suggested we contact Lt. Paul Disney, the supervisor in charge at FERMC0,

the agency contracted by Fernald to furnish plant security. Suddenly aware that I was writing down this information, the guard became uneasy and more reluctant to talk. He said, "Why don't you come back later and talk to them about it?"

This was soft confirmation of the story first conveyed by Matt, and seemed to support his fear about involvement with a story that had been hushed up.

On another day I called and reached a "Mr. Dallas" at Fernald Security and announced the nature of my call. According to Mr. Dallas, Lt. Disney was unavailable until Wednesday, June 4. Dallas knew of the UFO sighting but was unsure if a report was filed on the incident. He said, "The guys on third shift made a claim and a videotape of a UFO sighting." When asked whether or not the information would be retained, he replied, "If they kept anything, whether it be videotape or written reports, you would be able to get that."

Days later when I finally was able to contact Lt. Disney, he confirmed hearing of the UFO sighting and to have seen the photos. He said he had heard stories of a "ball or something in the sky" that was photographed, but didn't know what had become of the material. Disney deferred the call to Susan Walpole, the public relations manager for Flour Daniel Fernald. Disney wasn't sure how available the information would be. The cameras used by the security staff are fixed, but are moveable and remotely controlled from a monitor room. The information is recorded by means of a time-lapse recording system.

Ms. Walpole was then contacted; she said she would research the story for me and then call me back. The following afternoon, after awaiting a phone call that never came, I again contacted the Public Relations Department. Not surprisingly, it was made clear that no videotape of a UFO over Fernald was officially retained, and the spokesperson I talked to added, "I don't have any information for you."

A phone call was again placed to Lt. Disney. I asked if he could acquire applicable records and logs to review. I also asked to speak directly with the security guard who reported this event. Disney, relying to the second question, stated, "Sure, he works on third shift though." I asked for a good time to call him. Disney stepped away briefly to check the guard's schedule. When he returned he said, "Uh-oh, it looks like this gentleman will be on vacation for several weeks. He just took off."

Susan Walpole was again contacted after a delayed response to my previous inquiries. She said that she had been making numerous inquiries with different persons, and was still turning up negative results. She claimed to have checked the AEDO (Assistant Emergency Duty Officer) reports. The AEDO is a 24-hour office that fills out a log of "off-normal" occurrences. She also checked the Fire & Safety log. Regarding the videotape, she didn't know if the Fernald security systems dated and time stamped their recordings, but she said she would find out. After everything was said, it looked as if nothing substantive would come out of Fernald about this story. However, I didn't want to give up easily.

Several weeks later I made an attempt to reach the security guard/witness again, hoping that he had returned from vacation. I was successful. The witness, who was also a part-time police officer, was willing to provide some tantalizing details of this mysterious event. "I was out on perimeter patrol en-route to a stationary post, and there was this light in the sky that followed me," stated the officer. "It looked like the thing had landing lights. When I turned, it turned, and just sat there. It hovered east of my location, over the Hamilton parking lot."

"It first appeared to be about the same elevation as routine air traffic. It was going due south, and then when I turned west, this thing turned around and followed me, so then I thought this was a helicopter. I rolled the window down and didn't hear any sound, so then I called the Control Center. Someone from the Control Center evidently swung their cameras around and was able to pick this up from a remote location. When the County showed up, there were still photos of this thing that was given to them.

"The Hamilton County Sheriffs Department was summoned to the scene by someone from the Control Center, and they talked to me in the Administration Building and also took a report."

According to this witness, the object departed Fernald by lifting to a high elevation and hovering stationary in the sky, appearing as a star well after daylight.

Dave Matthews, supervisor of the Hamilton County Communications Center, confirmed that the call was

received and also furnished the names of the two officers who handled the report. A notation on the Center's log states, "Strange sphere with strange lights sighted over Fernald."

Initially, the people at Fernald denied that a videotape of a UFO sighting over Fernald was actually retained or even made at the facility. But suddenly, at a staff meeting, the videotape surfaced. Arrangements were hastily made and the tape was hand delivered by Fernald officials at the trailer on site where badges are issued. The reason the tape couldn't be found earlier was because it was being held by a D.O.E. official, stated the cordial employee.

The videotape depicts a glaring light which shines toward the camera like a spotlight, only much brighter. Another tape was also recorded from a communications center camera, and it depicts an odd looking light hovering in the sky, and then jump-cuts to the phenomenon as it hovers behind trees. Many voices can be heard saying, "Look at it," and "Didn't it just move?" One voice declares, "I've been working third shift too long!"

The images from the two camera have been edited by the F.E.M.P. video department and dubbed unto one videocassette labeled "Unidentified Object at the F.E.M.P." The edited sequences are out of order, as per the time listed on the date stamp within the video frame. There is some indication that there were other sequences edited out based upon the video date/time stamp.

The 1994 Fernald UFO event happened during a spate of UFO sightings around

the Cincinnati area. Looking back over this affair, the most outstanding aspect isn't the over flight of a UFO, but the "hush hush" manner in which the incident was handled. Rather than the silent byproduct of a great secrecy machine, it appears that this incident was handled as a convenient file-it away approach assumed by Fernald and Hamilton County 9-1-1. The video, deemed valuable to UFO investigators, would furnish excellent material for analysis and computer scrutiny. The participants did not recognize the tape's value. This event, if it happened in the late '80s, would have been considered intrusive to the security of the United States due to the sensitivity of the Fernald operation. But more interesting was the look in the eyes of Matt, the mysterious informant who seemed to express fear upon the telling of this account, as he cryptically stated, "Let me tell you, this is something I don't want to get involved with."

Outside of Lexington, Kentucky

by William E. Jones

The reporting witness wishes to remain anonymous. On a Friday in August of 1968 he was traveling south through Kentucky on Interstate 75 south of Lexington with his family (mother, father, brother, aunt, uncle and four cousins) on a vacation trip to Cumberland Lake, a camping and boating area in the southern part of the state. The family was travelling in two vehicles, a van and a car. (The witness was 12 years old at the time; this investigation was undertaken on September 29, 1982.) The father, who was driving the van, pulled off of the highway to obtain gas and allow

everyone to get some exercise after the long drive down from Ohio. The gas station they pulled into was operated by Shell and there was a Hasty Tasty fast food restaurant next door. The location was close to I-75 on the northwest corner of the intersection. The witness stated that they were in a small town on "the main drag" and just off of the freeway. It was late in the evening, probably around 9 PM, and it was dark. The sky was clear; stars were visible.

As the family was walking around stretching their legs they suddenly became aware of some excitement at the restaurant next door. People were outside running around and yelling at one another. There were an estimated 100 to 150 people in the area of the intersection, many of whom were outside this restaurant. A few were pointing up into the air. The family looked up in the direction these people were pointing and saw something that was totally unexpected and a bit frightening. There, high in the sky, was a "round," actually disc shaped, object. They could not see the top of the object; the bottom was dark blue in color, "like burnt metal," and concave in shape. It was as big as the Hasty Tasty restaurant.

"It was round and it had lights that rotated around it. They were red and blue and white, with one light being out in a rotation each time," remembered the witness. There may have been a hundred of these lights, all in one row and appearing to rotate clockwise as one light went out at a time. He remembers that the lights may have been rectangular in shape. The object, as best as the witness could tell with all of the commotion going on next door, made no noise. It hovered there for a few awhile,

perhaps as long as three minutes, and then began moving horizontally around the area. As it moved around, it got no more than a quarter of a mile from the Shell station. Its movements were graceful; at no point during this maneuver did it make an angular turn. At its closest point to the station, the witness estimated it was not much more than a hundred feet above them and the lights lit up the area "like daylight."

As the object drifted away to the south, the family quickly finished their business at the gas station and got back into their vehicles. They headed south down I-75, with the object still in view to the right and generally traveling in the same direction. It was about a quarter of a mile away. After they had traveled five or six miles two jet airplanes came in from the northeast and intercepted the object. At that the object started climbing and the planes followed. After a few moments, the family could no longer see either the object or the planes as they climbed upward to the southwest.

No effects were reported to the people or the vehicles during this event.

This investigation was undertaken by Richard D. Seifried who is a past MUFON State Director for Ohio. His report was forwarded to the then State Director for Kentucky but the record does not indicate that a response was received back. MORA will forward this report to the current Director for Kentucky for his information and response. Given the thirty years that have passed since the incident, perhaps the best that can be hoped for is that someone may be able to determine which exit from I-75 was involved. Then

the local and the Lexington newspaper archives can be checked for the reported time period to see if the papers picked up on the event. The reporting witness and his family, for all practical purposes, probably cannot be located.

Older Cases Are Important

by Mark Cashman
On the Internet

Old UFO cases are important for a number of reasons.

The nature or categories of UFO sightings may have changed over time. Without an appropriate context, the modern phenomenon cannot be properly understood. For instance, author Jacques Vallee asserted that the Type II cases have largely vanished since the 1955 wave. If this is the case, it would be impossible to study such cases without reference to the older records.

Aviation technology has advanced significantly since 1947. Thus, it is likelier for a modern aircraft or drone to be mistaken for a UFO, simply because it will have more flexible flight characteristics or enhanced performance. The reports of older cases are not potentially so contaminated.

Techniques for hoaxing photographs have also advanced. Older hoaxes are much more amenable to detection; thus, older photographic evidence can be of significant value.

No important statistical reservoir should be discounted. The Blue Book reports represent an important sample for study of both UFOs and IFOs. For instance, if one were to be interested in the

demographics of UFO vs. IFO witnesses, Blue Book might well be one of the largest publicly available samples. The structure of waves and flaps can also be derived from the basis of these large samples.

Hidden away in older cases may be information of significant value whose importance is not recognized until correlation with later cases is performed. For instance, my analysis of six sightings of similar objects between 1949 and 1967 used several reports, drawings, and photos from Blue Book, which can be correlated with cases from other sources. In addition, at least one Blue Book photo, heretofore unstudied, shows interesting structure in the object luminosity.

Establishing patterns of activity between older and modern cases are essential to generating a conviction among friendly skeptics that the UFO phenomenon is not a creation of irrational mystics and that it does demonstrate analytically verifiable and temporally stable patterns, like other phenomena amenable to scientific study.

West Carrollton, Ohio May 24, 1997

by Phillip D. Short & William E. Jones
Mutual UFO Network

It's not every day that a member of the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) can turn in a report about his or her own sighting of a UFO. But, that is what happen to Phillip Short recently. It was 9:00 p.m. The sky was medium overcast with a ceiling at 2000 to 2500 feet, with no precipitation. An 18 to 25 knot wind

was blowing from the south-south west. The temperature was about 70 degrees Fahrenheit. West Carrollton is in Greene County, near Dayton in the mid-western part of the state. The area of the sighting is suburban. Here is the story as Phillip wrote it in his report to me.

"I was sitting on my second story deck, relaxing in a white resin stack chair, facing east. My attention was suddenly drawn upward by a movement at 70 to 80 degrees off the horizon. The wind was blowing from my right to my left (east to west). The movement that had drawn my attention was a dark mass, fingerlike with an irregular outline. The general shape could have been described as boomerang, although the outline was irregular and looked unrefined. It seemed to be carried by the wind as it was moving in the same direction. The shape did not look totally solid, but also did not look like a cloud. There was still plenty of light for me to see this apparition as I looked upward.

"My first instinct was that this was some type of debris loosely held together. About that time I sensed the mass was getting smaller. It's hard to describe...the mass appeared to be dissipating at a rapid rate. It was hard to tell...but the two tips seemed to be moving inwards. This continued for what seemed like twenty seconds, at which point the mass was about 1/5 its original size. [Phillip turned away for a moment. He quickly looked back and the dissipation had slowed dramatically or stopped. By now it was shaped like a "bolder." It then disappeared, apparently into the distance. The total time of the sighting was about one minute.] The object appeared to be about 1/4 of the length of an ink pen held at arms length

when I first observed it. It maintained a constant speed and direction. When the object was boomerang in shape the apex was in the back in relation to the direction of travel. The length... was perpendicular to the direction of travel."

This report has been submitted to MUFON for analysis. The results will be reported in the Ohio UFO Notebook when it is received.

Police Officer Sees Flying Barbell

by William E. Jones

It was July 3, 1989, 11:40 p.m. The temperature was cool for that time of year, about 73 degrees. There was a six miles per hour wind blowing. The sky was clear. The location was suburban Montgomery County. The witness, a police officer, was driving his patrol car southbound on Normandy Lane, approximately 1/10 of a mile from Windsor Park Drive. "When I first spotted the object it was going up above the trees with white sparks falling from it. At this time I thought it was a bottle rocket, but when it didn't fall or explode I started to watch it more carefully." This object looked like a barbell. It appeared to be about 5 to 6 feet long. The balls on each end looked to be about the size of softballs. It was hard to tell, of course, but the officer estimated that the object was less than 100 yards away and at the same height vertically. (It seems to this reporter that an object of the estimated size at the estimated distance could not have been seen so clearly. One or both of these estimates is probably incorrect.)

"At about this point I stopped the car angled toward the object. I opened the door and watched it out the door. It hovered for about 10 or 15 seconds and flashed red on one end [the left] and a blue-green on the other. It was slowly spinning at this time, but started to spin faster. It then tilted at about a 45 degree angle and moved very fast to the southeast and seemed to...merge into a large white glowing beach ball like object directly over Normandy Lane. There were sparks when the objects came together. The object seemed to retain its original [barbell] shape...it was spinning slowly, but was starting to spin faster and hovered for about 10 seconds. It then tilted to 45 degrees again and moved west, radically changing its altitude and speed several times in a zig zag motion. I tried to follow it down Windsor Park Drive, westbound. The object disappeared westbound at high altitude, last seen in the area of Congress Park and Paragon. If you were able to think an object gone, then this is how fast it was going." The sighting lasted between one and two minutes. There was no electrical interference affect on his patrol car. The officer did not report his sighting officially.

What sort of UFO was this? Who knows? That's what makes UFO investigations so interesting.

Investigators: Linda and Scott Revis of Dayton, Ohio, under the supervision of Richard D. Seifried.

1981 Dayton, Ohio Mini-Flap

by William E. Jones

Richard D. Seifried, Sonia Omerzu, and George Pelizzari investigated a series of

UFO sightings in this mid-western Ohio community that certainly qualifies as a "mini-flap." The flap began for these intrepid investigators when they heard several radio and television reports. According to Seifried, "The incidents and experiences of the investigators provide all of the excitement, frustration, confusion, and skepticism that a field investigator experiences. In early February we heard over local media stations of sightings between Dayton and Cincinnati." Other UFO investigators reportedly investigated some of the early cases, so Seifried, Omerzu, and Pelizzari stayed at home.

Then, a few days later, an article appeared in the Xenia Daily Gazette of nocturnal lights over Greene County. That was close enough to get their attention. According to Seifried, "Further investigation disclosed that two women and a man had observed an unusual bright light for a considerable length of time. On Monday evening, February 23rd, Sonia Omerzu and I interviewed the primary witness for forty-five minutes. The witness seemed credible, yet there were many questions in the minds of the investigators. The witness had seen a UFO before. She considered herself a 'natural medium,' and could at one time communicate with spirits and demons. The natural impulse was to throw out the case. But the case became involved. A page from a log book of a law enforcement agency was missing. The police of a community denied getting a call when in fact a patrolman had responded to the address of one of the witnesses. Although verbally verified by a reporter and by law officers, officials of two other agencies denied any knowledge of such activities."

An interesting sighting occurred on February 7, 1981 at 1:30 a.m. A large object with two large white lights was seen very low over the street near the witness' home. As the witness rushed to get her camera and place it up to the window through which she was viewing this phenomena, a red light came on which outlined the object. It was disc-shaped. The witness estimated the object to be "two thirds the size of an average house." It was between sixty and seventy feet away, directly over the street, and approximately forty to sixty feet in the air." She may have heard a humming noise, but wasn't sure. The object was observed for about fifteen minutes.

When the red light illuminated the object, a strange thing happened to the witness. She thought that if she took the picture she might put herself in jeopardy. So, she lowered the camera thinking that "they" knew she had it. The witness, according to the investigators was "exceptionally credible and a very practical individual."

On February 14, the Daily Gazette reported that a UFO was seen over Xenia and Bellbrook about 1:30 a.m. Saturday. It was reported to the Xenia Police Division, the Greene County Sheriff's Department, and the Bellbrook Police Department. C. Thorpe in Fairborn reported to the Sheriff's department that the UFO was "silver with red, green and blue lights." Brenda Butler contacted the Xenia police and reported seeing something similar, which turned out to be at the same time and place as the lights Thorpe had reported. Butler stated that the object was visible for about two hours. She further stated that "there were red and

green lights that pulsated, or moved back and forth. It had a circular, but rather indistinct shape. I was shaken up. This is the first thing I have ever seen like this that I have had any doubt as to what it was. It definitely was not an aircraft." While without more, one could argue that this was some sort of celestial object being observed under unusual conditions. There was one interesting aspect to the report, however. Butler said that she also had notified the Bellbrook Police Department about her sighting who told her that there had been many calls about the sighting. Later, when the newspaper checked with the Bellbrook Police Department, they told reporter Kim Cooke that there had been no reports of any UFO sightings. Cover-up, incompetence, poor internal departmental communications, a misunderstanding on Butler's part as to what she was told? We'll never know.

On or near January 3, 1981 – the exact date was not remembered – at approximately 7:15 a.m., a bright orange oval shaped object was observed by a 34 year old "draftsman" as she drove to work. This object was seen to the west from her location near Kemp and North Fairfield Roads in Greene County. It was dark and there was no precipitation. The object was seen at about a thirty-degree angle above the horizon. A water tower is located near this intersection and the object was to the left of and, because of the witness' perspective, appeared to be much larger than the tower. "As I drove closer to it I was curious as to what it was, as I had never seen anything like it before. As I got closer the anticipation grew. Then, all of a sudden, it vanished. Just like a light going out."

On February 2, 1981, a Dayton, Ohio man was driving westbound on Route 4 in Clark County. "I was on Route 4...going home [at] about 9:15 p.m. close to the George P. Rogers State Park when a bright blue greenish white glow lit up my car for a second. Then another [lit up my car] for second. I slowed down and looked around and saw a large ball shape to my left (south) over a field about 100-150 feet high. Then there was another like the first within a few seconds. By this time I was stopped on the side of the road watching two balls of light just sitting there. Then the one on the right disappeared or vanished like the huge light was turned off. Then the other one disappeared. I drove on home and told my wife what I had seen." The duration of this event was approximately 5 minutes.

In February of 1981 – the exact date was not remembered – a husband and wife with their two children were driving north on State Route 4 near Harshman Road in Montgomery County. It was approximately 11:30 p.m. The area is rural. The skies were clear. According to the husband, the following occurred. "We had just crested a bridge near Eastwood Lake when I called to my wife's attention a white light to the Northwest. Being close to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, I assumed it was a plane with its runway lights on. We continued to observe the light as we approached the Harshman Road exit. It was after reaching the exit that I noticed the light was not moving. It has not turned, nor had [its size appeared to increase as it got closer] as most planes do when they make their landings. I had also not seen the red and green wing lights and anti-collision lights readily noticeable on the usual aircraft we have

seen on other occasions... We then drove down the exit, made a left turn onto Harshman Road, passed the Stebbins High School and looked back to the vicinity of where we saw the object. It was gone." The light was described as being a bright blue-white in the center with a "white glow/haze" all the way around it. The wife reported seeing a red light in the center portion of the overall light effect. She was able to see the light as they pulled over to stop on Harshman Road and noted that "suddenly it was gone." Was this, in spite of the witness' opinion, an aircraft landing at nearby WPAFB? Possibly, but we can't be sure so the story is included in this report.

On another unremembered day in February, 1981 a woman living on Dayton's Mark Avenue in the 7700 numbered block, reported that she looked out of her bathroom window toward WPAFB, which is east of the home, and saw six red lights in a horizontal position, seemingly hovering in the distance. It was about 2:30 a.m. The lights did not move, although the second light from the right "seemed to jump" a bit. She awoke her husband, who also saw the lights. They watched them for awhile and finally went back to bed although the lights were still there. They have seen nothing like this, before or since.

On March 3, 1981 a Dayton, Ohio woman was driving northbound in State Route 48 between David and Stroop Roads in Kettering. The area is commercial. The weather was clear. "I was driving home from work about 8:00 p.m. I was driving...towards downtown Dayton when a round red and blue flashing ball caught my eye. It flew around back and forth and made some

very sharp turns. I first spotted it at David Road and State Route 48. I rolled down my [car] window but heard nothing. I lost sight of this object when I got to Farhills and Stroop. A few minutes later I saw another strange object. It was hovering about 200 feet above the ground. It moved a little, then stopped in midair. I again heard nothing. I observed this second object for about three minutes." The first object appeared as a point source of light. This light included a smaller red light on the left and a blue light on the right. The second object was similar, but elongated horizontally; the pattern of the red and blue lights was the same. Both were at about a 20 to 30 degree angle above the horizon.

Another sighting occurred on March 13, 1981. An Enon, Ohio woman who lived in the 6600 block of Oakhill Drive had just left home at 7:30 p.m. walking to a baby-sitting job when she heard a high-pitched screech, "almost like a woman screaming." She looked up into the air and saw a "huge" orange object. The object was moving and, as it accelerated, made a loud "whoosh" like sound. As it went over it seemed to plunge to earth in the southwest toward WPAFB. Scared, she ran home and had someone drive her to her job. Was this a large meteor entering the Earth's atmosphere? Possibly!

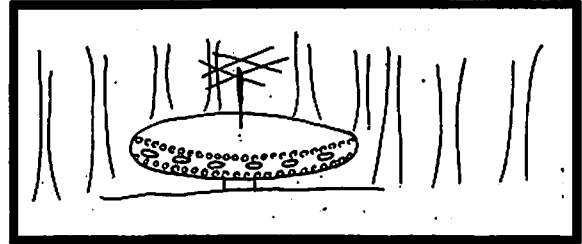
Richard Seifried was called by the woman's brother and he was able to immediately drive to the area of the sighting. The sky was clear. Aircraft were visible, most coming into or out of WPAFB. He contacted the Clark County Sheriff's office. A female dispatcher confirmed that they had received reports of a similar nature, one from one of four

men who had apparently sighted the same orange object or light, and another from a female caller. None had left their names with the Sheriff's office.

Through the Sheriff's office, Richard was able to talk with a Sheriff's deputy. The deputy stated that on the previous night he had observed a large white light in the sky that had two blue lights on it. It had hovered some, moved around, then "took off at a steadily increasing rate of speed until it was going at a fantastic speed." The officer also told of a sighting two months previously that occurred at a reservoir in southeast Clark County. Two men reported seeing a huge triangular shaped craft in the sky there.

The last reported sighting in this flap was made by a young Centerville, Ohio woman who saw a disk which had apparently landed alongside I-75 south of the Ohio River in Kentucky. The sighting occurred on March 31, 1981 at about 4:30 p.m. She was in an automobile being driven by her mother and she was looking at the scenery. "Hey Mom, look," she cried out. There by the roadside in an open area surrounded by trees was a disk shaped craft. It was not moving. Two rows of amber lights on the rim rotated from left to right. The disk itself also seemed to be spinning. Between the rows of lights were six oval windows. The disk appeared to be metallic; it was silver/gray in color. Something like an antenna was visible protruding from the top center of this object. The disk seemed to be poised on something like legs or steps which protruded downward underneath the object. Her mother replied, "I've got to drive this damn car. I ain't got time to look at any UFO's!" The witness kept

looking at the object for as long as she could.



Was this an actual "flap" of sightings of anomalous aerial phenomena, or were these UFOs actually unidentified aircraft and natural phenomena and the flap an artifact of media attention and the heralded persistence of dedicated UFO investigators? We think it was the latter. Except for the last case that occurred out of the immediate reporting area in Kentucky, none of these sightings were of a particularly unusual nature and, thus, probably would have not gained attention had it not been for the fact that others were being reported over the same time period. Some flaps may be caused by a real but unknown anomalous aerial phenomena, but many will be the artificial artifact of local media attention. We must be careful as we investigate these situations and attempt to make a distinction.

1995 Harrisburg, PA Non-Flap

by Robert R. Young
Harrisburg, PA

Joseph W. Ritrovata, in an article entitled "The Importance of UFO Waves and a Cyclic Connection with Some Curious Links" (June, 1996, MUFON UFO Journal, pp 7 - 12) cited the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC) for a Harrisburg "UFO flap"

in February 1995. He also credited the *U* UFO Database for the information in the article. Ritrovata was identified as a researcher for a major daily newspaper.

A public observatory and a public museum's planetarium with which I am associated had received no UFO reports for February 1995, nor had I heard of sightings via the media or from other sources.

I wrote to the state and section MUFON directors and Larry Hatch, who maintains the *U* UFO Database. The local MUFON director did not respond, but the others were unable to provide any information and were not aware of any reports from Harrisburg during the period. I also sent two letters to NUFORC, but because of a family emergency, the director of that project could not respond at that time. So, I had reached a dead end.

Recently, I came across the NUFORC web page and noticed that for 2/27/95 there was an entry that a "Mennonite College instructor reports UFO flap is in progress in that area [Harrisburg] on PN." Although there are Mennonite people living in this area, I have never heard of an institution with that name. I checked with the State Department of Education and they confirmed that no such institution existed in the state, but that there is an Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

I suspected that perhaps voice-mail may have resulted in a garbled report, and wrote again to NUFORC with my suspicions as to what had happened. Peter Davenport kindly checked his records and confirmed (March 28, 1997 letter) that the caller's telephone area

code was 703 and his address was in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Mr. Davenport agreed that a mistake had been made and

that the entry on their web page would be corrected.

I believe it can be assumed that there is no evidence of a sighting "flap" at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania during February 1995.

Xenia, Ohio During the October 1973 Flap

by William E. Jones

"It was a rainy night, but not cold," the 36 year old female Yellow Springs resident remembers. "The rain had just stopped, I had just left an evening class in Yellow Springs at Antioch College along with a male friend whose name I am withholding; he was driving my car. We drove through Yellow Springs...and went up 69...through Xenia and headed towards Dayton on Route 35...going west. No other cars were on the road; only one had passed before a really bright light was noticed." The witness has a Masters degree with a major in Education and Comprehensive Social Science.

"There are radio towers on the opposite side of the highway...Looking to the left...the unusually bright light drew attention to the object. It just looked like a...very bright spotlight, perfectly still between the two towers. [At the time of the interview on May 6, 1985 one of the towers was gone, possibly downed during the tornado which later devastated the Xenia area.] There had

never been a light there before. The light was focused directly on the car.”

It was around 11:15 p.m. The exact date was not recalled. The area was then mostly made up of fields and woods. The sky was partly cloudy and the winds were calm.

“It moved very slowly away from the towers towards my car,” she said with a bit of tremor in her voice. “We did not know what it was and the driver panicked. The object went over the top of the car and the driver stepped on the accelerator real hard. The UFO kept up the speed and it was tracking a little bit behind and to the side of the car, not chasing, but [keeping up. The driver] stepped on the brakes suddenly since speeding was useless. Suddenly the object moved at amazing speed across the field to our right, going far away but not quite out of sight.”

The object, as the witness now described it, suddenly returned and stopped just as quickly near them without slowing down first. “It was like nothing I’d seen before or since, without slowing down,” the witness commented. “Then it was hovering over the top of trees, just a few feet away and by the road. It moved in a wavy motion, somewhat like on ocean waves...I could see its shape. The color could have been grayish, but no distinct color.”

“The UFO [then] came down in front of the car’s headlights, but hovering, never touching the ground. There was no sound, no smoke, no mist, nothing. Just its lights... There were tiny red lights and bluish-green lights. I would say two of each, around the sides of it. It was round, a little smaller than the front width of the

car, approximately four to five feet wide, had a dome shape in the center of a round, flatter shape. The bottom of the dome had tiny, square windows all around it. The UFO did not move for at least one minute.”

“The driver was in total shock, stiff as a board, arms up, mouth open, eyes wide open.” The witness chuckled as she told this. “I looked over that way several times and that’s how I know.” She chuckled again.

“I kept looking at the...object. It slowly lifted up and then swiftly moved off to the southerly direction and disappeared.”

Richard D. Seifried was the prime investigator on this case and asked the witness some questions.

“Did the light reflect off of the hood or the windshield?” The witness replied, “No, I don’t think it did.”

“How far along the highway did it pursue you before the driver hit the brakes?”

“Not very far. I would say...about twenty or thirty seconds.”

“Did you have the windows down on the car?”

“I would say they might have been cracked.”

“Did you have the radio on? Headlights remained normal?”

“I don’t think the radio was on. The headlights and everything remained normal.” The witness then remembers that the engine was off, but doesn’t

know if her companion shut off the engine himself. She does remember they were stopped on the roadway, not on the berm.

“Did you get home later than you thought you would?”

“Well...an interesting question because I never thought up to this point...so it may have been a normal time...this was right after class and it usually takes about thirty to forty five minutes. Class was over at say nine. With an extra fifteen minutes it would have been an hour.” She thinks she may have gotten home at 11:15 p.m. She is puzzled, a bit unsure.

“Did the color of the vehicle change as it accelerated?”

“No. The color never changed.”

“The tiny windows. Why could you see the windows? Was there light behind the windows?”

“No. No light behind the windows.” As they discuss what the object looked like the witness remembers that she might have seen something underneath it, like landing gear, although she did not use that term. She drew two slight bumps underneath the craft as it was seen from the side. George Adamski would have been proud; a mini-Scout Ship.

“Have you had any other unusual things happen to you?”

“Well...not too long after I had a dream...it was very vivid because it seemed so realistic. In this dream a UFO...came down [and] people came out of it. They were covered from head to toe in what appeared to be like white

sheets or some kind of covering. But you could see their eyes.”

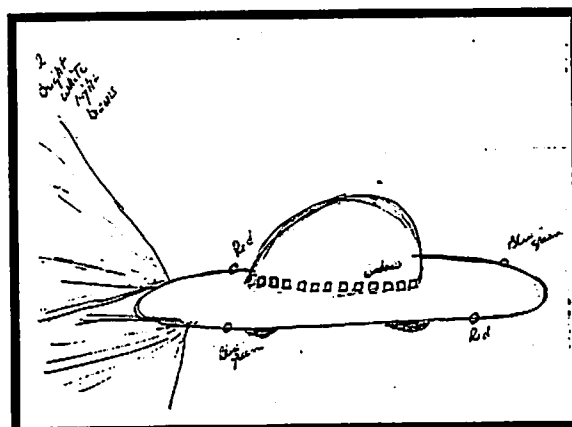
“What did their eyes look like?”

“I can’t really describe them. They were all covered around with it, the white sheets. They were just covered but kinda cut out.”

“What was the shape of the cut-out holes?”

“Uh, kind of almond shaped, I guess.”
“Did they have arms?”

“I think they had arms. But, the covering was so loose...and legs. They definitely had legs...They came out, uh, and asked me did I want to go with them to travel? This is wild: to go under the pyramids and see what was really there.” The witness had indicated an interest in this subject earlier, so not too much importance should be placed on her comment about the pyramids. The witness reported that she had hesitated in her answer to their question, but then decided against the trip.



Buckeye Lake Ohio

by William E. Jones &
Richard D. Seifried

So, you think George Adamski type Scout Ships aren't seen anymore? The witness in the previous article saw one that wasn't much larger than the width of a car. That makes the case unbelievable. Correct? Well, these type craft are still being seen as one of the following cases shows. Does this mean that George Adamski was telling a story that should be believed? Hardly! But it does show that the UFO phenomenon is much more complex than the debunkers would admit, even under the threat of torture.

"Frank and I were walking along Route 37 headed north when we saw it coming toward us in the sky."

The time was approximately 11:00 p.m. It was warm, but not hot; it was probably 70 to 80 degrees outside. The sky was clear.

It was June in the year 1953; the exact date unremembered. Buckeye Lake is east of Columbus. Nearby is the community of Millersport, the location of summer homes for the upper middle class from Columbus. Their homes line the lake and the many canals that feed on the lake's waters. Their boats can be seen on these waters. The lake is a remnant of the last glaciers that covered Ohio a few million years ago. One part of the lake is a cranberry bog, a site that contains vegetation that originated many hundreds of miles to the north. It is a remnant of the glaciers as they melted away and Ohio became warmer – a reminder to those who care to know that this place existed before mankind trod upon its shores and swam in its waters. It will be here long after man has gone.

"Then it was behind us, and then right over us. It continued to stay right over us." When these two men saw this apparition it was nothing more than an orangeish-green light that was coming out of the north. As it got closer they could see its circular shape and hear a "whirring noise...kinda like a windy noise...it wasn't a hum...just a soft whirring or wind sound." Suddenly it changed shape from a circle to an oblong object with square like windows. It was as if it flipped unto its side from the witness's perspective without any perception of movement. Suddenly the windows were gone.

There was no light coming out of these windows. It was a different color on the side of this craft or whatever it was. Then they were gone. The color was strange. "It was orangeish-green...part of the time it seemed green. Yet there was no noticeable change. Like one minute it was orange and the next minute it was green. It just kinda changed without you noticing it."

"We walked done the road and it followed. It stayed right directly above us. [At its closest the object may have been between 100 to 500 feet in the air, but the witness admitted he was not a good judge of distance.] We walked about half a mile or three quarters of a mile down the road out to 79 and then we turned on 79 and made a right. It stayed right above us... We went down Route 79 about a mile, mile and a quarter, to the old Millersport Road, going into Millersport. We made another right turn headin' south and it did the same thing. It stayed right above us...[we walked] probably not even a quarter of a mile. There was a car comin' the other way. And when we saw

the headlights of the car...the object just took off. One minute it was there and the next minute it was off in the distance...It never changed sound when it left." The object was last seen in the southwest.

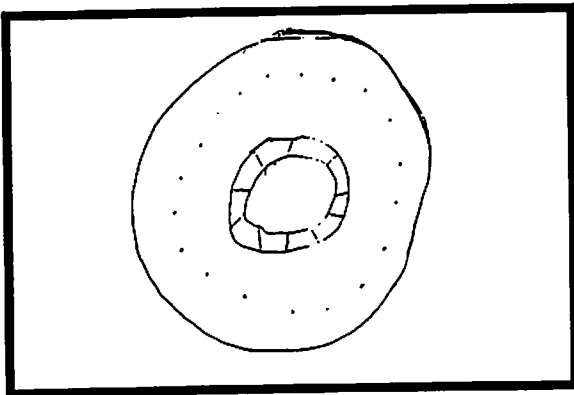
"We weren't really scared, you know. We didn't take off runnin' or nuthin' like that, uh, and we really weren't that nervous. We kinda' just wondered what was going on."

"What was your reaction to all of this," asked the investigator?

"Uh, just kind of an odd feeling, I guess."

The second witness was unavailable for the interview which occurred on May 22, 1982. The witness and his family had lost track of the friend over the intervening years.

Three years later (1956) on another June day a young man is walking along a road in the Buckeye Lake area. It is afternoon, probably close to 1:00 a.m. It is warm. The sky is clear. Perhaps he had lovin' on his mind. He certainly isn't thinking about flying saucers.



"I was walking along Route 204 going to my girlfriends house. She lives on County Line Road and I had just turned

off 204 onto County Line Road...and the Guinea Hens that lived on they farm there stopped hollering. They always made such a racket, you know; they always made such a racket. And I couldn't figure what made them stop. And I kept getting' this feeling on the back of my neck...I just kept trying to shake it but I wouldn't.

"I don't know what made me look up...and what I seen was a flying saucer. All I seen was the bottom of it and it was perfectly round. Had little dots going around it. I don't know what the dots were, whether they were rivets or what they were. But it had, uh, a little platform on the bottom of it and the platform was kind of beveled and from the platform what looked to be like windows. It was all green...and like heat waves...was emanating from around the bottom of it.

"The only thing I could think of was to get out of there. And I put my head down and started to run...clear down County Line Road to my girl friend's house. I thought, "Well, they was singling me out for some reason.' That's why I panicked. I didn't even go to her house. I just kept on running...I even wet my pants, I was so scared. I hate to admit it. I was eighteen years old at the time. I had run down to Fink's Boat landing [on Buckeye Lake] which is at the end of the lake and I ran into my buddy's yard and I passed out. That's the last I remembered until I came to...in the house. My friend's Mom and Dad had helped me in the house and put me down on the couch and gave me water and stuff like this in order to revive me.

"When I woke up I told them what I seen they laughed...I did come home

and told [my] Mom and Dad...and they did believe me. I told them what happened and they said I actually had a sighting."

"Did the object spin at all?" asked Richard Seifried, the investigator on this case.

"No. It just seemed to hover."

"When you started running did it follow you?"

"No. I just...I didn't even look back...I ran."

"About how high off the ground was it?"

"Well, I would say, just a guess, about 1000 feet."

"What would the size of it be then?"

"I know it was gigantic...it was at least as big as a house...It may not have been. It may have been smaller but it just seemed like it was so huge."

"Can you describe the sound that it made?"

"Yeah. It made a high pitched, sort of a, I don't know if it was a whine or humming like a, well, I know...like the electric surge going through the line...similar to that."

"And then the windows..."

"...just a green aurora coming out...like the heat rays you see along the road when you are walking, you know?"

"Did you have any after affects...or were you nervous over a length of time?"

"No."

"Did you ever have any dreams?"

"No. No affects at all...except the panic that I felt when I seen it."

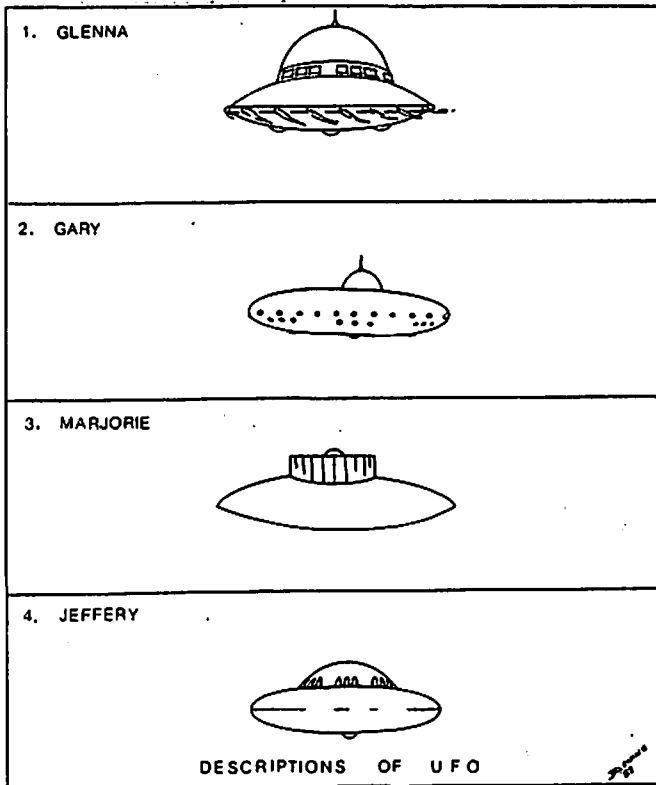
Another sighting occurred near Buckeye Lake in October 1963, the exact date unremembered by the family who witnessed the event. Their home was on the north side of Route 204, southeast of the lake. It was about 10:00 p.m. The temperature was warm and there was no appreciable wind. The sky was clear.

The mother of the family remembers. "I was in the kitchen when my husband called from the backyard that there was a plane on fire out back. I ran out, and a son who was working on his car ran too. A daughter ran out from the living room and a younger son came downstairs. When I rounded the garage the object was clear against the lights from the nearby small town and the lights of a nearby football field. One look and I yelled, "That's no plane!" I was excited, of course, but I did not feel afraid, for some reason."

"It was like two plates, plates or saucers together with a cup or large bowl on top and there was a tall metal antennae. I could tell it was metal. It seemed to shine. In the area where the two plates would come together there were openings, and what appeared to be flames, short flames out of these openings. This area moved. It was moving clockwise, very, very slowly.

There were windows in the top part that would be where the bowl was turned upside down. There were windows in sets of three, and they were not transparent. They were translucent.”

The mother noted that there were round objects protruding from the base of the craft. “They looked like the bottom of a ball. It looked like, just like these rollers that they have on big heavy chairs. Sort of ball-type rollers. Only, of course, they were huge.” [Is the ghost of George Adamski reading this report?]



Because of the lateness of the evening, colors were not distinguishable, but the craft was clearly outlined by the lights of Millersport and the football field about a mile away to the north. The witnesses

described the objet as “dark,” or so it appeared against the back lighted night sky.

The windows emitted light. “Just like a house light. Only brighter. Really brighter,” recalled the mother. The flames jetting from the center section were “sort of yellowish-red.”

“It just sort of hung there, very low, and very near for, I would say, between five and ten minutes. During this time a figure appeared in one window. It appeared to be human, and it seemed to be working at a counter, or something. All we heard was a very low hum. When it moved, it very slowly went up a few feet, moved to our left, circled slightly, and then in seconds or less, it was only a tiny red dot in the north east.”

The mother described the figure further. “For a few seconds after we first saw it the form appeared. It looked like a human form. It looked exactly like a human would look behind a translucent glass and it appeared moving its arms like it was doing something on the counter or controls or something in front of it. You could see the arms move out the side and back. Uh, could not see a face or anything like that. It appeared to be a human form.”

The daughter described the figures. “It was really exciting, because it was so low you could see shadows moving around on the inside.” The younger son remembered, “There were human-like shadows moving behind the milky – clear windows.”

The craft was no further than 100 yards way from them, the witnesses estimated. The younger son thought it was as close

as fifty feet. It was low to the ground, perhaps twenty feet or so.

The oldest son described the speed of the object when it left as "exceedingly fast." The daughter used the words "extremely fast." The youngest son described it this way. "All of a sudden it just went up and then took off faster than I have ever seen anything move. It just practically disappeared, it moved so fast." The mother summed it up by saying, "...then it, just like that [snapping her fingers] it seemed like, all we could see was a tiny red dot in the northeast."

Afterwards the family stood outside and talked for awhile about what they had seen before they went back into the house. According to the mother, "I had no fear. It was all excitement. Just the fact that I was hoping it would come down lower, really, that's what I was hoping."

The mother, daughter, and her two sons were interviewed by Mr. Seifried on December 13, 1981. Their husband and father had died shortly after the event occurred. At the time of the sighting the mother was fifty years old, the sons twenty and eleven, and the daughter fifteen. The description of what happened on that long ago fall evening was fairly consistent among the witnesses, although the mother talked of seeing "a form" on the craft while her children talked as if more than one form was seen. This discrepancy is not cleared up by the remaining documentation that we have available.

In July of 1983 the mother sent Mr. Seifried a newspaper article in which Astronomer Frank Drake was reported as predicting extraterrestrial contact by

the year 2001. In an accompanying note she wrote, "I found it interesting. However, if it proves to be true there is a rather strong possibility that I won't be around to see it." She then drew a smiley face and closed by saying, "Have fun when it happens." That is the human side of investigating UFOs that keeps us going when we get discouraged.

"It was a warm July night, around the 9th, in 1977. My husband, son and myself were sitting inside our screened front porch at our cottage at Buckeye Lake, Ohio, looking toward the lake. My mother-in-law and another son were sitting outside near the waterfront." This family's cottage was located on the north side of the lake. The sky was reportedly clear. "I noticed a light to the south, thinking it was a front light of an air plane, but some distance away. I looked at it about twenty seconds and it hadn't got any closer. My husband and son had also noticed it... Within a few seconds it was upon us just 100 yards away, hovering over the lake like a full moon at its brightest, motionless and no sound. There is an area of land there called 'the Point,' and it was right over that area. We went outside... the light of the craft lit up the lake. The shape was oval, greyish [sic] in color. The light was comin' from the middle section. It hovered about a minute, maybe shorter, then tipped upward. [It was then that] I noticed about five steel-blue lights [on the bottom of the object]. They were very hazy in color. They were very, very, very pretty. Then, without any noise, the craft headed north and disappeared over trees."

The following interview was conducted by Mr. Seifried on May 8, 1985 at the home of the witness in London, Ohio.

“What was the size of the object, like if you extended your arm...?”

“My hand?”

Richard answered with, “Um hum!”

“I couldn’t cover it with my hand at arms length.”

“It was a pretty large object then?”

“Oh, yeah! Oh, yeah! Probably twice the size of an airplane...one of those little Piper airplanes.”

“After the experience was over what was your reaction?”

“Oh, I was real excited. I was waitin’. I wanted him to come back. I didn’t want to leave. It was neat. I wish it would happen again.”

B-2 or UFO?

by Kenny Young

The following article appeared in the Gallatin County News, July 23, 1997, entitled ‘Couple Reports Seeing UFO Over Gallatin.’ It was sent to T.A.S.K. via FAX from the newspaper.

Sandra Brown and John Gardner of Gallatin, County were driving through Sparta on Highway 35 last Friday [July 18] about noon when something they spotted in the sky grabbed their attention.

“You’d have to say it was a UFO,” said Brown. “We pulled over on the side of the road and watched it for about 5

minutes. Neither of us have ever seen anything like this before.”

Brown said the object they saw in the sky was round, silver, had no winds and was a little larger than a car.

“It just kind of sat there,” the startled motorist said. “It hung there in the sky in one place and then in the blink of an eye disappeared.”

She said it definitely wasn’t an airplane and was too big to be a weather balloon.

“I know people will think we’re crazy, but we really saw this. This is no joke,” said Brown. A check with the county dispatcher found no other recent UFO reports in the area.

Comment by T.A.S.K.

At 12:20 p.m. on the same date, the B-2 Stealth Bomber was sighted over the Cincinnati area by dozens of people, including T.A.S.K. investigator Ron Shaffner. This location is 36.5 miles northeast of Sparta, Kentucky. The flight path of the Stealth Bomber was said to have been from north to south.

A reporter on board a traffic helicopter operated by one local news station was said to have also spotted the Stealth, and said, “I hope that thing’s not armed.”

Although it was suspected that the Stealth fly-over was attributable to the Dayton International Air Show occurring during the weekend, T.A.S.K. has determined that the B-2 appearance was actually a prearranged fly-over for the employees of the General Electric aircraft engine plant in Evendale, as per

a memo that was circulated to G.E. employees a day in advance.

Although there was some concern that the Stealth fly-over would generate UFO reports, none were received by T.A.S.K. However, local news stations did receive numerous calls from members of the public who wanted to report the Stealth Bomber traveling over the city. This 'public recognition factor' enabled witnesses to readily identify the strange looking plane.

The Sparta, Kentucky report, however, presents a challenge to those seeking to apply the same explanation. The reported object was visible for five minutes as it "hung" in the air, was described as round, silver and wingless, and said to be a "little bigger than a car." Furthermore, the witness stated that the object disappeared in "the blink of an eye." These descriptions do not seem compatible with the characteristics expected from the B-2 Stealth Bomber.

The next evening, Saturday, July 19 at 7 p.m., Chris Heiert reported to T.A.S.K. that two missile-like objects flew in tandem over a section of Alexandria, Kentucky in Campbell County (32.5 miles northeast of Sparta). These objects were observed for nearly one minute, were white in color, traveled due north and seemed to be at a high altitude. Air demonstrations for the Dayton International Air Show (64.5 miles due north) were not active during this time.

Triangle Over Lima, Ohio

by William E. Jones

Triangular shaped objects have been reported in increasing numbers over the

years, especially so since the Hudson Valley, New York sightings occurred in the mid-1970s. Ohio has not been immune to the appearance of these enigmatic UFOs. The following case was investigated by John Timmerman of Lima, Ohio on February 13, 1986, the day after the sighting event occurred.

The witness was a 48 year old female at that time. It was 12:40 a.m. The sky conditions were uncertain, but it was not raining. It was cold out. The reported object was seen in the southern sky at about a 20 to 30 degree angle of elevation.

"I was awakened by a sound at approximately 12:35 a.m. on February 12th. I checked my daughter who was asleep in her room. I went to the front door and looked out through the glass door window. I saw lights in the sky to the south-southeast of our home across the roof of our garage...I was somewhat frightened, but opened the door and leaned out to get a better view. I saw a strange dark object hovering in the sky in the shape of a tall triangle with the small angle up and a wide narrower base. There were three lights on the object. A white light at each of the two lower corners and a red light at the top corner. I don't remember seeing them blink. [The vertical height of this object was estimated to be about ten to twelve full moons and the width of the base six to seven.]

"I decided to awaken my husband and went to our bedroom to bring him to the door, but not in time for him to see what I saw. It was gone.

"[While] standing in the open door, I did not hear any sound I could associate

with the object. I want to emphasize that this appeared to be a very large object with a very dark interior. I could see the shape and body of the object against the slight glow in the lighter background sky. 'Big, massive and heavy' describe best what I saw. I have never seen anything like this. My husband and I

were in the U.S. Air Force for eleven years, so I have a good memory of the appearance of many types of aircraft. This was like none of them that I have ever seen. I have not read books on UFOs and have had no special interest in the subject before now."

The Spaur Case – Reporting a UFO Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

by William E. Jones & Dr. Irena Scott

MORA is republishing the following article by from the Spring 1993, Number 121, issue of Flying Saucer Digest. (Subscriptions to this publication are available by writing Box 347032, Cleveland, Ohio 44134.) The motivation for this arose from an interest in reinvestigating some of the older more notable Ohio cases to see if anything new could be learned. Earlier MORA had undertaken an investigation of a 1967 landing case from Hilliard, Ohio (see the Ohio UFO Notebook, Summer 1994) and much new information was uncovered. In fact, the case is still under investigation. As the Spaur case was being considered for a similar reinvestigation, we found this article that we believe is important because of its insight into the effect the original investigation had on the witnesses.

Manak's Notebook
by Alan Manak

As promised in [the] last issue, we return to 1966 to look at a classic UFO mystery from Ohio: In his ruined world of loneliness and twisted nightmares, Dale Spaur wonders if the chase will ever end. It began six months ago with "seven

steps to hell" and a flying saucer named Floyd.

In the predawn hours of a gentle April morning, Portage County Sheriff's Deputy Spaur chased a flying saucer 86 miles. Now the strange craft is chasing him. And he is hiding from it, a bearded stranger peering past the limp curtains of a tiny motel room in Solon. He is no longer a Deputy Sheriff. His marriage is shattered. He has lost 40 pounds. He lives on one bowl of cereal and a sandwich a day. He walks three miles to an \$80 a week painter's job. His motel room costs \$60 a week. The court has ordered him to pay his wife \$20 a week for the support of his two children. That leaves Dale Spaur exactly nothing. "If I could change all that I have done in my life, I would change just one thing. That saucer."

Police Chief Gerald Buchert of Mantua saw the craft and photographed it. Today Chief Buchert laughs nervously when he speaks of that night. "I'd rather not talk about it. It's something that should be forgotten...left alone. I saw something, but I don't know what it was."

Special Deputy W.L. Neff rode with Spaur during the chase. He won't talk about it. His wife, Jackelyne, explains, "I hope I never see him like he was after the chase. He was real white, almost in a state of shock. It was awful. And people made fun of him afterwards. He never talks about it anymore. Once he told me, 'If that thing landed in my back yard, I wouldn't tell a soul.' He's been through the wringer."

Patrolman Frank Panzanella saw the chase end in Conway, Pennsylvania where he works. He saw the craft. Now he is silent. Friends say he had his telephone removed because of calls about the UFO.

H. Wayne Huston was a police officer in East Palestine, Ohio. He had worked there seven years. Several months after the saucer passed above him in the night, he resigned...going to Seattle, Washington to drive a bus. Huston now goes by Harold W. Huston. He tells you, "Sure I quit because of that thing. People laughed at me. And there was pressure. You couldn't put your finger on it, but the pressure was there. The city officials didn't like police officers chasing flying saucers."

Now Spaur hides in Solon, a fugitive from a flying saucer named Floyd. He cannot escape the strange craft.

Spaur and Neff were checking on a car parked alongside U.S. Route 224 between Randolph and Atwater. The car was filled with radio equipment and had a strange emblem painted on its side, a triangle with a bolt of lightning inside it. Above the emblem was written "seven steps to hell." Behind them they heard a strange humming noise and,

turning, saw a huge saucer-shaped craft rise out of a woods and hover over them, bathing them in a warm, white light. Then it moved off.

Leaving the mystery car behind, never to be seen again, the two deputies hopped into their cruiser and chased the object – sometimes at speeds of more than 100 m.p.h. The chase finally ended when the cruiser ran out of gas near Pittsburgh.

After the chase, Spaur's daily routine was washed away in a sea of reporters, television cameramen, Air Force investigators, government officials, strange letters from places like Little Rock, Arkansas, and Australia that told him what to do if the little green men tried to contact him.

"My entire life came crashing down," he said. "Everything changed. I still don't know what really happened. But suddenly, it was as though everybody owned me. And I no longer had anything for myself. My wife, my home, my children. They all seemed to fade away."

Spaur's wife Daneise now is alone with their two children. She has filed for divorce and is working as a waitress in a bar in Ravenna. "Something happened to Dale, but I don't know what it was," she says. "He came home that day and I never saw him more frightened before. He acted strange, listless. He just sat around. He was very pale. Then later, he got real nervous. And he started to run away. He'd just disappear for days. I wouldn't see him. Our marriage fell apart. All sorts of people came to the house. Investigators, reporters. They kept him up all night. They kept after him, hounding him. They hounded him right into the ground." Then one night,

Dale came home very late. He walked into the living room. There were some other people there. He grabbed his wife and shook her. Hard. He kept shaking her. It left big ugly bruises on her arms.

That was the end of July. Daneise filed assault and battery charges. Dale was jailed, and turned in his badge. A newspaper printed a story about the deputy who chased a flying saucer being jailed for beating his wife. When he got out of jail, Dale ran...left town, turned back on everything.

In Solon Dale said, "I've become a freak. I'm so damn lonely, look at me...34 years old and what do I have? Nothing. Who knows me? To everyone, I am Dale Spaur, the nut who chased a flying saucer. My father called me several weeks ago. A long time ago we had a fight. I hadn't heard from him for years. Hen he calls me. So you think he called to ask how I was. To say I love you, son. Hell, no. He wanted to know if I'd seen any more flying saucers. I tried to go to church for help. I went to church and the minister introduced me to the congregation as the man who chased flying saucers."

Dale Spaur wept as he told what the flying saucer named Floyd had done to him. He calls it Floyd because he saw it once more while he was working for the Sheriff's Department. The radio operators knew civilians were monitoring their broadcasts, so they agreed to use a code name if the flying saucer was seen again. They called at Floyd, Dale Spaur's middle name.

Dale Spaur was driving east on I-80 S one night in June. He looked up. There it was. "Floyd's here with me," he

whispered into the radio. Then he parked the car, and sat there, alone. This time Barney Neff was not with him. Dale did not look out the window. He lit a cigarette and stared at the floor of the cruiser. He sat there for nearly 15 minutes, not looking outside. Not wanting to see Floyd. When he looked up, Floyd had disappeared.

Yet it still follows him. And it has ruined his life. This he believes.

Part of this article was in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, October 9, 1966, and other parts are from the private files of UAPA.

MORA's Contribution
by William E. Jones

A Chief's Report

As part of its initial review of this case, MORA was able to obtain a copy of a report that was filed by Gerald F. Buchert, the police Chief of Manuta, Ohio. The subject of the report was a UFO that he observed during the time period of the chase. He prepared the report for his department's records and it is dated April 17, 1966, at 5:04 A.M.

During the sighting, Chief Buchert took several pictures of the UFO. His report reads in part: "At about 5 A.M., April 17, 1966 a radio call from the Summit County Sheriffs Department to Portage County Sheriffs Department was received over the police radio...to look for a UFO which was reported...going east and being a very bright light. At about 5:04 A.M. I was at Canada Road by Main Street (S.R. #44) and I sighted a very bright light which appeared in the southeast portion of the sky. The object appeared to be round and not moving. It was brighter than anything I had ever

seen in the sky before. There was no fog and it was very clear out with no clouds or stars in the area of the object. When the object moved left or right, it appeared to tilt or tip and then appeared to be saucer shaped with some sort of light coming from it...I went home and got my wife out of bed to see it and confirm my observation. While we both observed it, the object appeared not to be moving. It then moved up and down still appearing round and very bright. The object then moved to the left and to the right and when it did this, it appeared to tilt or tip and be saucer shape [sic]...I took three pictures from my front yard...with a Kodak, Brownie, Starmite Camera, having a Dakon lens with a fixed focus, lens setting at 14, the film was black and white #127."

"Description of object: Round object except when it moved left or right it appeared to tilt and be saucer shape [sic] with a light coming from it. Object was very bright and was a steady light. It did NOT twinkle like a star does. No other stars etc. (except moon) in area of object."

With the evidence available, it seems that Chief Buchert was not observing the object being pursued by Officers Spaur and Neff. His object was not moving, at least any great distance. In fact, it is probable that the Chief was observing the planet Venus. J. Allen Hynek, who was the U.S. Air Force Project Blue Book astronomy consultant at the time, wrote years later on page 107 of his book *The UFO Experience – A Scientific Inquiry*, "The officers [Spaur and Neff] did not know Venus by name, but they confirmed that there was a 'bright spot near the moon.' On that morning Venus was just a few degrees to the upper right

of the moon." Chief Buchert said his UFO was near the moon. The Chief confirms in his report that the Air Force advised him of this possibility. In a letter signed by Major Hector Quintanilla, Jr., Chief, Project Blue Book, a copy of which is in MORA's possession, the Air Force advised Chief Buchert that "the most probable cause of the object which you were trying to photograph was the planet Venus and this was the reason that you were unable to photograph it with your camera."

Dale Spaur's Report

As part of its investigation, MORA also obtained a copy of Officer Spaur's report which is dated 4/17/66. The report with all of its mistaken English and abbreviations reads in as follows:

"While on patrol of SR 224 D.F. Spaur & Mounted Deputy Neff spotted a UFO about 50 feet off the ground over a heavily wooded area. This veh. or object could & did move in any direction. I advised my Sgt. H. Shoenfelt of what I had observed, haveing [sic] no camera of my own the Sgt. adv. that I keep this ? under observation and pursue same until we could contact a unit with a camera.

"The ? was about 35' to 55' across the bottom and about 24 feet high. The ? was very bright. The ? seemed to be suspended on a beam of light. The only sound that could be heard was a faint humming. This might have come from a power line. I was shook up at this time.

"We observed the veh, or ? go straight up to about 200 feet and start east. We followed this craft or ?. It moved upward to about 500 feet and increased its speed to about 80 mph ground speed. We followed the object. The Sgt. adv. if

poss. to stay with this ?. There was not much traffic so I stayed with the ?. It increased its speed to 103 mph ground speed.

“The veh. never made any attempt to lose us or to make any change of direction.

“We followed the ? to just outside Pittsburgh, PA. We were about out of fuel as we spotted a Conway P.D. car. After adv. him of what we were chasing he radioed his sta. They contacted the airport. I got 5 gals. of fuel from this Dept. and returned to my sta.”
Officer Spaur’s life had changed and he had not yet come to understand this.

Reinvestigation

In early 1997, two investigators (Jones and Scott) made a few inquires and learned that both Dale Spaur and Wilbur Neff, his partner, have died. One of the two other police officers who joined in the chase of the UFO also died, but we did not learn which one. And Chief Buchert passed away several years ago. We called the Chief’s son and asked him if he or anyone in his family would be willing to talk about the events of that long ago night. The son was pleasant, but he firmly replied that no one would talk. The matter is no longer discussed in the family. On one occasion his children were playing the game “Trivial Pursuit” and ran across the name of their grand father. It was an answer to one of the game’s questions and they wanted to know more about what happened. The parents told the story, but it has never been told in the family since. When asked why the family is so reluctant to talk about this part of its history, the son replied that it was too upsetting, too

painful. He didn’t want to say more. Yes, the family still had the pictures, but in the family they would stay.

Soon after we started our reinvestigation we learned that the Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) had obtained the original National Investigative Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) files on the Spaur case and had extensively analyzed the case, primarily using these files. We obtained a copy of these files and, as a result, have concluded that a reinvestigation of the case is unnecessary. However, we believe it might be worthwhile to contact some of the still living witnesses and the spouses of the deceased officers to see what has occurred in their lives over the years since the event.

A case that ends up as a question in “Trivial Pursuit.” A case with pain, death, and dead ends. Perhaps the case should pass into history. But there may be lessons to learn here, so long as those lessons don’t cause the families who lived through the events more pain. Can these lessons be learned? Can the pain be avoided? We aren’t sure.

Correction

On page 4 in the middle column of the last issue of the Ohio UFO Notebook, #13, we noted that the Spaur case occurred in 1996. It actually occurred in 1966.

Bit and Pieces

Book Review

by Robert Girard, Arcturus Books

Jones, Scott, ed. **When Cosmic Cultures Meet: An International Conference Presented By The Human Potential Foundation, May 27-29, 1995: The Proceedings.** HPF, 1996. Large softbound, 399pp. Twenty-three

humans (for some, not their first attempt) add their widow's mites to the deepening reservoir of thought concerning overt contact with non-human intelligences. This conference was called, apparently, to lay a groundwork on which contact with non-human intelligences could be accomplished. However – one element has been left significantly out: the species' political or secular leadership. Apart from one paper by Michael Michaud, a "Foreign Service Officer, U.S. Department of State," I don't see any government officials above the rank of janitor in here...from any country on the planet. They might want to be consulted when C-Day arrives. The problem is recognized, however, in an appendix by editor C. Scott Jones, who urges that the U.S. Congress become actively involved in this groundwork process (or, at the very least, to put on a convincing public charade of interest, as a cover to whatever their real and secret programs might be).

The list of those contributing papers [to this volume] is highly eclectic, for just about any and every school of thought is to be found here. Names include John Mack, Zecharia Sitchin, Boylan, Sprinkle, and Hessemann, among others, and the topics range from the relevant to the silly, as in any scattershot approach such as this. For those who like barnstorming, this is a good stimulus to creating some thoughts of your own (one assumes you could forward them to Jones for his consideration) and, if nothing else, is a whopping big package of food for thought.

Available from: Arcturus Books, Inc.,
1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St.
Lucie, FL 34952; \$35.00, plus \$4.00

shipping and handling. This is \$1.00 cheaper than buying it direct from the Human Potential Foundation and it supports a quality UFO book dealer. *MORA* received a review copy of this book. We concur with Bob that the book is a worthwhile buy. His review originally appeared in the April 1997 issue of the *Arcturus* catalog.

Selectively Visible UFOs?

The following was taken from a letter received by John Timmerman of the J. Allen Hynek Center of UFO Studies. The woman who wrote the letter wishes to remain anonymous. Her report contains some characteristics – the reluctance of witnesses to talk, even to others who shared the experience with them, and apparent selective visibility - that we have heard during some of our own investigations.

"My first UFO sighting occurred in 1960 when I was 11 years old. My parents and my sister and I lived on W. Williams Ave. in Bellefontaine at the time. My Mom and Dad and I were out in the backyard weeding our garden, when we heard this whooshing sound that also sounded like an ambulance siren, only not as loud. (The Air Force was still in Bellefontaine then, also.) As we looked up into the sky in the direction of the weird sounds, two silver-metallic, saucer-shaped crafts came into view, and then hovered right above us. We could see them very clearly for they were not any higher than two telephone poles stacked on top of the other. I could see portholes that went around the circumference of the top portion of each craft. On the bottom portions of the 'saucers', I could see what looked to be landing gear. They hovered above us for

about ½ minute, then shot up and disappeared out of sight.

“I remember my reaction to this experience very well. I was not frightened, but was in a state of total awe. I knew at the time that what I was witnessing was something not of this world. My parents seemed very perplexed over this. They weren’t as descriptive as I am about what they had seen, but they admitted that they did see something very unusual. To this day, Mom says she saw something that day, but won’t call it a ‘flying saucer.’ Dad passed away in 1988, and never really commented much about what he saw. As far as I know, no other people in our neighborhood saw anything unusual that day, which perplexes me, for the sound was so loud that I can’t understand why others did not hear them.

“I am even more perplexed over the next sighting I saw. It was almost dark on this particular fall evening. I can’t remember what month this occurred...but it happened in 1976. My children and I had just finished supper when my mother called me up and was excited as she told me what she had seen over the pond in the back of her house. Mom lives on Wright St. in Bellefontaine, and we were living on N. Main St. in Bellefontaine at the time. She told me that something huge, with flashing colored lights, had just passed slowly over the pond and that it was headed toward the north end of town. She told me to look out my window to see if I could spot it if it came toward my house.

“I quickly hung the phone up, and the kids and I ran to our living room window, which was on the south side of the house. Within minutes, a gigantic

craft came over our neighbor’s tree in their back yard, then stopped and hovered above it. It stayed there for over a minute, and we watched it the whole time before it passed over our house and out from our sight. The saucer craft was right above the tree, so the leaves and tree limbs rustled as if by high winds. There were many colored lights that rotated around this craft...red, amber, white and blue.

“Mr. Timmerman, what I can’t understand is why no one else was seeing this besides my kids and I. After all, we lived on Main Street where there is a constant flow of traffic! I remember looking out at the street, expecting to see a massive car wreck, but cars traveled up and down the street as if nothing was unusual at all. At that time, there was a Certified Gas Station right across the street from us, and people were busy pumping gas and did not even see what we were seeing! How is it possible for only a few people to see such a sighting in a populated area?”

On Philip Corso

Collected by William E. Jones

Because of the intense interest in a recently released book by Col. Philip J. Corso (Ret.) entitled *The Day After Roswell*, we would like to put on the record some early observations of this book that have recently appeared on the Internet and in other sources. We do this for the benefit of those readers who may have missed this information. Because of the potential importance of Col. Corso’s book, it must be investigated carefully. This is your chance to help. Check out these and other claims from his book and let us know what *you* discover.

Source: Jeffrey S. Kane

“On page 106 and again on page 116 he [Corso] he mentions John Von Neumann as someone whom he and General Trudeau intended to consult on the integrated circuit chips found among the crash debris. The plan to consult this famous mathematician was formulated...in 1961. Unfortunately, Von Neumann died...in 1957.”

Corso describes the aliens as having four fingers, e.g. p. 32, and later on page 78 as having six.

“Third, with all of the incredibly tight security reported to have surrounded the crash retrieval and shipment of bodies to Wright-Patterson AFB, he wants us to believe that he waltzed into this unguarded building at midnight when he was at Ft. Riley, pried open a crate containing an alien body in a glass storage cylinder, and was never detected?”

Source: Terry Hansen

“The question is, if this [book] is really a major breach of security, why not just prevent the book from being published in the first place? Perhaps the government does want us to know more about the UFO situation, but only via sources whose credibility is somewhat questionable. It would be too shocking and disruptive for people to learn about it any other way. So why not let drips and drabs of the story out, but in a way that has relatively little potential for social disruption and culture shock? This is merely speculation on my part, but it fits the pattern already established by the Bob Lazar story, MJ-12, and the ‘alien autopsy.’”

“On the other hand, maybe we are just being toyed with by rogue elements of the military/intelligence community. As I’ve said before, the really disturbing thing is we have absolutely no way to be sure.”

Source: Kenny Young

“In my view, the June 24, 1997 NBC Dateline program reached an all-time low in terms of investigative television journalism. It was pathetic ‘fluff entertainment.’ The entire piece was skewed against serious reportage of the UFO subject matter, and was laced with ridicule from beginning to end.

“Corso himself furnished adequate ammunition for ridicule by the odd, “Later on, I’ll tell you about the time machine” comment at the end of this marred production. The ‘screwiness factor’ made me rethink his credibility.

“However, certain comments about the infiltration of exotic technology into U.S. industries and corporations caused me to wonder. In mid-1985, I was approached by an informant who provided me with details about one particular corporation. The thrust of the story is consistent with what Corso had said. The informant advised that certain technology was ‘released’ to industries and corporations for reverse engineering procedures. The corporation was listed in the Dateline piece.”

Source: Tom Mahood

“The Corso book bothers me on a number of levels.

“His putting Marcel at the site of the crashed vehicle. Why didn't Marcel tell it that way if it happened?

“He mentions Sarabacher and his briefing of Wilbur Smith as support that this [Roswell] happened. Trouble is, the briefing had nothing to do with Roswell, but rather involved a crash near Aztec [New Mexico]. That's real clear when you look at the documentation.

“He talks of the craft being stored at Norton AFB, without seemingly being aware that Norton has been closed down for quite some time.

“He says stealth technology is a spin off from the craft, particularly the skin. The main component to stealth is the shape of the aircraft, although the skin plays a lesser role, The technology of stealth is well documented and there is no mysterious infusion of ideas.

“He talks of the ‘laser’ (which he mistakenly calls ‘light amplification of stimulated energy radiation’...it's actually ‘stimulated emission of radiation’) found on the craft and they believed the EBEs used them for navigation by bouncing them off objects in space, and triangulating, power transmission, and communication...Unless you have fixed positions, lasers are not too great of a communications tool, because of their very narrow beam spread. You have to point it very carefully to keep the party you want to talk to in the beam. Even if you use it point to point, there are very large losses in the atmosphere.

“I'm also curious [he never says] why he's taken it on himself to blow the lid off it all. He was a rabid protector of the

secret for so many years, but now HE'S decided it's OK to tell the public.

“He wants to leave the impression we have kicked some alien butt and won the ‘war.’ I guess I missed it when it happened. It seems that abductions are as high as they've ever been, as are cattle mutilations, both of which he attributes to those sinister little gray guys. So where's the big win? The little lights seem to be flitting around our skies just as much as they ever were.”

Source: Greg Sandow

“Corso's view of the aliens does not support other insiders' reports – not Bob Lazar's, with its spacecraft fueled by element 115, or William Uhouse's (he being Glenn Campbell's ‘Jarod II’), with its deal between the ETs and our government; their technology in exchange for a steady supply of boron. Who should we believe?

“Corso makes claims about non-UFO history – the U-2 incident and the Cuban Missile Crisis – that are, shall we say, at variance with the usual accounts. It turns out, in fact, that even in non-UFO terms Corso is a key figure in postwar events, and, if we factor in his alleged UFO crash role, he becomes one of the most important people in the 20th Century.

“But then suppose the story is true. Is this how a distinguished military man spills the greatest secret in human history? By hiring a ghostwriter to write an incoherent popular potboiler? Wouldn't a better plan be, first, to make sure the book makes sense, and address obvious problems right where they occur, and second to call a press conference, in which supporting

evidence and maybe even a supporting witness or two would see the light of day?"

Source: James R. Graham

"I can't imagine why Corso would lie, but I have a VERY hard time believing his story."

Source: Karl T. Pflock, MUFON UFO Journal, July 1997, pp 18-20.

The development of Corona, the world's first spy-satellite program, was misrepresented by Col. Corso as a NASA project. Actually, it was a joint CIA-Air Force program.

Col. Corso misidentifies the Wac-Corporal, an old Army rocket, as a Navy system, saying it blew up on the pad in an attempt to put the first U.S. satellite into orbit in December 1957. Actually, it was a Navy system named Vanguard that blew up in this attempt.

According to Corso the B-2 stealth bomber was developed by Lockheed. It was actually a Northrop creation.

He describes the F-117 stealth fighter as "almost crescent shaped...uncannily like the space vehicle that crashed into the arroyo outside of Roswell." The F-117 is arrowhead shaped.

The Soviet "Backfire" swing-wing bomber, Corso claims, was operational in the 1950s. It was not deployed until the 1980s.

Observation

In his book on page 220, Corso writes about a developmental named project

HARP. It was a large gun that was to have multiple uses, including bringing down flying saucers, possibly from lunar orbit. Apparently this gun was never developed. However, Bob Lazar, who claimed he was employed as a physicist at Area 51, has said that one of nine saucers he saw there appeared to have been pierced by a large projectile. Is there a connection here between these two stories? We will, unfortunately, probably never know.

Abductions

The following comments were offered on the Internet by Bob Shell in response to Kevin Randle's 1995 controversial lecture about the effect of culture on UFO abduction experiences given at the 1996 MUFON convention. His comments are worthy of thought.

"I've argued for years that the contact/abduction phenomenon has been with us as long as we have existed as humans, and probably well before, and that how we interpret it is a function of the zeitgeist of the time. Kevin chooses to call it pop culture. Same thing.

"Until we realize that today's interpretation as 'alien abduction' is most likely no closer to the truth than stories of fairies, elves, demons, etc., it is unlikely we will make much progress in getting at what is really going on.

"There are two factors which need to be studied: the way the human brain processes particular information, and the external experience which causes this particular interpretation of information. Not much attention is being paid to either by current abduction researchers."

Source for Seismic Data

If you are researching the report of a sonic boom or seismic event, try the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) web site at <http://www.iris.edu>. This is worldwide nonprofit consortium of over ninety institutions. The consortium is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation and the U.S. Air Force Office of Scientific Research. IRIS publishes a quarterly newsletter and also manages an online database.

UFO Web Site Index

Tired of trying to find new and interesting UFO web sites? Try the UFO Master Index at <http://www.ufomind.com/ufo/>

The Arthur Bray Collection

A few universities and other institutions are starting to maintain permanent collections of UFO materials for historic and scientific research purposes. One such collection is that of the Canadian ufologist Arthur Bray which is housed at the Archives and Special Collections department of the Morisset Library, University of Ottawa. The collection includes books, periodicals, manuscripts, clippings, correspondence, photographs, and some of the papers of the late Wilbur B. Smith. A limited Home Page for the university itself is found at <http://www.uottawa.ca/library/archives.html>

Inside the Pentagon

For those of you who are interested in what is going on within the Department of Defense on matters that are not related to UFO issues, at least directly, there is a quality but expensive

(\$795/year, plus 5.75% sales tax) weekly newsletter titled Inside the Pentagon that you should. The issue obtained by MORA contains 18 pages of small print in double column format. We don't know why it is printed on pink paper, but pink is supposed to be a soothing color. A good choice when you are reading about matters of national survival. Inside the Pentagon, P.O. Box 7167, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044; 800-424-9068.

Letters to MORA

Dear Mr. Jones:

With reference to the approximately 900 pages of Project Sign/Grudge records available from the NAIC [U.S. Air Force, National Air Intelligence Center], those records are at the NAIC because I submitted a request for the records to the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis. These records are "investigative reports" referred to in the General Accounting Office (GAO) report on Roswell. Naturally, NPRC referred both my request and the records to the Air Force for release determination, and my request and the records eventually wound up at NAIC. Barry Greenwood mentioned the release of these records some time ago in Just Cause. Vicki Cooper-Ecker's magazine also reported on the records, apparently unaware of how they came to reside at NAIC.

Robert G. Todd
Ardmore, PA

MORA has obtained these records and they are now available to the public at the Ohio State University Main Library, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Bill:

The unusual object described in the "The Tumbling Black Box" in Issue #13...reminded me of a couple of similar incidents reported in the UFO literature. Raymond Fowler, in his book *The Watchers* [pages 246 and 316 of the 1991 Bantam paperback edition], writes of seeing an airborne tumbling black cube of "...about six, maybe eight inches in diameter..." back during the 1980's. In *UFO Dynamics: Psychiatric And Psychic Aspects of the UFO Syndrome* [page 218 of the 3rd Up-dated and Revised Edition, 1988] author Berthold E. Schwarz, M.D. tells of "a black cube-shaped object 'tumbling' in the air." He also writes of other instances of flying black cubes reportedly seen by two fellows in 1975. This particular event can also be found described in Jerome Clark's *High Strangeness: UFOs from 1960 through 1979* on page 358.

Galen F. Kelley
Vermilion, Ohio

Dear Bill:

Victoria Clark's letter in issue #13 [of the Ohio UFO Notebook] about her apparent loss of color vision during a sighting is probably quite correct. [References: Clark, Victoria S., "October 24, 1994, Charlotte, North Carolina," #12, p 4-5; letter from Ms. Clark, #13, p 28.]

An intensely bright light source will soon saturate the eye's chemical mechanism, causing any light to appear from bright to pale green. See Richard Haines' book, *Observing UFOs*, for a detailed explanation. For example, this

can be the case with bright fireball meteors. As the intensity lessens, normal color vision returns, hence the end of many fireballs are red. The "true" color of the fireball may have been red all along.

The last one I saw while meteor-counting some years ago looked like a pale green welder's arc "dripping" sparks. This suggests an explanation for the famous New Mexico "green fireballs" which worried the Air Force back in the 1950s.

Another great source for info on this is *The Nature of Light & Color in the Open Air* by Michael Minnaert (Dover Books, 1954). According to this classic reference staring at a roaring orange fire can cause a "reverse," complementary color effect, allowing one to look up and see a "blue moon."

Ms. Clark's comment that she noticed moving shadows on the ground from the intensely bright object suggests other meteor sightings I have experienced.

Robert R. Young
Harrisburg, PA

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

In my car early in the summer a few years ago, I was taking the entrance ramp going west onto Route 275 [in the Cincinnati area] from the Route 42 roadway. It was sunny and no other cars were on the ramp. About one half was down the ramp I noticed what seemed to be a pitch black (blackboard eraser size) rectangular object coming towards my windshield at a high rate of speed. It appeared to be tumbling in the air. It hit the passenger side of the windshield with

a loud whack, like hard rubber [would sound], but did no damage. I pulled the car over and looked around but there was no trace [to be seen of whatever the object was]. I doubt that it was a bird.

Samuel P. Faile
Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. Faile was responding to an article that appeared in the last issue of the "Notebook" entitled "The Tumbling Black Box" by Vic Wolfe.

Mr. Jones:

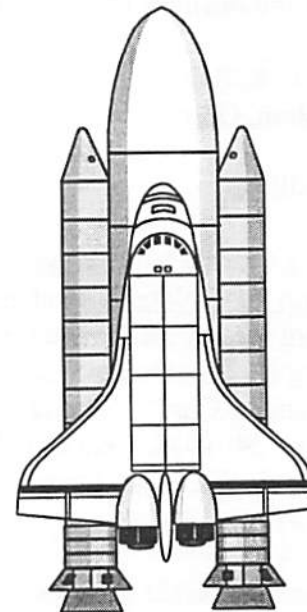
Our Lt. Colonel in Dayton knows more than Corso, and he hasn't written any books. That Lt. Colonel claims quite the opposite of what Corso says. We don't understand how the alien control systems work and we were forced to retrofit our own control systems in place of the alien ones to fly those devices using a nuclear power source to power the anti-gravity field, i.e. as with the Cash/Landrum case in 1980. That's the bottom line. Now, if the alien technology were based on a microchip, lasers, etc., why retrofit?

There is one possibility in my mind to explain the discrepancies between Corso's book [*"The Day After Roswell"*] and the reports from others about the Roswell crash. Corso may be referring to the supposed crash on the Plains of St. Augustin [the correct name is the Plains of San Agustin] near Socorro, New Mexico. I say this because Corso's talk of shipment method, and where the autopsies were done, etc., versus the way things were supposedly handled for the Roswell crash. I disagree with your position that the Plains story is shaky as it used to be. It's

the only one that might explain Corso's story. I got an emphatic yes about Corso by people in the know. The Army and the Air Force in July '47 were going their separate ways and very likely the Air Force handled Roswell one way and the Army handled the Plains case another. These are my best estimates now.

Bob Collins

There is a problem with Bob's "best estimate." The National Security Act of 1947 wasn't signed by President Truman until July 27, 1947 and the separation of the services didn't begin until the following September. Thus, any recovery of the alleged crashed flying saucer from the Plains of San Agustin in early July would have occurred under still unchanged U.S. Army procedures.



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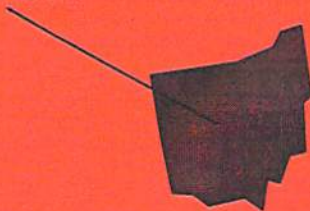
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