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PEOPLE ARE STRANGE: UNUSUAL CULTS EXAMINED

by Scott Corrales
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Small armed groups defying the government are nothing new--one just has to look at Israel's mighty Masada fortress to be reminded of this. The Nineties had their share of armed resistance, most notably the Ruby Ridge and Waco incidents. But in these cases the common denominator was mistrust of the Federal government and the desire to defend to the death a particular set of beliefs.

Had the following case been made widely known, a UFO factor might have been added into the mix.

In mid-June 1997, the UFOR mailing list posted an item that remains shrouded in mystery. The list's owner, Francisco Lopez, did his level best to glean further information on the subject even many months later, when I pressed him for assistance in writing the kernel of what would many years later become this article. But it was no use. In the age of the Internet, that hall of mirrors in which people can appear and disappear with impunity by changing e-mail accounts and assuming different names (and even identities), the source was well out of reach. The posted item may indeed prove someday to have been a compelling hoax, but there are certain details about it that, unfortunately, have the ring of truth about them.

The narration begins in medias res, in the best tradition of classic epics: "... I want to get the whole of the information first, and then release it, rather than just parts," begins its author. "Also, I need to edit out certain portions. Certain information does not need to be released to the public. In some cases the less they know, the better: it allowed us to work with fewer interruptions." He or she then adds, with chilling effect: "You should never be in the company of one with whom you would not wish to die."

This ominous opening would have soared to new heights were it not for the fact that the names and places mentioned in the message were redacted with a series of asterisks. The author, a man or woman with a military or law enforcement background, had participated in the raid of a compound that involved live arms fire in which "all brass was accounted for". The compound, a privately owned skiing or hunting lodge, was then gutted and made to look abandoned by the government forces involved.

"As little evidence as possible was left," states the cryptic author after indicating that a nameless group

had been disbanded. "Only Terran humans were found: no XTs or Greys."

This assertion might well relegate the unknown writer to the lunatic fringe, since belief and/or concern of the alleged alien Grays has waned in recent years. The message goes on to talk of how the "cult" in question had cooperated with a number of individuals over an unspecified number of years in the acquisition of "breeder semen from sperm banks" and from unsuspecting human males drawn into certain situations, only to be drugged and subjected to the removal of such a fluid with a syringe. It was then "flash-frozen by use of a portable D-flask of liquid nitrogen, to be stored at a central location," according to the author.

A "spec script" for The X-Files or a description of a real event? The author continues:

"They used a group of "renegade" (omitted) as aids (sic) and "technical support", with a high priestess working closely with the upper echelons of the (omitted). It appears that, despite the usual (omitted) beliefs, this priestess and her companions were heretics, if such a term can be applied to (omitted) at all."

The cult mentioned in this mind-bending message appeared to be quite deft with the use of weapons, and a veritable arsenal of high-power rifles, shotguns and combat weapons, including "an HK-91 sniper rifle...a Steyr AUG Selective Fire Conversion, and a US Army M60, with about 7000 rounds of .30 cal ammunition...over fifty hand grenades, including explosive, flash, incendiary and smoke...180 kilos of Czech plastique explosive and over a hundred military squibbs (detonators)," are mentioned in the text. It is a supreme irony that this arsenal of death should prove comfortingly familiar within such a high-strangeness context.

The allegations continue: the cult members were in contact with a human group claiming to act on behalf of the "Grays" and capable of projecting images of the entities from opaque, vitreous cubes. Although the author professes being unable to examine this information for him/herself, the putative alien messages appear to have been linked with clandestine UFO landings. "Techniques have been used to confirm that at least one incident took place during May of 1995, but nothing further could be determined."

Many UFOR subscribers read this message and many, upon reading this article, may question the wisdom of reprinting more unconfirmed UFO-related speculation. One guesses that the entire operation may have been a huge "psy-ops" exercise involving live fire, good guys and "bad guys", with the entire alien scenario thrown in for good measure or even as a "sickener" factor for the trainees.

"He Died Like a Space Commander"

The alien action/adventure story posted to UFOR smacked more of science fiction than of Sigma Draconis until Argentinean researcher Andrea P, rez Simondini--widely known in her country for her contributions to the study of UFO incidents along with her mother Sylvia, as well as for being an active political figure--forwarded a real-life account of a situation which, at first blush, hauntingly echoed the one scenario posted to UFOR.

"The mystery of the Radar 1 group has finally been solved," noted Andrea in her letter. A contactee cult known as ASHTAR had apparently spawned a disturbed group of paramilitary types, led by one Guillermo Romeu, who assumed the name "Radar 1."

The offshoot organization appeared to have been much more successful than its parent in gaining a following and making itself known. Romeu and his acolytes had access to the best technology and were not afraid to employ it: from their headquarters at 269 Wernicke in the village of Boulougne, Buenos Aires province, "Radar 1" (publicly known as Iglesia Manantial, the Wellspring Church) broadcast its own brand of ufolatry over the FM airwaves. Their station boasted a recording studio with three consoles and mixing board for special effects, eight computers (whose hard drives had been erased prior to the raid by Argentinean authorities on January 12, 1998 and Romeu's death by self-inflicted gunshot) and the same ominous arsenal as the improbable cult mentioned on the UFOR list: one surface-to-air missile, bullets of various calibers, gas masks, incendiary bombs, tear gas, Israeli-made Desert Eagle .50 caliber antiaircraft handguns (sic) of the kind used during the Gulf War, an approach radar, chemical sample analysis equipment, radiation, electromagnetic, electrostatic and heat detectors, etc. All of this gear was stored in a Bronco 4 x 4, which they would use for alleged field research.

Simondini's letter explained that all of this lethal and non-lethal hardware had been paid for partially by the 400 to 4000 peso contributions of the cult's membership and its affiliates. "We strongly

believe," she wrote, "that the sect is a facade and there exists a cover-up concerning the weaponry."

Just who was this Guillermo Romeu? An electrician and occasional private pilot, he had joined a contactee study group directed by former UFO researcher Pedro Romaniuk before being expelled a year and a half later. It was during this time that the new cult was spawned, preaching messages received from the ubiquitous space brother known as Commander Ashtar Sheran concerning the "extraterrestrial evacuation plan". In a clever move, the cult leader insisted on the group being widely known as Iglesia Manantial in order to draw recruits from a large membership pool composed by Pentecostal worshippers from other churches.

Guillermo Romeu claimed that his extensive offensive capabilities, gathered since 1991, were devoted to a single purpose: defense against the alien Grays, whom he characterized as "extremely hostile and [who] are using us as a source of food." Two years later, his disciples were further cautioned that "an extraterrestrial race sent by the Antichrist prior to the Battle of Armageddon" would have to be held off by force of arms, thus prompting new arms purchases and further training. Radar-1's members were not averse to parading around in full battle array, showing off their weapons and alarming the general public. They boastfully termed themselves "Grey Hunters".

As in all cults, the price of dissent was high. Romeu was as authoritarian a leader as any, and those among his "Grey Hunters" who showed signs of wanting to part company with the group were threatened and harassed. Those who left lived in constant fear of being assassinated.

Romeu's wife's called it quits in 1997, taking Cristina, the couple's 7-year old son, with her. The cult leader successfully gained the court's permission to attend Cristina's eighth birthday. To everyone's horror, Romeu pulled a pistol from his jacket, stood straight, and placed a bullet through his right temple. "My father died like a space commander," said Romeu's grief-stricken son.

Cecilia Diaz, the late Romeu's mistress, told the press that the cult would continue its activities from the location of San Isidro and would "have more weapons". Argentina's Secretary of Worship, Angel Centeno, ruled that the cult's right to exist could not be challenged, as it was lawfully registered with his ministry. The Argentinean Foundation for the Study of Cults (FAPES) subsequently reported that Romeu's right hand man, Brian Bach, had assumed the reins of the cult, and urged the country's legislature to appoint a commission to study cults

along the lines adopted by many European countries.

Space Brother Blues

If we can bring ourselves to play the role of Devil's Advocate yet again, can we lend any credence to the UFOR story as representing a mop-up operation against a saucer cult in the U.S., much in the same way that Argentina's government moved against Iglesia Manantial? That country's authorities made it clear that the cult was not being prosecuted for its beliefs but for its stockpile of weapons--the same argument wielded against the Branch Davidians at Waco.

There was clearly nothing in common between the cults except for the fact that the belief in UFOs and aliens were reason for their existence--the latter cult armed itself to the teeth against them, while the former served up man in a platter to these forces. It can be noted that both episodes serve as bookends to the Heaven's Gate and the Solar Temple suicides. The late '90s were certainly not kind to saucer cults.

But Guillermo Romeu's violence is reminiscent, to a certain degree, of the activities of Brazilian contactee/terrorist Dino Kraspedon, the nom de guerre of Aladino Felix, who underwent an alleged contact experience in 1952 which was true to the contactee fashion of the time--nocturnal encounters in the wilderness with saucers and their humanoid occupants, disquisitions on "Man's place in the universe" and life on other worlds. Kraspedon's non-human "handlers" apparently endowed him with psychic powers, giving him insight into future human events. Kraspedon dropped from sight until 1968, when he was arrested under suspicion of terrorism (not at all unlikely, since Brazil at the time was seething with political unrest, best exemplified by the activities of Carlos Marighella, the "father of urban terrorism"). In his UFO Encyclopedia, saucer historian Jerome Clark notes that Kraspedon was sentenced in 1971 and to be remanded into the mental health system, after which he vanishes from the record.

Was Aladino Felix truly contacted by aliens and steered wrong into a life of crime? He apparently recanted his alien contact experiences publicly, which should put an end to the story. Nonetheless, the connection between alleged "alien contacts" which translates into violence cannot be overlooked.

Pirophos, UMMOs Little Brother

Thirty-two years after it first erupted on the scene, Spain's UMMO hoax still commands attention whenever it is mentioned. While not strictly a cult,

given its lack of a leader and clear-cut objectives believers in the planet UMMO and the benevolent "Ummites" certainly carried on in cultish fashion. "Its very name ought to give it away," says the hoax's creator, Jose Luis Jord n Pea, referring to the fact that UMMO shared the same sounds when pronounced as the Spanish word for "smoke".

Galician journalist Bieito Pazos managed to secure a lengthy interview with this fascinating character, gleaned details about the blond haired space people from the star Wolf 424 and more importantly, a true cult which was formed in the wake of the UMMO experiment: a gathering of very intelligent men and women known as PIROPHOS.

The interest expressed in Kirlian photography by certain members of Spain's "Sociedad de Parapsicologia" prompted Jord n Pea to realize that people, regardless of their educational or economic background, are fascinated by any phenomenon from which light is issued in a strange way. This led him to create the fictitious deity "Pirophos" and gather some twenty-odd persons in a grimy room in Madrid. One of Jord n Pea's co-conspirators, known only as "C", read out a letter (a tool that had worked well for UMMO) to the congregation, from "our beloved charismatic leader Phoros", living somewhere in the United States. As the lights went out, the parties in attendance were startled to see a bluish light issuing from "C"'s mouth -- proof positive that the Great God Pirophos had chosen the speaker as the "regional Phoselek" for all of Spain.

The hoaxer told his interviewer that the bluish light was "a basic yet uncommon triboluminescent phenomenon which requires the use of habitual and easily digestible substances."

But that wasn't the only surprise the master hoaxer held in store for his well-heeled disciples: on a table covered by a purple cloth stood a large glass container which contained a scintillating light which bathed the faces of all present in an eerie glow. Many of the economists, doctors, and engineers present dropped to their knees in the presence of the Great God Pirophos--who was in fact an amalgam of bioluminescent bacteria in a nutrient agar culture. Later on, explained Jord n Pea, "Pirophos" would be created based on a compound of phosphorus diluted in kerosene or toluene.

The Pirophoreans (to give them a name) were entreated to follow a basic "moral code" crafted by the hoaxer himself: a commitment to study physics and biology, kindness toward spouses and children, and above all, to maintain their religion in strict

confidence. The cultists were also told that their faith's supreme leader was a man named George Lipton from Albany, NY. (Jord n Peða had successfully placed one Theodore K. Polk from Export, PA among the dramatis personae of the UMMO saga) who lived in complete seclusion due to having achieved the rank of "Phoros"--as high as could be achieved in the Pirophorean cult. Mr. Lipton owed his secrecy to the fact that his body now shone with a brilliant blue light.

"This was the ultimate reward," Jord n Peða stated, "to become the God Pirophos himself--immortal before dying and immune from all diseases...my eschatology was simple enough: the world would end in the year 4634 due to the explosion of a supernova some 220 light years from Earth. At that time, all the adepts who reached the rank of Phoros would be forever joined to that universal light known as Pirophos."

But in the early 90's the master hoaxer decided to bring his cult to an end, much in the same way he had exposed UMMO. The cult's members accepted the fact that they had been duped with a mixture of astonishment and amusement. "Only two," Jord n Peða told Pazos, "insist upon remaining faithful to that mysterious light."

Jord n Peða's tone throughout the interview with Pazos is that of a mischievous schoolboy recalling youthful escapades. A highly educated man, the creator of the UMMO and Pirophos does not suffer fools lightly, and both of his fictitious communities seem to serve the purpose of holding human gullibility up to the harsh light of public scrutiny.

Conclusion

As we make the leap into the 21st century, many aspects of ufology can be safely deemed as no longer relevant. While there is a certain degree of hubris involved in the making of such a pronouncement, few will disagree that things like the "angel hair" which represented a major feature of field's early days still retains any currency. The same applies to the "critters" or "zeroids" that troubled the sleep of many a researcher in the Sixties: either the phenomenon ceased to occur, or it still occurs but researchers have gone off to pursue more fruitful endeavors, like abduction research or Roswell.

While it is undeniably tempting to consign contacteeism to the graveyard of lost pursuits, the "kind space brothers" and their adepts have enjoyed a resurgence in the latter years of the decade. The reasons for this range from disillusionment with formal ufology (which is seen as having failed to "explain" the UFO riddle) to a desire to merge spirituality and the ufological avocation into a single current. Some might find humor in the realization that the very same arguments put forth by scientists regarding the public's dalliance with UFOs are similar to the ones used within ufology to explain the desertions within the field toward the "garden path" of contacteeism.

But 90's (and early '00's)-style contactee groups seem to differ markedly from their mid-Century counterparts, showing a more volatile and violent face to world.

ANCIENT USO PHENOMENA

by Sefer Murat Aksoy, B.A. & M.S.
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1. Introduction to USO Phenomenon:

The term "USO" basically means Unidentified Submarine Objects (Sachs, 1981). It is simply used to define unknown submersible crafts which are often seen entering, leaving, floating, or traveling beneath the waters of ocean, sea, lake, or river etc. Such underwater UFOs are also reported to have engaged in taking some water from particular seas or rivers. They sometimes show complex behaviors, that is, USOs may perform two or more maneuvers at the same time. For example, these objects firstly submerge into the water, then they leave it, or vice versa. When mentioning about USOs, the interaction with the water is vitally important which indicates a major difference between those UFO and USO cases in general.

Such unexplained submersible objects have long been observed in many water regions of the world. For this reason, in relation to the ancient USO phenomena, one has three main resources such as world mythology, religious documents and recorded observations at hand. Let's look into some further details of each subject.

2. USOs in Mythology:

Ivan Terence Sanderson, who has always been a well-known UFO researcher in the field, points out that there are some hints about USOs in ancient literatures of Indians, Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans (Sanderson, 1970). For instance, Indian mythology which especially involves both Mahabharata and Ramayana legends,

gives us some interesting information about "Underwater Vimanas" (Sarikaya, 1980).

The Ojibwa Indians believe that their ancestors came to the North America with the help of a "Gigantic Saucer-like Craft", traveling under the water. In respect to the older tales of native Puerto Ricans, some "Green Fiery Birds" or basically USO flotilla were diving into, or coming out of Caribbean Sea in the ancient past, and even today similar USO sightings recur in the same region. Likewise, Cubans once considered that there were "Metallic Underwater Animals" living just beneath the water. According to the stories of Medieval Japan, "the Kappa" or ugly fish-like humanoids were living in rivers and swampy areas by means of large shells floating on the surface of the water, which then flew into sky (Hausdorf, 1998). Similarly, older Chinese sayings mention about the presence of "Water Dragons and Water Fairies" as well. And the Polynesian God "Wakea" had come to New Zealand from the sea with the help of three enormous boats.

There are some further stories about ancient Amphibious God-like Creatures from almost all different parts of the world (Temple, 1976 and 1998). For example, the Sumerian God Ohannes was believed to have exited from the water. The same notion is also true for Nummo of Dogons, RA of Egyptians, Triton of Greeks, Quetzalcoatl of Mayans, and Viracocha of Incas. All of these ancient gods are known to have come out of the water nearby or they simply live beneath the water, according to the old tales.

3. USOs in Religions:

Possible evidence of USOs and the related phenomena can also be found in many religious documents (Sachs, 1981).

For example, in Jewish religion there is an interesting account of Daniel showing the presence of strange amphibian beings which came out of water (Internet, 1998). Some UFOlogists think that the whale swallowing Jonah might have been a cigar-shaped mothership USO, resembling a modern-day submarine in appearance, as cited in both Christianity and Islam. "Leviathan in the Bible" (generally taken as a reference to crocodiles) may, in some passages, denote a sea lightwheel (cited in Moore, 1995). The "many heads" could be the serpentine spokes, and the "twisting" could refer to the rotation of the lightwheel.

Also, Japan Buddhism is full of stories about USOs (Berlitz, 1989). The Buddhist Prophets in Japan call those lights as "the Lanterns of Dragons" which

often leave the water, and therefore Buddhist prophets accept that these are just holy gifts.

4. USOs in Written Records:

USO phenomena have been observed, and therefore recorded by many eye-witnesses for centuries beginning from ancient times to the present. In the Mediterranean Sea, for instance, a strange underwater vehicle was seen to surface at high speed and shoot up out of water, then it disappeared in the ancient sky (Stonehill, 1998). Likewise, in the same period of time, that is, in the ancient Greece, many fireballs have been observed on the surface of the Aegean Sea (Corliss, 1982). Strange lightwheels had also been reported in the waters of Indian Ocean by ancient people living nearby (cited in Moore, 1995).

As long as the 12th century, many sailors returned with tales of strange objects which followed their ships for periods of days, in addition to the fact that sea folklore is already full of unbelievable stories about mermaids, frogmen and ghost ships. USOs were sometimes seen at the sea level, and other times they were just reported traveling under the water (Beckley, 1992). Such objects were seen to be brightly colored, and at night they often lit up the sea for miles around. Some of them were circular in shape, while others were long and silver in color, being similar to the body of a whale. In 1361, a flying object which was shaped-like a drum, about 20 feet in diameter, emerged from the inland sea off Western Japan (Vallee, 1969; Berlitz, 1989). Furthermore, Christopher Columbus observed some USO submersions and unexplained white lights on the surface of Sargossa Sea during his famous trip in 1492.

A very amazing USO case occurred around the waters at Isla near Cowper Angus in 1767 (Sanderson, 1970). According to some eye-witnesses, a thick dark smoke rose from the water, then it dispelled to reveal a large luminous body like a house on fire. It took a pyramidal form and rolled forwards with impetuosity until it came to the water of Erick. It rushed up the river with great speed and disappeared above Blairgowrie.

The ship logs also contain thousands of reports of unusual lightwheels seen on, or beneath the ocean surface during the latter half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century (Sachs, 1981). One of the most popular descriptions is that of a revolving luminous wheel with spokes of light radiating from its center. These lightwheels are sometimes as large as hundreds of yards in diameter with some minor variations.

5. Discussion on Possible USO Theories:

For hundreds of years, mysterious lights or unexplained objects have been observed submerging into, emerging from, sailing or cruising at high speeds under the world waters (Bord & Bord, 1989; Spencer, 1991; Beckley, 1992). One can find many interesting theories trying to explain such highly strange USO reports in written UFO literature. Here, let's review the most significant theoretical views.

Some USOs reports might be sourced from Identified Submersible Objects (ISOs) like Falling Meteorites. Also there are many Phosphorescent Underwater Organisms which live beneath the ocean water such as Cypridina Noctiluca or Copepods, leading to false USO alarms, whereas other sightings may be caused by Earthquake Lights, Plasma Balls or Ball Lightnings, and Marsh Gases. It is possible that some USO observations could only be Perceptual Defects or Misidentifications of Known Water Objects like distant ships etc. Some researchers speculate that USO cases might be due to Underwater Ghosts of dead people (Stonehouse, 1997), Holy Indian Spirits (Internet, 1999) or Unknown Sea/Lake Monsters (Bord & Bord, 1989). For some others, USOs may have been Living Organisms or simply New Life Forms (cited in Spaeth, 1998). However, a group of UFOlogists believes that USOs are advanced devices of sunken Atlantis Civilization which may still be active. It has also been stated that USOs or Ghost Submarines are naval forces of Ultraterrestrial Beings from a different dimension whose secret bases may be found around polar regions and beneath the ocean surface (Bilinmeyen Ansiklopedisi, Cilt 7). Whereas, other investigators think that such higher-order crafts might be owned by an Advanced Underwater Race which has been independently evolved under the water (Bord & Bord, 1989). On the other hand, it is highly probable that high-strangeness involving USO cases may be related to the secret activities of Extraterrestrial Intelligence which is still far beyond the current capacity of human technology (Sachs, 1981; Good, 1998). In other words, the Aliens Beings might be using some Underwater UFO Bases for unknown reasons.

Finally, we can conclude that despite the presence of many explanatory theories about USO phenomena, their true origin still remains undetected.

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Halloween 2000 Sighting in Northwest Ohio

by John P. Timmerman

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If you saw strange things on the streets during the evening on October 31, 2000, you should have been riding with with a Bloomdale, Ohio woman in her car as she was exiting I-75 at Cygnet, not far from her home. She was working evenings to augment her income by delivering pizzas for Chuck's Pizza on the main street of Cygnet, a small town with a population of about 700.

The sun was retiring for the day and, undoubtedly, many parents were on the sidewalks between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. with their children who were trying to be or hoping to see ghosts or goblins doing their thing for rewards at the doors of the community and the nearby countryside.

If only they had been with Denise as she left I-75 and paused to turn right into the town to pick up another delivery. They could have enjoyed what might have become their experience of a lifetime. I wish I had been there with her because her report to me convinces me that she may have had a Close Encounter of the First Kind, as defined by Dr. J. Allen Hynek so many years ago. He is gone, but the phenomenon continues to consume me and a rational explanation acceptable to the majority of the scientific world continues to elude us all, unless we can somehow convert the testimony of hundreds of thousands of witnesses into the "evidence" the scientists demand.

Back to Cygnet.

I-75 runs north of Findlay and south of Bowling Green at that turn-off. It was filled with speeding semi-trailers and other vehicles carrying many others who must have observed what Denise says she saw "about 100 yards or so in front" of her and "a little higher" than she was, still clearly visible through the windshield of her car.

She says "it was sort of egg-shaped, with some blue silver exhaust trailing out the back of it." Through a thin grove of trees, she says she saw it "sort of gliding slowly" to her left...where "it hovered over the middle...of the highway...glowing sort-of silver blue grey...[and with] no windows that [she] could see." She says "it was really low...a little higher than the overpass...about 25-30 yards from the edge...going west." Then, "all of a sudden there was a spurt of white grey glowing stuff out the back [it glowed brightly] and it was gone." She says there

was no noise and that it looked "about as big as three cars." She says that "it wasn't very dark out at the time, so [she] could see it clearly."

Remembering that she had a job, she turned right to tell Chuck what she had just seen and to pick up a pizza for another delivery to North Baltimore, about ten miles south on the westside of I-75. She headed west from town, over I-75 toward Rudolph Road. She quickly came upon a car parked at the side of the road with two men "jumping up and down" for her to stop.

She did and they quickly agreed that they, too, had seen what she had seen. They were returning from a Florida vacation to Detroit and happened to be south of her on I-75 when Tim O'Neil and his friend, Jim, noticed what he said "looked like a shooting star" coming down from the east. He "thought it was a meteor or something." But, he said, "I've never seen anything in my entire life move as quickly as this did...not even any comparison to" the fastest planes he has ever seen.

Tim said that "when it got to the far left hand side of my windshield there was a flash out of the rear of it. Then it came to an immediate halt. It stopped," he said, with a look of disbelief. As the two men approached the exit at Cygnet, they could see "an explosion or emission of some kind...lit behind it, illuminating the craft...an orange, yellow and sparkling gold bolt of lightning with many branches."

Moments later they had pulled up to the top of the exit ramp turned left over the interstate, stopping the car at the side of the road. They found their video camera, tried to turn it on, but the battery was dead. They grabbed their binoculars and started watching the movements of the object. Suddenly they saw another flash of white light and the craft "moved [west] approximately a half mile..." where it hovered near another wooded area.

Denise left, agreeing to meet them at the pizza shop. Tim and Jim began driving toward the object for a better view until they saw the object begin turning "a million colors", then became "an intense red...and the lights of their Jeep started to dim, brighten, and dim again." Jim said, "Tim, let's go. I don't like the way that thing's looking." They sped back toward the interstate and observed the object

move off westward. Suddenly, both men became aware of a new "pain in their abdominal region." Tim said his side was "inflamed and red," possibly from the excitement of the experience.

In an attempt to locate others who might have observed the object, I faxed a press release to twenty newspapers in northwest Ohio from Detroit, Michigan to Sidney, Ohio. I received confirmation that only four papers published it, based upon responses from readers and calls to the papers later. Here are a few of the responses.

From north of Sidney, Ohio: "At the time the kids were just starting to come to the house, my husband saw a light [which appeared to be] at tree level [on the horizon]...going north to southwest. He said it went so fast that he felt it was not a shooting star...On radio 700 AM [we heard a call] from Urbana, Ohio...talking about the sight...in the sky...at ...6:30 p.m."

From investigator Todd Lemire in Garden City, Michigan: A report from a pair in Onsted, Michigan while trick-or-treating having watched "very low overhead...a greenish white glowing light cruising straight from east to the west at an incredible speed...with absolutely no sound." Many other people described it the same on radio.

From Delphos, Ohio: A witness "saw a streaking light in the northern sky east to northwest at a very high rate of speed...so fast that it appeared to have a tail. Unlike a meteorite (sic), this object did not break up and fall to earth. [I saw] no blinking lights."

From Lima, Ohio: "Recently late October...at approximately 6:40-45 p.m. I saw a blue green light. It appeared at tree top level but was really at the northern horizon. I was traveling north on Rt. 127 just south of Van Wert, Ohio. But...being a veteran...usually stationed near an air base, this object was too fast."

From Russia, Ohio: "I'm a serious skeptic when it comes to UFOs...etc., but I did see something strange that night [October 31]. Halloween night my sister-in-law and I were taking our children out trick-or-treating. [Some time] after 6:00 p.m...I looked up and saw an oblong shaped bright light. It didn't seem to be very close to us, so you could tell it was pretty large. It was moving...faster than any aircraft I have ever seen, had no flashing lights.

After about 5 seconds...I knew it was [not a meteor]...not falling at all [but] moving across."

From Leipsic, Ohio: "Saw [a lighted object] moving westward toward Defiance with sparks [behind it] October 31st. Saw one the night before [moving] really horizontal."

From Fostoria, Ohio: A woman reported seeing in the northern sky a lighted object moving from east to west.

From Findlay, Ohio: One of six witnesses at Whiskey Lake, south of Arlington, while looking northward reported that all six observed a very large, slow-moving object the color of a barnyard light arch downward for about five seconds toward and then disappear into the northern horizon. It was too large and too slow to be a meteor.

Until I received the following phone call, I had to feel that it could have been an unusual meteor seen from a great distance and not recognized due to location or factors the witnesses had overlooked. The call came from a Findlay resident who had hesitated until the first front page article appeared in *The Courier* newspaper. He was a commercial truck driver who said that on that October evening and at about that time he, followed by a fellow trucker driving north on State Route 23, had pulled to a stop at intersecting east-west highway 600 north of Fostoria. At that moment, my caller says he saw this very strange bright light moving from his right to his left, low in the northern sky. He radioed the truck behind him and they agreed that they were seeing something very unusual.

Their destination was a loading terminal north of Woodville and, as they pulled in, another truck driver from the same company said to them, "Hey! You'll never believe what I just saw in the sky north of here." Conclusion? What they saw was low in the sky north of Fostoria and south of Woodville.

I have, with a yardstick and one of the witnesses, begun to create the two triangles I need to estimate where and how high the object might have been. Then I should canvas the property owners beneath the path it may have traveled that Halloween night to find that lucky person who saw who saw it very nearby and knows what it really was.

Does anyone wish to assist in this undertaking? If so, call me at 937-843-3834 and let's talk. My email address is: jptimmer@bright.net. In the meantime, we still have a UFO.

Amazing USO Encounter in Turkey: The Alleged Underwater UFO Photograph

by Sefer Murat Aksoy, B.A. & M.S.
Independent UFO Researcher of Turkey

USOs or Unidentified Submarine Objects have long been observed in Turkish waters. That is, such crafts are often reported to enter, leave, float or travel under the water of seas, lakes and rivers of Turkey. In this respect, the Aegean Sea, the Marmara Sea and the Mediterranean Sea are very active water regions. Below are some details of the most interesting USO case in all Turkish UFO literature.

In August of 1990, a strange underwater UFO was seen beneath the waters of the Aegean Sea which lies between Turkey and Greece. What makes this USO encounter so special is that it includes a colored picture of an alleged Unidentified Submersible Object as physical evidence. Furthermore, we should add that the eye-witness and the USO are both under the water. Naturally, there are some amazing photographs, motion pictures and video-clips of USOs showing that these mysterious objects are diving into, emerging from, sailing or cruising under the water. However, there was no single evidential picture indicating that the alleged submarine UFO and the photographer were both beneath the sea at some fathoms. As far as we know, this alleged USO photo is therefore the first example of its kind.

This spectacular USO case occurred at 14:00 (2 pm.), on 15th of August, 1990. Its exact place was at 57 meters deep of Saros Bay or just around Turkish inland waters of the Aegean Sea. One can easily state that Mr. Erol Erkmen is a very reliable and sincere person who has reported this mysterious underwater object. Mr. Erkmen was engaging in a discovery-dive for an old sunken ship together with his friend, named as Mr. Kemal whose surname has

been kept as secret, when he suddenly located the alleged USO there. Mr. Erol Erkmen said that he began to feel very strange as if they were observed by something. Then he looked ahead and saw a greenish light inside the water. However, this mysterious light disappeared so soon. After a while, Mr. Erkmen again saw the green object at his left-hand side. Consequently, he thought that the USO might have been maneuvering around them. He observed it for nearly 3 minutes. Then he decided to take a picture of this strange light using an older underwater Kodak camera. As soon as Mr. Erkmen took a snap-shot of that USO, its light went out. However, they had to come out of the water, since their oxygen was just about to run out. Mr. Erol Erkmen said that when he studied the negative very carefully, he saw nothing. On the other hand, when he looked up the printed photochrome, he located a mysterious greenish light in the picture. For his curiosity, he made this photograph enlarged for 300 times. He then became embarrassed by seeing that there was a disc-shaped object with some greenish light in the photo.

If so, what was that? Was it a conventional submarine or a secret man-made vehicle? Was it a kind of phosphorescent underwater organism? Or was it an advanced submersible craft of alien beings? Who knows? Every alternative view has its own pros and cons.

Reference:

http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Aurora/3459/002_1.html (Türkiye USO Gözlemleri - Turkey USO Sightings: Sefer Murat Aksoy, 1999-2000).

A STRANGE UFO SIGHTING FROM TURKEY

by Sefer Murat Aksoy, B.A. & M.S.
Independent UFO Researcher of Turkey

On the night of 8th of July, 2000, Oz Seydali, 22, who works in Canada as an actor for films and TV, together with some other members of his family encountered an amazing UFO in the Northwestern region of Turkey while driving to Vakıfkoç near the Marmara Sea. The family was on vacation when they saw this UFO hovering over a farmland about five kilometers away from their car.

It all began when they were returning from dinner. It was dark when they got out of the small town. Only the headlights of the car illuminated the road. Suddenly Oz Seydali saw a light to the far right, however, at first he thought that it was a farmer harvesting his crop. He therefore ignored it. On the other hand, as they continued, the light seemed to get bigger and brighter and it was now over head, being sphere-shaped just like the Moon. Again he

did not pay much attention to the object as it must have been what he had once thought. Despite this fact, Seydali was watching it with one eye, while the other was concentrated on the road. Then he began to consider himself that perhaps this strange light should have been the Moon! But, he had completely forgotten that the Moon was a half-Moon that night!

Interestingly, the UFO was shining a perfect glow of white, a brilliant white. It suddenly elevated a little higher. Within seconds, it enveloped itself, and one could still see it there like a silhouette. Then a brilliant blue ring surrounded what appeared to be the hull of the object. It blasted a bright blue flash downward from its lower portion before it disappeared. For about 5 seconds, the people in the car could see no stars. The flash was very bright. His sister in law screamed, thinking that the Moon had exploded. So, Oz Seydali looked around and saw the half-Moon just behind them. When he pointed it out to everyone, they became calmer. No one really knew what happened, or what the UFO was. Five persons out of seven who were inside the car had witnessed this fascinating event. The other two were asleep.

Approximately ten minutes after the incident, a residue of some kind completely covered their car, and Seydali was forced to bring the vehicle to a complete emergency stop. The windows were rolled down, but there was no smell, except for a strange residue that evaporated without a trace in a few seconds as if it were never there. That part of the sighting seems to be very amazing, since it reminds us about the Angel Hair phenomenon which is a white, fibrous, gossamer or cotton-like substance falling from the sky usually after a UFO is observed. Nevertheless, this filament-like matter disintegrates rapidly and has hardly been available for a full-scale scientific study. Consequently, Oz

Seydali and other UFO witnesses could not get any of this amazing stuff for further analysis, as evidence to their UFO sighting. Apparently, one would need an airtight container of some kind in order to successfully be able to contain whatever it was. No one in the car suffered any illness due to exposure to the residue.

Oz Seydali said that there were additional things to be noticed, for instance, there was some kind of moisture on the nearly dry blades of weeds and grasses. That was very strange, since everything was so dry and brittle in the area as the region was experiencing an extreme drought. It appeared that the UFO had left some moisture and dirt on the dry grass as a result of its passing.

After the event, the family had returned to their vacation village named as Tatil Köy (it means "Holiday Village" in English). Strangely, the villagers also seemed to have been confused and disoriented. Upon asking what had happened, Oz Seydali learned that a woman had seen that bright illumination, and then witnessed a kind of massive explosion. And another man from Tatil Köy again claimed that he had seen the bright flash, too. Moreover, several other people from the same village saw the same UFO. It appeared that all were terrified from what they had encountered. Some thought that this fascinating thing was an "Unidentified Flying Object" while some others insisted that it was a sign from God to pray. To say the least word, it was a very exhilarating experience for everyone.

Author's Note: Oz Seydali and his family members have always been known as very honest people. And despite the fact that there could be several possible explanations about the case, the true nature of that strange UFO however remained an open one up to date.

ALIEN SHOCK: THE ENCOUNTER PHENOMENON OVERSEAS

by Scott Corrales
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If we could divide the ufologically-turbulent Nineties into sections, we could perhaps argue that the early part of the decade was devoted to allegations of subterranean bases, MJ-12, and secret government projects with names like SNOWBIRD and AQUARIUS; the middle part of the decade belonged squarely to the abduction phenomenon, with the release of ground-breaking books such as John Mack's Abductions and the discussion "alien abductions" in public forums; the remainder of the decade has belonged to the Roswell enthusiasts and their antagonists and those who are bent on

wresting whatever information the government clings to.

Unfortunately, the importance of abduction research overshadowed conventional encounters with non-human entities, the so-called "traditional cases" which usually involved a nocturnal encounter by a roadside, the accidental encounter with a landed saucer and its occupants, and other forms of human/non-human contact that did not involve the clearly-defined parameters of the abduction phenomenon. It is perhaps of interest to investigators that this "traditional" type of case

continues to occur today, often far beyond our borders.

Victims of Alien Perfidy?

Books and magazine articles dealing with the very real perils, both mental and physical, suffered by experiencers of the UFO phenomenon are commonplace today. Distinguished ufologists like David Jacobs openly state that the involvement of non-human intelligences in human events may not be so sanguine as many had firmly believed in earlier decades--that UFO occupants were here to help us take the next evolutionary step or eventually render assistance in solving humanity's most pressing problems. The downright eerie experience of a hapless Mexican ceramics technician should have served as an early warning to investigators when it occurred over twenty years ago.

In 1972, researchers Jorge Reichert and Salvador Freixedo looked into the experiences of Heriberto Garza, who had allegedly had repeated encounters with otherworldly entities. Garza, a tall slender man who lived in the city of Puebla with his only son, had been unwilling to go public with his paranormal experiences out of fear of being ostracized by the conservative residents of his community.

His experience began when he was getting ready to go to bed on a given night. After turning off the light and getting between the sheets, he heard an unusual noise in the living room. Fearing that a break-in was in progress, he promptly went to investigate and was surprised to find a tall man with distinguished, almost feminine facial features. Taken aback, Garza demanded to know how the figure had entered his apartment. The entity told him in perfect Spanish that it could obviate physical obstacles and go where it pleased--but the reason for its visit was to grant Heriberto Garza "an experience that many would wish to have." His involvement with creatures from an improbable world known as Auko was about to begin.

Garza claimed to have subsequently been taken aboard a spacecraft where he met other beings similar in appearance to his original contact. One alien took his left hand and drew blood from his ring finger before returning him to his apartment, a return trip that he did not remember. He suddenly found himself sitting on an easy chair back home, with the door to the outside hallway open.

Strange phenomena began to occur soon after this experience. One morning, while shaving in front of the bathroom mirror, Garza saw his reflection vanish, only to reappear as he heard alien voices ringing in his ears, bearing a message that he was

unable to understand. He would soon be subjected to intense telepathic communication with his non-human "friends", the consequences of which led him to seek psychiatric advice.

During a follow-up visit with researcher Ian Norris, Reichert was perplexed by the change in Heriberto Garza's demeanor. The once-articulate man spoke sluggishly and did not appear to be himself. At one point, Garza said: "I want to show you what is happening to me" and proceeded to unbutton his shirt. The researchers were astounded to see a number of nipples growing randomly across Garza's abdomen, some of them small, others larger and with abundant hair. Reichert and Freixedo concluded that something had been injected into Garza that tampered with his DNA. Detailed study of the case became impossible when the experiencer "disappeared". Garza's son, whose father appears to have become an early casualty of tampering by uncaring non-human forces, angrily turned visitors to the humble apartment building in Puebla away.

The Insanity Rap

Luis Ramirez Reyes may not be one of Mexico's most visible UFO researchers, but he is certainly one of the more thoughtful ones to have emerged from that country's rich ufological tradition. A journalist and radio announcer, Ramirez's non-doctrinaire position has made him accessible to individuals who would have otherwise chosen to remain silent.

This was precisely the case with a young man known only as "Pedro", who made an appointment to meet with the distinguished author one day to tell him his story.

During a weekend in December 1988, Pedro and a friend had gone to play an early morning game of tennis at the clay courts facing a large auto assembly plant on the outskirts of Mexico City. While waiting for other colleagues to join them, the two men suddenly felt that "the sun was rising behind them." Turning around, they were absolutely floored by the sight of a descending circular vehicle that irradiated formidable amounts of white light, illuminating the entire area. The saucer-shaped craft touched down on a nearby field.

Suppressing a strong urge to flee, Pedro and his companion forced themselves to remain and see what further incredible developments would occur. Their courage and patience were rewarded with a glimpse of two creatures, described as clad in tight fitting gray outfits and standing some four feet tall. Pedro added that "the creatures didn't look like you ufologists describe them", indicating that their

heads had normal proportions, had small mouths and noses and slanted eyes. Pedro estimated that the riveting experience lasted some twenty minutes, after which the diminutive aliens returned to their craft, which rose into the air and disappeared "like they do in the cartoons".

The friends decided not to speak further about the matter. The following day, Pedro returned to his job at the car assembly factory feeling confused and dejected. He told investigator Ramirez that he feared that his co-workers would take him for "a lunatic or a drug user" if he related his story.

While carrying out his duties, the UFO witness was suddenly gripped by unexplained seizures, convulsing on the assembly line. He was whisked off to a medical facility, where the doctor on duty decided to send him to a psychiatrist, given that Pedro "ranted about aliens during his seizures."

The psychiatrist determined that while he could find nothing wrong with Pedro, his disclosures of the sighting and the aliens might indicate schizophrenia. The hapless experiencer was sent to a mental health facility where he claims he was injected with a substance that made him "look like nut", thereby making it easier for everyone around him to dismiss him as hopelessly insane. Despite the drug's influence, Pedro tried telling his parents that he wasn't crazy, but he was not believed.

Their keepers cast the UFO witness into an insane asylum where he witnessed the most atrocious abuse of the inmates. One of the asylum's orderlies suspected that Pedro was clearly not insane, and told him to "behave like a paranoid" to avoid further problems during his stay at the institution.

Fortunately for Pedro, his companion at the tennis court had chosen to disclose the UFO experience in its entirety, despite having promised to conceal it. This ultimately proved to be the key that secured Pedro's release from the mental health facility.

"But upon my release," he told Ramirez, who included the harrowing experience in his book *Contacto: Mexico* (1997). "I was still not free from criticism by my fellows. People clearly did not believe me or my friend, to the extent that I was refused employment in [the car assembly plant] or in other area factories."

Less Than Human

Luis Ramirez was also made privy to an even more sensational case--one, which due to its very nature has been kept under wraps, since it may well involve a suspension of disbelief greater than any audience, might be willing to concede.

In early 1993, an anonymous young woman was driving between Mexico City and Poza Rica, Veracruz, as part of her regular route as cosmetics saleswoman. Upon reaching the Teotihuacan archaeological site, she became aware of an object she thought to be a UFO in the clear blue skies.

The next thing she knew, she had arrived at her destination. Perplexed and afraid, she glanced repeatedly at her wristwatch and noticed that it indicated the very same time at which she'd left Mexico City and was driving along the expressway that runs past the Teotihuacan pyramids. Her pulse racing, she pulled into an alleyway in Poza Rica to steady herself. A passerby informed her that the time was now 2:00 pm -- three hours later than the time on her wristwatch. The mechanics of how she had been able to traverse the 300 kilometer distance without being aware of it eluded her completely.

She conducted her business transactions nervously, haunted by the experience she had undergone. In the weeks that followed her "missing time" experience, the cosmetics saleswoman began to experience lassitude and nausea to the extent that she went to see a doctor. The physician dutifully informed her that she was pregnant -- a statement that astonished her, since she was still a virgin and did not even have a boyfriend.

Seven months later, at a private clinic whose name and location Ramirez has kept confidential, she gave birth to a strange creature having double-membraned eyes, thick frog-like lips, joined fingers and hard, shell-like features on its skin which were similar to a tortoise's shell. Panic spread among the delivery room doctors and nurses, and only stern admonitions from the clinic's director kept the story from circulating any further.

The bizarre newborn remained inside an incubator for three weeks after its birth in September 1993. A physician's report indicated that the "baby" would not drink any formula or dairy products, but appeared to crave herbs. Other peculiarities included its inability to withstand light, preferring "infrared light sources" and the development of scales along its spine.

Photos of the creature were shown to an analyst who has also requested anonymity. His expert opinion was that the newborn belonged to a "saurian or reptilian species" of some sort. The researcher's sources claim that the mother is raising her "child" alone, and that the latter is growing and developing into a full grown amphibian reptile "horrible to behold within our notions of beauty."

Is this reptilian infant merely a throwback to the very beginnings of the evolutionary trail? A human

child deformed by unknown radiation or toxicity? Or can we actually believe that it is the offspring of a human mother and a clearly non-human father during a "missing time" experience? If so, the case would clearly Exhibit A in the case presented by believers in reptilian aliens from nameless planets in space. This successful hybridization case--if true--represents the furthest possible limit of "high strangeness": beyond it lies only madness, of the kind described in the works of H.P. Lovecraft.

Across the Sea to Spain

Spain's first recorded UFO abduction was that of Pręspera Muęoz in 1947 on the outskirts of Jumilla, a town in the southern province of Murcia, well known as a wine-producing region. While on a farm belonging to one of her uncles, Muęoz and her sister witnessed the presence of a "circular automobile" from which descended two diminutive, large-headed beings who cautioned the girls that very same night "they would return for one of them."

The little aliens made good on their threat and took Pręspera to an enormous disk-shaped craft where she was examined by the occupants and allegedly had a "micro device inserted into her neck." The Muęoz experience, which was not made known until thirty years later, would simply be the introduction to a number of cases involving contact between humans and supposedly non-human entities in the Iberian Peninsula.

Few are the occasions in which a UFO investigator gets to see an unexplained celestial phenomenon that he or she can classify as a "UFO" with any degree of certainty. Far fewer are the occasions when an investigator manages to get a terrifying glimpse of alien intruders. In 1991, researcher Josep Guijarro traveled from his home in Barcelona to the island of Gran Canaria (largest of the Canary archipelago) as part of continuing investigation into the experiences of Judith, a nurse at one of Gran Canaria's hospitals, who had undergone a number of abduction experiences. Her first experience had occurred the previous summer, when she drove into a dense fog bank aboard her Renault and was found unconscious at the wheel the following morning by another motorist; subsequent experiences had included a number of disturbing "bedroom visitations" by supposedly alien entities.

Guijarro and Judith worked out a plan by which they would try to catch one of these unknown quantities at work: the ufologist would sleep in a bedroom next to that of the experiencer and would try to document "the source of her phobias."

But let's yield the floor to the researcher himself. "That night," he writes in his book *Infiltrados*

(Sangrila, 1992), "Judith and I spoke until well into the night, when suddenly her pet dog stood to attention and the TV set's volume control began increasing and decreasing of its own accord. We exchanged a knowing look. When everything appeared to have calmed down, we began hearing the sound of chanting. I cannot deny that I began to feel scared. With a look of fear still etched on my face, I suggested that we go to be straightaway. If the Visitors existed, if they were not a figment of our imaginations, this night had all the makings for catching one."

Ufologist and experiencer vanished into their separate chambers. The former readied his camera and tape recorder, lying down in bed with his eyes firmly glued to the open doorway, expecting something to happen. In the darkness, Guijarro claims having heard all manner of creaking and squealing sounds, which he attributed to the structure of the house. At around 3:00 a.m., the dog began to howl as steps could be heard on the staircase. "It was then that I saw it with stunning tranquility," Guijarro writes. "The outline of a short creature with a large head had just gone past my bedroom's doorway. My reaction to it was equally surprising--I made no movements whatsoever beyond taking a deep breath and falling asleep."

The following day, the ufologist told Judith about his experiences, realizing that while he may have worked himself into a highly suggestible state, that night he had lived the anguishing experience that affected not only his present subject, but tens of thousands of others worldwide.

Aside from the obvious fact of having "witnessed" what could have been one of the large-headed Grays, Josep Guijarro's account is significant due to the occurrence of high strangeness phenomena bordering on the paranormal: the fluctuations in the television set's volume control, the defensive attitude of the household pet and its subsequent howling, and the unnerving sound of "chanting" which prompted both individuals to retire to their rooms...incidents that should give boosters of the ETH (extraterrestrial hypothesis) food for thought.

A UFO Fright Night?

Ever since *Flying Saucer Review's* Gordon Creighton and Charles Bowen began focusing upon Argentina's seemingly inexhaustible supply of UFO and high strangeness material has been the subject of fear and wonderment around the world. Argentina, the world's sixth largest country, boasts a population of only 30 million, with a fifth of its inhabitants tightly clustered in the communities surrounding Buenos Aires. To the west lie the majestic Andes; the plains and grasslands collectively known as the Pampa dominate north

and east, and the barren plateau known as Patagonia occupies the south. While not exclusive to these remote open areas, the bulk of Argentina's UFO case histories have occurred in such lonely reaches.

During the 1965 UFO flap (one of the largest ever experienced in the southern hemisphere), Rialto Flores, an investigator for Argentina's defunct CODOVNI organizations, visited the locale of Corrientes to interview Carlos Souriou, at the time a high-school senior and hapless experiencer of one of the most terrifying high-strangeness events ever recorded in that country.

One night in February 1965, Soriou and his older brother went on an armadillo hunt accompanied by the farm workers of their father's estate. Upon returning home from the hunt, they noticed short, unusual forms lurking in the field under cover of darkness. According to Soriou, the forms were no larger than three feet in height. Their shortness prompted one of the farm workers to say Soriou's brother: "They're midgets, patroncito. Let's cut them down with our machetes!"

Drawing his cutlass, the farm worker proceeded to act out his aggression upon the silent bundles. But the unexpected happened: the farm worker's arm was momentarily paralyzed as he was about to deliver the first blow, and the "midgets" increased in size to a height well in excess of seven feet.

Soriou's brother quickly fired his .22 caliber automatic rifle and was dumbfounded to see that no bullet had exited the muzzle. Replacing the bullet with others only had the same effect--no projectile would issue from the barrel to strike the now-towering forms. Helpless against the unknown entities, the hunters broke into a mad dash to a nearby barn, where they bolted themselves in.

But the wooden structure would afford little protection against whatever forces had been stirred up by their reckless behavior. Beams of light poured in throughout the wood, lighting up the barn's inside with an actinic glare; Souriou himself was hysterical with fear, and the others had to cover him with boxes and saddle blankets to keep him from seeing the unearthly light that poured in.

The glare stopped after a while, prompting the farmhands to believe that the worst was over and the "critters" had gone. The older brother courageously decided to venture out into the night once more to start a pickup truck that was kept nearby, hoping to leave the area and get help, but halfway through his sortie he was surprised by the entities who seemingly "appeared" out of nowhere. Propelled by sheer adrenaline, the man ran back

toward the barn, where the farmhands refused to open the door lest the "critters" gain entry. Souriou's brother screams prompted them to unbolt the door just as one of the "critters" seized him, encircling his waist with its unearthly arms. The human broke free and made it into the safety of the barn.

Many hours later, the terrified band of hunters made it to the safety of the pickup truck and drove off to another field owned by the Souriou family without being harassed by the entities. Subsequently, many of the farmhands refused to return to the field in which the incident had occurred and one of them had to be dismissed from his position due to his fear. During his conversation with Rialto

Flores, the younger Souriou believed that the gigantic presences were perhaps sitting when his group came across them, which would account for the mistaken impression that they were dealing with "midgets". The witness was adamant about the sheer horror of the event, and about the fact that a no point was a vehicle or UFO seen anywhere in the vast open area. The appendage that encircled his brother was not of a humanoid type. Rather it appeared to be "made out of hair or something similar", which he could not explain.

Conclusion

It has become very trendy in the late 1990's to seek the comfort of an earlier age in ufological history--the sunny period of the contactees and the benign all-caring, all-wonderful and even all-powerful space brothers who peddled redemption from their saucers. This author has been taken to task for "accentuating the negative" rather than concentrating on sweetness, light and other new ageisms. Wishing for something does not make it so: the negative effects of human involvement--albeit involuntary--with the UFO phenomenon have been documented to satiety both in the U.S. and abroad, to the extent that it is well possible that said negative experiences outweigh the positive ones even if not by a wide margin.

It is neither sensationalist nor exploitative to dwell on these aspects when the aim is to provide the reader with all the facts rather than capriciously-worded summaries of events. Not even the most hardened contactee or channeler can dispute the unwholesomeness of Heriberto Garza's metamorphosis, the Mexican human/reptoid hybrid, or the creatures that ambushed the Souriou brothers in the Pampas. Eminent authors of the field, such as Keel, Steiger, Valle, Freixedo, Creighton and many others have cautioned us about alien perfidy for decades. When will we listen?

Interesting Ohio Sightings for 2000

from the National UFO Reporting Center*

Oregon, Ohio, 11/23/2000, 06:30

I was sitting in my living room Thanksgiving morning watching TV when I heard an unusual slow low frequency modulating hum. I looked through the drapes that were closed and noticed quite a few lights moving northbound. I was stunned by the enormity of the one triangular object that I saw...It was bigger than a football field, had one red light in the bottom middle with smaller lights in each of the corners, was charcoal gray to black, and surrounded by a dull "orangey" faint glow. It moved what I considered to be slower than stall speed for an aircraft. The height at which it was flying was in my opinion just high enough to clear a radio tower, of which there are several in the direction it was headed.

The humming sound it emitted was neither a prop or jet engine...I am a 38 year old music teacher [who] has programmed sounds on synthesizers regularly, and relate [its sound] to a low modulating frequency with a slow sweeping resonance effect. The conditions that morning were overcast and still dark.

Perrysburg, Ohio, 11/10/2000, 18:00

I was driving north-bound on I-75 about a mile off the Buck Road ramp when I looked to the western sky and saw a large black square or rectangle in the sky. There was an airplane near it and I first thought it might be a very large tarp being towed by the airplane, but the plane was doing a few maneuvers as if to get a better look at it. The rectangle/square seemed to tilt or turn once and it was very thin, and then it went back to the view that made it look square again.

Editor's Note: Advertising airplanes are now towing very large banners that are this shape and much larger than the tow-plane. It is possible that this is what was seen. This is something we must keep in mind as we investigate reports of large thin rectangles such as the one reported here.

Vermilion, Ohio, 09/28/2000, 01:00

I live in Vermilion, Ohio in an apartment about 50 feet from Lake Erie. My bedroom faces the lake. I woke up...looked out the window and saw a disc shaped craft traveling from west to east. It made a sharp turn to the north. Two other craft were behind it and followed the same path. There was a slight cloud cover, but [I] could see the domes on top of the discs. The crafts had a greenish hue to them.

Ravenna, Ohio, 09/19/2000, 20:30

I walked out my back porch and looked up at the sky. I was facing south. It was a clear night and the stars were visible. From my right a formation of four to five objects grouped closely together [came into view]. Within two to three seconds they were clearly visible in the sky ahead of me. They then paused, banked slightly, and shot upward to the south disappearing in the sky at about a 100-degree angle from where I first spotted them. They seemed to move as one unit. The objects seemed to glide rapidly as opposed to "flying." Each object was very large (about the size of the moon), triangular to boomerang in shape and completely illuminated in a brilliant but unusual white light. There were no associated engine sounds. When the objects turned I saw the underside of each object and realized that the illumination of each object was emanating at different intensity levels. When the objects turned they increased speed dramatically and disappeared from view in the time it would take a person to blink [his/her] eyes.

Dayton, Ohio, 09/13/2000, 21:00

At around 9 pm a craft the size of a football field was seen very low in the sky going in the direction of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. There was a bank of intense lights in front of the triangular black craft. What was most spectacular was the absence of any noise. At 4 am two identical craft were seen going away from the base. These craft were completely soundless, traveling at a velocity too slow to keep a conventional craft of that size airborne. This suggests that the military is flying craft using a new form of propulsion not using fossil fuels.

Cleveland, Ohio, 05/15/2000, 23:30

My wife and I were on a TWA MD-80 from Phoenix, through St. Louis to Cleveland in May. We were approaching Cleveland from the west...there must have been a full moon as we could clearly see the clouds below and around us. I don't think we had really begun our decent yet. We were sitting on the right side of the plane and were both looking out the window at the clouds when suddenly something crossed our path. The MD-80 didn't even wiggle, so I don't know if the pilots saw it. It came from our left and shot out from below and forward of our plane, going off to the right. I would say that it was about 50 yards off our wing and forward of us. It lifted its right side, then smoothly lowered the right and lifted its left side, and then shot past us going in the opposite direction

of our plane. This maneuver took about three seconds.

We saw the following: (1) No obvious wings. (2) It was rounded across the front. (3) It was more or less flat (not like paper) but it definitely had a low profile. (4) There were no vertical stabilizers or fins. (5) The [rear of the object] appeared to be sort of flat, not rounded like the front. (6) It was sort of oblong (not round like a saucer). (7) There were no obvious individual lights, but the whole craft glowed with a brilliant white light. (8) There were no engines visible. (9) We saw nothing that would suggest an exhaust or nozzle. (10) We could hear nothing, but then we were in an MD-80 going 500 mph. (11) We saw nothing that looked like numbering or letters of any kind.

The thing crossed our path and completed a ninety-degree turn to the right. It made this maneuver almost suspended in that position. We saw it commence that maneuver in the same position out the window that we saw it complete it. I suppose perhaps it was larger that it appeared and perhaps

further away which might explain it's stay in that position, but I don't think so.

I served in the UASF for 8 years during the Vietnam War and I am now a software quality engineer for a large high tech corporation. My wife works in a semiconductor manufacturing plant as a process technician.

Wilmington, Ohio, 02/19/2000, 18:24

I was driving down State Route 73 south three miles south of Wilmington when I saw a black triangle just above the horizon. I saw another one to my right at about the same altitude. They were both moving surprisingly slow, about the speed of a cruising jet. Suddenly the first one just disappeared and the second one sped up so fast that I had trouble keeping my eye on it. They were both moving south-southeast. It was a partly cloudy day.

*Editors Note: These reports have been edited and shortened from the online text for clarity and to remove unnecessary commentary to save space.

Girard, Ohio, 09/19/2000, 12:10 to 12:15 PM

by Kenny, Young
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A Rodney H----- of Youngstown, Ohio reported sighting a UFO from his location in Girard, Ohio (Trumbull County) on September 19, 2000. He was interviewed by telephone on September 28, 2000. He was formerly in the military and served for two years in the 82nd Airborne as a paratrooper. He is very familiar with many types of aircraft and cannot explain what he witnessed.

While driving his 1996 Chevrolet Lumina north on Salt Springs Road between 12:10 and 12:15 pm, he caught a glimpse of something in the sky while waiting at a traffic light. "I just saw these things from the corner of my eye," he said.

The next thing that caught his attention was a crowd of people standing in the parking lot of a Sheetz Convenience store and gas station. "This crowd of people were all standing around looking up and I realized they were looking at the same thing I was looking at, so I decided to pull in and stop."

He parked his car in the parking lot of the Sheetz store, which is a service station located on a heavily traveled quarter off of Interstate 80 at the Salt Springs Road exit. Also at this exit are three truck stops and a British Petroleum (BP) service station. He estimated there were 20 to 30 people standing around looking into the sky as he pulled in.

The objects, at least six in number, were described as roundish star-like "lights." They seemed "pretty high" as they were below a thin cloud layer that was in the otherwise clear blue sky. He observed six independent objects that were not attached to a larger object. Some would shoot "straight up" above the clouds while others seemed to roll around and reflect the sun light. They would perform quick "bee-like" maneuvers and then assume a formation in what appeared from his vantage point to be a "straight line."

"Two of these objects from the rear of the straight-line formation would remain stationary while the rest of these things just fell suddenly," he recalled. "They seemed to be flying or buzzing around real high, but there was no sound at all that I could hear." The objects continued to scatter about before they made a rapid departure to the east. The sighting lasted for about 10 minutes.

The witness declared that the objects were nothing that could be addressed with a satisfactory explanation. He was certain that they were no type of aircraft or military jets in practice or mock combat.

After the objects departed from sight, the witness said that a camouflaged C-5 'Galaxy' plane flew over the area at an estimated 2 mile elevation.

He then drove on to the Eastwood Mall in Niles, Ohio where he called 9-1-1 from a Super K-Mart store. He asked the dispatcher if others had called in about the UFO sighting. She replied that she did not know. She then transferred his call to the Youngstown Airport control tower. The tower operator, who was perhaps 10 miles from the scene of the sighting, informed him that nothing had been spotted. A call to a local TV news desk got the

explanation that what was seen might have been the "heat shielding" from the Space Shuttle that was scheduled to land that day. As a reasonable and informed explanation, that is one of the worst ever heard by this author.

The author talked to this witness for about 15 minutes and found him to be cogent and astute.

The UFO 2000 Symposium

by John P. Timmerman
Board Member of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies and
MUFON State Section Director for Ohio

Due to an interesting combination of circumstances, the Ohio office of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) combined with the Mutual UFO Network of Ohio to produce and offer to CUFOS and MUFON members within acceptable driving distance and personal interest a mixture of speakers many other communities throughout the country might want to replicate in their area.

Why in little Lima, Ohio and not in Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland or another larger center of population? Well, Lima happened to have Jan Pheneger with her deep interest in the UFO phenomenon and the memory and photography of two sightings which brought her to the attention of Dr. Bruce Maccabee, whom she met at other conferences. Their friendship lead them to the idea of an event in Lima where she and John Timmerman could combine their efforts to make it happen.

They contacted William E. Jones, the State of Ohio Director for the Mutual UFO Network living in Columbus, whose assistance in developing state and national attention to the event helped to expand interest and attendance. Pheneger's previous event-planning experience and Timmerman's widely-known interest and his many contacts in the area combined to attract a good attendance and other support at a new attractive Memorial Convention

and Civic Center in downtown Lima on Saturday, November 5, 2000, despite the small city and the competition of Sunday afternoon football and the approaching election two days later.

Dr. Maccabee assisted in engaging Budd Hopkins and Stanton Friedman to join him and John Timmerman as speakers. Timmerman engaged Nancy Talbot, President of the BLT Research Group studying the crop circle phenomenon, to be a speaker, as well. The five talks ran from 1 to 6:30 p.m., followed from 8 to 10 p.m. by a panel discussion between the speakers and the audience. Timmerman also arranged for Ms. Talbot to address 115 Lima Rotarians the following day at noon.

Ms. Pheneger participated on Sunday in a 30-minute live interview on area PBS station WBGU-TV with two university faculty scientists, Maccabee and Timmerman and in an earlier 30-minute local television program announcing the event.

Preceding the lectures, the State of Ohio Director for the Mutual UFO Network and now a member of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies Board of Directors William E. Jones, presented to Timmerman a plaque in recognition of his nearly 50 years participation in UFO research which began in 1952 when Project "A" was organized at nearby Ohio Northern University.

Ironton, Ohio, 07/08/2000, 5:32 AM

by Kenny Young

On July 8, 2000, a security guard working in Ironton, Ohio reported a UFO sighting. While on duty sitting in a guard shack at his place of employment near Third Street South (close to Route 52), he caught a glimpse of something out of the corner of his eye. He then looked at an object that appeared from the clear western sky, initially thinking it to be a buzzard or a bird. He noticed that it didn't maneuver like a bird so he walked out into

a field to get a better look. The UFO, seen clearly in the daylight sky, was reportedly shaped like the sole of a shoe. It appeared to be colored like rustic old iron, and looked like a shoebox-shaped object that was made of rusted iron that was rounded at both ends.

The object made absolutely no noise as it continued overhead at an estimated 10 to 15,000 foot

elevation going in a straight line. From his perspective, the object was much larger than an aircraft routinely seen at that same estimated height. The guard stressed that the object seemed to be traveling much lower than conventional aircraft. "It was low enough that I should have heard some noise," he said.

The UFO had a solid yellowish orange non-blinking light around the exterior, best described as a circle with neon lighting all around it. There were two additional lights on the back of the object.

The claimant works from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and has never previously seen a UFO. "I've always been skeptical about UFOs. This is the first time I have seen anything like this," he said.

During the time of the sighting, there was no traffic on the road. The object continued on its path to the east, headed toward Kenova, West Virginia. He thought about calling the police, but decided to tell his supervisor instead. The author views this witness as a trustworthy and reliable eyewitness.

Aberdeen, Ohio, 08/14/2000, 1:30 AM

by Victor Hamm

MUFON member Victor Hamm of Aberdeen, Ohio was outside his home doing astronomical observations. He was observing stars in the area of Polaris through his telescope. He wrote in his report, "All of a sudden these three objects came into my depth of field and started to do all of these strange trajectory movements. Then these were followed by two more...darting back and forth between one another. At first I thought that an insect had gotten into my depth of field...but after looking in front of my scope I noticed that this was no ordinary phenomena taking place." The objects were described as "star like." The color of the objects was described as "green yellow amber." As

the objects moved in cross angular movements around each other, the entire formation moved fast in a north north-east direction. They very quickly moved out of his field of vision. The length of time that the observation took was 5 to 6 minutes.

The ceiling was unlimited, visibility being clear. The wind was calm, perhaps 5 to 10 miles per hour, and the air temperature 61 degrees. The area around his home is rural with many open fields. Mr. Hamm has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arizona. Mr. Hamm had never seen anything like this in all of his years of observing the sky as an amateur astronomer.

The Budweiser UFO

by William E. Jones

MUFON State Director for Ohio & Board Member, J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies

In mid-May of 1999 MUFON of Ohio received three separate reports of a UFO that was observed over Columbus, Ohio after approximately 10:15 pm on Sunday, May 16, 1999.

The first report received was from a family of three living in Upper Arlington (a suburb in the northwestern part of the metropolitan area) that reported seeing a disk shaped craft with domes on the top and bottom with two flashing lights at around 10:15 pm. This object glowed brightly. The glow was brighter from the two domes and more muted from a rectangular or cigar shaped center area. It was seen south of their position for about ten minutes before moving very slowly to the west/northwest. The husband in the family was a past member of the predecessor of MUFON of Ohio, MidOhio Research Associates, and is known as a very careful observer and critical thinker, a person not given to wild theorizing and off-the-wall speculations.

Shortly before this time (exact time unknown, but after 10:00 pm), a couple driving eastbound on

Ackerman Road just east of Route 315 (two miles east and north of the family noted above) observed a bright egg shaped object to the south of their position. It seemed to be over the Ohio State University (OSU) football stadium area. It glowed white, was fuzzy on top with a more definitely defined lower area, and it had several blinking lights on the bottom. As they were driving eastbound the object seemed to be hovering. They observed this object for a short time until they drove across the Olentangy River where they could no longer see it because of buildings and trees. Within five minutes the woman drove back westbound on Ackerman Road, but the object was no longer visible.

A third report was taken from a MUFON of Ohio member (Paul Althouse) who lived on the far east side of Columbus. At about 10:15 to 10:20 pm he observed a large bright object traveling very slowly (15 to 25 mph) southbound, seemingly following I-270. It turned westbound and followed I-70. He was close enough to read the word "Budweiser" on the object's side. It was an advertising blimp

lighted from the inside. If the object made a turn soon after to the northwest it would have been over the OSU/Upper Arlington area at the appropriate time to account for the other two sightings.

A later check with the Budweiser company in St. Louis, Missouri confirmed that their blimp was in the area that night. Without the third sighting report

the other two sightings might have entered the literature as a UFO. Even careful observers knowledgeable of the UFO phenomenon can be fooled by an unusual sight in the sky, as was the case with one of our first witnesses. Thanks to Paul this UFO is now an IFO.

Fry's UFO Book Reviews

by Jon Fry

Roundtown UFO Society, Circleville, Ohio

"The Stairwell to Heaven", by Zecharia Sitchin, Avon Books, New York, 1983, 327 pages, paperback.

Zecharia Sitchin has written several books expounding his thesis that ancient astronauts from another planet visited Earth thousands of years ago and were responsible for the legends of ancient gods from the heavens. Sitchin is especially interested in Mesopotamia. Readers of Erich von Danikens books will like Sitchin's books. However, I have a problem with anyone who is sure he knows how to interpret a legend several thousands years old. I prefer a modern UFO sighting in which you can interview a live eyewitness and not play a guessing game.

"Beyond Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Security Threat", by Timothy Good, Pan Books, London, England, 1997, 606 pages

Good's best known book is *"Above Top Secret"* published in 1987. His thesis is that the governments of the world are aware of the existence of extraterrestrials and are covering it up from the public. Good has chapters devoted to many other nations and famous UFO cases in those countries. China, Japan, Russia, England, Europe and the United States are all covered in depth. Many planes have been lost chasing UFOs all over the world. The 1948 Mantell case in Kentucky is just the most famous one. No wonder UFOs are kept secret by the world's governments. It is not comforting to a government to tell its people it cannot control its own skies and that an unknown power from another world can penetrate any nations air space at will. What I like about this book is that he focuses on government and military cases as well as those of civilian pilots. He also on documents that prove there is a cover-up. I highly recommend *"Beyond Top Secret"*.

"The Soviet UFO Files: Paranormal Encounters Behind the Iron Curtain", by Paul Stonehill, published by CLB International, England, 1998, 123 pages.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union's communist government in the early 1990's, western researchers have had a chance to look at previously secret Russian UFO files. There are many similarities to American sightings. In both Soviet and American cases, UFOs have been seen hovering over military and nuclear installations. In one Soviet case in 1982, "a missile base lost control of its nuclear weapons", (page 81) for fifteen seconds. Lights went on which indicated the missiles were about to be launched presumably toward a target in the West. A Third World War could have been accidentally started by this UFO. But, as suddenly as it started, the UFO which made no noise departed and the missile base resumed normal functions. Giant black triangles have also been seen in Russia, just like in Western countries. There is a photo of one in the book. In fact, there are dozens of illustrations in this short book. The Tunguska Fireball which exploded over Siberia in June 1908 is given a chapter. The controversy remains over whether this was a meteor, comet or an extraterrestrial spacecraft which exploded. Some Russian scientists have noticed the similarity between the Tunguska blast and the damage done by the two Atomic bombs dropped over Japan in 1945.

A two page Appendix gives the addresses of Russian UFO Organizations. Of course, there is a language barrier and one wonders how many of the anecdotes in this book are merely tabloid type stories of little credibility, but some of them no doubt are true. The similarity between cases in the West is too great. This reinforces the view that UFOs are worldwide phenomenon. *"The Soviet UFO Files"* is a fascinating book.

"UFO Briefing Document", by Don Berliner, Dell Books, N.Y., 2000, price \$6.99, 244 pages.

A few years ago a briefing document was prepared by some of the leading UFO research organizations and distributed to the world's leaders. Lawrence Rockefeller, the millionaire friend of President Clinton and also an avid friend of Ufology, helped finance this publication. Now it is available in soft cover form for the average reader. Basically, it

gives a capsule history of Ufology and some selected classic sightings. For someone who has read lots of UFO books, it probably won't contain anything new, but it would be a good gift for someone just entering the field of Ufology.

"*Popular Mechanics*"

The November, 2000 issue of *Popular Mechanics* has an article and a front page cover which makes the rather sensational claim of having discovered a recently declassified document that reveals a top secret Air Force program involving a nuclear powered saucer shaped object. This American made saucer, the article claims, may have been responsible for decades of UFO sightings. The cover of the magazine has an artist's depiction of a

disc shaped object flying in space with the initials *U.S.A.F.* on it. In my opinion, this article makes false claims and, in fact, the concluding paragraph by Wilson contradicts the rest of his article.

The author concludes these American made saucers may never have gotten past the drawing board and blueprint stage. Thus, if there is no conclusive evidence of these saucers being built, then how can they explain decades of UFO sightings? The answer is they can't. For decades, people have searched for a terrestrial, secret government explanation for UFOs but so far no one has shown that any such craft were ever successfully flown, not to mention do the fast maneuvering that are characteristic of UFOs.

Multiple Lights Pace Ohio Motorists

by George Pindroh, Rick Dell'Aquila and "Captain Chuck"
MUFON State Section Directors for Ohio

The night of Saturday, July 22, 2000 was clear and is normally very dark along State Route 11, a controlled access divided freeway between Warren and Ashtabula, Ohio. Locals refer to this area as "Deadman's Road" or the "Ohio Tundra" because of its relative isolation.

Sometime before midnight, a motorist, her husband (a retired police officer) and their friend were driving along this road, northbound, on a return trip from a gambling junket in West Virginia. The parties confirmed that they left West Virginia at 10:58 p.m., according to the digital automobile clock on an approximately two hour trip they had made many times. The driver's husband was seated next to her and their friend was in the back seat of their recently purchased 1998 Cadillac.

As the group approached a rest area in a particularly deserted part of the road, the husband pointed to two red blinking lights which appeared on or near the road in front of their vehicle and asked his wife, "Honey, is that a truck in front of us?" As they drove, they soon also observed red flashing lights on all four sides, low in the night sky just above the tree line (two or three at a time). These lights would also appear and disappear and reappear, a few seconds at a time. Soon, a large light appeared to land in the road behind them, brightly illuminating the sky. The husband described its size and intensity as similar to an advertising searchlight. As they passed the rest area, the driver began to cry in fear.

The driver observed this light three or four times in her mirror and the husband and friend turned and

watched it through the rear window. The sky became brightly illuminated and a watery substance was "sprayed" onto the windshield. The driver described this a "clear water, but very thick" which beaded into droplets across only the bottom half of the windshield. When the wipers were later turned on, the substance left a "greasy" trail on the windshield.

The group became highly frightened and agitated as the lights paced them most of the way home (an estimated trip of thirty to forty miles). The wife suggested she should stop to allow her husband to drive, but he told her it was safer to speed up and continue driving.

At one point, the witnesses agree that "everything went dark." By this they meant that the pavement and dashboard instruments were no longer illuminated. They also described that the ignition alarm began to "bing" at this time. (This alarm sounded at least three separate times, according to the husband.) They felt that the total duration of this blackout was at most only a second or two. Although nothing could be seen, the vehicle continued on in a straight line at a speed estimated to be in excess of 70 miles per hour. The driver said she felt "paralyzed" and [as though] "I wasn't there. I will never forget it."

Soon thereafter, the objects behind them disappeared and the lights to their front and sides appeared farther away. As they neared home and were exiting onto Seven Hills Road, 25 to 30 of the lights were seen to cluster together (not touching), but no longer on the sides of the vehicle. The sky

had an orange cast. Arriving home, (about 12:50 a.m. by a household clock) the husband telephoned the highway patrol and was referred to the MUFON investigation team after describing the ordeal to the dispatcher.

On the way to church the following Sunday, the wife turned on the car radio but only heard static. She attempted to adjust the radio but could only get an Ontario, Canada station because the music station radio presets were lost. At church, she couldn't even listen to the pastor due to her continued state of agitation.

When the witness first called George Pindroh, they agreed to separately write down their experiences, with drawings, but not discuss the sighting or compare notes. They later confirmed that they had kept this promise.

An examination of the vehicle on Tuesday, July 25, 2000 disclosed an immaculately well kept 1998 Cadillac with an engine compartment that appeared practically new and unused. The vehicle had been exposed to rain since the incident and no residue was observed on the windshield, wipers, or under the hood. No further electronics problems were experienced. However, on turning the ignition key to the "on" position, the husband was surprised to discover that the digital clock was 13 minutes fast. The alarm sounded and the husband said this was the same sound heard the night of the incident.

The witnesses said that a relative had been asked to reprogram the radio again to music stations. This party was called and confirmed that she had not changed the clock settings. It is theorized that the vehicle lost power while in motion sometime before midnight. When power was restored, the clock defaulted to the 12:00 position, thereby accounting for its apparent time "gain."

The automobile was scheduled for a regular warranty visit to the dealer on July 27, 2000. The dealer's mechanic did not report anything unusual, but may have performed a very cursory inspection based upon the witness's description. George Pindroh spoke with another Cadillac dealer and an engineer who both ruled out the possibility that the moisture had condensed on the windshield from the air conditioning system.

On the night of the meeting with the witnesses, the investigators also visited the Ohio State Highway Patrol post that the husband had called on Sunday morning. The dispatcher who took the call remembered it clearly and confirmed the agitation in the husband's voice. She also said that a trooper had reported seeing red lights in the sky the same night, but did not wish to be interviewed. She reported personally observing a silvery bright elongated object in the following Sunday morning sky which abruptly flew off out of sight.

On the night of Saturday, July 29, 2000 the MUFON team drove the same route at about the same time of night. The evening was cloudy, the lightly traveled road was very dark and isolated by trees along both sides. Several stops were made and persons canvassed. A group of young people said they regularly see unusual lights in the sky at night. Two workers at the rest area were not on duty the night of the sighting, but one confirmed that his former spouse had seen a large object hovering over a farm house. A trucker who lives nearby said his family had been watching lights at night making rapid 90 degree turns in the sky without decelerating.

In a telephone conversation a week later, the driver related that her personality had changed dramatically since the night of the incident. Describing herself as a usually very easy going person at work and in her social life, she had become a rather nasty, ill-tempered person, all of which she attributed to her experience.

The witnesses are stable, reliable individuals with only limited prior UFO knowledge.

The investigators on this case are George Pindroh, MUFON State Section Director for Lorain County, Ohio, Rick Dell'Aquila, Ohio MUFON Assistant State Director, and "Captain Chuck", Research and Investigations Director of CUP (Cleveland Ufology Project) and a new MUFON State Section Director. CUP is one of the country's oldest ufology groups, founded in the late 1950's by ufology pioneer Earl Neff.

The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis

by Jenny Randles*

The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis (ETH) is, of course, a theory and by no means the one with the best physical evidence in its support (although it has some). Experienced UFOlogists are aware of the alternatives and can put this into proper perspective so, in the main, will be more circumspect as to what they say about its acceptance as THE answer.

It remains a viable explanation because it makes scientific sense (although it falls down mostly by its failure to actually well fit the data that we see within UFOlogy). But that is all that it is - a possibility - and most on this list (and most people whom we would regard as 'real' UFOlogists) would agree.

However, UFOlogy is not only about the views of 300 UFOlogists (probably the sum total of those folk worldwide who are really spending any serious time doing UFOlogy). It is what the UFO culture argues. And that comprises an interactive mass of people from list members, magazine readers, tabloid journalists, conference attendees and witnesses. There are hundreds of thousands of such people out there and they affect the 'ethos' of beliefs on a global scale to a far greater degree.

This is patently evident from UFO writing. The only books that sell well are those that argue the ETH and more or less take it as read and develop their arguments from that point. Any books that argue more complex theories and/or attempt to be in any way cautious with regards to UFO reality find a limited audience merely from the kind of people that would be on this list (and the few other serious UFO lists) but hardly any at all within the masses out there.

All of the top selling UFO writers are pro ETH, often to a significant extent (e.g. Tim Good, Budd Hopkins). And if they were not so then I am virtually certain they would not have sold as vastly as they have. This is a fact of life - even though they are both good writers and would certainly have made a living without their books finding the level of the target audience in the way that they by coincidence have done.

The 'target audience' out there is one that is interested in UFOs purely on the premise that they are alien spacecraft. Again and again media sources have tried to turn interviews with me round to this on the basis that this is what they 'know' people want to hear. And if you give them what they want

then they support you. If you don't say what they like then they move on to someone who will.

Much the same happens in UFO conferences. People organizing these know that to get 'bums on seats' - as we say in the UK - you have to pitch the menu. So conferences hardly ever get organized FOR serious UFOlogists. And the few that do (e.g. MIT) are far and away the most significant. Conferences - in the US and the UK - fill their lists with ETH speakers (often ones half the organizers think are cranks) merely because they know that's how to sell tickets.

There is no point in denying this; it oozes from the pores of UFOlogy. In this way are mythologies created as to how the 'theory' of the ETH is instead the 'synonymy' - i.e. that UFO and alien spaceships are alternative definitions of the same thing. Of course, we all know they are not. But the UFO culture at large imposes that view through its books, conferences and submission to the media.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt outside little pools of UFO sanity such as this list and the few serious UFO groups that is the consensus viewpoint. The problem will become much worse now that publishers have marginalized UFOlogy as a near death patient. It is hard to see any non-ETH obsessed books appearing from mainstream publishers in coming years.

So - in reality - Jerry Clark is right about the 'UFO community' (sorry, Jerry, I know you hate that word!) - if you mean what 'professional' UFOlogists think of the ETH. Unfortunately we are a drop in the ocean in so far as global perception and barely dent public opinion about UFOlogy. We certainly do not shape it.

In fact our failure to take control of our own subject is UFOlogy's biggest single failing. UFOlogy today is by-passing us all and is in the hands of the advertising agencies selling cars through images of flying saucers, or the tabloid twaddle that dwarfs any sober coverage of the real issues, or the ETH obsession that fills all of our major 'exports'. Money, publicity and power rule. And we don't have any.

Indeed UFOIN has had several discussions on whether we should abandon any pretence of being UFOlogists and create our own new niche in the hope that there is some way of making more impact on mass thinking that way rather than to struggle to

try to re-educate the public in a field so dominated by enthusiasts who have little or no experience of the realities.

In the end we opted out of this idea because it would be both a con trick and a betrayal of serious UFOlogists to jump ship (even if only via nomenclature). Although there are some still thinking that it may come to this and I can see why it seems tempting. Maybe we do have to try a new approach as the old one has led to a long stalemate.

Can anyone seriously say that we are much further forward (except maybe in our own personal thinking) in 2001 than in 1981? For myself I did love the idea of calling ourselves 'Scientific Anomalists' and renaming UFOIN as the Scientific Anomalies Network - or Sane - just so I can go up to a reporter who asks about 'spaceships' and say that I won't comment because 'I am in Sane.' It would be worth the risk so as to see the looks on their faces.

A Plan to Jump Start Ufology From It's Doldrums

Cases, hard data - the prime evidence for the ETH that working investigators out there believe should be submitted to science in order to make the prima facie argument that the ETH should at least be taken seriously. That should be our goal. So the focus should not merely be on cases but on cases that: (1) have strong evidence to support their actual reality, and (2) have strong evidence to support the ETH interpretation of that reality (These are not the same thing.)

No case - or probably even any collection of cases - will 'prove' either of these eventualities to general satisfaction. That is not the aim. Indeed if the proof existed we would have done this already. But what we can do is agree between us - and that is the point - the best of the best that should be used to make our prima facie argument that this is a credible field of research that science should not be shunning. And if we select the data to use in an objective, scientifically credible fashion (as the plan for my council strives to be) - rather than by simply debating this or that incident in an haphazard manner - then if we submit them as a UFO community in an agreed scientific format to the scientific community - we have a fighting chance of being taken seriously, at least making the effort to engender a meaningful discussion. Which is all we can ask.

Basically I am suggesting that we create a team of people willing to devote some of their net time over the next (say) six months. Devote it to vetting and commenting upon case data submitted to them in an effort to find those cases to most strongly

recommend via ufology as the ones most positively arguing towards the reality of the ETH. The concept is simple. The execution would be a little less so because of a lack of time and commitments to other ventures. But this is not a fatal flaw if we value the opportunity that such a venture provides.

Perhaps sixteen people is an unrealistic number but I suggest this as a way to ensure that as broad a spread and balance of viewpoints is represented. I would imagine 8 or 12 (that is 2 or 3 each of the pro, anti, ETH, the uncommitted and the outsider scientist perspective) would be achievable if that is all we can aim towards. But the exact number involved in the council is less important than actually creating it as the temporary entity that it is intended to be.

Surely we could find eight people supported by their peers as qualified to be on this council who would see the value of devoting some of their time during the next six months to debating the evidence put before them? Eight people who would be willing to commit wholeheartedly to this experiment, as they must do. After all, the main work lies with everybody else who would be charged with the task of finding the cases that they believe would convince science.

It is up to these people (which means every working ufologist out there who thinks the ETH may be true) to summarize their investigation, the data and its findings and submit it to the council. All the council would have to do is debate this data - on a case-by-case basis - offering their opinions about the scientific potential of the evidence. When a case has been discussed by the council then one person from the council (presumably the one with the most free time over the next six months!) could be charged with summarizing the overall views on that case (and each other case as it is submitted by a ufologist during the period that the team operates) in a message to the UFO community.

Ufology would thus be aware - on a day to day basis of just what was going on in the council discussions as the project developed, and could discuss the council's views, feed in its own input and further the eventual debate leading towards the final report. The same could - and should - be true of the skeptic's lists. The whole point of this experiment is that this should be a community effort that recognizes the differing opinions that exist.

The council would not be the kings of this project - only one part of it. Literally every one of us would have a role to play to whatever extent we felt willing or able to commit to the venture. Then - at the end of the six months - the council could agree

a statement to be issued to the UFO community summarizing the sum total of the case data it has evaluated and the overall conclusions they reach about it - recommending which cases to ask the original investigators to work up into a proper format and to become part of a submission by ufology to science.

In this way, the burden is shared. Yes, the people elected onto the council have an individual responsibility to offer some time to debate the cases. Yes someone on that council has to take the responsibility to summarize the findings and post them regularly so we can all see what is going on and feed back our opinions into the debate. But all other ufologists have an equal responsibility to come up with the goods - their first hand case-work. And make this a genuine group effort involving anyone who wishes to participate - since the comments of the council, the final selection of cases to be submitted to science and the form of that submission will be openly discussed by anyone who wants to do so.

The principle that I am suggesting allows this project to eschew giving power to individuals and to truly become a UFO community experiment that is harnessing the latent power of the Internet. Rather than - as now - using the net only to engage in debate with no end purpose. We can easily say - it is not possible or it is too hard. But ufology needs to put defeatism and differences aside and try to make this happen.

I hope there are enough people committed to making progress in this area - rather than maintaining the status quo - to give it a chance of success. But we will not know unless we try. And really that is all I am proposing, that we give this a try. That surely has to be preferable to doing nothing. We have been very good at that for a long time and a fresh approach seem called for. Therefore, I propose that UFO advocates and proponents be asked to nominate, say, 100 hardcore cases to focus on. Then all skeptics and advocates can have a go at the nominated cases.

The problem with this is that we will soon get bogged down in wrangling over countless threads on multiple cases all going on at once. We need more structure behind the project to prevent it from degenerating into chaos. I think we need to limit the numbers - although setting no arbitrary total. If we create the council first we could then ask people to submit their own cases (and they 'must' - in my view - be first hand research that they have conducted and not cases they think will stand up based on what they have read in a book) This step, to me, is a vital prerequisite since it means the ufologist has to be confident enough in the calibre

of their submitted work to let it be vetted by the council - which I think will limit us to the strongest candidates and impress science more than simply again reading digests of cases from old UFO books. We have been there, done that. Now it is time to make the T-shirt.

I don't imagine this way we will get more than a dozen cases in the mix - although we may all be pleasantly surprised - but if so that is a manageable number for the council - and for the UFO community in general to debate each one in turn in a six month window. A dozen or so is also a fair number to submit in depth to science at the end. 100 cases could not be the basis of this kind of submission without creating a report the size of a phone directory and I don't think most scientists will wade through that. Besides which we should give the impression of recommending the best candidates not scraping around just to fill an arbitrary number of 'berths' and make it look as if the argument can be made by strength of numbers alone. We will be better served by fewer, stronger cases presented to science in the end in considerable depth. That is the consequence to which I think my idea would naturally lead.

Having observed the constant rebirth of Pelicanism and Hot-Air Balloonism, which has amounted more to constant restating of scoffing positions than to a real give and take and admission of where the relative arguments may be weak or strong, I have serious doubts that we will get anywhere with this. We will not do so if we fall back on polemics and stand by our entrenched positions. This project is not about fighting. It is about us tolerating one another's opinions and trying to work together. It needs a lot of people to show guts and determination and to put aside past prejudices and let the evidence be the only guide to the ultimate conclusion. I would hope there are plenty of people out there ready to accept that challenge. What this needs is sufficiently strong willed people to forget their own opinions about UFOs (whatever they are - and that means skeptics and believers alike) and to see the sense of this venture and its potential value for the long-term health of ufology. After all, if only 8 people create the panel and only another dozen submit one strong case each that they have investigated - then the concept can work. That means finding just 20 people in the entire UFO world - believers, skeptics, pelicanists, ETHers, investigators, scientists etc, etc - who see the worth of spending six months doing meaningful objective and scientifically orientated net based work like this as opposed to spending the same six months in more endless chit chat on personal theories or hobby horses. I would hope that the UFO world has more than 20 such people. Because if it hasn't, it will be very worrying for me.

*This article originally appeared as two email messages posted to the online *Project 1947* discussion list and *UFO UpDates* in response to the comments of others. The Editor believes Jenny Randle's comments are worthy of our consideration, so we are presenting them here with her permission.

Ms. Randles latest book is "Time Storms - Amazing Evidence for Time Warps, Space Rifts and Time Travel." It is published in Great Britain by Judy Piatkus (Publishers) Limited, London, copyright 2001, ISBN 0 7499 2159 5. Available in the U.S. through Arcturus Books, Inc., 1443 SE Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952, (407) 398-0796.

Alum Creek Black Triangle Sighting Solved?

by William E. Jones and Dr. Irena Scott

In the Summer 1999 issue of the *Ohio UFO Notebook, Combined Issues 19 & 20*, we reported on the sighting of a black triangle over Alum Creek Lake in Delaware County that occurred sometime in October of 1998 at about 8:55 pm. The person reporting the sighting said that he heard "a loud rumbling sound" coming from behind him up in the air. He turned to face northward and saw a sharp image of a triangle up in the sky. In the center of the triangle he saw two small strobe like lights, one red and the other either blue or green. Intense bright lights were located on each corner of the triangle. This object moved slowly across the sky from northwest to southeast.

The report on this sighting was also placed on the then MidOhio Research Associates, Inc. web site. On September 28, 2000 we received an email message from a Michael Tees that read as follows,

"I stumbled across your link. Throughout the summer and late fall of 1998 there was a large air-crane type helicopter working out of the Delaware County airport just about 10 miles away from Alum Creek. This helicopter would travel every day over Alum Creek on its way to its work site. At the time I had a boat docked at Alum and would see this guy fly over often late at night. I suspect this may have been the 'Black Triangle Over Alum Creek Lake.' "

Sometimes the solution to a sighting report of a UFO takes awhile to be resolved. Attempts at this late date to establish Mike's story through the airport were unsuccessful, but the story carries a ring of truth, so we are comfortable with Mike's probable solution. There are probably UFOs of some kind flying around out there, but probably not as many as we would like to think.

1942 Sub Sighting in the Mississippi River

by Kenny Young

I have been investigating the unusual claim of a crashed flying saucer in 1941 and one item resulting from this investigation has led me down a strange path. This particular issue does not appear, from what I can see, to be directly related to the initial allegation of a downed object and alien-like crash-casualties near Cape Girardeau, Missouri in 1941 [as conveyed by Charlette Mann to researchers Raymond Fowler and Leonard Stringfield], but the resulting story seems quite wild and I have been curious enough to afford it some investigative interest.

I made brief mention of this on the P-47 list previously (regarding the St. Louis fire that destroyed some official records) and there was a positive message of interest in response to my brief summary. That, plus the fact that I need some good help from researchers who are more historically and legally knowledgeable than I am, gives me a good chance to post the info for researcher feedback and also for some help in the process.

Before getting into the details, let me kindly add that I have attempted to pursue this matter legally through FOIA to the F.B.I., National Archives and U.S. Coast Guard. My initial requests (as strangely anticipated) were turned down (one appeal to Coast Guard still pending as the Oct. 31st request only recently processed as they said it had been "misplaced" at their office). I appealed the Dept. of Justice rejection and was again shot down, being told that I have could appeal this rejection through court action. My unfamiliarity with this phase of FOIA pursuit leads me to ask if anyone on the list is knowledgeable about the process or how I might pursue or could acquire funds to follow through on the legal end of things?

I have contacted a local historian and have also been in touch [by phone and U.S. mail] with a family member of the key participant, Albert Turner (since passed away). This relative was tough to track down, but it was worth it. The family member recalls the 1942 incident and told of how Mr. Turner was terrified after his detainment in St.

Louis (by the F.B.I.) and never again spoke of the event, even when relatives would ask question of him about it through the years. He described as being 'afraid' to talk about it. After being released from extended F.B.I. custody, the claimant recanted his story and said the whole affair was nothing more than a hoax. Despite the 1942 reportage in the newspaper, the relative was unaware that Turner had recanted his claim and was surprised when I informed the relative of the 1942 newspaper saying that the event was a hoax.

The event involves a gentleman [a sharecropper] who alleged that a submarine with 'five little brown men' and a Negro captain had surfaced in the Mississippi River and came to the riverbank near Charleston, Missouri. The story becomes strange when Turner claims he was summoned toward the vessel by hand gestures and given a 'tour' of the mysterious ship. He described an airlock, armament and other interior parts of the vehicle. After the tour was concluded and the sub sank back into the

Mississippi River, Turner advised his employer, Mr. Harry Johnson, who then contacted the local police. Soon after, the U.S. Coast Guard and F.B.I. were seriously investigating the event.

During this time period in our history, African American citizens were referred to as 'Negroes,' and this is reflected in the journalism which often refers to the claimant Albert Turner as a 'Negro.' The location was, at that time period, of key strategic interest to the U.S. industry and commerce during the WWII episode, situated close where the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers merge. This happened several months after Pearl Harbor and paranoia was likely high on the domestic front. The submarine, although said to be manned by little brown men and a Negro captain who spoke English, was described as a 'Jap sub' in the newspaper reportage.

Editors Note: If you have any information about this event, please contact the author at ufo@fuse.net.

Significant Triangle Report, Central Idaho September 27, 2000

from the National UFO Reporting Center

Four out-of-state hunters were camped at a remote site in central Idaho on the night of Wednesday, September 27th, 2000. They had been in the area for approximately a week, an area where they have hunted annually for over two decades, and with which they had become very familiar.

At approximately 9:45 p.m. on that night, one of the four men went outside their camper to obtain food from a storage locker in the back of his pickup truck. As he approached his vehicle, he seemed to sense that something didn't seem quite right, "like a thick blanket suspended overhead," he said. However, it was not until a few seconds later that he realized just how correct his senses were! As he stepped up on the rear tire of his truck to reach into the bed, his flashlight swept across the clear night sky above him, illuminating something very large, and directly overhead. He immediately glanced up, and was so startled by what he saw that he fell to his knees from shock. He was looking at the bottom of a huge, silent, unlighted triangular-shaped object, that was sitting motionless in the sky directly above the campground! His initial impression was that the object was at least the size of a football field, hundreds of feet on a side. It had rounded corners, and its skin, where his flashlight had swept over one corner of the bizarre object, exhibited distinct texture. It was so large that it seemed to blot out the sky above him!

The witness, 43-years of age, started yelling almost hysterically for the others to come outside immediately. The men in the camper were so alarmed by tone in their friend's voice that they rushed for the camper door, expecting to see a bear attacking their mules, or some other "normal" event taking place outside. They were not prepared for what they saw. Fortunately, two of them were able to get outside in time to witness the object overhead slowly and silently begin to move away from their campground toward a nearby mountain. Even before they had managed to get out the door, however, the object had begun to generate a distinct whining sound, at which time lights suddenly appeared on the ventral surface. A large, round, subdued, white light was now plainly visible in each of the three corners of the triangle, and a prominent red, strobing light was visible in the middle of the ventral surface.

The two witnesses who had rushed outside quickly grabbed high-quality binoculars and were able to focus on the object long enough to be able to observe it for approximately 45-60 seconds. As if the event were not stunning enough already by this time, the object proceeded to ascend and maneuver up a narrow canyon in the side of the nearby mountain. They described its motion through the sky as being "like a hockey puck gliding over ice," i.e. very smooth and unwavering.

One of the three has been a private pilot for over two decades, and he felt certain that it was not moving through the atmosphere the way an aerodynamic body would. The group was stunned by their sighting! After they had discussed the event for several hours, two of the party felt so threatened by the event that they decided to leave the area, drive several hours to the nearest major town, and spend the night in a motel. One of the two, the first to witness the object, spent a very uncomfortable night, lying awake and thinking about the object he had witnessed hours earlier. He felt keenly "on edge," and startled dramatically on one occasion, for example, when the electric heater in their room suddenly came on.

The next morning, they contacted local government offices to report the incident, providing them with details of the sighting, including the co-ordinates of their sighting. They then contacted the National UFO Reporting Center, which took a report from

them over the telephone and requested a follow-up written report.

After reporting the incident, they returned to the site, and remained there for several more days before driving back to their homes. Interestingly, the two men who remained at the camp witnessed military jet fighters fly down the valley the object had flown up the night before, and pass directly over their camp. They reported that the jets were rocking their wings dramatically as they descended down the valley toward their camp.

Further investigation into the incident is reportedly being undertaken.

Editors Note: This sighting is so dramatic and potentially valuable in determining the source of the enigmatic objects, we have decided to include it here for those who have not heard of it.

Animal Mutilations – New Insight

by National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS)

1975-1977 was a period of frequent reports of UFO sightings around the United States. 1975-1977 also coincided with peak reports of a phenomenon known as animal mutilations. The community around Great Falls, Montana was no exception to this nationwide trend. However, two features about Great Falls are of interest with respect to this NIDS report. The first is that Great Falls was (and is) home to Malmstrom Air Force Base (MAFB). MAFB and its surrounding area was an integral part of the nation's missile launching capability during the cold war with 221 Minuteman III missile silos, and functioned as an important section of the entire Northern Tier early warning system for incoming Soviet missiles. The second atypical feature about Great Falls was an unusually open-minded and energetic sheriff's captain.

Captain Keith Wolverton was prepared to go the extra mile in investigating UFOs, animal mutilations and bizarre happenings in the area. Wolverton's energy and dedication were instrumental in alerting the people of Cascade County, and even in nearby Teton County, that if they reported UFOs, animal mutilations or unidentified flying lights, they would not be ridiculed and their reports would not be trivialized. Captain Wolverton allowed NIDS full access to his original papers and files detailing the investigations that he carried out on behalf of the Cascade County sheriff's department in 1975-1977. NIDS was able to analyze the data in these files and they comprise an interesting picture of a wave of anomalous

activity within a 40-mile radius of Great Falls and MAFB. Captain Wolverton's files comprised the original police blotters, original memoranda and original photo negatives detailing the department's investigations into 192 UFO and unknown helicopter sightings, and 67 reports of animal mutilations, the vast majority happening within a forty miles radius of MAFB.

The timing of the UFO wave around MAFB is almost exactly contemporaneous with similar anomalous incidents that happened in October 1975 at Loring AFB Maine, Wurtsmith AFB Michigan, Minot AFB North Dakota and at the Canadian Air Force base at Falconbridge Ontario. The purpose of the NIDS preliminary paper is to examine two separate and unrelated questions: (a) Was there a linkage between the animal mutilations (temporal and geographical) and the unidentified aircraft flying in the area around Cascade County Montana 1975 through 1977 and, (b) did the repeated unauthorized incursions of these flying objects over MAFB and missile silo airspace, when examined in the context of simultaneous incursions at other AFBs across the Northern Tier, constitute a national security issue for the United States?

NIDS reports the first statistically significant correlation between mutilations and UFO/helicopter activity in the full report (25 pages) in the "What's New" section of the NIDS web site at: <http://www.nidsci.org>. NIDS proposes that the

UFO wave in Montana did have National Security implications.

Quotes from the report:

UFOs

"The majority of the UFO cases in Cascade county were of colorful bright lights that were seen at various times (day and night) on various dates by many people including military, law enforcement and forensic personnel. These UFOs were reported to be steady lights, pulsating/flushing or blinking lights, lights that projected beams to the ground along with lights that lit up large areas. The UFO lights were so bright that witnesses could see nothing but the bright light coming from the object. The bright light prevented the witnesses from being able to describe the size and shape of the UFOs. A number of the cases involved UFOs with definite classic shapes (dome, saucer, egg, elongated, football, round, pear) and which were either hovering just above the ground or structure or had been seen landing or taking off from the ground or in flight.

"The more significant sightings were of an egg-shaped object with arms, an egg-shaped craft the size of a two-storied building possessing glowing windows, a "hotel-sized" object accompanied by four smaller lights, and a 300-foot long object possessing rows of continuous pulsating lights on the top and bottom. In all cases the UFOs were in various stages of motion such as hovering, landing, taking off, maneuvering, modest or extreme changes in rectilinear or curvilinear motions...The egg and building shaped UFOs described previously all occurred very near witness automobiles while on the road, Great Falls International Airport, and homes. There were UFOs seen chasing military and civilian aircraft in the sky and automobiles on the ground, as well as military and law enforcement chasing of bright light UFOs."

Animal Mutilations

"Captain Wolverton...testified that a group of veterinarians were willing to work *pro bono* on behalf of the Cascade County sheriff's department on two conditions (a) that their names were kept low profile, and (b) they did not have to submit official signed veterinary/necropsy reports. These two conditions were designed to protect their careers. NIDS interviewed three of these veterinarians and the following reports emerged from the interviews:

- (a) Two different veterinarians reported a few cases in which they found the cattle had been completely exsanguinated (drained of

blood) after a through necropsy was performed. Thus, even with checking the abdominal cavity, thoracic cavity, heart and major blood vessels (aorta, vena cava) for occult blood, no blood was found. One veterinarian related an anecdote that he had squeezed the heart of one animal and managed to produce a single drop of blood from his efforts. It was the only drop of blood he was able to see in the animal.

- (b) All veterinarians interviewed verified that the mutilations were not the work of predators/scavengers, citing the exsanguinations, peculiar "cookie cutter" cuts...finding animals in the middle of a snowfield without tracks, etc.
- (c) Veterinarians testified that in some cases, prominent needle marks were found in the animal's jugular veins.
- (d) In one case when the animal was turned over, a large gauge needle about 2.7 inches long was found underneath the animal.

"It is unfortunate that the climate and culture existed that prevented these veterinarians from filing official necropsy reports on these cases"

A National Security Issue?

"NIDS has independently obtained information indicating that for the purposes of special operations (deceptions), helicopters were disguised as UFOs and operated in the 1975-1983 period by at least one United States intelligence agency. These helicopters had highly unusual lights and were designed to fly with the minimum of noise. It is outside the scope of this report to discuss the purpose of these operations. But if this information is placed in the context of UFO activity around MAFB, an initial interpretation of this covert activity would be to test Air Force base security responses. However, the logic behind mounting a covert nightly assault on MAFB, documented 192 (129 UFO plus 63 helicopter cases) times a three-year period, and sometimes involving multiple craft for several hours at a time, is difficult to justify. Moreover, it has been verified that even the commander of security police at MAFB was not briefed on any special operations. Hence, it is the preliminary conclusion of this report that the nearly thirty recorded violations of restricted air space in a three-year period indeed constituted a national security issue and should have been a great concern to the USAF."

Links Between Helicopter/UFOs and Animal Mutilations?

"Examination [of the data] shows the majority of mutilations occurred in close geographical relation

to the majority of UFO/helicopter reports. The more interesting question is: is there a temporal correlation between these sets of data? We show in this paper that 58.2% of mutilations occurred three days before or after a documented UFO or helicopter sighting around Great Falls/MAFB. NIDS has no data on the extent of under-reporting of UFOs in the area during this time period.. We

find in this report a statistically significant relationship between UFO/helicopter activity and cattle mutilations... To our knowledge, this is the first report of such a highly significant correlation between these phenomena."

Editors Note: We recommend that you go to the web site and study this report in its entirety.

Report of "Imp's" in Argentina

Translation by Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology
(Special Thanks to Gloria Coluchi)

For some reason, Argentina has been a perpetual source of stories regarding diminutive entities best described as "imps". Last year we featured stories on the police station that had to be vacated after officers reported a small, nonhuman creature walking into the premises. Hoaxes? Children playing pranks? You be the judge.

SOURCE: *Diario Austral de Temuco*, DATE: Sunday, February 18, 2001. © 2001

LOCAL RESIDENTS TERRIFIED BY "IMP"

As occurs in fairy tales and myths, a strange being has been appearing repeatedly at night in the town of Pitrufquen.

The creature involved would be an "imp", which according to the testimony of some local children has manifested itself in a patch of vacant land near the homes located in that city's Manuel Rodriguez street. The children attested that the mysterious entity, which only appears at night, "is small, since he's no taller than 50 centimeters, and he's been appearing since September in the same spot." They likewise noted that the entity hides in a sort of cave located at the site, not far from the backyard of the children's house. "We would go and see him every night. At first we thought that it was a "guagua" (newborn) living in a house close to where the creature hides. Then we realized that the baby was always crying, and we thought that it knew when the imp was approaching," explained the youngsters.

"Sometimes we would shine our flashlights on him at night. The light would blind him and make him crouch. That's when we could see things on the side of his head, which looked like ears. He'd squeal so that we'd go away, and that's why we started throwing stones at him. He would follow us, but we always managed to get away," they stressed.

The children explained that after these incidents, they never again came near the place. "It scared us, because he could do anything. Besides, he's real strong, because he moved a car that was near the place and he'd beat up on the dogs," they noted.

The youngsters added that "the imp even got into the Hospital to pester the people there. That's why

lots of people came to see him. Firemen and "Carabineros" and detectives showed up to keep an eye on things and find out what was going on."

Delmira Munoz, the children's aunt, corroborated their version of the events. "Whenever my nephews visited that place, they would come across a little crouching man wearing a sort of blanket over his back. The other neighbors can also say the same, since many of them have seen it. Fortunately, this entity hasn't come all the way to our house, and that's why the children have no problems sleeping. But if they bother it, it reacts violently," she stated.

Delmira Munoz also noted that there were suggestions that the alleged imp had been captured. "The hospital's officials had said that it had been caught and sent to Temuco to perform experiments on it."

Hernan San Martin, another witness to this mysterious entity's presence, recalled that "one day I was drinking tea with my wife, I heard the children throwing stones at something. We went out for a look, and my wife told me that a little man was walking around. I went to check what was going on and found a sort of cave in which it seemed to hide. That's when the kids told me it was a little man with wizened features, hairy, pig like ears and shining eyes."

San Martin remarked that after the incident, he wasn't all that convinced by the children's story. "However, my wife and I thought we could feel it approaching the house in the dark. I made an effort to catch a glimpse of him, but I couldn't, because it's very astute."

As time went by, he noticed that part of his hens and chickens were slowly dying. "The likeliest explanation is that this critter killed them. What I

find strangest of all is that it only drank their blood. All of these events led us to find out more about it. People told us that it was an imp raised in the countryside and would never be seen in a city. They further told us that it obeys a master and is loyal to him.

Hernan San Martin finally observed that in spite of the alleged imp's aggressive tendencies, it has not hurt the children until now. "It appears to have only

wanted to play with them. But it behaves violently toward animals, since its hurt our cats and dogs don't want to go near it, because it frightens them."

Editor's Note: Scott's article doesn't seem at first glance to involve the subject of ufology, but who knows? What should the subject of ufology really cover? That seems to be a good question. Whatever your answer, the article is interesting.

UFO Sighting Over WPAFB – 1968

A pair of UFOs were reportedly seen over Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio in 1968. According to sketchy information received by MUFON of Ohio, approximately 350 people watched two silvery disks hover by a water tower for three to four minutes before "zigzagging" off at great speed.

The objects were observed to have what appeared to be windows and they were spinning.

Has anyone heard of this sighting? If so, please get in touch with us so that the sighting can be documented.

Ohio UFO Spotted From Continental Flight #1298

from Filer Files #8, 2001

Michigan MUFON reports that on January 27, 2001, a 60 yr. old retired firefighter, paramedic, and fire inspector was on Continental flight #1298 from Denver to Cleveland, talking to her seatmate by the window. The pilot had just stated that they would be at the gate at 7:25 PM. As our witness, the retired firefighter, looked out, her seatmate asked if she was looking at the Lake Erie Shore line that was less than 5 miles away. She responded, "Yes." As they approached the shoreline at 7:15 PM our witness remarked excitedly, "Oh look, a falling star." Her seatmate said, "Yes, it does look like one." It was a bright with rays of light on the outside of the round central portion of the light. Or it might have been a plane going down nearby. Our witness then said, "It can't be, because it is going

back up." The light then went in a perfectly straight line to the north, parallel to the plane, then turned sharply upward and disappeared. The speed with which this all happened was really surprising. The man behind these two witnesses said at the same time, "No, it can't be a falling star, because it made a sudden horseshoe turn upward for a couple hundred feet, then abruptly made a sharp right hand turn, flew perfectly straight for several hundred feet, made another sharp turn straight upward and promptly disappeared." All three witnesses were totally baffled. They did not see a shape or object, just a very large, very bright light. The woman's seatmate was a 45-year old teacher from Denver. Thanks to Michigan MUFON member Todd Lemire for this report.

Field vs. Air Force Base

by William E. Jones

As we study the history of the Government's interest in the subject of UFOs, we often see references to the names of air fields/bases ending with "Field" and at other times "Air Force Base." For example, Wright Field vs. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Have you ever wondered why the difference? Well, I have at times, but was never curious enough to search for the answer, and I bet many of you weren't either. That is terrible for a ufologist – in case you are one. So, if you have been as inattentive and non-curious (is that a word?) as I, here is the answer from author Kevin Randle on a recent posting to the Project 1947 discussion list:

"Before the Air Force split from the Army in 1947, these bases were called 'Air Fields.' The base at Roswell was the Roswell Army Air Field, the one at Fort Worth was the Fort Worth Army Air Field, and so on. Once the change was made, the names were changed. Roswell became Walker Air Force Base. All this means is that air fields that transferred into the Air Force became Air Force bases and those that remained in the Army remained Army air fields...such as Godman Army Air Field at Fort Knox, Kentucky."

There you have it. Thanks Kevin.

George Pindroh's UFO Reports

by George Pindroh
MUFON State Section Director for Ohio

January 1985, Cuyahoga County, Ohio - Self Report

On a weekday in January 1985, I went out to my car to drive to the Great Northern Shopping Center for lunch. It was 11:45 AM on a bright sunny Winter's day. I did this routine for lunch every day as I liked going out to lunch and leaving the work site. As I approached my car I looked up and just to my left I noticed a large circular (disk shaped) craft. It was about 30 feet in diameter and about 50 feet over my head to the left. It was a very dark gray color with no markings, wings or windows. It made no sounds and was moving very slowly, approximately 1 to 2 miles per hour, towards the large Cleveland Metropolitan Park to the west.

The object had a raised area in the middle; the rim of the object was not very thick. It moved with a slight wobble which allowed it to reflect sunlight. It was metallic. I spotted a contractor who was welding near the building that I worked in and I called to him to join me. We both admired this craft. After approximately 5 minutes the craft went to the other side of some trees quite some distance from us and out of sight. I got into my car and proceeded driving toward the west but I didn't see the craft there at all.

When I first spotted this craft it happened to be above a large power sub-station but didn't appear to be there for any reason associated with the station as the craft was constantly moving. From where this incident took place one could see the control tower of Cleveland Hopkins Airport some few hundred feet east of us. After returning from lunch I called the control tower to ask if they had also seen the large craft. They replied that they didn't see anything like I described. I felt that this was impossible, as the craft was huge. There were no other reports of this sighting in the newspapers or radio/tv news media. As I think back, I wonder why I was foolish enough to stand there admiring this craft and not falling to the ground to hide from it.

July 13, 1990, Lorain, Ohio

On or about July 13, 1990, two men were fishing from a boat about one mile from shore in Lake Erie. The men were Mark Brabant of Bay Village, Ohio and his friend Todd Austinson of Fairview Park, Ohio. Mark works as a graphic artist and Todd as

an electrical engineer at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. At approximately 10 PM they spotted a circular baseball sized orb moving above the waters of Lake Erie.

The orb flashed a brilliant white light every few seconds. It was so intensely bright that they couldn't look at it while the light was on. It traveled approximately 4 to 5 feet above the water and seemed to maintain that height as it traveled. They were no more than 10 feet from the orb at it closest distance to them. The men watched it for about a minute and a half until it got out of sight. They felt no fear as they watched the orb and both indicated they felt it was intelligently controlled. I believe these fellows to be high reputable people.

February 1, 2001, Garfield Heights, Ohio

On Thursday, February 1, 2001 a 39 year-old artist was driving east through Garfield Heights, Ohio. Garfield Heights is an eastern suburb of Cleveland, Ohio. At approximately 9:45 PM she glanced to her left and saw a white triangle with a yellowish cast. She steered her car to the side of the road so as to be able to safely look at this object. Besides being white, the object also appeared to have a reddish boomerang type streak along with it. The object was a little higher than tree top level, approximately 150 feet off the ground and about 500 feet away from her.

Her next recollection puts the time at about 10:30 PM. About 45 minutes of time appeared to be missing. She then noticed that her vehicle, which had about a quarter of a tank of gas, was almost on empty. Her immediate thought at this point was that the sighting was meant for her as she claims to have been an abductee for many years of her life. Later that evening she had difficulty falling asleep, with thoughts of the triangle passing through her mind. Over the following days she had several nightmares involving encounters with aliens. Here are some of the things she remembers from these nightmares:

1. The aliens were of the gray type, about 5 feet in height. She was on a table being examined. Overhead was a small light emitting a bright cone-like beam. The aliens had an array of tools available such as human doctors have in operating rooms. She recalls a sink with a small vessel

approximately 3x2 inches in size containing some kind of orange substance. She felt they were trying out new techniques on her. She had a strong feeling that what she was going through was a gynecology evaluation.

2. Of the aliens present, she sensed familiarity with two of them. One she felt love for and another she felt a sense of fear for unknown reasons. She sensed that the one she feared was the leader. His chin was wrinkled and he was physically different. She believe that she was screaming during this evaluation and that they then snipped something causing her to feel absolutely helpless. The alien that she felt love for seemed to be extremely

disappointed with her screaming. Ever since this incident she has been having lower back problems.

3. She has had continuing encounters with aliens since she was 5 years old.

Editor's Note: What can you do with a case like this, where a life time of experiences are involved, that hasn't been thoroughly investigated? If a through investigation is not possible, and such investigations would be exhasuting and expensive, we can add what is known to the literature, as we are doing here, and hope it helps someone in the future. Anyone wanting to talk to this witness should go through the author of this article. The witness may be willing to talk to a serious and qualified abduction investigator.

The Dave Miller Reports

by Dave Miller, MUFON of Ohio, and Matt Miller

Riggs Lake, Michigan - 1962

An eighteen year old woman, who I will name Martha, was vacationing at Riggs Lake, Michigan with her aunt, uncle, grandfather, and two cousins in July of 1962. Riggs Lake is a small private lake in a wooded rural area. It was early afternoon on a sunny, clear day with only a few cirrus clouds in the sky. Martha was fishing on the shoreline and her uncle was fishing from a small boat.

"I saw the object first and then my uncle saw it from the boat," stated Martha. "He yelled for everyone to come out of the cabin and look at it."

The object was huge, cigar shaped, silver, shiny, mirror-like, and it made no sound or noise as it slowly moved across the sky. Martha estimates that the object was about 1/2 mile to one mile away and about 150 feet off the ground.

"It moved across the sky just above the tree tops," Martha remembers. "They were tall trees. I watched it about fifteen minutes as it went at a slow, constant speed." The uncle worked at DESC (Defense Electronics Supply Center) in Dayton, Ohio and tried to say it was a weather balloon or plane, but the grandfather disagreed.

Martha eventually lost track of the object because of the distance and the tree line.

Southwest Ohio - 1966

A thrity-one year old female, who I shall name Emily, was driving her grandmother and two sons (ages 4 and 5) along Miamisburg-Springboro Road in rural Montgomery County in July or August

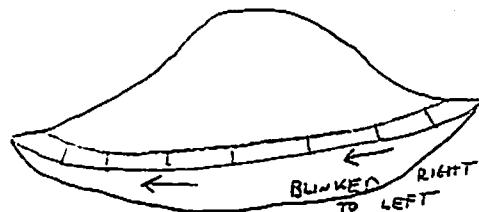
1966 at about 4:40 or 5:00 p.m. The day was clear but not particularly bright. When the automobile approached Shepard Road, the grandmother pointed out the automobile window and said, "Look."

Emily pulled the car over and everyone looked out and saw an object hanging over the road to their right. It was bright, shiny, saucer-shaped and was hovering. They compared its size to a semi-truck. The car windows were down and they heard no sound. After about one or two minutes, Emily drove toward Woods Road where they paused to turn right.

"I asked if it was still with us and grandma said yes," stated Emily. "The object followed us (off to the right) as I drove 35 to 40 mph. We could see it through the tree line. It was in the air about 2 1/2 times (a 1/4 mile) above the line. At its closest point to us, it was about 1/4 mile away."

The object passed the car until the car turned right onto Wood Road. The family looked back - it was still there - it hovered a few seconds and then it took off, ascending somewhat fast.

"At the bottom of the saucer was a row of lights that blinked in sequence from right to left to right," remembered Emily. The duration of the sighting was about six minutes.



Dayton, Ohio, Fall 1971 or 1972

It was August or September of 1971 or 1972 when a nineteen year old woman, who I will name Demi, along with her friend Penny were leaving the back door of the library located on Germantown Pike in Dayton, Ohio. The library entrance and parking lot overlooks an alley and the backyards of homes on the otherside of that alley.

It was dusk and getting dark. The sky was clear and it was 7:00 or 7:30 p.m. As both were leaving Demi turned to Penny and said, "Do you see that?" Both young women witnessed a cigar shaped object approximately fifty feet above the ground just past the alley. The distance of the object from the women was estimated at about ¼ of a mile.

"I noticed red, blue, and green colored lights which flashed in a pattern," recalls Demi. "The whole neighborhood was deadly silent, no sound, no smells. The craft made no noise as it just was hanging there, hovering there. We were very scared."

The two women started walking slowly towards the object as Penny was very curious. Demi warned Penny not to go no further. The object began a slow slant type ascent and then it took off real fast and zoomed away. The direction of departure was from the south to southwest.

"We lost sight of it due to the distance," stated Demi. "We observed it altogether about four minutes. It was a large object, about two semi-trucks in size."

The two sat in their automobile for quite a while and then telephoned WHIO-TV Channel 7. The television station advised Demi that many sightings were reported to the station that day.

Germantown, Ohio, Fall 1983 or 1984

The couple, Ted and Alice Collins, were in their fifties. It was November 1983 or 1984, because Mrs. Collins remembers that she already had her private pilots license. It was an overcast cloudy night about 7:00 or 8:00 p.m. when the Collins drove through Germantown Reserve and through the city of Farmersville located about ten miles southwest of Dayton, Ohio.

"We frequently drive this as it is peaceful and pretty," stated Ted. "We were driving on Manning Road heading to Boomshire Road down to Twin Creek Valley. We had just passed Anthony Road on a bridge when we saw a light over an electric line way down in the valley."

The land was a hilly, rolling, rural countryside. The trees were bare but the temperature was not yet real cold. When they first saw the light, the Collins thought someone was in trouble in a plane that was going to crash.

"We pulled off to the side of the road, got out of the car and turned off the car lights and engine," recalled Ted. "The light approached noiselessly. There was no sound except the sound of wind over a sailplane - airfoil. As the light continued on, it passed directly over Alice and myself. The night was too dark plus the lights did not illuminate enough to permit us to see the outline of the superstructure although it must have been big because I estimate that it traveled 20 to 30 mph and took some time passing over us."

Ted estimated that the object passed over them at a height of 40 to 70 feet above where they were standing. The nearby Sycamore trees were estimated to be 50 to 60 feet high and the object cleared them.

"As we looked at it as it approached," continued Ted, "we could see a white non-blinking landing light shinning down. When the object was overhead, we could see four amber colored lights which were brighter than the rear turn signals on a modern car. We were close enough that the lights revealed what looked like lens-like cups on the bottom of the object. It reminded me of riveted plates. There were eight to ten feet of space between the lights. Only a small area was illuminated. There was also a small front light on the object."

The object continued on past Mr. And Mrs. Collins and eventually they lost sight of it. Total sighting time was approximately two minutes. The object traveled on a path from southwest to northeast. "Both my wife and I are very familiar with aircraft and whatever that was, it was no airplane, no helicopter, no glider or no balloon," stated Mr. Collins.

Warren County, Ohio, August 1987

It was a clear, warm summer night in late August 1987 at a rural subdivision near Clearfield-Franklin Road near the city of Springboro in Warren County, Ohio. A fortyish hear old woman, who I will call Pat, along with her daughter, had a disturbing sighting at 2:00 a.m. in the morning as they drove home.

Pat saw a bright light over a swimming pool that was located in the back yard of a home. The saucer shaped object was completely still as it hovered over the water. A light came out of the bottom of

the object. Pat woke up her daughter and they watched the object for about one minute. The object was silver in color and they observed no openings nor doors. The object was no more than 100 feet above the pool. The light reflected from the pool onto a house located nearby

"After about a minute, it tilted sideways like it would go up and it started taking off real slow above the treetops," described Pat. "We saw the trees swishing back and forth and the light going off. Then suddenly, boom, and it was gone quick."

Pat and her daughter drove around the subdivision ten or fifteen minutes looking for the object.

Pat indicated there was no sound coming from the object. She estimates the size of the object was $\frac{1}{4}$ the size of her ranch style home.

"You can't believe the shock of seeing it. I'm glad my daughter was there," stated Pat. "I can't tell you it was from outer space, but I can tell you it was a saucer."

Pickaway County, Ohio, April 10, 2001

by Pete Hartinger

Founder of the Roundtown UFO Society & President of MUFON of Ohio

Glen Howard called me on April 11, 2001 to report a UFO sighting seen the previous night on Tuesday, April 10. Glen lives at the intersection of Hall Road and Five Points Pike in western Pickaway County. Glen's wife Beverly and his two daughters Erin and Karen were in a car traveling south down Five Points Pike from Derby to their home. It was about 11:30 p.m. When they got close to Adkins Road they noticed a huge orange rectangular box-like object hovering about a mile or so from them. This was to the left of their vehicle. The object was over the new power station that was under construction. The girls estimated it to be 200 feet long and 25 feet high. Glen's two girls are 18 and 20 years of age and they tried to persuade their mother to turn down Adkins Road, but she refused.

Glen's wife thought the object might have looked egg-shaped at one time. None of the witnesses saw it move. When they got home Glen's mother, Audrey, said she saw the same object slowly moving east toward Darbyville and then just

disappeared. They estimated that there was a 10 minute lapse between the sightings.

On Thursday night, April 12, fellow RUFOS (Roundtown UFO Society) member Tom Thomas and I went to the location where the sighting took place. For about two hours we traveled around the area asking people if they had seen this object. Nobody had.

Glen and Beverly attended our RUFOS meeting on Wednesday night, April 18. We learned some additional facts about the night of the sighting. Glen stated that one storm had gone through the area at 5 minutes to 11 p.m. Karen reported that she saw a strange cloud underneath the object. This could have prevented the workers on the plant site from seeing it. The power plant over which the object was seen is to be a "peak power plant" and it is being built between two major power lines that come close together nearby.

Change of Address for MUFON of Ohio and the Ohio UFO Notebook

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