

Ohio UFO Notebook

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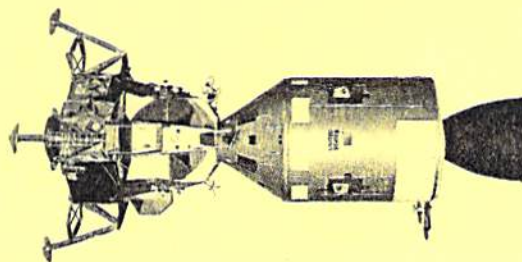
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Sightings Over the Buckeye Military Operations Area*

by Kenny Young

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A few items of interest would be the Batavia, Ohio locality. Now I don't know if it was where the sighting took place or not, but this location is in the heart of Clermont County where I have interviewed a number of UFO witnesses over the past few years, several from Batavia and Williamsburgh and a few from Owensville. A place of interest to be sure.

But if the sighting was not in Batavia but at the Rocky Fork Lake campsite, that would also be interesting. You see, Rocky Fork is a location that the Ohio A.N.G. conducts mock combat maneuvers over, as specified by an Ohio Air National Guard pilot I interviewed years ago. This information is probably not new to you, but this location - and a good portion of southern Ohio - is in the specialized air corridor called the Buckeye MOA (Military Operations Area).

A few years back a gentleman in Chillicothe, Ohio named Terry Howard took some night-time videos of some of these mock battles during a particularly spectacular flare deployment. Howard and others thought these were UFOs and the news media and police offices were swamped with calls. I remember that Bill Jones talked with Terry Howard and we both appeared on the SIGHTINGS TV show in regards to this. The particular flare deployment that Howard videotaped was localized over the Adams County vicinity in the general area of Peebles, Ohio. At the time, this was thought to be of interest because of the General Electric jet-engine test range they have there, previously mired in black helicopter and other dark conspiracies by two right-wing Cincinnati radio hosts. "Truckin" Dale Sommers and Bill Cunningham on 700 WLW radio. Sommers, Cunningham and others dubbed this location "Ohio's Area 51" The TV show SIGHTINGS took interest in the Howard video and also milked the Adams County GE Test Operation angle for all it was worth and put together a little piece called "Ohio's Area 51" which appeared sometime in July of '97.

Howard, other witnesses and the TV show SIGHTINGS held that the multiple red colored orb-like objects would blossom out from a central location and somehow 'revert' back into one object. MUFON photo analyst Jeff Sainio was all too eager to embellish on the affair with his 'mysterious' conclusions during some sort of

photo analysis session he had with the SIGHTINGS squad but when I talked to him on the phone one-week before the piece ran he interestingly denied knowledge of the video or of a SIGHTINGS interview about such.

The extraneous ballistic accounts were puzzling and not really compatible with the flare maneuvers. No videotape document has ever surfaced to support this 'reversion' of the lights into one central source. This, plus the powerful acknowledgment by A.N.G. officers of flare deployment in the MOA, leads one to suspect that this is a case of (obvious) mistaken identity strongly compounded by witness misperception. One might also surmise that the 'reversion' of the flares into one central source could be the flares under the influence of a vortex of air such as the 'sky-quake' from the passing jet.

It was in December of '96, several months before the SIGHTINGS telecast from July of '97, that I learned that the Ohio Air National Guard performs these combat training exercises over this air space and their operations intensify in the spring and fall, they say, usually enhanced to ground observers by the exceptionally clear sky conditions due to the season changes. The flare deployments are sensational to observe and can be seen in areas further out than the MOA zones themselves. They are reported in areas outside the MOA zones such as Wilmington, Ohio and parts of Hamilton County during one sensational night of maneuvers back in March of '97. I tried to pass this explanation to the SIGHTINGS squad but they were clearly disinterested, opting instead to portray this episode as an E.T. visitation.

I conducted a taped interview with an officer with the Ohio Air National Guard, I think it was a Springfield, Ohio unit if I'm not mistaken. At any rate, the gentleman "fessed up" to flare deployments on the dates of our UFO sightings and said the maneuvers are usually conducted in the spring and fall, often on Wednesdays or Sunday nights. We played this taped interview - with his permission- on UFO UPDATE: LIVE TV show. He stressed that one area they concentrate on was Rocky Fork Lake, and made reference to some sort of landmark in that area which makes it a 'home base' of sorts for the jets as they train.

Given that the UFO report from the Batavia, Ohio resident was from October [2001] in the Rocky Fork area and also that the report involved the sighting of jets in the air, I would speculate this to be a good explanation for what was taking place without entering into a big investigation of the account. The color 'green' for the flare/UFOs would be unusual but also viable for a flare color. In '96 and '97 the flares were colored red. I would be comfortable speculating that any troublesome detail such as UFOs evading the aircraft or performing maneuvers of their own would be basic witness misperception or nefarious viewing conditions compounded by wind/vortex conditions in the sky. I would have loved to be there and see this, especially videotape it for all to see. In light of the unsettling national crisis and combat operations in Afghanistan, I can imagine that training of our pilots is all the more important right now and definitely taking place.

In '98 I sat in during an interview Ron Schaffner had with an Adams County woman who was reporting some kind of 'Bigfoot-type' sighting near Peebles. We started talking about GE/Peebles and this woman brought up the subject of these training maneuvers in the skies above her and basically said: "Military jets fly over here all the time dropping heat." So this told me that some people on the ground are certainly aware of this activity. But it would be the other people who do not know about this activity that are the ones reporting this stuff as UFOs. I would not rule out the strong possibility that your Batavia resident, if she was reporting this from Rocky Fork, was observing these mock combat maneuvers.

Follow-Up Article

The Batavia, Ohio witness was interviewed by telephone and the Park Rangers were also contacted. For the record, the witness only partially accepted the 'training maneuver' explanation, a common reaction I have noticed

Training maneuvers again mistaken for UFOs in SOUTHERN OHIO Date: Thursday, October 25, 2001 Ohio A.N.G. jets are once again conducting mock combat operations in Southern Ohio's airspace known as the Buckeye MOA (Military Operations Area), resulting in UFO complaints by concerned citizens.

From various Air National Guard bases, including headquarters in Ohio, fighter jets routinely conduct training maneuvers and deploy flares. Flares can be used for battlefield illumination or as a countermeasure to divert

heat-seeking missiles from targeting airplanes. These flares, people often report, are seen singularly or grouped in a chain. Some even report the jets 'chasing' the bright colored lights.

Previous Southern Ohio events happened in October of 1996 and March of 1997, resulting in police dispatchers and newspaper offices being swamped with UFO reports. Sightings were reported from Maysville, Kentucky to Wilmington, Ohio. One Ross County resident videotaped a flare chain above Adams County, Ohio in the vicinity of Peebles. The videotape was even featured on the TV show "SIGHTINGS," seeming to baffle MUFON photoanalyst Jeff Sainio on the program, which portrayed the episode as a possible Alien Visitation.

During independent investigation of these complaints, an officer with the Ohio Air National Guard was contacted and he confirmed their participation in combat training maneuvers and flare deployments over much of Southern Ohio. These maneuvers, he explained, could be construed as 'UFOs' due to clear sky conditions in the spring and fall.

Recently this month, a Batavia, Ohio woman vacationing at Rocky Fork Lake near Hillsboro, Ohio observed this activity on October 17th, after 9:00 p.m. She reported seeing two low-flying jets in tight formation heading northeast and traveling fast. Within moments, she saw a green colored light followed by a string of four bright white lights that, she said, "amazed" her. At least two others at Rocky Fork Lake also observed the sky display. Before consultation with UFO researchers on this issue, the Batavia, Ohio resident had sought to report the situation to the Rocky Fork Park Rangers and also to NASA headquarters.

Now more than ever, it is necessary for our pilots to be properly trained. While many are aware that certain airspace above Southern Ohio is set aside for training operations, others are not. The public should be aware that certain events taking place in our skies can be misunderstood and many reported UFO sightings are often explainable.

*This article is made up of two parts. The first is Kenny's informal report submitted to John Timmerman of both the Center for UFO Studies and the Mutual UFO Network in response to an initial sighting report that John received at his home CUFOS office. The "follow-up" part was Kenny's formal report to the UFO community over the Internet. Both are reproduced here for the information of the reader. Knowledge of the Buckeye MOA is important for Ohio UFO investigators to have.

The Aliens: TO WORSHIP – OR NOT TO WORSHIP?

by Beverly Trout © 2002 *
MUFON State Director for Iowa

Superior UFO technology, of course, gets our attention. The mere sighting of a UFO with its unusual display of power can jolt a witness' previously held worldview. In the face of the unexplained, humans can easily leap from initial shock to awe. And for some of us, it's been pretty easy to add our own follow-up assumptions that because the UFO occupants are obviously technologically superior, then why not consider them spiritually superior as well!

A dangerous assumption, I think.

We might want to stop and consider that just because *they* (the aliens) can get *here* from *there* (whether "there" is another planet or another dimension – or maybe both) does not mean they're any less confused, does not mean they're any more in harmony with the universe than we are. What it does mean is that they're less confused about how to get *here* from *there*!

Even our own recent human history should lead us to challenge any conclusion that advanced technology is a precursor to advanced spirituality. It's been obvious that our own major advance into the nuclear age did not make for a more creative, more harmonious, more spiritual, human planetary environment. Actually things have gotten quite nasty, since we've learned to beat up on each other in a much more sophisticated way.

Which raises serious questions about our own human spirituality. We may even have to admit that organized religious structures have shown great propensity to lead us into a bottomless pit of divisiveness, and that nuclear power, or whatever advanced, gee-whiz technology we humans have been able to come up with, has not changed those basic divisions.

Why should we assume, then, that aliens, in advancing their technology, have also advanced their spirituality. One does not necessarily follow the other. We did not advance spiritually. Why should we think the aliens did?

When UFO occupants take on the role of abductors, the shock factor for the human mind goes way up. The high-strangeness of the experience can swamp our mental abilities with

a degree of mind shock in which we may go so far as to bury the memory of the entire encounter. Even when we remain conscious during the abduction event, extremely efficient alien technology controls us. Whether this control emanates from their own mental abilities or from their technological resources, or both, they can alter and distort our perceptions to suit their purposes so that even the events taking place during the encounter must be held open to the question of "What is real?" Have we recognized what has actually taken place during the experience?

If we perceived our abduction as a pleasant experience, was it because an alien stared into our eyes until we felt ourselves overcome with a feeling of being loved? If we felt euphoric, was it because, in the midst of our initial fright, an image of Jesus or a deceased family member seemed to appear and provide a calming influence? Never mind that during the incident while these pleasant images presented themselves, the alien procedures – however uncomfortable or untenable – continued to be carried out according to the alien agenda.

Alien manipulation gets us on board; alien manipulation plays into our preferred belief systems, plays into our vulnerabilities, keeps us under control. They know how to calm us, and still go about the business of fulfilling their own agenda.

Faced with the fact that we have been massively manipulated, we as abductees (myself included) can then find ourselves fumbling through our own mind-shocked confusion, and it is at this point that we can lose perspective; it is at this point that we are in danger of seeking emotional and psychological comfort, rather than facing reality. Rather than looking at an abduction event for what it is, we may prefer to turn the experience into what we want it to be.

Finding ourselves no longer able to bury the memory of the encounter itself by refusing to admit that it happened, we can in effect, try to bury the *trauma* by putting our own preferred interpretation onto the experience. If we are determined to give it spiritual overtones despite the massive manipulation inherent in the experience, we can thus very effectively bury the reality of what

happened during the experience itself, in effect stepping away from the real rather than toward it.

So why not go this route? If it's going to ease our discomfort, why not let awe overcome us, why not sell ourselves on spiritualizing the experience? Trouble is, going this route only sets up another disturbing mental conflict. It's a familiar road. We've traveled it before when, in the past, we buried memories of our encounters in the unconscious corners of our minds, allowing "tail-wags-dog" triggers buried in those repressed memories to overshadow our daily lives with a haunting uncertainty that we could not (or refused to) identify. For those of us who now consciously recognize our involvement in this phenomenon, if we refuse to acknowledge, if we refuse to assign the full meaning of the basic manipulation perpetrated on us, and instead insist on spiritualizing it, we start a burial process – of a different kind – all over again, burying reality ever deeper beneath our own overload of psychological confusion.

Can we honestly ask ourselves: Do we put the aliens on a pedestal? Do we insist on elevating them to god-like stature? Do we lean toward spiritualizing their manipulative interactions with us (perhaps indulging in CULT-IZING our interactions with these enigmatic UFO occupants)? These questions should continue to haunt us. They cannot, in all honesty, be easily pushed aside.

I'm sure it's obvious to the reader that I'd certainly not be in haste to assign a "space brother/angel" label to the aliens.....but I'm about to change focus somewhat because NEITHER would I go along with demonizing the aliens.

If we allow ourselves to compare aliens and humans, might we find our similarities to be just as striking as our differences? Both, it seems to me, often operate from a base logic of "The end justifies the means." Let's look at some disturbing parallels.

We've already probed the "Gee whiz, I'm awestruck, let's worship them," attitude. Now let's take a closer look at (to put it simplistically): "They're demons, let's kill 'em." To that statement I'd have to ask, "Oh, are they? Are they really demons?"

To probe that question, let's look not only at how aliens interact with other life forms (specifically we humans), let's also look at how

we humans interact with other life forms (specifically animals). Are the aliens really so different from humans?

To provide a background for my next remarks, it might be helpful to know that I not only grew up on a farm, but also that I was married to a farmer for many years.

In my childhood, I sometimes sought the company of animal-life friends, for whom I felt a special empathy. At least part of my sense of identity with the helplessness of animals as they came under human control, was undoubtedly being unconsciously triggered by the involuntary, helpless episodes when I had been placed in the presence of aliens as a young child and subjected to various physical procedures. Today, as I consciously face my lifelong contact with aliens, I can better understand the depth of the sensitivity which moved me to greater interaction with the animal life that – usually – we humans are apt to manipulate on a massive scale in order to maintain a lifestyle (whether dietary, recreational, or economic) which our society's conditioning demands.

In my earlier years on the farm, I first had a pig, then a lamb for a pet. They were not confined to pens; they had the run of the place and behaved well enough to avoid being run over by passing vehicles. I have always been interested in animals being allowed a degree of freedom where they can move about in a relatively unrestricted environment. To see them penned or caged in a small space delivers an un-ease that I cannot shake, whether it's monkeys in a zoo, or cattle in a crowded feedlot.

When I was fourteen years old, there came onto our farm an almost-human raccoon. I still look back with great fondness at this personality who came into my life, enriched it with his fun-loving ways and trusting interaction with family members, captivating everyone (even my father, until he began to invade the chicken house in search of eggs).

Captured by neighborhood farmers when his family's den was discovered in an old cottonwood tree, "Pal" was the smallest of the litter. From his liking for ice cream and crackers to his intelligent usage of the space beneath our old ice box as thawing ice dripped its primitive air conditioning into his favorite hiding place, he showed himself an accommodating family member. Willing to be petted, fed, played with, he was also willing at

times, to be alone, and eventually he felt the need to leave the farmstead for two, sometimes three days at a time. Then he'd come back. Always when he returned, it would be about dusk when I'd go outside, call him by making a sound similar to his, and down he'd come from a nearby tree. He was an animal – ANOTHER LIFE FORM. And I loved him. But we humans had manipulated him.

First, we took him out of his family environment against his will, and although he adapted and accommodated, this did not wipe out, did not eliminate our original manipulation.

Although we then enjoyed and loved him for his personality, we wound up again manipulating him, and then, not understanding our own human cruelty, we destroyed him when he invaded the henhouse – and this was no easy, quick death! Although my family kept it from me until years later, my father gave him to some coon hunters to use as a “drag” to train hounds to follow and kill raccoons.

I have never been able to convince myself that the universe approved our human intrusion onto this OTHER LIFE FORM.

Later, in the 1970s when I was an adult, I found myself again – and on a rather profound level – outraged over the human-animal interaction I was witnessing. My husband managed a horse ranch which stood a then famous quarterhorse at stud. Mares were brought in from many states and the artificial insemination breeding operation took place in a huge barn where both the mares and stud were brought in for the collection of semen and the artificial breeding process. Records were kept on each animal and my job was to record what was going on as I sat at a desk at one end of the breeding barn and the two veterinarians carried out their duties with the various animals.

The mares had no choice. Humans had decreed that they would be bred. The stud had no choice. He was presented with a mare in his vicinity, and in his excitement, semen was collected by the veterinarians and utilized to carry out a breeding program upon which this horse ranch survived.

I took all of it personally. I saw those mares as individuals being utilized and manipulated into their subservient position of yearly production of colts. I sympathized, too, with the stud. He was kept in a small restricted, lonely space in his own small barn, his daily exercise too limited to allow the benign side of

his personality to emerge. I was in my 40s at the time. Triggering my outrage, of course, was the still unconscious shadow of my own alien-human interaction over the reproductive years of my life – and my helplessness to prevent what I saw happening as humans interacted with these “other life forms.”

By relating these personal incidents to you, what am I trying to say? I'm pointing to what I see as human and alien similarities. And I've done it because I understand very well that if I'm going to turn up the heat on the aliens' need to answer for their manipulation of another life form (we humans), and if I'm going to criticize their breeding program as it rides roughshod over another life form (again, we humans), then I also cannot avoid turning up the heat on what we humans may need to answer for by our propensity to manipulate other life forms, as well.

“What's good for the goose, is good for the gander!” – my mother used to say.

There's another old saying that goes something like this: “What goes around, comes around.”

And let's throw in this one from the Christian Bible: “As you sow, so shall you reap.”

And lest we forget, here's the Golden Rule: “Do unto others, as you would have them do unto you.”

Which brings up a question we may need to ask ourselves: In alien-human interaction, is it possible that through some macrocosmic universal karma, we are being done unto, as we have done unto others?

My husband and I were human farmers, with a breeding herd of dairy cows and horses. Now consider the reports about the alien “farmers” with their breeding program, those reports indicating that we are the breeding herd.

Of course, we could stop here and ask: Are we justified in pursuing this line of inquiry?

As humans, we might want to argue with the above assessment by saying something like, “Oh, but humans are more intelligent than animals. Animals were put here for our use. We have a right to utilize them for our purposes.”

Trouble is, out of the overshadowing alien presence in my life, I can hear the aliens rumberling forth with the same argument. Just as forcefully as we humans rationalize our interaction with animal life.

I've had to ask myself: Does the universe have a bone to pick with all of us – both aliens and humans?

To worship – or not to worship? Certainly the abduction scenarios – when we are privy to our memories of them – focus our fears squarely in front of us in no uncertain terms (a bit like a cobra's head with hood raised facing us nose-to-nose).

Let's remind ourselves that to worship (or demonize) is, at root, a move away from objectivity; it is, at root, an exercise in

“distancing,” which very effectively keeps aliens and humans separated by our fear-based efforts to label the aliens as what we want them to be, rather than what they are. Can we be objective about the aliens? Or do we simply seek an escape from our fear of what is real during alien-human interaction by slapping it with a spiritual or demonic overlay?

Which is it to be? Objectivity? Or fear-based labeling?

*The genesis for my need to write on the subject of human attitudes toward UFO occupants has arisen from my lifelong experience as an alien abductee. Although some of my memories have been accessed through (very light) hypnotic recall sessions with a psychiatrist, I've had conscious encounters as well.

Turkish Pilots Dog Fight With A UFO Over Candarly Bay

by Sefer Murat Aksoy

Independent UFO Researcher of Turkey, B.A. & M.S.

On 6 August 2001, a dog fight with a UFO occurred at 12.30 p.m. over the Candarly Bay of Dikili, Ýzmir, a Turkish air field (next to the Aegean Sea) according to the pilots of a T-37 jet fighter from the 122th Squadron. The UFO seemed to be playing with the cat and mouse with the airplane at a height of 15,000 feet. It appeared to be a pyramidal object of 5 meters in diameter (which is shaped something between disk and cone). This UFO was very fast as compared to that of the jet plane. It was very bright, and amazingly seemed to have some landing pods. The UFO did some dangerous maneuvers by going directly toward the Turkish airplane. Then the pilots of the airplane did the same thing by intercepting the UFO as if there would have been a mid-air collision. This type of dogfight continued for nearly 30 minutes. Upon asking to the Air Field Center of Turkish Air Force in Eskisehir, the personnel of the air-radar reported that they were seeing only the echo of jet plane but not that of UFO. So, both pilots, Ýlker Dincer and Arda Gunyar, were fascinated when they heard this information. The actual conversation between pilots and control tower is as follows:

THE PILOT: Here is Off Candarly! We have just faced with a very strange situation!

THE CONTROL TOWER: What is the problem?

THE PILOT: At 12 o'clock position, there is a faster and brighter object that is shaped

something between disk and cone with some landing legs!

THE CONTROL TOWER: Please, continue. What is the position of UFO?

THE PILOT: It is getting closer speedily from the tip of my plane! If possible, please, confirm this object on your radar screen, right now! I have never seen such an object before. I suspect that this object might be a UFO!

THE CONTROL TOWER: In our radar, we can detect your plane that seems to show a higher maneuverability, but we cannot see another object!

THE PILOT: We will intercept the object right now!

THE CONTROL TOWER: Excepting your plane, we cannot confirm another object on the radar screen!

THE PILOT: The object is just coming toward us!

THE CONTROL TOWER: Radar confirmation is negative!

THE PILOT: The object approaches us from the direction of wings! Right now, it passed behind our plane! So I will take it in front of me again by applying a maneuver!

THE CONTROL TOWER: I repeat that there is no radar confirmation!

THE PILOT: The object is in front of us right now! It seems that it is obviously doing a dogfight with us!

THE CONTROL TOWER: Please, continue!

THE PILOT: Err, all of a sudden, it disappeared!

By that time, two F-16 jet fighters scrambled to see the actual situation, despite the visual contact by both pilots, there was no actual radar contact. However, just before these two aircraft arrived, the UFO disappeared like a bullet. Even more, the F-16 pilots could not see the object on their radars either.

We think that this event was not be caused by a hallucination, since there were at least two military personnel who saw the same phenomenon. Moreover, when asked individually, these two pilots gave the same descriptions and made similar drawings of the alleged UFO.

The Turkish Air Force at first said that this UFO case would be sent to NASA for an immediate investigation. Later on the same date, there was a second press release which was sent to the Turkish media, saying that this case had already been solved by military specialists. The object was not a UFO. It must either have been a flock of birds or a meteorological balloon. For the Turkish Air Force, therefore, there was nothing to investigate further, and they would not send this case to NASA for further study. Moreover, the Turkish General Staff ordered both pilots remain silent.

This explanation is far from being satisfactory, because, if it had been a balloon or a flock of birds, then it should have been located on the radar screen. Also, we know that some terrestrial technology like the stealth F-117 and B-2 aircraft can't be identified by radar. So, we can't explain this event by simply depending upon the notion that if it had been a common object. The Air Force response was a very misleading evaluation. However, given what we see in all over the world, we believe that a possible UFO encounter was covered up once again.

Some Turkish scientists also denied the existence of true UFOs by giving some false information about the flying saucer phenomenon. For them, all UFO reports are due

to meteorites, the misidentification of known space objects such as Venus, Mars, and Jupiter, or simply the light reflecting from satellites, etc. According to our scientists, all UFO witnesses are fantasy-prone persons or just liars!

Actually, this interesting case was described as being of prime importance on almost all national TV channels, and was discussed widely in the print Turkish media. This UFO case was also aired on some international TV channels, i.e., ABC News for example. We also learned that on the very same day, a Turkish lady had videotaped a similar unknown object or UFOs around Bornova, Ýzmir that is closer to the actual location of the mid-air sighting. There were some other UFO reports on the same date, i.e., the 6th of August, 2001. For example, in Yalova, which is not much far from Ýzmir, there were some UFO observations around midnight. Again, on the 6th of August, some eye witnesses saw unexplained lights over Usak Province, which is located to the west of Ýzmir.

From the history of Turkish UFOlogy, we already know that there are very similar cases in which the pilots of Turkish Air Force had experienced several dog fights with UFOs. For example, on the 5th of September, 1975 at around 10.30 p.m., the Captain of a C-47, named Mehmet Oksum, who is now an active civilian pilot of Turkish Air Lines, observed a very big UFO together with 7 other military personnel on the plane when they were flying just over Erzurum and Elazýg Provinces, Turkey. He was the first person who saw this luminous object which appeared to be taller than a 7 story building. The UFO was flying rather low. The sky was clear and the weather was fine. UFO was oval in shape, and was glowing like silver. Suddenly, it started to fly toward the aircraft; so all personnel had a chance to see it at a close range of 3 or 4 miles. Amazingly, they observed some dark areas within UFO, then the strange object changed its shape into the wheel of bicycle. Then it passed away from the direction of left wing. This fascinating encounter lasted approximately 25 minutes. Finally, the UFO vanished from the view. Interestingly, no radar had tracked it. But hundreds of ground-observers from Erzurum and Elazýg claimed that they also saw the same UFO.

In 1987 another encounter occurred over Ankara, the Capital city of Turkey. Two F-16C jet fighters from Akinci Air Force Base had flown for a regular night-patrol mission. After some time passed, the pilots of both aircraft were warned by the control tower of Esenboga

Air Field, Ankara that their radar operator had tracked an unknown target. The UFO was flying too fast, and remained unidentified. Therefore, both jet fighters began to move toward this strange object for an identification, since the pilots could see it on their radar too. Later, the Turkish aircraft established a visual contact with this unknown object, so they started to chase the UFO. It was shining very brightly and moving faster than our jets. According to the pilots, UFO could never be a conventional aeroplane, meteorological balloon or flock of birds. Both pilots confirmed this, since they trailed the UFO at a very close range. Suddenly, the UFO increased its speed and began to ascend into higher levels of the sky when they tried to catch it. However, our jets could not cope with the superiority of this bright UFO as it had disappeared and left the atmosphere very rapidly. Therefore, these two Turkish F-16s had to return to their home base without having success in capturing that UFO.

Another near-miss threat occurred in 1998 over Balikesir, Turkey. A Turkish pilot, entitled as Colonel, reported that he saw a very speedy and metallic disk-shaped object during a training flight. Its current velocity was nearly 7-8 times greater than that of the F-16 aircraft. As the UFO shot across the path of the jet fighter, it just missed the plane. For a while, the unidentified object escorted the plane before it suddenly got lost in the middle of the sky.

In 1999 over the skies of Kutahya, another F-16 jet fighter pilot, entitled as Major, saw several

UFOs that were flying near to him. This side-by-side flight continued at least for 3-4 minutes. The strange objects increased their speeds and exceeded the aircraft. However, the UFOs returned back with the same speed. This time, they began to get lower toward the ground. After maneuvering, the UFO formation approached the F-16 again, and finally they climbed a few feet above the plane. For a while, UFOs continued to fly in this manner and then they vanished.

On 12 December 2000, in Isparta, Turkey there was another UFO and jet dog fight incident. This time, there were four separate ground observers around the city. According to what these people stated, the Turkish aircraft flotilla faced with a group of three brown-colored UFOs over Isparta in their daily-routine maneuvers. It seemed that from time to time these flying saucers shone too brightly. Then, one of the jets broke the formation, and tried to pursue the unknown objects. However, all three UFOs started increasing their speed in order to escape from the aircraft. In a very short period of time, all those unidentified objects disappeared from the view.

We can say that the UFO phenomenon is a global enigma. In almost all countries of the world very similar cases of Unidentified Flying Objects are reported. On the other hand, from what we have seen in these special mid-air encounter cases, the cover-up mechanisms also work-like on a global basis too.

9/11 Affects Ufology and UFO Email "Pen-Pals"

by William E. Jones

Back in 1999 I came across the name of Sefer Murat Aksoy on the Internet. He noted that he lived in Turkey. So I wrote to Mr. Aksoy, thinking it would be interesting to get ideas about UFOs from someone living in a somewhat different culture. In a return email message he identified himself as a Turkish ufologist who was looking for people around the world to share his interest with. Over the next few weeks we shared thoughts about UFOs by email. I learned that he found it difficult locate American UFO books in Turkey. So, with the idea of sharing resources with our international UFO colleagues, I started looking for good quality UFO books on the used and remainder book markets in Columbus to send to him. From 1999 into 2002 I sent Mr. Aksoy 78 UFO books, mostly hardback in nature, and other assorted magazines and reports. The expense for the books was second to the

expense of shipping the books to Turkey, even by sea mail. But I got the satisfaction of thinking that Mr. Aksoy and his friends were finding these books useful and thereby I was assisting ufology on the world scene. Twice Mr. Aksoy wrote interesting articles for the *Ohio UFO Notebook*. One of his articles appears above.

During all of this time Mr. Aksoy showed a concern for my family and me usually ending his email messages with a comment such as, "Wish you and your family health, success, and happiness as always used to be." After the events of 9/11 he sent me an email asking if I was OK, expressing concern for the American people and his disdain for what the terrorists had done. I thought that this message was a fine example of how people from different countries and cultures could express concern about one

another. It seemed to bode well for a future that at the time looked a bit bleak.

As the number of available UFO books on the remainder and used book markets dropped off, our communications lessened, but messages were exchanged about once or twice a month. I was apologetic that I couldn't find more books for him and he replied with how much he and his friends had appreciated what I had already done. It seemed that an "email pen-pal" type relationship had developed between a Turkish and an American ufologist.

On July 23, 2002 I received a message from Mr. Aksoy where in he asked me to get a copy of "Tim Good's presentation paper which mentions about the possibility of several undersea UFO bases around Puerto Rico and Japan" from the 2002 MUFON symposium. I replied that I would get it for him unless I had already donated that volume to the UFO collection at The Ohio State University. If I had, I might not be able to get it from them because of their often-expressed concerns over copyright infringement and the legal consequences of that.

I heard back the same day. Mr. Aksoy wrote in part, "Yes, I understand what you had just meant but if this notion would have been true for all those scientific studies, then there had'n't [sic] been any further printed work or compiled research in the history, so there had not been any development as done thanks to the accumulation of the knowledge." His English was usually better than this, and I wasn't sure what he was saying. He ended with, "I feel that you seem to become a very very [double emphasis his] different person as compared to the past. It is O.K. then...Perhaps, due to the unpleasant events of 9-11." I still didn't know what he was saying here. He certainly didn't know me well enough to know whether I was a different person for some reason. So I wrote him back asking what he meant. Was he upset about OSU's concerns over copyright infringement? (I could have gotten the copy from somewhere else, something that may not have occurred to him.)

This is the text of the message I got back on July 24, 2002:

"I think that the people may not be aware of the radical changes in his or her personality, instead those kinds of behavioural or trait alternations are well understood by an outsider as compared to that of insider. At least, the psychological studies prove this.

"And we know that even in USA, the American people have changed their minds by prejudging upon Middle Easterns and Muslims. This is not an acceptable and wise way of behaviour. Isn't it? If The USA government and its people continue to behave in this silly manner, it is easier to predict that you will experience many more 9-11 events. Please look around, since it is just time to see the realities. Sir.

"My thanks will go to the old Bill Jones only.

"Goodbye Sir. Best Wishes. Sincerely Yours.

"Sefer Murat Aksoy."

It seemed as if he was unhappy with American foreign policy and was blaming me for some reason. Rather taken back by this since he had earlier been supportive, at least of us as a people, and since we had never discussed American foreign affairs or politics, I replied with a short and perhaps flippant sounding, "Huh!"

Mr. Aksoy's reply was as follows, all of which was contained in the message line of the email message: "YOU ARE REALLY A LOSER LIKE USA WHICH ALWAYS STATES THAT 'GOD BLESS AMERICA' WHAT A DUMPISH WISH. IN ACTUALITY HE DID NOT. EHHH! USA DESERVES". It ended just that way, not saying what he thinks the USA deserves. But a chill went up my spine because I think I can supply the rest. How quickly political and religious passions can boil over, irrationally destroying friendships and professional relationships. Building bridges between cultures and religions is difficult at best. And those bridges are often unknowingly quite fragile.

I have written Mr. Aksoy back, discussing the value of friendship and America's democratic and human values that aren't always expressed well in our foreign policy. I provided no value judgments concerning America's response to the 9/11 events. I didn't even bring that up. I tried to rebuild a relationship between two international ufologists. He has chosen not to respond. The world is a different place now, and we can't hide from that change within ufology. It is all around us and it will continue to affect us.

So, Mr. Aksoy's interesting article above will most likely be the last UFO article of his that you will read, at least in the *Ohio UFO Notebook*. For Mr. Aksoy, I think I have become the Reverse American Taliban. I would

like to think that the new "war" will soon be over and that this "email pen-pal" friendship could then be renewed, but I don't think that

will happen. This war is going to last a lot longer than Mr. Aksoy or I.

The Pierce Township Incident

"The Louis Spears Story"

by Donnie Blessing

UFO Researcher and Investigator

In September of 2001 I contacted Kenny Young, a local UFO researcher and investigator in Cincinnati, asking if he happened to have any interesting cases from Clermont County, Ohio that he had not had a chance to follow up on. Being from Clermont County, I was interested in finding stories about my home county. Kenny located a case that he thought might interest me and sent me the particulars. The story sounded fascinating and so I contacted the witness in the case who had first contacted researcher Jerry Black back in 1997. Jerry had then directed the case to Kenny Young.

Mr. Louis Spears who had been a volunteer fireman with the Pierce Township Fire Department back in 1991 related a story that was intriguing to say the least, and to be blunt, a little hard to swallow. However, to get a feel for the whole incident and a better perspective of the claimant, Kenny and I set up a time and date to meet and to get his story on videotape.

When we met, we drove out to go to the scene of the alleged incident and to look the area over. Driving down the road, Louis pointed out where the event had taken place and where he had lived at the time. His home was within walking distance of the firehouse. We then drove back and parked across from the station. With the videotape running, Louis proceeded to tell his story. As the story unfolded, it became clear to me that if this was a true story, it was a very unusual encounter with the unknown. This is Louis Spear's story.

According to Louis, the drop tone sounded at the firehouse at about 2 a.m. on that fall night in 1991. Louis and the other firemen who were on duty responded to the scene of what they initially believed was an automobile accident. Upon arriving at the scene, which was very close to the station house, they observed what appeared to be a very bright blue light in the roadway. The light was coned shaped and about the size and length of an average car. The light appeared to have intercepted a pickup truck that was positioned almost midway across an intersection with a four way stop. The larger end of the cone seemed to be right up against the side door of the truck. Looking stunned,

Louis told us, "We didn't know what to do...put a hose on it or what!"

Louis went on to recount that a police officer was also at the scene and was talking to the gentleman who had apparently been driving the pickup. They were off to one side of the road engaged in conversation when the firemen arrived. Louis said that the only thing he can remember about the man from the pickup was that he was older, wearing a ball cap that had 'Grandpa' across the front. The truck was an older model, brown in color, with the old time large grill.

Louis told us that the firemen's attention was drawn mostly to the light and he does not remember whatever happened to the man or the police officer after that. Louis said that the other firemen were afraid of the light, but being younger than the rest, Louis said he was more curious and drew closer for a better look.

He noted that there was no damage to the pickup, the light hovered about two feet from the ground and no sound was audible. Louis described a "structure or form" could be seen within the light. The light was the color of blue flames that issue from jet engines. Louis noted that there was no heat to the light. He thinks he could have put his hand out and touched it if he had wanted to. Somewhat mesmerized by the light, Louis said that time seemed to slow down, later stating that what seemed to be hours at the scene, in reality, was only about ten minutes. Finally the light began to fade, as if "turned off". It began to grow dimmer and dimmer like an old fashion light bulb going slowly out.

Soon after the light disappeared the firemen packed up and went back to the station house. It's interesting to note at this point that at no time on the way back to the station or after arriving back did the firemen discuss what they had just seen. Even though they had just witnessed an extremely unusual event, no one said a word! Why was there not excited conversation about what they had seen? Could they of been in shock? Scared speechless or frightened into silence? Louis claims he has no explanation for this.

At home the next morning Louis was awakened by his telephone ringing. He was being summoned back to the fire station by his superior along with everyone else who had been on duty the previous night. Louis stated that he had over slept and upon getting out of bed he felt excessively tired as if he had not gotten any sleep at all. He says that he felt as if all his energy had been drained from his body. The feeling persisted all that day. This was unusual for him.

Louis thought he was being called in to be chewed out for something they had done wrong like not gassing up the fire engine. He believed it was going to be a simple "bitch session."

Upon arriving at the station he saw three strangers along with the crew from the pervious night. Louis described the men as ordinarily dressed, but they gave the impression of being from the military with their curt air of authority. During the brief time the fire crew was assembled the strangers said to them specifically, "You did not see anything last night! Nothing happened last night! You are to tell no one about last night!" They were then dismissed. Louis noted that when arriving back to the station the previous night the incident had been logged into the run book. Later, when he tried to locate that entry, no log was found. Louis believes the three strangers had taken the logs.

Louis went on to relate that after this experience he felt he could not trust anyone at the station. Things had 'changed' there. We asked why he had come forward with his story after 10 years and he replied that he felt the story needed to be told. Was he worried of repercussions from this? He said that he was not worried. He did wonder if those three men were still around and what ever had happened to them.

We asked Louis to give us the names of the men who were with him that night so we could back up his story and talk to them personally. Louis stated that he did not feel comfortable giving out their names. He felt a brotherhood with them and did not want to give their names without permission. He went on to say that he did not know where these men were. He was no longer with the fire department and everyone had parted ways several years ago

I began my own investigation into the story. The following is the long and trying investigation that occurred. The case is still open and we hope that someday more leads will

come our way. The goal is to either prove or disprove Louis' claim.

During my investigations I told no one the source of my information. I did not want the investigation to be clouded by talk among the firemen about Louis Spears and the possibility of telephone calls to his home either for harassment purposes, questions relating to a story they had no knowledge of, or anything else that might impede the investigation.

I first contacted the fire station. I talked with the assistant fire chief who relayed to me that he had never heard about the story. He had been on the force in 1991. However, he noted that he did not work nights at that time. He was able to give names and numbers of other firemen who worked at the station now. Included were the names of the current fire chief and the other assistant fire chief. I contacted the assistant fire chief who volunteered to look in the record files for the logs from the fall of 1991. After several hours he called me back to say no file was found with the information related to this story

I next contacted the current fire chief who was also the chief at the time of the event. After detailing the story to him he said he had never heard of it. Something about the way he answered my questions led me to believe he was not being totally truthful. I made the suggestion that this case could be written up in a report. No sooner had I said this then he totally changed his story. He had heard about it and called it a "tall tale." I asked who had told him and he replied, "Just a citizen in the area." I was taken aback with the sudden turnaround in his story. Was this a ploy to get me to forget about doing a report? To make me believe it was a fairy tale, not to be taken seriously?

Louis had told us that the chief was out of town the night of the event but also went on to say that he was included in the debriefing the next day. Was this why he suddenly change his story?

One former fire official I called said that he had driven the fire truck back then. I asked if he knew of this incident. He replied that he did not. However, approximately five minutes later he called back to inform me that he had seen "a light in the road" but did not want any involvement in my investigation. He seemed very eager to end our conversation. I received the impression that he was very uncomfortable. to the point of somewhat being frightened to talk to me.

Another person I was able to locate was the former fire chief who is now retired. When I asked him about the light I was totally to hear that he has seen such a light. Asking how this could be, he went on to say that after retirement he had hung around the station quite a bit. We set up a date to get his version of the story on audiotape. When I questioned him as to whether or not he had been asked to keep quiet about this he replied that he had not. This was an interesting turn of events! Louis had stated earlier that only firemen had been at the debriefing. One could surmise that the former chief was "missed" by the interrogators because he was not known to have been at the event. Had the three strangers looked at a duty roster to determine who was on duty that night and had not expected an outsider to be involved?

The next step I took was to contact the library. Using so-called crisscross information I was able to obtain the names and phone numbers of persons living in and around the area of the sighting.

Several police stations were contacted in hopes of finding the policeman at the scene. Due to the age of the incident some records were no longer available from that time period; so nothing was found.

While talking to the neighbors in the area I questioned them about the brown pickup and described the driver who had been at the event. I was able to locate two people who fit the description and owned brown pickup trucks, but both stated they knew nothing.

I also contacted local political figures in hopes that they had heard rumors of the story the story. These people knew the firemen in question but knew nothing about the incident.

A total of 72 phone calls were placed during my intense investigation that included several recalls for further details and many call backs from people who were interested in helping me out.

What really happened that night back in 1991? Will we ever determine what the strange light was? Who were those three strangers? Did they really threaten the firemen into keeping quiet? Supporting evidence was found, but is it enough? Hopefully one day more information will come out about this case.

I'd like to thank Mr. Kenny Young, my friend and colleague for his support, help and guidance through this investigation.

Suggested Pre-World War II "Creature" Retrieval

by William E. Jones,

CUFOS Board of Directors and MUFON State Director for Ohio

and Eloise G. Watson,

Family Genealogist

Crashed saucer stories have become more and more common in UFO lore, with Roswell still holding preeminence as the granddaddy of all such accounts. Some tales even suggest that there were recoveries of crashed UFOs *before* Roswell. (For example, Walter Webb's "An Anecdotal Report of a UFO Crash/Retrieval in 1941" appeared in the Winter 1996 and Spring 1997 *International UFO Reporter*.) These accounts are always difficult to investigate because the primary sources are usually passed away, so only secondhand witnesses, at best, are available to interview. Still, all of these potential incidents must be investigated, and an alleged crash/retrieval is too important to simply file away for future reference.

It is in this context that we relate our own experience with an early crash story. In early December of 1999 the Center of UFO Studies received the following letter:

November 29, 1999

To Whom It May Concern:

"Today I want to share some knowledge that has been, by request, kept secret in our family since sometime in World War II. This concerns something my father was shown by Cordell Hull, who was Secretary of State under Franklin Roosevelt. Sumner Wells was his Under-Secretary of State. Hull was a cousin to my father. My father was on some kind of advising committee, and made several trips to Washington, D.C. in that capacity.

"My father, who was young, brilliant, and sound of mind, tells [sic] this story to us because he didn't want the information to be lost. One day when my father was in D.C. with Cordell,

Cordell swore him to secrecy and took him to a sub-basement in the U.S. Capitol building, and showed him an amazing sight: (1) Four large glass jars holding 4 creatures unknown to my father or Cordell [and], (2) A wrecked round craft of some kind nearby.

"My father wanted my sister and I to make this information known long after he and Cordell were dead, because he felt it was a very important bit of information. We have researched your group and feel it is the most reliable group in the country. We hope that you will research and search this information.

"Please don't disregard this, because what I have written is true. The jars with creatures in formaldehyde and the wrecked craft are somewhere!

"Cordell said they were afraid they would start a panic if the public found out about it."

Sincerely,

Lucile Andrew

Mrs. Andrew lives in Ashland, Ohio, which is much closer to Columbus than Chicago. So the Center's Director, Dr. Mark Rodeghier, forwarded a copy of the letter to Mr. Jones for follow up. At the time the letter was received we did not know the name of Mrs. Andrew's father and his background because, as we were to discover, the family was concerned about their reputation. After several telephone calls and two visits to Ashland, Ohio the family became comfortable with releasing his name and allowing this story to be told.

This story would be an interesting footnote in a UFO history book if the people involved were more ordinary in background and experience. But here we have a story that directly involves one of the greatest U.S. statesmen of the 20th Century and a conservative man of the cloth who would have absolutely no apparent reason to tell a story such as this one if it weren't true, especially at a time when stories of flying saucers and their alien drivers had not yet become part of our culture.

Cordell Hull was born on October 2, 1871 in a log cabin in Pickett County Tennessee, the third of five sons to a farmer and subsequent lumber merchant, William Hull. Cordell grew up

wanting to be a lawyer. He went to a one-room elementary school that his father built in Willow Grove, Tennessee. After attending in succession the Montvale Academy in Celina, Tennessee, the Normal School at Bowling Green, Kentucky, and the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, he received a law degree in 1891 after completing a one-year course at Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee.

Not yet twenty years old, he started practicing law at Celina. From 1893 to 1897 he was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives. He served in the Spanish-American War as a captain and in 1903 was appointed a judge to the Fifth Judicial District. He held this position until 1907 when he was elected to Congress until 1931, that period interrupted for two years when he served as chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Hull was elected U.S. Senator for the 1931-1937 term but he resigned to become the Secretary of State under President Franklin D. Roosevelt on March 4, 1933. He occupied this post until 1944 when he resigned because of ill health. His tenure in this post was the longest in American history. Prior to Hull's resignation, President Roosevelt offered him the Vice Presidency in Roosevelt's bid for re-election, but Hull declined because of his health. Many historians believe that Hull could have been elected President of the United States had Roosevelt not run for a third and fourth term.

In 1945 the Norwegian Nobel Committee presented Cordell Hull the 1945 Nobel Prize for Peace in recognition of his life's work, including his work in helping to establish good relationships between the United States and the nations of the Western Hemisphere, international trade agreements, and efforts in establishing the United Nations. Too ill to personally receive the award, Hull had his acceptance speech delivered by Lithgow Osborne, the U.S. ambassador to Norway. In the acceptance, he wrote: "Under the ominous shadow which the Second World War and its attendant circumstances have cast on the world, peace has become as essential to civilized existence as the air we breath is to life itself. There is no greater responsibility resting upon peoples and governments everywhere, than to make sure that enduring peace will this time...at long last...be established and maintained... The searing lesson of this latest war and the promise of the United Nations Organization will be the cornerstones of a new edifice of enduring peace

and the guideposts of a new era of human progress." These words still ring true today.

Hull died July 23, 1955 and is interred in the National Cathedral (Episcopal) in Washington, DC.

Turner Hamilton Holt was also born in Pickett County (then Overton County) on March 4, 1894. He attended East Texas State in 1913-14, Livingston Academy in 1922-26 earning a degree, Milligan College in 1926-27 and the National Bible Institute in 1928-29. In 1929 he studied at Ashland College (now Ashland University) in Ashland, Ohio and attained his undergraduate degree. From 1929 through 1938 he attended the Ashland Theological Seminary, attaining a Doctor in Theology degree.

In his younger days, Turner Holt worked as a farmer, a lumberjack, for a railroad, and sold books to libraries and schools. He later held several church positions through the years he was in college. From 1927 through 1945 (an important period of time for this story) he was the minister at the Shenandoah Christian Church in Greenwich, Ohio. He ministered to a number of Church of Christ congregations in Ohio until he left the ministry in 1959. He also served on many church boards and was involved in numerous community organizations throughout his life. He was known to be especially good at working with young people. He wrote a book entitled *Life's Convictions* that gave advice on how young people could grow into spiritually fulfilled adults. He was, in the best sense of the term, a community leader.

He married Vina May Clark in 1920. Their union produced three daughters, Ana Lucile (born September 1921), Geneva Mareah (born December 1922) and Margaret Allene (born November 1924).

Reverend Holt passed away on February 5, 1960 in University Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

These two men had a lot in common. They both worked their way out of the back woods of Tennessee and were men of learning, very well educated for their time. They spent their lives in public service. Reverend Holt was related to Cordell through Cordell's mother, Elizabeth (Riley) Hull. Holt was Hull's third cousin twice removed. Family members alive today remember that they spent time together during their large Tennessee family reunions discussing the issues of the day. Because of their love of learning and public service they

were considered by the family to be especially close.

The first interview of Lucile by Mr. Jones and Dr. Irena Scott took place at her home in Ashland, Ohio on February 12, 2000. The home is new and well kept. It was obvious upon entering the front door that these people were not only reasonably well off, but they were used to entertaining and were involved in community affairs. As we got to know Lucile and her husband, who is a retired executive of a large Ashland, Ohio company, this assessment was proven to be true.

Lucile's original letter essentially tells the story as her father told it to her when she was a teenager. Since Lucile was born in 1921, this would have been within a year or so of the event, probably in 1940 or 1941. Unfortunately, Lucile said that she was too young to really pay much attention to what her father told her. As it turned out however, her father also told one of his other daughters, Allene. (Allene is the mother of Eloise, the co-author of this story.)

At first Allene was reluctant to talk to us. She wasn't well at the time, and that was given as the reason. Finally, on April 3, 2000 we [the authors] met both sisters together. Allene told essentially the same story as her sister. Both assured us that they remember the stories independently. Allene was told the story by her father when she was in her early twenties when she already had two young children to care for. This would have been around 1950 when Eloise was three years old. As the family story goes, when Allene's father started to tell the story, Eloise, always the active youngster, jumped up in her mother's lap and distracted her mother enough so that she never really asked her father any meaningful follow up questions. Some time later during a family gathering, she tried to ask her father some of these questions, but he replied with something like, "Not now." They never did get back to talking about the subject. Thus, details of the story that Lucile didn't hear were forever lost to Allene as well, and to history.

Reverend Holt described the entities in the glass jars as "creatures." He never referred to them as "aliens" or "extraterrestrials" as we would today. He used a term common for his day. In fact, he never said where they came from. Lucile stated that his experience happened in the "late 1930s," probably 1939. The material that was nearby the creatures was described as "silver metallic."

Allene did remember her father saying that the creatures were less than four feet tall. She also remembers him referring to the material as being a "vehicle" that appeared to have been taken apart and was "in pieces." He said the color of this material wasn't a color that he had seen before, but for the lack of a better word he used "silver."

As far as Lucile and Allene know, their father told no one else this story. When their other sister was of an age to have been told the story, she was living out of state and apparently an opportunity for this never came up. Their mother was mostly concerned about household issues and the rearing of their children, so he apparently didn't feel it was necessary to tell her. Both were told not to discuss the story with anyone else. As the grandchildren grew up, at least two including Eloise, were told. It was always a family secret that never was talked about outside the family. Both daughters believe their father told them so that the story would be told years later when it might be time for it to come out. By telling this story, the sisters feel that they are following their father's wishes.

Lucile told her son, who is the other of the two grandchildren noted above, when he was older and mature enough to understand the story. We contacted the son and he confirmed hearing the story from his mother. He holds a Ph.D. in physics and has a very responsible position in industry. Because of this, he requested that his name not be used. When we asked his opinion of the story, he replied that he believes his mother and aunt are telling the story as they remember it. He thinks that perhaps the memory of what was told them has changed with time and may not reflect what really happened. Of course, if that is true, their memories have changed in identical ways. We can't discount the possibility that each of the sisters influenced the other so that their memories now coincide. But, the sisters don't think this happened. There is no way to prove this conjecture either way. Lucile's son noted that if the story is not remembered accurately he has no idea what the original story might have been. Further, he did say that there is a chance that the story is true. He doesn't discount the possibility.

The story doesn't give one much to check out, so a large part of the effort was getting to know more about Reverend Turner Hamilton Holt. The essentials of what we learned are noted above. From talking to the sisters and others in the family, and from reading what written resource material that we could find, Reverend Holt was not the sort of person to make up such

a wild story to tell to his children. It wasn't in his character and it certainly wasn't something that his conservative religion would have condoned.

One independent fact that we could check was the part of the story concerning the "sub-basement" of the U.S. Capitol building. When I first read Lucile's letter this part of the story rang with a discordant note. Storing something this important in that building struck me as absurd. But as I thought about it, it seemed to be more and more plausible. One has to remember the times. Washington, D.C. was in its pre-World War II state. The Pentagon didn't exist and those military bases and facilities that now can be found all around the area didn't exist or were much less secure than they are today. Perhaps the Capitol would have been a safe and secure place back then. I decided to check this aspect of the story out.

There is an Office of the Architect of the Capitol. I called to determine if there is or ever was a "sub-basement" in the building, certainly back in the late 1930s. After some discussion with someone I took to be a secretary, I was transferred to Barbara A. Wolamin. She described herself as "the curator." I told her the story, as I knew it from Lucile's letter. She chuckled a bit and said it reminded her of the Capitol ghost stories that are often told. She volunteered that she had never heard about these creatures being stored at the Capitol, but she did confirm there was a sub-basement back then. She said that the building had been significantly changed over the years and this area is now the basement. Back then it had been divided into rooms that were used for storage. Thus, in a small way, part of Reverend Holt's story checked out.

I decided that the other way to check out this story would be to learn more about Cordell Hull. There is a chance that somewhere in his papers and correspondence he had written something about this obviously important knowledge. It probably wouldn't be a direct reference to what he knew, but there might be something stated indirectly or indicative of an inordinate interest in the possibility of extraterrestrial life, or after say 1947, a collection of newspaper articles about flying saucers.

After Cordell Hull left government service he wrote his memoirs in an 1804 page two-volume book set. No reference, direct or indirect, to this story appeared in these pages. His papers are archived at the Library of Congress. The

collection is made up of over 70,000 items packed in 265 boxes. John Earl Haynes has "custodial responsibility" over this collection for the Library. I told Mr. Haynes about the story I was researching and related my idea that Hull might have at least indirectly written something about it in his papers. He replied that he had never run across anything like that, but noted, "It is possible that it was there and I missed it because I wasn't looking for something like that."

I did obtain through inter-library loan from the Library of Congress a copy of microfilm reels numbered 38 and 39 that contained Hull's "desk diary" for the years 1938 through 1942. I wanted to see if there was an entry of an appointment for Reverend Holt in the diary. I found none.

I was referred to a Dr. Jonathan Utley who now lives in Chicago. He is a retired professor from the University of Tennessee who has been working on a book about Cordell Hull for years. He was needless-to-say skeptical of the story, but he did say that probably the only place I might find reference to such a story would be in the papers or diaries of Hull's friends and colleagues. He told me that Hull was a workaholic. His work was everything to him. All of his papers concern his various jobs. Hull never left a record about his personal life, which was meager anyway. He married late and had no children. He had few real non-work related friends. If he entertained privately, he usually did so in restaurants, even though he had a cook and a housekeeper. Dr. Utley noted that everything he learned about Hull's personal life was from the diaries and letters of Hull's friends and colleagues.

Dr. Utley thought that it would be unlikely that Hull would have had such easy access to the Capitol Building as Secretary of State because he was a member of the Executive branch of government. Further he rarely went over there to testify, usually sending subordinates to do that task. This sounds like a reasonable critique, but Hull seems to contradict this in his memoirs. On page 215 he writes, "I also made it a practice to appear personally before Congressional committees or important group conferences, which I did scores of times during my stay at the State Department." Hull's ability to access the Capitol Building is clearly an issue that at this point. However, given Hull's important position within the government and his relationship with FDR, even if the knowledge of these creatures was closely held,

Hull would clearly have been a person who would have been knowledgeable of the secret.

Dr. Utley also pointed out that Hull was not particularly close to his extended family. Taking a cousin into his confidence would have been unusual. He was a very cautious man. He was the keeper of the family assets, giving out funds to his brothers when they needed them. That was the role with his immediate family. If a cousin had visited Hull he would have probably entertained the visitor at a restaurant where most of his limited entertaining was done. However, we have the observations of Reverend Holt's daughters who remember Hull and Holt as being particularly close within the family. So it is still probable that for purely intellectual reasons, Hull may have wanted his friend and relative to be aware of something quite extraordinary.

Three other potential sources of information concerning Hull were contacted for assistance with our research.

The Cordell Hull Foundation for International Education in New York City has no information about Hull's life that could help us.

The Cordell Hull Birthplace Museum near Byrdstown, Tennessee has copies of some of his papers. The museum's curator, Ms. Norma Kerbaugh, did look through their collection for us, but found nothing of interest.

Tennessee Technological University of Cookeville, Tennessee has several boxes of papers, letters, photographs, articles, scrapbooks and speeches from and about Hull. According to Mr. Mancil Johnson, Library Archivist, nothing was found that would relate to our story. Much of their material was obtained from the Cordell Hull Birthplace Museum.

A number of other libraries and archives were contacted to see if they could help, including the FDR Library in Hyde Park, New York, the Roosevelt University - Center for New Deal Studies in Chicago, the Bowling Green State University, Center for Archival Collections, in Bowling Green, Ohio, the Holy Spirit Library at Cabrini College in Radnor, Pennsylvania and the Little White House Historic Site in Darien, Georgia. At least through telephone contacts, none seemed too excited about getting involved in helping establish the possible truthfulness of this story. Perhaps this is understandable.

There is an ironic sidebar story that should be told here. Reverend Holt attended the

Washington Work Shop on World Order that was held on March 13 to 16, 1950 at the Burlington Hotel on Thomas Circle, the State Department, the Ninth Street Church and other venues around Washington. A number of religious and governmental leaders spoke at this conference on subjects ranging from Christian Faith and World Citizenship, American Foreign Policy and the Economic Needs of the World, and American Foreign Policy and the Problems of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. On March 14 in a "Round Table on Atomic Energy, Its Uses and Controls" there appeared a personage who would later become well known to the UFO research community, Edward U. Condon. At the time he was Director of the Bureau of Standards. Another soon to be historic figure appeared in a "Round Table on Civil Liberties and National Security" on March 15. That person was Richard M. Nixon, then a Congressman from California and member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

We are publishing this report of a clearly incomplete investigation at this time because we hope to encourage others to look into the story. If it is true, and we have no reason to think it is a hoax at least, then somewhere out there in a library or an archive there may be a writing – a diary entry, a letter, a note on an appointment calendar, something - that will provide additional support. From there other information might be found that will help us better document the truth about this extraordinary story.

If we believe that four alien bodies and other world technology were retrieved prior to World War II, what would that do to our interpretation of what we know about the U.S. Government's involvement in UFO research? Assuming that the Roswell story involved another alien related event, how should this knowledge affect our interpretation of the government's response to Roswell, or even its response to the development of the post-1947 flying saucer/UFO mystery itself? One would certainly hope that the prior knowledge would have made the government at least somewhat ready for an event like Roswell and that the Roswell retrieval was more efficient because of that. What if we learn that this pre-World War II alien technology wasn't retrieved in the United States but came from somewhere else in Europe or the Far East, transferred to the United States for protection until the war that most knew was coming was over? What if we learn that this technology was given back to France or China or Russia after the war? How would this retransfer of technology change our view of history? The possibilities are numerous. This is a story that truly deserves further investigation.

Recognition: The authors would like to recognize the efforts of Dr. Irena Scott of Delaware County Ohio for her assistance in the early stages of the investigation of this story. Dr. Scott is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mutual UFO Network and has investigated UFO sighting reports in Ohio and else where for many years. She has written two well-received books on the subject.

This report was originally written for and printed in the *J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies' International UFO Reporter*, Winter 2001-2002, Vol. 26, No. 4. It is being published here as an Ohio report for those subscribers who do not receive the IUR. In our opinion, everyone interested in the subject of UFOs should subscribe to the IUR.

Intense UFO Activity Over Cuba -

Havana-based researchers have a great deal of eyewitness and film evidence

by Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology. Special Thanks to Yohanan Diaz
Translation (C) 2002

An intense wave of unidentified flying object (UFO) activity has been taken place in the island of Cuba in recent years. Havana-based researchers have made a series of documentaries and books in which eyewitness accounts and filmed evidence are made known.

In late April 2002, U.S. researcher Mike Birds, following a visit to the island, was able to verify that UFO activity in Cuba is much more intense than is currently known. During his latest visit, he was able to interview five UFO researchers in Havana, who disclosed information on the intense wave of activity over the Caribbean island.

Birds relates that he was able to see a video entitled: "UFOs over Cuba" by researcher Octavo Cortazar, which shows clear and broad evidence of this presence on Cuban territory. Likewise, researchers gave him a 300-page book entitled "Signs" which discusses the rich history of UFO sightings in Cuba throughout the ages. Mexican researcher Daniel Munoz disclosed this information.

Perhaps one of the most spectacular Cuban cases involved peasant Adolfo Zarate, who witnessed the appearance of a UFO and its subsequent landing 60 meters away. "The device landed and someone who looked like a

Christian (i.e., human being), wearing something like a gas mask and dressed in camouflage, came out. The ship was also camouflaged, grass-colored. It was raining heavily. He got down and inspected the craft. He then leaned against a door and spoke to someone in the cockpit. I think he was collecting some rice shoots or ripping out a "malanga" (coco-yam) plant. After climbing up a ladder, the thing let out a gout of blue fire. The only thing I felt was the pressure of the air expelled through its exhaust."

"It was the size of a touring machine. I don't know if it was made of wood or iron, or if it was made of air (sic). But it lacked wings and propellers and was noiseless. It looked like a flattened egg; a turtle that landed on two legs, like shock absorbers. To me, the device had skates, because it left its wheels well marked. The Christian's (i.e., human being) face could not be seen, but he resembled a normal man. I didn't notice him bearing arms," he told the Sunday newspaper *Juventud Rebelde de Cuba*

The Nuclear Connection

by Richard Hall.

In my book *Uninvited Guests* (Aurora Press, 1988) I devoted a chapter to analysis of what we could decipher about the purposes of the UFO pilots from the accumulated evidence. Therein I discussed a seeming interest in human energy sources, especially petroleum, and briefly touching on nuclear energy. Table 6, "UFO Displays and World History," mentions seeming associations of UFO sightings with atomic bomb tests and with our space programs. Later I conducted a "strategic correlation" study showing an apparent association of close-range sightings with nuclear generating plants, which was published in a popular newsstand UFO magazine.

It was not until I began reviewing reams of literature while doing research for *The UFO Evidence, Volume II*, in the mid-1990s that a more obvious pattern began to emerge: a strong correlation of sightings with nuclear weapons. Once the pattern became clear, one of its implications struck me: could the aliens (or "beings from elsewhere") actually have intervened in earthly affairs to help end the dangerous Cold War nuclear confrontation? Debunkers, of course, will consider this an entirely crackpot notion; nothing but wishful thinking and a desire for "saviors from space." But they never bother to study the data and so are oblivious to the many emerging patterns.

Section II ("Military Witnesses") of *The UFO Evidence, Volume II* (Scarecrow Press, 2001) reports much of the data that led me to this suspicion. It includes the 1967 ICBM base cases in Montana and North Dakota and the 1975 SAC base over flights reported by Ray Fowler and Fawcett & Greenwood, and also the 1978 McGuire AFB "alien encounter" case and the 1980 Bentwaters AFB case. I had extensive face-to-face interviews with the primary witnesses in the latter two cases, and both

involved UFOs in the close vicinity of nuclear weapons storage sites.

With 20-20 hindsight, other cases such as the 1957 Army jeep patrol case in New Mexico and a number of incidents reported by Ed Ruppelt also had a "nuclear connection."

Interestingly, my mentor and friend, Donald E. Keyhoe, who was way ahead of everybody in his perceptions about the significance of UFOs first raised this suspicion in *The Flying Saucers Are Real* (Fawcett, 1950): "[UFO visits which had occurred sporadically in the past] suddenly increased in 1947, following the series of A-bomb explosions begun in 1945" (p. 174). Clearly the study of patterns in UFO sightings holds a lot of promise for increasing our knowledge about the nature and meaning of UFO visitations. Larger scale and more sophisticated statistical analyses would be highly desirable.

Comments:

Thanks goes to Francis Ridge [slk@evansville.net] and his NICAP and Lunascan websites for his OK to publish this article. Go to: <http://members.evansville.net/slk/dir.html>. Fran, among many other projects, is the coordinator for the Nuclear Connection Project.

Response from Dr. Bruce Maccabee to Richard Hall's interest in nuclear test sightings:

Regarding nuclear bomb tests: Many (like over 20) years ago I was acquainted with a guy where I work (for the Navy) who was involved in making optical measurements of nuclear radiation from bombs. He was at many of the big nuke tests. When he became aware that I was interested in [UFOs] he made the brief comment, "Oh, we saw them all the time." He

said no more. And, back in those days (when I was the *newby* and he was "god") I didn't dare ask him for any more info than he wanted to provide, which was basically none.

Yes, nuclear test sightings are worth trying to dig up!

From MUFON's Tom Deuley:

I was in the nuclear Navy for 14 years and most every one I ever knew I was interested in UFOs. I also lived within some few miles of a major storage facility. As interested as I was in UFOs, they did not seem to have any special interest in nuclear submarines, the nuclear weapons they carried, or the storage areas, or the auxiliary ships that transported or temporarily stored nuclear materials. Most of the UFO stories I picked up in the Navy were related to non-nuclear surface ships or shore facilities.

Wish I could offer a more positive slant. Maybe they were only interested in actual tests.

Per Joel Carpenter, this is what is known about one nuclear test case: Larry Hatch posted this on the Project 1947 list a couple of years ago. It took place just after a major H-bomb test in the

Pacific. The witness was on the control ship that had just fired the bomb. A UFO flew directly over the ship, toward ground zero.

USS CURTISS (AV-4) OPERATION CASTLE, 1954

From Table 60, operational activities during the CASTLE test series, CASTLE SERIES, DNA 6035F, 1 April 1982. Page 341 is from the logbook of the USS CURTISS, Shot KOON 7 Apr 1954.

"Steamed independently in operating area BG 28-36-1. At 1138 anchored berth N-6, Bikini; at 1948 left berth en route to Enewetak; at 2305 an unidentified luminous object passed over ship from bow to stern, yellowish-orange in color, traveling at a high rate of speed and a low altitude."

The CURTISS was carrying components of the thermonuclear bombs assembled aboard by the scientific laboratory and detonated in the Marshall Islands at Enewetak and Bikini. There were six shots, BRAVO, ROMEO, KOON, UNION, YANKEE, NECTAR. BRAVO was the largest thermonuclear bomb detonated in the atmosphere at 15 megatons at that time.

The Night Ravagers: Cattle Mutilations in Argentina

by Scott Corrales*, First Serial Rights ® 2002

Some two thousand years ago, the Roman historian Pausanias had the opportunity to witness an unusual sight: the carcass of what was described as "a Triton" --one of the sea-god Neptune's helpers--allegedly slain after having come ashore to kill the cattle of the inhabitants of the Greek city of Tanagra. Pausanias reported the creature had "hard, dense scales and stank."

Whether or not mermaids were making forays into the Greek mainland during the reign of the Emperor Antoninus is a matter for discussion elsewhere; what matters here is to show that the phenomenon of cattle mutilations -- a source of ridicule to some, a growing menace to others, and a wellspring of categorical denials by officialdom -- have occurred at all times during recorded history and in every part of the world.

The phenomenon that first attracted attention during the 1970's in the United States went on to replicate itself in other countries with slight variations. Whereas the ubiquitous "black helicopters" were a mainstay of the U.S. cattle mutes, they were never reported outside the country. Conversely, paranormal predators such as the "Moca Vampire" and the "Chupacabras" seemed not to have been particularly inclined to

visit American farms. But the trail of destruction left after their depredation is the same.

Setting the Background

As readers of this publication are well aware, the *modus operandi* in the traditional cattle mutilations and the creature-centered ones are completely different. Missing from the latter are the uncannily precise cuts and incisions that suggest an advanced form of surgery or at least the use of equipment not readily available to for use in remote rural areas. The "creature" mutilations present witnesses with exsanguinated carcasses and the removal of organs through orifices so small as to be fantastic. In some cases, such as an April 1996 case on the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico, the creatures show great violence against their prey, ripping flesh, sinew and bone with demoniac strength. In traditional mutes, veterinarians and forensic pathologists are able to state that the animal died with no apparent trauma, and the same parts (eyes, tongues, ears, anuses, genitalia) are removed precisely, almost lovingly, one might say. In "creature"-associated cases, no animal is safe: domestic and wild animals, avian and mammalian alike, have fallen

prey to the attacks. Traditional mutilations appear to be centered on cows and bulls of all breeds (Jersey, Hereford, Angus, Brangus and Holstein, among others), but spectacular mutilations of horses are not unknown (such as the 1967 "Snippy/Lady" case in Colorado).

Before the onset of reign of terror of the predator known as *Chupacabras* and what might jokingly be called its "world tour" (Puerto Rico, 1995; Florida and Mexico, 1996; Spain, 1997; Brazil, 1998, and Chile, 2000) most mutilations had belonged to the traditional variety: the first "old-school" mutilation occurred in 1974 in Argentina, when farmers were perplexed by the discovery of two mutilated cows showing signs of mutilations in the rural community of Utracán at the peak of a massive UFO wave. Few other cases would be reported until 1991, when --again in connection with UFO sightings, this time in Laguna del Pescado, Victoria (Argentina)--more animals would turn up showing the tell-tale incisions so feared by cattlemen in the United States.

Reactions to these mysterious animal deaths by government officials in the U.S. and South America appears to be identical. The allegations of "predator damage", "lightning strikes" and common animal diseases are invoked constantly. During the April 2001 animal mutilation wave in the South American republic of Chile, the local Environmental Hygiene and Food Control authority, believed that the way to bring an end to the increasing number of mutilation reports was to exterminate over 200 stray dogs living in the vicinity of a municipal dump. Chilean officials voiced their belief that dogs "develop a taste for blood" after inflicting bloody wounds on each other during fights over among themselves. Thus, acting in packs, canines were going on "cattle-slaying sprees" in which they were content to drink blood and forego the tastier flesh of their fresh kills. Eliminating the dog problem did little toward bringing closure to the cattle mutilations in that country.

Summer of High Strangeness, Winter of Discontent

Argentina is a country blessed by nature and cursed by political and social instability. The world's fifth largest country, boasting a highly educated multi-ethnic population, Argentina stocked the world's larders with beef for decades, as herds in large *estancias* (ranches) covered the grass-covered Pampas (Forty percent of the country's surface is used as pasture land). The vicissitudes of politics and economic mismanagement plunged this South American giant into turmoil in December 2001, sending shock waves throughout the financial markets

while deadly riots played out on the streets of urbane, sophisticated Buenos Aires.

Concomitant with the socioeconomic chaos, the country experienced an unprecedented wave of UFO and paranormal events, leading some to recall the uncanny events of the 1960's and 1970's which made Argentina one of the world's leaders in reports of unusual activity. As bread riots broke out in Buenos Aires, UFO sightings emerged from the town of Cachi, near the notorious "hot-spot" of Salta and the site of the 1995 Metán saucer crash site; residents of the city of Santa Rosa in the province of La Pampa were treated to the site of a strange cloud which some thought abnormal despite its great beauty; only days later a "sphere of light" would make its way across the skies of the city of Rosario on April 1, 2002: According to Air Force sources who witnessed the event "a perfect, semi-transparent sphere measuring between 30 and 50 meters in diameter" moving from Funes to Rosario, was seen between 20:07 and 20:12, when after stopping abruptly in its NNE heading, it vanished into the night.

In March 2002, as conditions worsened with the arrival of autumn in the southern hemisphere, reports emerged from Payogasta in the Chacabú region of Northwestern Argentina about a strange gargoyle-like creature attacking livestock: newspaper reports described the strange entity as having "red eyes, sharpened teeth, matted hair and upper extremities ending long, sharp claws." The entity was seen by many small cattle farmers in the drought-stricken region, and all of them agreed on the description and the creature's incredible speed when running away from humans.

Despite the best efforts of Sheriff Juan Carlos Chávez of the Cafayete Regional Unit, no traces of the alleged "*Chupacabras*" were found, matters being complicated because it had chosen not to partake of the local cattle. "According to witnesses, rather than adopting an aggressive stance, the animal takes off when it sees humans...people are concerned about what happened in Calama (Chile) ...they fear their cattle will be attacked."

While western Argentina grappled with economic chaos and its farmers feared a spate of animal slaughter such as had befallen their neighbors on the other side of the Andean ridge, a trio of young motorcyclists from the Cachi region made the news not for their exploits on the racing circuit, but from having seen an enormous cigar-shaped UFO measuring "some 100 meters in length" as they drove along National Highway 33 in the late afternoon of May 1, 2002.

The sighting, which occurred in the environs of gargoyle-haunted Payogasta, was made while Martin Oliver, Rubén Chihan and

Antonio Rodo returned from the capital on their rides. On a segment of road known as the Tin-Tin stretch, the bikers were faced by the huge "mothership", which shone like a mirror in the setting sun, flying slowly some two hundred meters above the ground, giving the appearance of being made of polished steel. The object took off at a prodigious speed and vanished from sight. The sportsmen told the newspaper that they wanted their names "to be included, because for a long time we've been hearing similar stories from fellow residents who out of a sense of shame, or sheer cowardice, do not want their names to appear in the paper."

The three young bikers sighting engrossed their country's history of sightings of cigar-shaped unidentified flying objects: on March 17, 1990, as the Greek freighter *Adamastos* heaved and rolled on the reef-encrusted shores of Necochea, a strange silver calenture flew over the stricken ship, flew around it for a few seconds, and then headed out to sea.

Eight days later, a "fireball" blazed through the skies of Embarcación, a community adjacent to Salta, at 7:20 a.m.. It was described as having a darkened forward section with a fiery tail measuring some one hundred meters. Journalist Martin Matamoros was reminded of a similar incident which took place in 1993, when a similar fireball had hit the ground, leaving nothing but two scorched circles resembling something made by "two giant, red-hot washers."

It would be amid this varied paranormal tapestry that the mutilations would erupt with surprising intensity.

Enter the Mutilators

On April 29, 2002, *Diario La Arena*, a small-circulation newspaper from the province of La Pampa, reported that three bovines had been found mutilated in the town of Salliqueló of the province of Buenos Aires, just across the county line, so to speak. The animal deaths appeared to have occurred in the wake of strange lights having been reported over the town. The local cable-access channel presented footage of the mutilated animals which would be picked up by the nationwide *Crónica TV* channel and transmitted to a larger audience. A local veterinarian said that the incisions on the dead cows were odd ones, and appeared to have been made by "some sort of heating element."

The veterinarian's inspection revealed that the unfortunate animals' hide had been singed along the borders of the cuts, and that there was an absence of blood in the veins and tissue. "It is simply desiccated," he explained (however, some coagulated blood remained in the victims' hearts). Also missing from the carcasses were eyes, ears,

larynxes, pharynxes and salivary glands. Genitalia had been extracted through a teardrop-shaped perforation on the abdomen--a pattern which would repeat itself monotonously in future cases.

Another curious detail picked up by the Salliqueló veterinarian was that "other animals refuse to come close to the dead ones, and curiosity is a characteristic trait among bovines."

Days later, *La Arena's* newsroom would be reporting on another set of dead animals, this time in a field north of the town of Jacinto Arauz. The cow's owner had found them eight meters away from each other in an area of dense ground vegetation. Veterinarians Evaristo Doumoulin and Gastón Granieri were puzzled by the phenomenon. "In 21 years in this profession I never saw anything like it," remarked Granieri, going on to cite the litany of missing organs and strange incisions found on the dead cows. Large animal specialists were finding themselves increasingly in demand as reports poured in from other villages and towns in the Pampas: Macachín, General Acha and Salliqueló were reporting more bizarre fatalities.

By June 1, 2002, the toll had risen to five. This time a cow had been found in the "Don Luis" pasture field on the edge of Provincial Hwy. 18 in the village of Quehué. But unlike the earlier cases, the animal was showing signs of putrefaction and all of its blood was present. Birds of prey and foxes had taken advantage of the animal's death already, in spite of the tell-tale incisions showing signs of cauterization. Veterinarian Rodolfo Farinas echoed the words of his colleagues elsewhere--in eighteen years of practice, he observed, he had never seen a stranger sight.

Reports came in from General Acha the following day: two cows belonging to cattle rancher Mario Guinder had been found 300 meters apart in a remote field. In this case, police officers were stunned by the fact that one of the cows had had a fetus removed from its womb with uncanny precision, "as though some type of laser beam had been used." in the words of an unnamed veterinarian.

The one break in the seemingly endless list of dead animals and missing body parts was the sudden appearance of a humanoid entity described as "green dwarf" or "green midget" making sudden appearances in the backyards of homes in General Acha. The creature, moving with unnatural celerity, did not allow onlookers to get a good look of its features: only its size and peculiar coloration could be confirmed. The fact that its manifestations were occurring in a cattle mutilation area led to much speculation both in the town and throughout the province.

At six thirty p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, Angel Junco, the foreman of the "La Gilardina"

farm, called the Quehué police station to report the discovery of a dead cow missing the right half of its jaw, its right eye and all of its udders. Unlike other cases, the hapless cow had been completely hollowed out, allowing for its lungs to be neatly removed. Deputy Sheriff Julio Acosta reported that the animal death must have occurred in the small hours of Tuesday morning, since the foreman had patrolled the pasture fields the day before without coming across anything unusual. Adding to the mystery of the "La Gilardina" cattle mutilation was a report that a resident of Quehué had seen several intense lights in the farm's vicinity at around 10:30 p.m. the night before--the second time that strange lights had been mentioned in connection with the Argentine mutilations.

The scene of the action made a sudden shift from General Acha to the community of Cuchillo Có, almost in a straight line south from the previous communities. Perhaps the phenomenon took advantage of the greater isolation of this community to increase the body count a little more: five Aberdeen Angus cows were found mutilated at the "La Sierra" farm, belonging to Gregoria Echávez, whose sister had phoned in a complaint to the police after the five bovine deaths had been confirmed. Jurisdictional issues had emerged given the farm's location, with Cuchillo Có's sheriff's office eventually receiving permission to look into the case.

A strange linearity appeared to be at work in the mutilations: the phenomenon visited communities almost in a straight line running from Macachín to Alpachiri and Remecó to Guatraché and Bernasconi, and another from General Acha to Cuchillo Có. Adding to this maddening precision was the way in which the bloodless carcasses appeared to be arranged to form a giant circle. What strange game was being played?

No answers were forthcoming, not even from Dr. Daniel Belot, a veterinarian and technical expert for SENASA, the Argentinean livestock authority. While steadfastly refusing to succumb to the belief that paranormal forces may be at work in the animal mutilations, Belot suggested nevertheless that the predators--human or not so--had arrived by air, and that the victims had been slain elsewhere and subsequently dumped on the field. "Those who haven't seen [the mutilations] cannot understand the magnitude of the situation," he told reporters from *El Nuevo Día*. Belot added that samples from the mutilated cows had been forwarded to the School of Pathology of the University of Buenos Aires, but that the outcome of these efforts had only resulted in the confirmation of the inexplicable nature of the incisions. "The facts occurred, they are very strange and cannot be disputed, but I don't know

what to attribute them to. I wouldn't want to chance it."

When prompted by another newspaper days later, Belot remarked that there were better chances to identify the source of the predation thanks to the quick thinking of a police officer from the town of General Acha. Given the fact that tissue samples older than 24 hours were generally useless to forensic pathologists, the policeman had severed a mutilated cow's head and stored it in a freezer for subsequent shipment to the University of Buenos Aires.

Another Aberdeen Angus steer was found on Thursday, June 13 outside the village of Guatraché, missing its left eye and ear, the front half of its tongue, and its rectum. The 20-month old animal, property of Luis Cano, was inspected by members of the Guatraché Sheriff's office and veterinarian Alberto Blanco.

The high-strangeness quotient would increase only two days later, when a 400 kg. steer was found dead within a circle of yellow grass at the "Las Tranquerías" farm belonging to Luis Stock Capella. "When I found it," said foreman José Ibarra, "there was a circle of yellow grass measuring some 20 meters across. I combed the field to see if there were signs of people or cars, and I found nothing. Here you have to drive in alongside the farmhouse and there are no tracks...or you have to come in by air," he explained, echoing the words spoken by Dr. Belot only a few days earlier. The steer had been relieved of its tongue, jugular veins and reproductive organs, but the foreman marveled at the fact that the animal was lying down peacefully, its body showing no signs of resistance, since any thrashing around by a large bovine would have left clumps of ripped-up sod as evidence. As had happened elsewhere in La Pampa province, other cows refused to approach the fallen animal and even vultures kept their distance for at least a week.

Reports continued to pour in. On Wednesday, June 12, several mutilated cows were discovered in pasture fields near Macachín and Rivera. Some of the dead animals belong to the landowning Diez family of Arano, some 20 kilometers west of Rivera. The landowner's son showed journalists a videotape of the mutilation, which displayed the trademark butchery of the unseen predators: incisions in the abdominal area revealing the absence of mammary glands, reproductive organs, anus and intestines. In nearby Macachín, Pedro Miller found one of his red heifers spread-eagled on the grass rather than lying on its side. The carcass displayed the customary incisions around the mouth and ears.

The Pampas had gone from pasture ground to abattoir in less than a month.

The mutilations were engaged in a southward expansion as two mutilated cows were found near the community of Choele Choel in the Province of Rio Negro: the dead cows at the "El Laurel" ranch were missing tongues, eyes, ears, udders and rectum. As in earlier cases, there were no blood stains or vehicle tracks. Veterinarian Carlos Montobbio remarked that the Rio Negro cows "were flaccid, showing lax musculature as if they had only been dead for hours," despite having been dead for days. Montobbio dismissed the possibility that an electric scalpel could have been employed, since this surgical element does not penetrate through cowhide.

Adding to the tally of animal deaths from Rio Negro were the reports received from Bajo Hondo, some 30 kilometers from the major port city of Bahía Blanca (a city which features prominently in Argentinean saucer lore), where four mutilated cows were remarkably well preserved after being dead for 10 days. Other reports were received from the towns of Algarrobo, Pedro Luro, Patagones and Darregueira in the Province of Buenos Aires as well as from distant General San Martín in Patagonia.

Pascual Lavoratornuovo, the owner of one of the animals mutilated in Sta. Carmen de Patagones, made a terse statement: "If I must find an explanation for the case, I'm lean toward thinking that there's something strange [going on], related to extraterrestrials."

As of June 18, 2002, the body count stood at 60.

According to *El Diario de la Pampa's* June 19 edition, fears about possible radiation in the mutilated carcasses prompted police officers to report to the sites equipped with a Geiger counters. "There is only one in the entire province of La Pampa and it belongs to the Bureau of Mines," said Sheriff Hector Garcia. "We weren't aware of the possibility [of radiation] and now we know that there's an agency who can provide us with one. We also know that in previous years this task was conducted and positive results were obtained from some vehicles (sic)."

The Sheriff was also quick to add that no Satanic cults were at work in the cattle mutilations. "The cults engage in satanic rites and the incisions made by any professional would leave traces of blood, and there is none to be found here. I believe that a cult member would be unable to contain the blood produced during one such incision." Whether Satanic cults were willing to brave the glacial cold for cow rectums was a different matter altogether.

The death toll climbed to 160 by June 25, with veterinarians arguing that this count reflected only fifty per cent of the cases reported in six of Argentina's provinces. The mutilation

epidemic had already spread to the neighboring republic of Uruguay, where two cows had been found mutilated in different locations.

The Experts Weigh In

Veterinarians of the Pampas region were accustomed to dealing with all of the possible illnesses that can befall beef cattle--everything ranging from contagious ecthyma to rumen impaction. The sight of seeing so many animals lying dead in the Pampan silence surely sent a shudder through some of them...especially as they realized that a cruel intelligence appeared to be at work in the mutilations.

This at least was the opinion of veterinarian José Casavillani of the municipality of La Adela, whose first media statement was to say that "there was intelligence" behind the cattle mutilations. There was no place for assigning the blame random natural forces or predators-- in an interview with Radio Manantial, the veterinarian disclosed a curious discovery. The cattle mutilations in his vicinity appeared to "be following the same pattern, which we could define as a circle, if it were possible to see it from above...[beginning] some 50 meters from the farm house with four dead animals."

The arrangement of mutilated animals in patterns has been reported elsewhere, such as during the Puerto Rican phase of the first Chupacabras attacks of the mid-'90s, during which dead cows had been found aligned in the middle of a rural road, as though reflecting the maddening logic or madness of the perpetrator.

Guillermo Videau, a member of the Southern Pampas Rural Association, was more concerned with the harsh economic realities than sleuthing for aliens or predators. "For the mid-sized cattleman, regardless of the causes and the inability to prevent against them, [the deaths] represent significant economic losses." Videau estimated that the cows, in excellent reproductive shape, represented a four thousand *peso* loss their owners. The Pampan cattle industry, he explained to the media, has learned to struggle with climatic uncertainty, fires and disease, and the animals are quite hardy. "A single animal slain mysteriously is shocking, but ten of them represent a cause for alarm."

Raúl Marini, the president of the Rural Association of the town of Adolfo Ansina, noted that there is "bewilderment and confusion" among ranchers from the Salliqueló region. In a June 17 interview with *La Nueva Provincia*, Marini stated that there was no official information forthcoming from the government ministries, and that the average rancher was thinking in terms of cattle rustlers and not Martians. "Up to now we were concerned with mundane events such as cattle

rustling, something that we know humans can do. But these mutilations have us confused." These sentiments were echoed by Jaime Murphy, head of the Cattle Ranchers' Association of the Southern Pampas: "We don't want to be part of the collective hysteria...our knowledge of the rural areas tells us that all deaths are attributable to a specific reason, but we've never witnessed deaths as strange as these."

Three specialists from the School of Veterinary Sciences of the National University of La Pampa in General Pico visited the site of a mutilation near Macachín to conduct a thorough necropsy, according to Argentina's La Nación on June 17, 2002. "We're trying to find a logical model, a common pattern," explained Jorge Dubarri, Abel Herrera and Alberto Pariani. Dubarri, who coordinates the regional SENASA lab, concurred with his colleagues in the importance of "reaching a logical conclusion from a scientific standpoint, because telling ranchers that the causes lay in extraterrestrial attacks is hardly serious."

La Nueva Provincia also consulted renown large animal veterinarian Gustavo Santiago, who remarked on the strange manner in which the animals had been found in the Rio Negro area. "They were spread-eagled, as occurs when one anesthetizes an animal and takes it somewhere else. It's as though they had been deposited there...the greatest surprise came when we necropsied one of the animals...there was no hemorrhaging, the blood was uncoagulated and there was no odor, even though they had been dead for a week." Samples from the Rio Negro autopsies were sent to the INTA laboratory at Balcarce for analysis.

Veterinarian Pablo Seeling, with the Police Cattle Rustling Brigade, looked into the mutilation of a bull whose testicles and tongue had been removed in Laurencena, province of Entre Ríos. In a June 26th interview with Paraná's *El Diario*, the police vet observed that what was intriguing about the mutilations continued to be the instrument employed in the incisions. "I don't want to think about aliens or anything," he told journalists, "but I wonder how one could make such a precise incision. I made an incision with my scalpel right next to the existing one and it was completely different."

Eduardo Boroni, Dean of the School of Agronomy and Veterinarian Science of the Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL), considered the Entre Ríos mutilations, deploring the fact that no proper analysis of the animal samples provided by the authorities had been performed due to the fact that they were several days old. "In order to have a scientific opinion on the cause of the animal deaths," he declared, "we must first conjecture on a given event, hypothesis.

This is what is not happening. There is no clear and definite hypothesis and under these conditions, one does not know what is being looked for."

The Skeptics' Corner

Faced with the tidal wave of hypotheses, theories, official confusion and scientific bewilderment, some parties set forth "rational" explanations for the events playing out in Argentina's cattle pastures. Raúl Cardón, Wildlife Director for the Río Negro province, assured La Nueva Provincia's reporters that there was a sane and reasonable explanation for the mutilations: a reclusive feline known as the *gato chaqueño* (Chaco cat).

According to Cardón, the Chaco cat stands fifty centimeters tall, measures a meter and a half from nose to tail, has long rear limbs, and rather than having the rounded head characteristic to felines, has an elongated snout like that of a fox. "It's a puma with short, small paws and a tall back," he explained. Although the wildlife expert had never seen a specimen, he based his explanation on ranchers' accounts. This unusual feline pounces on its victims' backs, inflicting a wound that enables it to consume the animal's intestines from above, allowing the victim to continue to walk until it is weakened by a loss of blood. Exhausted and drained of blood, the victim collapses and the feline proceeds to eat the tongue and other organs. The problem with Cardón's theory is that it overlooked the glaring evidence found at the mutilation sites.

Other skeptics were far more vocal: Bernardo Cané, SENASA's director, openly told radio broadcaster Samuel Gelblung on the *Edición Chiche* radio program: "The people in La Pampa must be hitting the gin pretty hard." Listeners complained that such carelessness "did not benefit his position" and Cané was forced to issue a fulsome on-air apology (www.lanuevaprovincia.com.ar).

Dr. Alejandro Martínez, a veterinarian who practiced medicine in Spain for over a decade in the exciting and bloody world of bullfighting, dismissed talk of aliens or any strangeness associated to the mutilations. "It is quite easy nowadays to immobilize an animal through the use of a small air pistol containing a tranquilizer dart. Muscle relaxers take far too long," he explained to reporters from Buenos Aires' *Diario "Página 12"*. To kill the animal, he added, it sufficed to inject the immobilized animal with sodium pentothal. Nor was he impressed by the alleged absence of footprints around the animal, stating that cattle rustlers used soft-soled rope espadrilles which left no traces.

The bullring vet was even more dismissive of the incisions performed on the animals. "The instrument employed and which produces exactly the same effects is a thermocauterizer. It measures 70 centimeters long, is very simple and has been known for some 50 years. It's mostly used on fighting bulls or race horses and requires no power source or fire, since it is a tube charged with ether with a variety of tips--short ones, long ones--and can be lit with a pocket lighter, reaching 760 degrees and cauterizing as it cuts. Not a drop of blood is spilled."

Martinez was also skeptical of the supposed difficulty in removing a cow's tongue, citing the convenience of the thermocauterizer in such operations. As for the reticence exhibited by carrion birds in feeding off the carcasses, he explained that these avians are usually wary of the presence of humans around other animals.

Other experts stepped forward to suggest that the introduction of an insect foreign to the Argentinean ecosystem could be at work. The mysterious insect in question was the notorious "yellow jacket" (*vespula germanica*), which while unable to eat through cowhide, would be able to feast on the soft parts missing in each mutilation case. This theory, voiced in the www.viarural.com.ar website by Francisco Cayol, stated that the insect attacks would explain the absence of blood found at the sites. This otherwise elegant hypothesis, however, was spoiled by the fact that Argentina was undergoing the coldest winter in memory (-11°C for a low) and such weather was hardly ideal for yellow jackets.

Despite having characterized his earlier radio remarks as "harmless badinage", SENASA director Bernardo Cané continued to weigh in as skeptic-in-residence, stating once more that the subject matter was "neither new, nor Argentinean, nor a green dwarf nor the *petiso orejudo* (a creature of Argentinean folklore) nor the phantom lights, nor the Goatsucker. It would be better to say that it's the Ginsucker, if anything...". In an earlier press conference, Cané had expressed the view that the cattle mutilations were the work of "rogue surgeons", bolstering his argument, oddly enough, on one of the landmark books of mutology: Michel Granger's *Le Grand Carnage* (Paris: Carrière, 1986). Cané also trotted out the infamous "Rommel Report" as proof that other minds had worked on the problem and dismissed it (La Nueva Provincia, 6/25/02).

In the Grip of Strange Forces

While experts continued to do their best to ignore the UFO/paranormal explanation, ufologist Oscar Alfredo "Quique" Mario of

Projecto Condor decided to look into the matter of the strange lights reported in two of the mutilation episodes. Mario expressed a belief that something strange was afoot when police officials cautioned farmers not to approach their dead animals without wearing gloves, since some form of unknown radiation may have played a part in the killings and could have an impact on humans. "We have eyewitness accounts from local cattlemen who have seen strange lights at night," he observed. "One farmer claims having seen a vehicle in the vicinity of Altaliva Roca only a few days ago...in areas in which animals have been found dead, we have records of strange lights having been seen at night."

The ufologist cited a 1999 case from the town of Remeco: "One cattlemen claimed seeing two objects in the wilderness forty three nights in a row. This gives us an idea as to the permanent and fluid activity of these unknown phenomena."

On Monday, June 16, Mario and members of his team managed to find a videotape taken a week earlier by a camper in the Chapalco region. The tape showed the maneuvers of an object that appears to rotate on an axis and makes changes in elevation and position.

While UFO researchers went about their business, an anonymous woman from the town of Felipe Solá phoned the newsroom of the *El Nuevo Día* newspaper, her voice betraying considerable trepidation. "I saw three white lights in the sky the night before the mutilated animal appear. I live in the country and have never seen anything like it. They moved quickly and made sudden stops. They were noiseless, and were white at first and turned blue, as though metallic," she explained. "[The objects] were to the south of my home, and I saw them with my husband and daughter. They vanished suddenly, incredibly. I don't know how..."

An ancillary enigma was developing to parallel the cattle mutilations: the disappearance of thousands of liters of water from huge water tanks on different farmsteads. Journalist Rodolfo Borrego interviewed some of the parties affected by the inexplicable water loss, verifying that in three separate incidents none of the huge cisterns had fissures or leaks through which these prodigious amounts of water could have vanished. "One of the cases," wrote Borrego, "goes back to the month of April, when the owner found his cisterns completely empty on two occasions. There is a third case that is only 20 days old." Similar losses were reported in the vicinity of La Adela and Santa Rosa, where ufologist Oscar "Quique" Mario had already looked into cases involving swimming pools being relieved of their contents.

Incidents of water rustling, for want of a better name, have been common in Argentina

since the 1950s. Researcher Antonio Las Heras mentioned similar cases occurring in Capilla del Monte, Salta, Trelew and Tres Arroyos--locations scattered far and wide across Argentina. Even more intriguing is that the water losses appear to occur in the proximity of high-voltage wires, leading some ufologists to suggest the likelihood that UFOs draw power and water as part of some type of electrolytic process aimed at propulsion. In other parts of the country plagued by mutilations, casual observers remarked that the enigmatic lights appeared to be following the high-voltage towers and the new potable water aqueducts installed only recently.

At 9:00 p.m. on June 20, 2002, personnel at the Puente Dique bridge over the Rio Colorado saw an object "giving off a powerful red light" whose intensity waxed and waned as it moved in bursts. Jorge Martinez, an operator at the bridge, added: "some say the lights are connected to the dead animals."

The lights were now appearing elsewhere in the country and causing physical effects in humans and machinery alike. Argentina's TELAM news agency reported that two young girls--Gabriela and Miriam del Valle Salto, ages 7 and 13 respectively, had been hospitalized in Santiago del Estero (northern Argentina) after having witnessed "multicolored lights". Other locals attested having seen potent violet lights in the sky: one woman said that an intense light shone outside the windows to her home while the internal lighting system dimmed. The mysterious lights seen over the town of Fernández Robles between June 11-14, for example, were able to interrupt television signals, cause TV sets to shut down "without any interruption to power supply" or even change channels on the receivers.

With its history of UFO sightings, Santiago del Estero's authorities did not hesitate to include a ufologist--Dr. Andrés Miotti--among the team of experts sent to investigate cattle mutilations at Quimilíoj. The team was headed by judge Jose A. Uñates, marking the first time that a magistrate had chosen to look personally into the cattle mutilations.

The strange lights gave rise to much paranormal speculation. Residents of La Chiquita in northern Argentina blamed the mutilations on "red magic", an appellation possibly derived from the color of the strange lights that were seen hovering at treetop level over darkened fields. Daniel Acuña, crossing the darkened fields of La Chiquita on his way to work, saw the lights, which prompted him to remark "it was like an evil light, which I was told was those who practice red magic." The luminous presences had been seen prior to the mutilation of a horse (tongue ripped out, anus and eyes missing) in the vicinity--a

death which deprived a local widow of her only means of earning a living, since the animal was used to haul coal and firewood for sale.

Closer to the epicenter of the mutilations, a family from the town of Smith in the province of Buenos Aires saw lights "projecting their beams downward" to the surface around 7:30 p.m. on June 25th, according to an anonymous report given to *Diario El Oeste*. Two hours later, the same family reported the lights again as they made a "return trip" from wherever they had gone off to. The sighting was apparently confirmed by reports from the neighboring villages of Montezuma and Belloq.

The Saddest Cut of All

The saddest cut of all came not from the razor-sharp knife of a Satanic cultist, or the unknown energy beam of a mutilating saucer, or even the high-tech portable laser scalpel wielded by a stooge of the New World Order: it came from SENASA itself.

The National Health and Agroalimentary Services released the findings of the report commissioned to the Universidad Nacional del Centro at Tandil on July 1, 2002. A finer piece of fiction could not have emerged from the keyboards of the world's most talented novelists.

In a tone reminiscent of the Condon Report of the late 1960's, the SENASA Report placed the blame on a small rodent known as the *hociudo rojizo* (red-muzzled mouse) that occupies a niche in the rural ecosystem and whose nutritional habits--traditionally earthworms and insects--had undergone a radical change, turning it into a carrion eater. In a SENASA press release, director Bernardo Cané stated: "We were able to establish that the cows died of natural causes as customarily occurs this time of year," adding that "their carcasses were subsequently mutilated by various predators."

The press release went on to quote Cané as saying: "at the start of the study, we did not discard the possibility of human involvement, but it has been proven that there was none, because of the lack of narcotizing elements. It was also proven, in recently slain animals, that the incisions are not so precise as they are serrated, and the studies tell us that the animals died of natural causes and not due to provoked attacks," adding at the same time that "all public agencies concur in this assessment."

The Argentine media did not hesitate to circulate photographs of the adorable *oxymycterus rufus* with the ominous heading "*el depredador*" (the predator), promptly causing peals of laughter throughout paranormal and UFO circles from Argentina to Spain. The fix was in: as far as Argentina's troubled government was concerned,

the animal mutilation wave of 2002 had been brought to an end. But at least one latter-day Galileo was willing to echo the Italian astronomer's historic "eppur si muove."

In a news item for *La Voz del Interior* in the city of Córdoba, Dr. Jaime Polop, a specialist in rodent ecosystems, politely challenged SENASA's findings. "It's hard for me to believe in such an attack by rodents on dead cows," he said, citing that the red-muzzled mouse can ingest between ten to twelve grams of nourishment a day, meaning that the concerted effort of hundreds of these rodents would have been required. This was in itself unlikely, since the red-muzzled rodent was not found in abundance throughout southern Argentina and then only near streams and rivers. The fact that scarce population of this field mouse had become a carrion consumer was perhaps as startling as the mutilations themselves.

Conclusion

In 1970, a sixty-six year old Brazilian farmer, Pedro Trajano Machado, and his son Eurípides were on the *Palma Velha* farm in the district of Alegrete, engaged in their daily chores with farm animals. The Machados had succeeded in fencing in eighteen bovines, separating a red Jersey cow from her month old calf, which was allowed to roam the pasture field some five meters away. While the farmhands cleaned down the cow, they noticed that the other animals were becoming restless, pacing their containment area and vocalizing their discontent. Before long, the red Jersey became uncontrollable, mooing loudly. The Machados paid no mind to the situation, since after all, these were free-range cows unaccustomed to being penned. But Pedro Machado looked over his shoulder to see that something strange was happening, involving the month-old, 20 kilogram calf in the pasture.

To his astonishment, the farmhand discovered that the calf was suspended in mid-air

about one meter off the ground, and in an upright position, vocalizing loudly. He called his son to witness the astonishing phenomenon, and it suddenly became all the weirder: the calf began moving away, parallel to the ground, as though pulled by a magnet.

The dumbfounded farmhands could not believe what happened next: after drifting horizontally for twenty meters, the calf began rising vertically into the air, vanishing completely from view in 3 or 4 minutes. Throughout this time period, the calf did not change position, that is to say, it remained in the same upright posture it maintained while on the ground. Curiously, the calf stopped mooing once the vertical ascent began.

No anomalous conditions were reported: no unusual noises, lights, winds, or objects had been present on the otherwise pleasant tropical day. What is perhaps most shocking is that father and son simply shrugged and returned to the work at hand, showing signal indifference for the phenomenon in a land where the paranormal forms part of the day's business.

Thirty-two years later, the paranormal has come to form part of Argentina's everyday reality as well, turning it into a place where strange lights and solid craft in a stunning array of colors and configurations sail the night skies unchallenged and where unknown mutilators deprive an embattled population of valuable livestock during one of the coldest winters on record--a curious coincidence, when we think back on the depredations of the Chilean Chupacabras in 2002--and empty the contents of enormous water tanks for reasons that are equally unclear. Perhaps no relationship exists between any of these phenomena--the mutilations, the water theft and the odd lights--but their synergistic effect is undeniable.

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Crypto-Aeronautics Is Not Dead

by Wendy Connors
Albuquerque, New Mexico

I don't think for one minute crypto-aeronautics is essentially dead. I'm busier now than at any time in the past and even though the great cases seem to be fewer and fewer, I have never had such fun while reviewing the history and discovering things I missed or rediscovering things that I had forgotten over the years. Suddenly, to me, the answer to the UFO riddle does not seem as important as it once was and I'm not so sure this is a bad thing in itself. The refocus of crypto-aeronautics toward the history

aspects is actually quite astounding and vibrantly interesting...a new view which gives better insight. Instead of chasing the saucers I find myself looking at them from a whole new viewpoint.

As an example, in the last few months I have received the home movies of Alfred Loedding (who organized Project SIGN) and talked to Col. McCoy's son who is sending me home movies, documents and photos of his father.

He's terribly interested in his father's connection with the first official UFO investigation...a part he didn't really discuss much with his children, but they were aware of his interest, it's just that they were too young to take advantage of asking him a lot of questions and now it is too late.

Yes, I agree that "funds" are in short supply for crypto-aeronautic research, but I just keep "toodling" along as best I can and as far as my personal funds can take me. What I wouldn't give for money to buy a new reel to reel tape recorder that works, etc. I don't mind much because I really love what I do in this field. I have to agree with Fran [Ridge] to a certain degree that the major organizations are kinda dropping the ball on things that really are not cost concerns. For example, FUFOR has not updated their website in two years, issued the annual awards that motivate researchers to continue; CUFOS hasn't changed any for almost two decades (even their IUR issue supports the same cover design), when small design changes reflect and give new "attitude," etc. of the times. MUFON has crippled itself by going into the sensationalist drivel and become "New Age" in its format, which turns off the serious researcher, but pulls in the bucks from the "Woo-woo's" who thirst for the next intergalactic message from the EBE's, etc.

Ufology is dead in some ways, to be sure, but I can speak only for myself in this regard. I have

begun to personally change not only my research protocols, but have been trying to change the vernacular to more reflect the times...such as using crypto-aeronautics to replace "Ufology." By doing so I feel I am effectively removing the "taintedness" that has entered the field and helping to make the vernacular more appealing to the more serious researcher or student. Flying Discs to Flying Saucers and on to UFOs...all became muddled by the "crackpot/woo-woo crowd." You cannot place ball lightning, Marfa lights and bolides into crypto-aeronautics because they won't fit, no matter how hard one tries. Crypto-aeronautic's reflect only the nuts and bolts of an aerial device that smacks of manufacturing and displays aeronautical maneuvering that surpasses current technology.

In this "lull" of activity is the prime opportunity to re-invent our field of study. No matter how we slice it the day will come, even when we are dust and lost to history, that humankind will encounter and accept a sentient species. It will be at that moment in time that what we did and the history we preserved will shine. We've only been at this for just over 50 years - a drop in the proverbial bucket. We have much to be grateful for, many shining heroes to look up to and we've advanced the knowledge a million-fold. This is not the time for "poor us."

Editorial Note: Adapted from an email message.

Bits and Pieces

Thoughtful Quote

"Man is a credulous animal, and must believe something; in the absence of good grounds for belief, he will be satisfied with bad ones."
Bertrand Russell, "Unpopular Essays," An Outline of Intellectual Rubbish.

Unusual Description of Light

Observation by Loren Gross to the Project 1947 email information exchange:

I can recall reading about this sort of thing in UFO reports although off hand I don't know if anyone is giving it special attention. Here is what a Mr. J. W. Pleasants told the Raleigh, North Carolina *News-Observer*, 15 August 1952.

"Pleasants noticed one other peculiar thing about the saucer in that it apparently did not give off light although it was itself brightly lighted most of the time. Pleasant feels that if

the light was light as we know it there surely areas under the object would be illuminated to some extent, even from 1,500 feet. The object, however, radiated no light apparently to the ground even during its brightest."

If these 1952 reports were all so much nonsense, why would a witness dream up such an improbable story?

Bob Pratt Web Site

Bob Pratt is the author of the widely acclaimed book, *UFO Danger Zone: Terror and Death in Brazil - Where Next?* He has opened an excellent website at www.bobpratt.org. Visit this site as soon as you can. Material is still being added so go back to it several times over the next few months.

Description of his book: "For more than fifty years, Brazil has been one of the world's top UFO hot spots. Tens of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of encounters have

taken place. A small but significant number of them have been harmful, causing injuries and even deaths. What happened to some victims is recounted in this book, which was published by Horus House Press in 1996. Brief summaries of a few of these encounters are told in "Brazil's Dangerous UFOs" below [on the website]. Some incidents, which are described below, occurred in 1977 and 1978 in an extraordinary UFO flap that has never been fully investigated."

Water and UFOs Website

Go to <http://www.waterufo.net/> if you are interested in the connection between UFOs and water.

Len Stringfield's Fort Dix/McGuire AFB Story

The late Len Stringfield is one of Ohio's most renowned ufologists. His two books and several status reports on UFO crash retrieval stories are classic publications in the UFO field. There has been a continuing interest in his stories and the still unknown identity of most of his fifty or so first hand informants. Researchers are interested in learning if any of his informants were telling the truth about their alleged claims of government held evidence of an alien presence on our planet. Some new information about one of his stories had been published in a report dated July 22, 2002 on the web site of the National Institute of Discovery Science at <http://www.nidsci.org/researchnews.html>.

After a lengthy investigation NIDS stated in its report that it's "working hypothesis (which is subject to change based on further emerging evidence) is that the 1978 McGuire AFB incident did not happen." Five individuals who should have known about the case denied all knowledge of it and a government form submitted to Mr. Stringfield to support the story appears to be fraudulent. The evidence gathered to date indicates that the case may be a hoax. We suggest that you read the NIDS's report in its entirety.

Abductions Occurring Less Often?

In an email message to UFO researchers and supporters MUFON's Tom Deuley noted that he is looking for "repeat abduction experiencers" for the UFO Research Coalition's Ambient Monitoring Project. He observed, "In the process of our research and solicitations we are in general finding there are fewer abductions in the past few years and especially few cases of

repeat abductions." They are looking for confirmation of this from other researchers. Mr. Deuley can be contacted at ideuley@ieeee.org or at 2827 Sir Phillip Drive, San Antonio, TX 78209.

Rationale for SETI – and UFO Research

"The probability of success is difficult to estimate, but if we never search, the chance of success is zero."

- Philip Morrison & Guiseppe Cocconi.
"Nature," 1959

Huh!

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld baffled NATO allies and journalists alike on Thursday (June 6, 2002) defending Washington's view that the United States and its allies could not wait for "absolute proof" before taking action against groups and states suspected of acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

"The message is that there are no knowns. There are things we know that we know. There are known unknowns, that is to say there are things we now know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns -- things we do not know we don't know."

He could also be talking about UFOs. But he sounds too much like Phil Klass.

Miracles

No testimony is sufficient to establish a miracle, unless the testimony be of such a kind that its falseness would be more miraculous than the fact which it endeavors to establish. -- David Hume

UFO History

Why we must try to preserve all we accomplish in ufology that is of any importance:

Most human affairs happen without leaving vestiges or records of any kind behind them. The past, having happened, has perished with only occasional traces. To begin with, although the absolute number of historical writings is staggering, only a small part of what happened in the past was ever observed... And only a part of what was observed in the past was remembered by those who observed it; only a part of what was remembered was recorded; only a part of what was recorded has survived; only a part of what survived has come to the historians' attention; only a part of what has come to their attention is credible; only a part of what is credible has been grasped; and only a part of what has been grasped can be expounded or narrated by the historian.

—Louis Gottschalk, *Understanding History* (1969)

Donations to the Ohio Historical Society

As part of our efforts to help preserve the UFO literature for historic research purposes, the following publications have been donated to the Ohio Historical Society thanks to donations from William E. Jones and Richard and Jean Seifried. Richard is a past MUFON State Director for Ohio and Jean, his wife, is a past MUFON State Director for Oklahoma. Richard has written a very interesting fiction book entitled "Medicine Grizzly." He can be reached by email at seifried@ipa.net or c/o Signal Hill Enterprises, 138 Deer Lane, Eureka Springs, AR 72632.

Skylook: issues 53, 57, 58, and 64. MUFON UFO Journal: issues 98, 102, 105-106, 108-204, 206, 208-244, 246-258, 262-263 (They had 264.), 265-404. MUFON Symposium Proceedings, annual issues 1973-1977, 1979-

1981, 1989-1992. International UFO Reporter: Vol. 26, 1; Vol. 15 through Vol. 25, complete; plus Vol. 14, 4-6; Vol. 11, 1 and 6; Vol. 7, 1; and Vol. 1, 1. (They already had Vol. 7, 6-8 and Vol. 8, 2, 4-5.)

Help is needed to obtain more publications for both this collection and the much larger one at The Ohio State University. If you have any UFO newsletters, journals, and magazines from anywhere in the world please let us know. We all need to help preserve this very important and very rare literature. A Federal tax deduction may be possible for a deduction to either of these institutions.

Ufology as an Oak Tree

Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.

UFO Sighting From Long Ago

by Loren Gross
Project 1947 Website

I found a couple of outstanding essays about Giordano Bruno and Galileo. They were done by Maria Ambrosini, an excellent scholar who has examined original documents in the Vatican archives. One of these days I want to do a "pre-1890" UFO book. At this time, however, I thought you might enjoy this item that Miss Ambrosini ran across:

"An example of the surprising material that sometimes appears in religious writing occurs in the medieval 'Voyage of Saint Brendan,' a sixth-century Irish monk of the Age of Saints, one of those who took a leather coracle, a boat made by stretching an ox hide over a wooden frame, out to sea trusting in God. Then: 'One day,

when the masses were over, they noticed a column rising out of the sea. This column was covered with a most unusual canopy--so strange indeed that the coracle could pass through the openings in it but no one could tell what substance it was made of. It was the color of silver and seemed harder than marble. The column itself was of pure crystal. The canopy was so big that it extended a mile on either side of the column and went down into the sea."

My impression is that the man is trying his best to describe something he does not understand rather than making up a story to puzzle his readers.

Two 1952 Sighting Reports

by Herb Taylor, Project 1947 Internet Messages

First Report

Though a copy of this rather interesting report was sent to Jan Aldrich some time ago, to date no public accounting of it has been made. Note that I acquired this information in Jan./Feb. 1995 directly from the witness by means of a lengthy phone call, a signed questionnaire, and a personal letter. At this time he was a 67-year old retired Emeritus Professor from Hofstra University (Long Island, New York) with doctorate degrees in education and psychology (or possibly psychiatry, not certain of this point)

among his academic accomplishments. Following are the basic details of what he witnessed in his own words, nearly a half-century ago;

"In August of 1952 it was necessary for me to return to California (from New York, HT) for the start of the new academic year. My wife would join me with our new daughter in September. I undertook to drive across in my new (used) Studebaker Champion (the best car I ever owned!)

"During the 3-4th week in August I found myself in Tucumcari, New Mexico. I recall stopping for a late lunch in a restaurant located as I recall, near a railroad station. It was a bright sunny day, with low humidity and blue sky—about 3pm. While having lunch, someone entered the restaurant and announced, 'Hey everybody, there's a flying saucer outside!' I recall rushing out-along with others. I glanced about and there was a group of 15-20 people some of whom were pointing upwards. Following their lead I looked upwards and received a profound shock:

"There in the midst of this crystal clear blue sky, about 50 to 60 degrees above the horizon was a silver-white disk, clearly defined and motionless. There were no fuzzy edges, no blurring of the object. It was there. And it was beautiful a gleaming, metallic disk gleaming like platinum—brighter than aluminum, and motionless. It looked like a shining hole carved out of blue sky!

"Groping for some unit of measurement I held some coins at arms length—the disk thus appeared to be between the size of a dime and a nickel held in this manner. For me the shock was profound--to get some impact of its effect on me, try to visualize stepping out one evening and glancing upward to see two moons in the sky! My mind told me that this thing was a machine of bright metal, high in the sky and was motionless. (I had been a weather technician, had launched and tracked weather balloons, recorded data, prepared reports, etc. and nothing resembled what I was viewing.)

"After 5-10 minutes (approx) the restaurant owner passed around a pair of binoculars. When my turn came I viewed the object for 2-3 minutes through the glasses the object that appeared flat to the naked eye showed indication of body; that is, like a soup bowl slightly tipped. The rim facing west was tinted red. Glancing at the western portion of the sky (the sun was in that quadrant) I noted a bank of clouds tinted red--and being reflected off of the western facing rim of the disk. Nothing else showed itself: no windows, ports, etc.

"I made the decision not to move until this thing did so if I had to remain there all night! I lined it up with a telephone pole to have a line of sight, sat down and waited. After 5-10 minutes I suddenly became aware that the 'thing' was getting smaller! No lateral movement of any kind; just getting smaller. People shouted 'Look at it go!' Since there was no lateral movement it was apparently going straight up at unbelievable

speed! I counted from one to six (4 seconds?) by which time it was a pin-head of light (clearly defined if you were following it) and then it was gone.

"How can I adequately summarize the impact of this event? Here was an object that defied all the laws of physics (and my practical experience as a weather technician). A material object with a disk shape hung motionless in the sky. How high? I don't know but my impression was that it was very high up. How large? I don't know, but my impression was of a beautiful shining metallic disk, brighter than aluminum. And when it finally moved it seemed to go straight up at incredible speed like a light being suddenly pulled directly away from your eyes. It moved without a sound; without a sonic boom; without a vapor trail. (A balloon losing gas would come down!)

"My mind and my emotions told me that I had seen a machine unlike anything I had ever known or experienced, and while I was not frightened I very definitely was awed. I do recall the impulse to fall to my knees for I felt that I was in the presence of enormous power.

"For hundreds of miles as I drove on or stopped for gas or drinks, etc. people were talking about this event."

Only a weather balloon seems to suggest itself as a possibility, but taking all the information into account, this would appear to be a remote possibility indeed. There's a good chance that this was yet another bonafide unknown from a long-ago memorable summer of 1952.

Comment From Don Ledger:

I don't know if it's [the witnesses' reaction] so much mystical as emotional. And I'm not suggesting that the object is somehow influencing that emotion—just that that emotion or perhaps some primitive reflex-triggered by the sighting of something perceived as overwhelming is kicking in. Look at what he said. "My mind and my emotions told me that I had seen a machine unlike anything I had ever known or experienced, and while I was not frightened I very definitely was awed. I do recall the impulse to fall to my knees or I felt that I was in the presence of enormous power."

Let's not forget either that this man was a weather technician with no small understanding of balloons or the environment from the ground up. He has also noted that this object was observed over an area of hundreds of miles so it

wasn't local. This object must have been much larger than a skyhook balloon. 70 feet in diameter, to have been observed from possibly hundreds of miles away considering that the object was between the sizes of a dime and a nickel held at arms length. The Skyhook balloon theory fits some of the parameters of the sighting but not all.

Editorial comment: This report caught our attention because it comes from the early days of the flying saucer era. It expresses so well the wonder that people often try to describe when they have seen something in the sky that we have come to call a flying saucer or UFO. The report also expresses the innocence from back when we weren't concerned with abductions, cattle mutilations, grand Government conspiracies and all of the other "stuff" that seems to cloud up the field of ufology these days. This short report was a pleasure to read.

Second Report

Thanks to the good offices of Mary Castner and Frank Reid of the Center for UFO Studies, I've been fortunate to obtain a copy of a most interesting letter from the late Dr. James McDonald to a colleague Dr. Percy Carr of the Department of Physics at Iowa State University dated 11/10/69. It's written on official stationery of The University of Arizona, and contains a detailed account of an important daylight report by two members of the scientific community. One will be referred to as W, a biochemist by training, with some chemistry and physics; the other will be referred to as Dr. Y, a bacteriologist. Note that these denote the initials of their real last names. The details were obtained by Dr. McDonald from witness W during a lengthy telephone conversation they had on the same date that he wrote the cited letter. Because of the various salient factors involved, I feel it necessary that my colleagues on this list be informed of this matter. Following are the details of this report taken directly from Dr. McDonald's letter:

"The sighting occurred at San Jose, California, on April 25, 1952, during a 15-minute interval, 11:00-11:15 a.m. (The times were checked by car-radio time announcements that happened to occur just before the start and very near the end of the sighting.) They were driving to the FMC (Food Machinery Corporation, HT) office from downtown San Jose. W was at the wheel, when Dr. Y noted something that he said at first looked like a piece of paper in a breeze. However, he quickly noticed that it seemed to be moving against the surface wind. We could not see it at that juncture. They were near the FMC parking lot, entered it, parked, and got out to look.

"Directly across the street was a small building, since taken over by FMC but then outside the corporation property. Directly over it (not merely in line of sight, but directly overhead, we emphasized) lay a small metallic-looking disc. The plane of the disc lay at about 20 degrees to the horizontal, and the object appeared to be rotating about a vertical axis, so that it wobbled or precessed ('like the motion of a disc in a water meter,' W stated). His recollection of the slant range to the object at that time was not very much more than 50 feet.

"The object was advancing towards them; it crossed the street and passed over electric power lines, which W subsequently determined lay at about 40 feet above the ground. The disc cleared the wires by what he estimated to be 5 to 8 feet, crossed directly over their heads at a vertical clearance that he thought was thus about 40-50 feet. In their discussions immediately after the sighting, the two men agreed that the diameter of the disc was about 4-5 feet.

"W said there was a thin overcast, so that the sky overhead was rather bright, preventing them from seeing finer details. He said there was a faint suggestion of something like rivet heads, 'or other surface modulation', but he stressed that that was a marginal impression. In planform it was round. When they saw it at a greater angle, they estimated its vertical thickness to be in the neighborhood of 1.5 feet. W compared the general configuration to what one would have if the handles were knocked off two garbage-can lids, and the two lids soldered together face to face, with perhaps some putty run around the rim to give a slightly rounded periphery. The edge was not sharp, he emphasized, but not cylindrical either. It was opaque, and seemed to them to be made of metal, as far as its luster might indicate.

"As the disc went overhead, it continued to rotate in the same wobbling manner. It was completely soundless, and there was no exhaust or emission of any sort perceptible. It continued on past them, heading towards another divisional plant of FMC (John Bean division), passing over a large open area that lay between them and the Bean buildings (subsequently built up). It moved in a large arc, in plan, and seemed to maintain a constant altitude of around 40-50 feet during all this motion. He said their speed estimates were about the same, in the neighborhood of 8-10 mph. (I did not succeed in getting notes on the exact local geography relative to streets and nearby buildings, but the gist of it was that the object curved around them

when it got near some railroad marshaling yards, and then came to a nearby street and made a fairly distinct turn, heading back towards the two men.)

"However, before the disc completed this large sweep, Dr. Y suddenly said that he saw something else overhead. W quickly saw what he was pointing to, a black object at high altitude that seemed to be hovering motionless under an overcast that the airport weather station subsequently indicated (on W's inquiry) to be at an estimated 10,000 feet. The object appeared to be round and was black, and, to the extent that they could estimate its altitude, it left them with the impression of being very much larger than the small disc, perhaps 100 feet. W stressed that that was a wild guess, based only on the impression that the object was near the clouds and the reported cloud altitude.

"That the black object might, in fact, have been near the overcast was perhaps indicated by the next development. Suddenly two other seemingly identical objects came into position, as if they had quickly dropped out of the cloud overcast. The three objects 'jittered around like boats in a stream', he stated, but held a more or less steady position relative to each other, aside from this erratic motion.

"By about this time, the small disc had come back near their position, very slowly. When it came just opposite them on the street that it seemed to be following, it stopped spinning, hung motionless a moment, and then rapidly climbed towards the north-northeast (towards Mt. Hamilton, he stated).

"At the same time that the small disc began its rapid climb, one of the three black objects also left the formation and headed in the same general direction. The black object and the climbing disc seemed to be getting very near each other, when suddenly both seemed to disappear into the overcast.

"The other two black objects maintained their original position for perhaps a minute or so, and then one of them headed off to the north, finally passing out of sight (I failed to ask for an

indication of speed), while the other seemed to go directly up into the clouds, passing out of sight, and terminating the entire incident. The 11:15 a.m. news came on almost at the time that the last object disappeared, W stated.

"As I mentioned earlier, the men went inside the FMC offices, dictated their account, and put it into the FMC files. W said that, at that time, there had been quite a flurry of UFO reports in the California area, most of them being treated in a more or less ridiculing fashion. He felt some obligation to make a report, and placed a telephone call to Moffett Field. However, after getting an answer and while waiting for them to find somebody at the other end who could take his account, he thought twice about exposing himself to personal ridicule and said that he decided to hang up and did so. Hence, there was no official report made to any Air Force or military sources. He felt quite sure that the filed account was never forwarded by FMC to any other agencies.

"I asked him if he or Y had seen anything comparable to that before or since, and he said that they had not...he stressed that, to him and Y, it was 'a most disturbing experience'...that he and Y had been forced to the conclusion, at that time and without any subsequent basis for changing their minds, that they had been looking at some object of such unusual propulsion characteristics that it was difficult to think of it as anything other than extraterrestrial. As he put it, 'it utilized some propulsion method not in the physics books.'

"W's account was so systematically presented that the only additional feature that came out in my own subsequent questioning was that the apparent wobble rate was 8-9 times per minute, as he recalled.

"This is just the kind of sighting that I wish Dr. Condon could have heard about directly from the witnesses."

My colleague's thoughts and comments on these reports would be appreciated. (Herb Taylor can be reached at HerbUFO@aol.com)

Strange Light Sighted
London, Ohio, October 12, 1980
Investigator: Richard D. Seifried

A wife, husband and daughter are driving through a rural area from West Jefferson to London, Ohio at approximately 9 PM on a clear October night. The sky was clear. The wife,

whose first name is Patsy, was the driver and relates the following experience: "[We] were coming into London on Route 142 and the light caught my eye. It was a different kind of

light...It was in front of us all the way...it just kept getting brighter and brighter, and we go up to where Spring Valley crosses 142 [where] there is a little dip in the road and we were on one side of the dip. All of a sudden the light like it landed on the other side, on the top of the hill. So I slowed down and my daughter kept saying, Don't stop mom. Don't stop. Keep going, turn around. Do something. It's landed..." So I didn't stop. When I got to where I thought it might have landed it went back up in the air and it stayed there until we got near [this factory] and then it just disappeared. Don't know where it went. It just disappeared."

The investigator, Mr. Seifried, asked, "What color was the light?" She responded, "A bright orange. The closer that you got the brighter the orange seemed."

Question: "Did it give off a ray of light?"
Answer: " It just like it had settled down...like

it had come down so close to the ground. All you could see was the bright orange light." Husband's response: "She was lookin', and she could see black holes in the orange. Cheese holes is what it looked like."

Question: "Could you hear anything?" Answer: "No, I had the windows up in the car. I didn't hear anything." Question: "Did the automobile misbehave in any way?" Answer: "No."

"For three months my daughter was scared to death to even go upstairs. She was petrified." Question: "How old was your daughter at the time?" Answer: "Ten."

Question: "How large do you think it was?"
Answer: "I don't know...bigger than the car. It looked like... a cup and saucer, like it was rounded on top and it had a round bottom."

Spectacular UFO Filmed and Photographed in Colombia on April 02-03, 2002

Translation (C) 2002, Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology

SOURCE: William Chaves, Contacto OVNI
DATE: 05.16.2002

The news spread like wildfire regarding the fact that in Tabio and Tenjo, communities 40 km. to the northwest of the Colombian capital, strange phenomena are occurring. The CONTACTO OVNI organization held a skywatch [in this vicinity] since some of the reports from nearly 300 people who occupy the region adjacent to Peña de Huaica state that strange lights engaged in all kind of maneuvers are being seen by day and by night. Even the local mayor has witnessed these events and there exists a generalized restlessness over the phenomenon.

Fifteen members of the organization headed out with both camcorder and still cameras toward the location in question on the night of April 02. For 7 minutes, we captured on video the maneuvers of a

strange orange object which changed shape above the road leading toward Tabio. On the following day, at around 9:15 a.m., we took photographs of Peña de Huaica without noticing anything abnormal. However, upon developing the negatives, we were startled by the fact that the first two photos in the sequence show nothing above mountain, but the third features a circular blue disk. We compared the photos and subsequent analysis at Kodak in Bogotá revealed no anomalies in the film, since the object was in fact there. The negative was enlarged and the metallic disk descending over the hill can be clearly seen. Photos of this sighting can be viewed at www.epagos.com/contacto-ovni at the link "OVNI sen Huaika during 2002".

Please examine them and give us your opinion at : contactovni@hotmail.com.

Unusual Radar Responses - 1958

by David Clarke, on Project 1947 Website
cd292@CRAZYDIAMONDS.FSNET.CO.UK

Is anyone aware of this bizarre radar incident, mention of which I found in the British Air Ministry 'Radar and Signals Advisory Board' papers, marked 'Top Secret' and dated 1958?

"...significant and reliable reports on unusual radar responses have been received within the last month:

"a) whilst tracking Soviet aircraft on 19th February 1958, technical personnel of an American radar site at ASOIWAYAMA,

Hokaido, observed an unusual response on the FPS-6 height-finder. The response was from the area 40°30' N, 137°30' E, over the Sea of Japan, approximately 80 n.m. from the Russian coast, and nearly 200 miles from the radar site.

"The response developed rapidly to a dense cloud that expanded to cover an area some 65 miles long and 25 miles across, which rose from an altitude of 3,000 ft to a final altitude of 46,000 ft. All five Russian aircraft tracks in the area proceeded to the general vicinity of the response. Observers were unable to describe the return and associated Soviet reaction in terms of any previous experience. Rapidity of development and Soviet reaction would appear to rule out weather phenomena or radar malfunction.

"The fact that the dense cloud described above rose from low level to high altitude in a short space of time would tend to rule out all conventional forms of window. We have one report that the Soviets have experimented with metallised [sp] dust as a passive form of ECM, and it is possible that some form of low-level air burst might have been used over the Sea of Japan. Observers at the American radar site concerned, stated that the cloud nearly resembled that of a very large explosion. We have no record of an atomic or nuclear burst in the area, and a qualified observer has stated that an atomic explosion does not produce the radar effects noted.

"No further information is available. The event at Hokaido was observed by a civilian scientist as well as by officer personnel of the radar station and the report is accepted as reliable.

Ministry would welcome the assistance of Members of the Board in explaining them. "The events described in these reports are not understood. The Ministry of Supply and the Air e assistance of Members of the Board in explaining them."

Any ideas?

Reply

by Loy Pressley [lkpres@KOYOTE.COM]

I don't have anything on this sighting but I can tell about an unusual similar thing that happened while I was in the Air Force in Alaska from 1974-1981. Unfortunately, I don't remember the exact date but it happened when I was working at the Elmendorf Aeronautical station, "Elmendorf Airways", in 1974-75.

There was a pilot report from a civilian airline pilot flying from Anchorage to Tokyo that he and his crew saw what he described as a 'mushroom cloud' over the Sea of Japan. He said that it seemed to extend from the surface with the top above his flight level (33,000 feet at the time) and it was still growing taller. I never heard anything else about the report.

Alleged UFO Sighting in Dayton, Ohio by Ms. Donnie Blessing

On May 15, 2002 a female resident of Huber Heights, Ohio [near Dayton] claimed to have seen several UFOs from her vantage point near Schull Rd. They were also visible from her residence near the 8400 block of Indian Mound. She alerted the Huber Heights police department and an officer was dispatched to investigate. The primary claimant sought to advise of the circumstances surrounding this event to UFODATABASE.COM. Edited extracts from the original report follows.

Investigation

In attempt to verify the authenticity of this report, a phone call was placed to the Dayton police department. The female receptionist who took the call refused to check logbooks and said she required more information. She advised that I needed name and address of complainants. I then called the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department and the receptionist at this

department handled my inquiry in a similar fashion. Curiously, this dispatcher would not look at the logbooks for the date and time that I offered. The only info provided was that Schull Rd. was in the Huber Heights area of Dayton.

Acting on this lead, I then called Huber Heights police department. A receptionist named Mary took my call. She verified that a suspected UFO sighting was reported to them on the date and time in question. Advising that I could not obtain a copy of the log book by mail, the officer read the log book report word for word, which stated: "Time: 23:48 hundred hours. Complainant advised she saw unusual flashing lights in the sky. Appears to be over I-70. Has talked to Wright Patterson Air Force Base. They suggested to call you. Officer on call: Sgt. Mark Lightner." The name and address of the complainant was furnished but that information will not be released for privacy considerations.

Witness Interview

I called Sharon N.(name on file) at approximately 5:30 P.M. on May 24th. After explaining the nature of my call, she said she was heading out the door, but she did take time to briefly talk with me for about 5 to 7 minutes. She described the UFO sighting in basically the same form as her online submission, adding that these alleged objects were "pin points" in the distant sky and looked to be over I-70 north.

One item of interest was her assertion that the reported objects had been in the same location every night since May 15th and that they could be seen from 9:00 p.m. on thru the night. She also noted that an observer would have to be standing in a very small area to see the objects. If the witness were to move from the back of her house, the objects would be lost from sight.

I asked if she could see a flame or any shape and she replied, "No." I then asked if she thought they could be stars going behind clouds and she stressed that the objects moved "very fast." She also said that the objects would move toward each other as if to collide, yet would stop short and hover in close proximity to one another. She said that these objects would occasionally disappear and reappear in groups of 2 to 6. She claims to have several witnesses who will testify to what she had seen.

In response to the observation she called Wright Patterson Air Force Base and the Huber Heights police department. She said it took 30 minutes for the police officer to arrive. Upon his arrival he was taken thru the darkened house to the back where he observed the same alleged objects. She said his words were, "No, you are not crazy, I see them too." She said the officer was neither excited nor overly interested in the situation, but speculated that the objects were possibly "from Wright Patterson Air Force Base." The officer left shortly afterwards and to her knowledge he did not write any report on the occurrence.

I later spoke with the police officer, Sgt. Mark Lightner, by phone on June 2nd. He told me, "I

saw lights that shot back and forth across the sky. They were too far away to make out any shape or size. The witnesses and myself discussed the possibility they were something from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. I don't know how many lights there were."

Investigator Comments

There have been several sightings in the tri-state area in May that may or may not be connected to this case. However I feel it wise to mention them for investigative consideration. From NUFORC here is a brief list of some recent sightings:

May 2nd: Disk shaped object seen in Dayton accompanied by loud boom.

May 9th: An orange cone shaped object with low hum crosses sky toward Fostoria, Ohio

May 10th: A fireball was reported seen crossing sky repeatedly in Indianapolis, Indiana. Further a bright object in Lapel, Indiana moved in a similar fashion as in the Dayton story.

May 13th: From Henderson, Kentucky a black disk that made a whooshing sound was observed.

May 23rd: A story came my way on May 25th from a person whose daughter witnessed two objects from Route 42 between Lebanon and Mason, Ohio. The interesting part of this story was that two lighted objects flew extremely fast towards each other as if to collide, suddenly stopped, and then shot away from each other. This sounds very much like the Dayton story.

Finally, it is also wise to mention that during the last weeks of April and the first weeks of May 2002, all five planets which are visible to the naked eye, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn are positioned in a line with the sun after sunset. Could these have confused our witness? We don't know for sure. If the descriptions of the movements of the objects are accurate, perhaps not.

A Mysterious Visitant

A Strange Object Observed in the Heavens at Newcomerstown

NEWCOMERSTOWN, Dec. 28, 1883.-
[Special.] - A very singular phenomenon was observed in the heavens here last night and people are much puzzled to account for the strange occurrence. A short time after dark a large bright light appeared suddenly in the

eastern sky a few degrees above the horizon, and started in a direct northern path. The object had the appearance of an almost square volume of white light, and in its flight across the heavens left a bright trail which lighted up the woods just east of [the] town over which it

passed so brilliantly that small trees and bushes could be observed distinctly by many persons here who were watching the object. A very singular circumstance was the remarkable slowness with which the object traversed the heavens, it being seen for a long time by the numbers of citizens who were observing it. There have been several hypotheses as to the probable cause of this peculiar astronomical phenomenon, and some think the object was an aerolite, but the slowness of its progress across the sky leaves abundant room to doubt the correctness of this supposition. The superstitious are troubled.

From the *Cleveland Herald* (Ohio), December 29th (?), 1883. (Received courtesy of Chris Aubeck.)

Possible solution from Brett Holman at b.holman@PHYSICS.UNIMELB.EDU.AU:

I wonder if it might be some sort of atmospheric phenomenon connected with the Krakatoa eruption in August 1883 (i.e. four months before the Ohio sighting)? This caused lurid sunsets for years afterwards. I was thinking of noctilucent clouds (ie luminous clouds), which were first noted in 1885, but it now seems to be doubted whether they are caused by volcanic activity. Also, Ohio is apparently too far south for noctilucent clouds to be visible, it was the wrong time of year, and they are far too dim, from what I've read, to light up the landscape like that (unless, perhaps, it was an otherwise dark night, and the observers were dark-adapted).

Another possibility would be the gegenschein (counter-glow), since the object appeared in the east just after dark (ie, more or less diametrically opposite the Sun). But again, the gegenschein is extremely faint, so could not account for such a bright object.

Strange Dwarf Reported In Cattle Mute Area

Translation (C) 2002. Scott Corrales, Institute of Hispanic Ufology.
Special Thanks to Gloria Coluchi.

GENERAL ACHA (DNA) -- The presence of a "dwarf" or "green midget" wandering the backyards of many neighborhoods in General Acha has been the latest subject of conversation. It appears to be a short, green entity which runs away with haste when detected.

A resident of the El Oeste neighborhood informed this newspaper that the entity appeared twice on her property: once in the morning and once in the afternoon. According to the woman, her husband was resting on both occasions, but when he reported to the backyard in response to his wife's screams, the mysterious entity vanished by rapidly climbing

up a tree. While the man did not see the "dwarf", he gives his spouse the benefit of the doubt, stating that he has known her for 40 years and can vouch for her physical and mental health.

All versions agree in that the entity is short in stature. Another resident added that it moved so quickly that it was hard to describe it. The fact is that this entity, described as "a green dwarf", is causing a stir in the city and its manifestations have been the subject of conversation in certain circles. The stories have already captivated radio audiences and interest and curiosity for the subject increase as time goes by.

Little Green Men Cases

Collected by Chris Aubeck
Contact: caubeck@YAHOO.COM

Editorial Comment: Never say that "little green men" are just part of the folklore and never seriously reported. Here is an indication that we have another area that needs some serious research. Contact Chris if you have questions.

(1) Location. Berridale Tasmania Australia
Date: February 1948 Time: midnight
Two witnesses standing on their back garden sighted a bright round object hovering low above them. Siting on the edge of the object were several small green colored humanoids

that appeared to be making a weird singing like sound.

HC addition # 38
Source: Keith Roberts, TUFOIC Type: A

(2) Location. Montimont, France
Date: October 13 1954 Time: night
Mr. Sadi Levy encountered in a field near this city two small beings encased in a green phosphorescence, big eyes, and a small tail.

(One of the earliest reference to "little green men").

HC addendum

Source: Martin Kottmeyer in Anomalist # 10
Quoting Jean Sider Type: E

(3) Location. Near Cudworth Saskatchewan

Date: Summer 1933 Time: afternoon

The witness was alone in a field beside a pond that was located on the farm where she lived. Across the pond, she observed a number of "little green men" that were about 4 ft tall, and wearing silvery suits. The witness could not remember what happened next.

HC addendum

Source: Unidentified in Saskatchewan Type: E

(4) Location. Near Raveo Carnic Alps Italy

Date: August 14 1947 Time: 0900A

Ascending a mountain stream, the Chiarao, R L Johannis came upon a 10-meter wide lens shaped object of red burnished metal, wedged into a rock crack so that it stood on edge. It had a low cupola bearing a thin telescoping antenna like a car radio's but no openings. Seeing two "boys" 50 meters away, he called out to them, and began to approach them. When within 25 meters, he saw that they were midget-sized beings not over 3 ft tall, wearing dark blue overalls of translucent material, with bright red belts, collars, and cuffs. Their large heads were covered with broth tight fitting caps. They had immense round yellow green eyes with vertical slit pupils, and a mere slit of a ^-shaped mouth, which kept opening and closing. Their skin was dull greenish; they walked like robots, with arms hanging. After a couple of minute's stupor, Johannis waved his geologist's pick and called out, asking who they were. At this one raised his hand to his belt and a thin puff of smoke received was emitted; Johannis found himself flat on the ground, paralyzed, feeling as if he had received an electric shock. He saw one of the beings pick up his pick, with a green hand that had eight fingers, four of them opposite like our thumbs. Then with small steps they slowly walked to the saucer. A few minutes after they entered the rock crack, the disk rose vertically to about 15 ft above the ground (still on edge, "like a gong") and hovered there, while Johannis tried to get up but fell back again. The disc tipped a bit, and then took off, with a blast of wind that rolled Johannis into the stony riverbed. It was more than 2 hours before he felt able to walk home. When he unpacked his pack, he found that the aluminum objects in it were missing. At this time he had never heard of flying saucers.

Humcat 1947-3

Source: Clypeus May 1964, FSR Vol. 13 # 1

Type: C

(5) Location. Tiana Italy

Date: August 14 1947 Time: night

An elderly shepherd saw a large fiery orange colored object, with multicolored lights land 400 meters away on a field. Soon an opening became visible on the object. A small humanoid then came out. The humanoid walked around the craft then proceeded to pick up some stones from the ground. Soon he re-entered the object, which shot up into the sky at incredible speed. Burnt vegetation and rocks were found at the site.

HC addition # 2964

Source: Itacat Type: B

(6) Location. 2.5 miles W of Farmersville Texas

Date: early May 1914 Time: 1000A

Silbie J Latham, then 13 or 14, had gone to the fields with his two older brothers Sid and Clyde. Two dogs, Bob and Fox, accompanied them. They were "chopping cotton" when they heard the two dogs set up a "deathly howl." The three boys walked about 75 feet to a fencerow where the dogs had something cornered. Clyde got there first and turned to the other two and said, "Boys, there's something in there. It must be something kinda bad." Then he said, "Boys, it's a little man!" Silbie looked and saw a little man some 18 inches high, just standing still, staring toward the north. He was green all over and either naked or with a frogman's type outfit on, green in color. There was a hat with a wide brim on the back of his head, but it was all of one piece with the rest of the body. He said nothing and did not even acknowledge the dogs, by now worked up into a frenzy. Right after the three boys arrived the dogs finally attacked the being, literally tearing it limb from limb. "Blood and guts went everywhere. The blood was red and the guts looked like guts look. We were all just country as hell and didn't know what to do. The dogs just chewed him to pieces after they killed him. We just went back to hoeing." They told their folks but no one believed them. They went back to the site several times that day, but after that they never returned.

Humcat 1914-5

Source

**Strange Dwarf
Reported In Cattle Mute Area**

SOURCE: *Diario "La Arena" (La Pampa, Argentina)*
DATE: 06-06-02

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A resident of the El Oeste neighborhood informed this newspaper that the entity appeared twice on her property: once in the morning and once in the afternoon. According to the woman, her husband was resting on both occasions, but when he reported to the backyard in response to his wife's screams, the mysterious entity vanished by rapidly climbing up a tree. While the man did not see the

"dwarf", he gives his spouse the benefit of the doubt, stating that he has known her for 40 years and can vouch for her physical and mental health.

All versions agree in that the entity is short in stature. Another resident added that it moved so quickly that it was hard to describe it. The fact is that this entity, described as "a green dwarf", is causing a stir in the city and its manifestations have been the subject of conversation in certain circles. The stories have already captivated radio audiences and interest and curiosity for the subject increase as time goes by.

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The Little Blue Man

Author: Anonymous

A truck driver is cruising along when he spots a little yellow man standing in the middle of the road, crying. He brings the truck to a stand still, rolls down the window, and asks the little man what's wrong.

"I'm yellow, I'm from Venus, and I'm hungry," sobs the little man. "Well," says the trucker, "I can offer you a sandwich, but that's as much as I can do." So he passes a sandwich to the little man and drives off.

A bit later he has to stop again, because there's a little green man in the middle of the road, crying. So he comes to a halt, rolls down the

window and - a bit more impatiently - asks the little man what the matter is.

"I'm green, I'm from Mars, and I'm thirsty," the little man bawls. So the trucker says, "I can offer you a can of Coke, but that's as much as I can do." He hands a tin of Coke down to the little man and drives off.

A little further on, the trucker spots a little blue man in the middle of the road. Really annoyed now, he stops, rolls down the window and snaps, "Yes, what idiot planet are you from and what the *@x#S* do you want?"

And the little man answers, "Your driver's license, please."

The Uplifting of Jane Lead

by

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Jane Lead was a British Christian mystic who lived from 1623 to 1704. According to her own writings, during a dance at a Christmas party, when she was a fifteen years old, Lead heard a miraculous disembodied voice. It said "Cease from this, I have another dance to lead thee in, for this is vanity." She interpreted this as a sign that she should devote her life to a spiritual cause, and in later life this decision led her into the study of theology, philosophy and alchemy. Fascinated by the works of Jacob Boehme (1575-1624), the German seer and theosophist, Lead began to interpret her own visions and experiences using his methodology. She started to write down what she saw in a diary and it was upon these writings that she went on to base her teachings. By 1693 she had her own established group of followers, the Philadelphians, which met regularly in Lambeth, London.

The structure of Lead's alleged experiences does not stray far from the model that one is accustomed to reading about today in books by John Mack or Budd Hopkins. Even the 'voice' she heard at an early age could be interpreted as a telepathic command, a very common experience among abductees. Years later she would write about actual sightings that she had and several 'abductions' by a group of beings who were neither angels nor demons. (Lead often uses the term 'Magia' when referring

to them, so it is the generic name I have chosen to employ here.). She calls her abduction experiences "Transports" throughout her diaries.

We cannot be sure when Jane Lead first encountered the Magia but the first sightings that she described in detail can be found in volume one of her book *A Fountain Of Visions*:¹

July the 16th. 1676.

A Vision of God's Flaming Eye.

This Morning...there appeared to me an Azure blue Firmament, so Oriental as nothing of this, in this Visible Orb could parallel with it. Out of the midst hereof was a most wonderful Eye, which I saw Sparkling, as with Flaming Streams from it. Which I am not able to Figure out, after that manner, in which it did present it self unto me. But according to this Form it was, as much as I am able to give an account of it, it was thus, or after this manner. There was a Flaming Eye in the midst of a Circle, and round about it a Rainbow with all variety of Colours, and beyond the Rainbow in the Firmament, innumerable Stars all attending this Flaming Eye.

Jane Lead's style is as flowery and archaic as that of any 17th century mystic but what she seems to be describing is a luminous or metallic ("sparkling...flaming") lenticular ('eye-shaped') object that flew over London on a sunny day (hence the "blue firmament"). The object emitted rays or jets ("flaming streams") and seemed itself to move within a wider rainbow-coloured circle, perhaps accompanied by smaller objects which looked like stars. In fact, Lead made a sketch of the 'Eye' and included it in her book. The drawing shows exactly what she described: an oval or eye-like thing emitting five shafts of flame or light, enclosed by a thick circle surrounded by stars. The circle's interior is labelled "The Globe of Light," suggesting something more substantial than a mere 'ring' or 'rainbow.'

While she watched the phenomenon in the sky she received a telepathic message: "[The] Earth and Heavens shall flye, and nothing abide, but what can live in this Eternal Eye, as ministering Stars of Glory, before the Throne of him: who like to this Circling Eye, which thou hast seen, hath neither Beginning nor End." Lead interpreted (and perhaps rephrased) this message according to her own beliefs. Of course, whether she was able to transcribe it accurately or not cannot be known.

This episode was, however, not her first experience with mysterious light phenomena. Only six weeks previously she had jotted down another of her 'visions' or recollections, apparently something that had happened to her in her room the night before:

May the 31st. 1676.

In the Night I was as on a sudden surprized with a round Ball of Light, that fixed it self upon a Post or Pillar, which seemed to be on each side of me, and where-ever I went, they moved with me, very lustrious and shining as a Star in a Cloudy Night; I could go no where but they circled about me, the Light was terrible, but not hurtful; yet pleasant to the single Eye, that was opened. This in way of Vision was given to espy; and immediately after, this Transient Sight passed away, and that Scripture opened upon me, *Isa. 40.* in these words, *The Lord shall be to thee an Everlasting Light.* which shall drown and swallow up all fore-going Day-breaks, which have had their several Sun-risings in thee by degrees, which are true and good in their Day.

It is not easy to separate Lead's visions from her mystical Christian interpretations. *A Fountain of Gardens* is not a straightforward collection of anecdotes but a profound – if slightly confusing – theological discussion, brimming with Biblical quotes and interpretations. Yet this passage is striking because identical 'Balls of Light' are an integral part of today's abduction testimonies. No matter whether her experiences were ultimately real or imagined, Lead's 'vision' of luminous spheres, her later sighting of the flying 'ship', and many subsequent incidents involving unknown entities, make this woman the seventeenth-century equivalent of Betty Andreasson or Whitley Strieber.

A Fountain of Visions. "Printed and Sold by J. Bradford, near Crowder's Wall," London 1696. Four Volumes. The original edition is very rare. I was first made aware of Lead's writings through a report entitled *The Incredible Journey of Jane Lead*, by Jesse Glass, dated November 1999. This article can also be found in several on-line collections. Glass's article is a brief but interesting look into a couple of Jane Lead's abduction claims.

Three months after encountering the Eye, Jane had another remarkable UFO sighting.

October the 8th. 1676.

Some part of this Night sweetly passed in Contemplation and Prayer, toward the Morning I saw in Vision, a bright round Ball, pourtraid like a Man's Face, breaking through a Cloud, and immediately two Stars broke through after it, which were very bright and blazing. The Interpretation of which I waited for in my Spirit; for no Representation is without his Signification unto me. But the Lord did not that day explain it to me, but I did feel an impregnative Virtue fill me from that time, till the Afternoon.

On this occasion there was no obvious mystical interpretation to make of what she observed. Only on the following day, after hours of thought and bewilderment, did she decide to sit down and meditate on the problem, allowing God to inspire her.

"But still I was in great Concern, to understand the meaning of the Sun-like Face, and Stars, which I saw the Night past. So putting my self in an holy, awful posture, for the Spirit to place me unitedly to himself, to understand and know as it self did know the simple Mind of the Deity: It was thus revealed to me..."

The somewhat predictable explanation was that a shining Saviour would some day break through the world's dark clouds and lead humanity into the light.

Lead's writings do not focus on the miracles themselves but rather on the theosophical meanings implied by them. For this reason many entries in Lead's diary begin by detailing 'bedroom visitations' but go into few details about how the situation develops. This makes tantalizing reading, as there is much throughout the book that is highly suggestive of alien abduction. For example, an entry dated December 13th 1676 starts off with "In the Night, I had a bright shine all about my Bed, which was signified to me, that as without, so it should be all Light from the seven Oily Lamps, that should be as a covering Flame to cloathe the Virgin Woman, who should be impregnated with the Birth of the most holy Seed of God," but says nothing else about the phenomenon itself. An entry for April 10th 1677, in volume two, tells of a weird object that entered her room at night like some kind of probing device. When Lead was in bed, "deeply musing,"

There first appeared to me a bright Cloud, which gathered it self into a round Compass; then it opened into various Colours, wonderful Splendorous with numerous Stars: which were only discernible, as they did not so visibly appear, because the brightness did overcloud them. In the midst of this, did suddainly break forth somewhat like the Figure of an Eye, which did look terrible, piercing through all, with flaming Streams round it, which were transcendently glorious. Upon which I could not steadfastly look, till I had closed my mortal Eyes: which then for some space of time, I did behold, and then it vanished in the twink of an Eye; then opening to see whether I could bear the glory of it, it did retire out of sight with this Word, What Flesh can live in this refining Element?

If the same object were observed today it would doubtless be regarded an item of high technology rather than a mystical symbol. What would Jane Lead have made of mobile telephones, televisions and helicopters?

The following entry, dated June 6th 1677, would read much like a standard close encounter with apocalyptic connotations if it were not for the powerful religious overtones imposed upon it by the witness. UFOs (objects like "Half Moons") appear in the sky and Lead is shown the future of the world: Extraterrestrials will battle humans for dominion of the Earth!

June the 6th. 1677.

This Morning, about four of the Clock, awaking with a raised Mind, ready to entertain discoveries from that invisible Orb to which my whole Heart tended to; I found my self suddenly carried out of my animal sense, and several idea's did open to me from the Upper Region. I saw in the Firmament of the Heavens Bright Figures, like Half Moons, and great rolling up and down of the Starry Heavens, which seemed to be in a troubled Commotion. Then there were great fears at the sight hereof, among the lower Spirits of this Region. Then I saw somewhat like a Standard set up with a Writing upon it, proclaiming *War with all the Inhabitants*

upon the Earth. And about these I did see Bows and sharp Arrows, and because I saw this Pillar or Standard at a distance, I thought it was, or might not be real: and so I went to it, and touched it with my hand, and read the Writing, which was, *Controversie with the Nations of the World.* Then after this, I saw the Clouds of Heaven pass away, and various Persons of great Majesty descended down to the place, where the Standard was set, and they appeared, as those that were Judges of the Earth. And two or three of them made towards me, to have spoke with me, and their Presence was terrible, that I shrunk away. For my mean Corporiety was very inconsistent to their Glorious Personalities. And this word followed, This is the Lord, who after this Tribulation, will come, with his Ancients to reign over the Earth.

Jane Lead's diary does not cease to make references to aerial phenomena. On June 17th she states that she "saw a Ball of Fire" and then "a rich Golden Sledge set up" on which she was supposed to ride. A disembodied voice told her not to be afraid. "for an end to all weariness and travel will come, when this [vehicle] out of the Heavens will descend." Possibly this craft was the one Lead was to see again on February 9th the following year, published in volume three of *A Fountain of Gardens*:

February 9. 1678.

A Transport.

In the Morning after I was awaked from Sleep, upon a sudden I was insensible of any sensibility as relating to a corporeal Being, and found my self as without the clog of an Earthly Body, being very sprightly and airy in a silent place, where some were beside my self, but I did not know them by their Figures. except one, who went out, and came in again: and there was no speaking one to another, but all did set in great silence, and I myself with my Eye fixed forward

Lead's ordeals could not be closer to that of a modern abductee's. She wakes up in a disoriented trance-like state, possibly confusing reality with a dream or a recent half-forgotten memory. Around her are 'figures' who she does not know, except for one. There is an eerie silence – perhaps because they communicated in an inaudible way?

The next thing that Lead recalled was seeing a strange gold-coloured craft "come down" to "a pretty distance" from where she sat (or stood). "It was in the form of a large Ship" with four golden wings. The ship "came down with the greatest swiftness as is imaginable." She asked some of the figures beside her if they could see what she could, and mysteriously they said they couldn't! No doubt puzzled by their answer, Jane looked again and *saw herself* in front of the others, "leaping and dancing and greatly rejoicing to meet it."

Bar the detail about having a third-person view of herself when the craft landed, this is precisely the kind of account given by people whose cases fill countless UFO books and articles today, and whose stories are often taken at face value. It is not sufficient to accuse abductees of confabulation and of sharing science-fiction fantasies *because the same 'fantasies' have been reported and believed for hundreds of years*, since long before the popularisation of the genre. Was Lead's vision a muddled memory of an earlier experience?

Lead's diary entry of February 9th concludes thus:

But when I came up to it [the Ship], then it did as suddenly go up again, withdrawing out of sight, unto the high Orb from whence it came. After which I found my self in my Body of sense, as knowing I had been ranging in my Spirit from it for a while, that I might behold this great thing.

We could entertain the possibility that Lead was abducted and returned without ever knowing it, believing afterwards to have observed the craft land and rise again immediately afterwards. In fact this is a common feature of abduction cases, according to David Jacobs and other researchers. Some abductionists, of a more paranormal persuasion, would see in Lead's account evidence of OOB encounters (the abduction of the astral body).

Jane Lead's contact with the beings continued throughout 1678. Her diary entry for March 25th contains her memory of an encounter with two "living statues" who "were in a Room, where I was." The whereabouts of the room and the manner by which she arrived there aren't described, but it is clear that Lead had been 'transported' by the Magia once again. The whole situation seems to have been set up as some kind of test, similar to those featured in David Jacobs' book *Secret Life*. Lead was confronted by the

two "formal Figures, that were not capable of Conversation with any, as being without intellectuals or motion of Life" and, feeling a strong urge to "awaken...a Life in them," started "busying" all her "internal abilities, and then they suddenly stirred." The figures came to life and approached her, telling her not to be surprised. What dies may live again, they said. "This is a Mystery, ye may further see into, as ye do believe in the Resurrection."

In her May 8th entry Lead described "a Person, in the visible Firmament, walking there all Aethereal, Pure and Bright." The figure descended to the ground and adopted "a Terrestrial Corporeal form, like to the Inhabitants of this World," and then rose into the sky again.

In her entry for October 28th 1678 we come across yet another typical UFO sighting:

October 28. 1678.

The Jewel: Or, the Thunder-bolt.

...it was brought to my remembrance, that I did see in the Night, a Stone: the fashion of it was like a *Thunder-bolt*, but it was clear, and of a Ruby and Purple Colour: and it was shot down, as out of the AEthereal Heavens, and immediately caught up thither again.

Jane Lead may have seen a natural phenomenon, or something more anomalous. We cannot be sure. But taking *A Fountain of Visions* as a whole, this reference to a flying 'jewel' or 'stone' is highly indicative of there being more going on than meets the eye.

Lead received teachings from a "Transparent Child-like" being, another of the Magia. In her entry for December 15th, she explains how she was transported to the world where these beings lived. As usual, her archaic, mystical style is difficult to follow at times, but it is hard to come away from Lead's notes without marvelling at how similar her alleged experiences were to today's alien abduction reports.

December 15. 1678.

The School of Wisdom. A Transportation.

In the Night, after my first Sleep, I was consulting, whereunto the moving Star had brought us, and [perceived] it still was in its circling motion (to shew, that we had not yet arrived to the Center-point, where we might mix with it, and cease from all further searching and Travel)... Then, after all this Opening and Spiritual Parly I was over-set, and cast as into a Trance, and had all my outward Senses drowned, and was brought by the Spirit into such a place, that was as the Scene of another World. For the Ground where the Inhabitants moved, was as clear as Crystal...For, it was advised, this was the Magia-School; where all of Mortal Language was to be excluded. For all was understood by the operation of the Magia: here was no Speech, but all Power acted. Then one I was brought to, that had such a composure in his Countenance, as one might read profound Wisdom, signally resident upon him. I would have had them more free, and familiar with me, for I loved and was much affected with them.

Jane wondered who these people were and who their leader was. She soon discovered that she had not been brought there to satisfy her own curiosity, and would be discouraged from doing so for the time being:

And I was big with many Queries, but received a check, as being a young Novice, that did not understand the Magia-Rules. Then suddenly I was bound, and could move no way, but no Hand touched me. And this was to let me know, what Sovereignty they could put forth. And then as suddenly I was set free, and found myself at liberty.

A being called by Lead 'the Majestical Princess' commands her not to speak and to "lay up as a secret" everything she saw in the world of the Magia.

Four days later Jane Lead meets the beings of the School again. An 'Eye' appears before her once more "from which went forth bright Beams of Light." She is told that she will be tested to see whether she is ready yet to "come to live in this *Theosophical Eye*." Lead replies that she could not possibly enter the "bright circling Eye" because she is mortal and not one of the angelic beings. It is at

this point that another universal theme emerges: the existence of Chosen Ones or 'Star Children.' Jane is told that those who are taught the ways of the Magia will be taken into the Eye as a matter of course.

But do thou know, that the Time is now come about, in which the Father of Magical Spirits will put those of his own immediate Line unto it.

They explain that although God is aware that many people follow his rules, this is not enough.

...God would, that we should, (who stand in the Election of the Love) learn and understand another way, in which we may command both Sun, Moon, and Stars, and break their Bands.

The beings realise that human beings had not yet developed a technology enabling them to travel into space, though when they at last did, they, the "Starry-Birth," would conquer worlds beyond their own.

But, *Where is the Man or Woman*, it may be replied, *that could fly above their Region?* True it is, we are ignorant in this our present Age of any such, though I doubt not, but some there may be in this very time, though unknown. But I am assured that the time is come, when the Starry-Birth shall break away by the Magia-Wheel, when once it doth but touch. Then we shall see that marvelous thing, as dark and heavy Iron upon the Water to float and swim.

Lead is told that the beings have commenced a new period of contact with mankind, to search out those who are most suited to its teachings and take them aboard the Eye.

And though this Magia-School hath been shut up, and the Magical Children, who thereunto do belong, have had a long Holy-Day wherein time hath been loitered away; now the idle time is over. The high Theosophical *Eye* doth run to and fro to attract, and gather up them, who are apt to learn Heavenly Philosophy.

The Magical Children can be recognised because they differ from normal people. They have "a Signature different from others." Lead is told. This does not refer, of course, to the way they sign their name on paper, but from something deeper about their character. Something "which ariseth from an inward Birth-Ground, more pure and clarified, that gives a quick and sharp understanding, to comprehend from the Center-line of Life..." Such people would be chosen to "inhabit in the Circling *Eye* as a close Student." The lessons given to the fortunate ones taken to the *Eye* focus on relearning all knowledge from scratch, to "*unlearn and unknow* all." Inside the Magia-School a new perspective would be installed in the minds of its students:

That by this attractive Stone, that doth shine so bright upon the Face of our Mind, we may come to learn a new Alphabet, and to forsake the old Natural Philosophy, learned from the Schools of this World. For this purpose the *Eye* of Love hath looked down upon the Magical Ground...to stir the Heavenly matter, that hath been under the strong binding Powers of the harsh and bitter qualities of the outward Birth...If it be able to agree in all points hereunto, then a high Magus he shall be in God's *Theosophical Eye*.

To end our discussion of Jane Lead's wonderful diary, let us look at some of her later 'close encounters' and 'abductions' with entities which, for her, could only have been Christian deities.

July 19, 1679.

The Magical House. A Transport.

THIS Morning, after I awaked...[there] appeared to me a very Bright Circle, in which was an undiscernable Depth without bottom, all of an AETHEREAL Matter: And out there came forth a pair of flaming Wheels; and fixed on them was a House of clear Crystal, with Window and Doors four square. Every side had an opening, and the House flat over-head. And it was so clear, as I did see through, and beheld One in a very glorious Appearance walk up and down in it; though none of the Doors were open. And I beheld till it did descend out from the Circle: And yet there was no breaking of the Circle. And it came near me, but none of the doors opened, and the Person that was in an AETHEREAL Purity there, said, *Come up here*. And I said, *Lord, how can I come into such a Glorious Mansion as this? There is no Door open*. And

immediately one of the Side-Doors was opened, and I was taken up into it, and had no Sense of a Mortal Body, that troubled me, but was as all Spirit, beholding this Glorious Being without Fear: All filled with Joy that now I was come to see the Face of my *Jesus*, and to be covered with the Rays of his Glory, which swallowed me up into his own Personality; and yet saw I my self distinct. Then said I, *Lord, shall I here for ever abide Essentially?* But it was answered me. *May it not suffice to see the Place, that is prepared for the Birth, which thou has been Travelling with, that shall give free Liberty to live and walk, with me, from one Mansion of the Father's Glory to another. Ye shall come, till you have seen the infinite Latitude of the Kingdoms allotted for the Redeemed.*

After this Conference, the Fiery Wheel moved, and the Circle descended: and took up the House; and then it was beset with a Triumphant Number of Heavenly Hosts, all Angelical Figures in White Robes, that were in a Ring, inclosing the House, and shouting with Seraphick Sounds, saying, *The Tabernacle which descended, is ascended again.* And all this I heard, and did see, and knew it to be a Translation of my Spirit, and that I was to come down into my Mortal House again....

Lead's remark about being returned to her house after the encounter seems to indicate that she was abducted, as does the subheading "A Transport," although there is little reference to the 'transportation' itself in the passage.

The next abduction described in the multi-volumed *A Fountain of Gardens* can be found in the entry for August 23rd 1679. Titled simply *The Star at Noon*, Lead tells that she witnessed "a bright STAR in the pure Firmament" in the middle of the day. The star, she wrote, was "so Splendourous, that it outshined the Light of the Day, which was yet of it self very light." Unlike a normal star, this one moved, which Lead found a little surprising. All of a sudden, quite unexpectedly.

... I [was] brought from beholding this Star in the open clear Air, into a dark Room, where no Light was. And there on a sudden this very Star appeared, and made the Room all Light.

A voice told Lead that she would always be looked after, that the star would never abandon her. "Much more was given me in, which too numerous is to insert," she adds, mysteriously.

Modern abductees are often shown babies or small children and told they belong to them. This usually comes as a great surprise to the abductee, as they rarely have any conscious memory of any sexual act, although they are frequently aware of having had their reproductive organs manipulated artificially. Was Jane Lead shown just such a 'hybrid child' in September 1682?

September 20.

I HAD in the Night a Vision: it was the Sight of an Infant, new born, that was brought to me; and it was said to be *Mine*. But I wondered at it: for I knew not When, or How, I brought it forth. Then I Questioned, whether it was Male, or Female? And it being examined, there was no Mark for Distinction upon it. Which was Marvelous, to consider what manner of Child this would be. And when I call'd it over in the Divine Sense, it was said, *This Figures out the Mysterious high Birth, that will be Mighty in Power, and Wonderful in Wisdom and Majesty.*

Lead's baby is strange in that its gender is unknown.

We have dwelt on the case of Jane Lead for as long as space will allow, but there is still much to add. Much could be said about the parallel between the Magia-School which Lead attended and the 'Secret School' to which Whitley Strieber has devoted an entire book. According to him, he received a kind of Christian theosophical (God-Science) education from a group of Visitors in the 1950s, more or less the same as Lead's. As Strieber is *the* most renowned abductee of since Betty Hill, this correlation is worth studying in greater depth.

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Startling UFO Sightings in La Florida, Chile

by Orietta Santa Maria, Q

A colossal light with a blinding glare has caused a commotion among those who dwell in the vicinity of San Ramon hill, a large area which goes from La Florida to El Caijon del Maipo. Residents and ufologists alike are on alert after the wave of 17 sightings of unidentified flying objects seen in November over the sector. "UFOs are being seen again," note the experts.

Jessica Serrano manages some tourist cabins in a place known as Los Rulos, on the way to Lagunillas. On November 16 at 22:00 hours, she was in the company of some friends at work when a white light emerged only meters away from the place. "It lit up everything, it was as big as a stadium. The light was reflected everywhere and was 15 minutes in the air before disappearing," she recalls.

A few days earlier, some guests of the cabins where she works (an Israeli and a Cuban woman) fled their rooms in fear. "The guests were inside the cabin with the lights out and suddenly the place became lit by glaring light...they ran out in fear, yet there was nothing that could have caused that phenomenon", says Jessica.

Alberto Urquiza, a researcher with the GEO UFO group (Grupo de Estudios Ovnilogicos), notes that 17 sightings of unidentified flying objects were recorded between November 6 and the 25th in the pre-Cordilleran region.

"These are large lights that descend to earth and remain suspended a short distance from the surface. The witnesses we've interviewed have seen them at some 100 meters distance. Some of the lights have remained suspended in mid-air between four and six hours," he says.

Urquiza, who witnessed the phenomenon on November 10th, stated that he received simultaneous phone calls regarding sightings from five communities of the Metropolitan Region which were seeing the same phenomenon that was occurring near the hill, in La Florida.

"It was an intense white light that assumed a yellow-orange tone over San Ramon hill. It was possible to see an object lighting up with great power until a fog or mist appeared. At 00:30 hours, witnesses saw a large flash that was extinguished in a matter of seconds," explains the researcher.

The ufologists verified that there were no unusual stellar alignments that evening, and that there were no helicopters nor airplanes plowing the skies.

"Planets have a movement of 15 degrees an hour and this object remained static for six hours. The radar on Cerro Colorado did not detect anything unusual and there were only a few flights scheduled for Argentina at Pudahuel airport. There were not helicopter flights taking place at the Tobalaba Airdrome," adds Urquiza.

We are facing an unknown situation, states the ufologist, and this "occurs perhaps because there are very few people in the vicinity of the hill, or because UFOs actually want to let themselves be seen."

Juan Soto was in the vicinity of Tobalaba with Walker Martinez this last November 10th at la Florida: "I saw four very bright objects in the sky after 22:00 hours. Three of them were over the Cordillera and another could be seen halfway up the mountains. They vanished quickly."

Chilean Air Force Surprised

The Committee for the Study of Aerial Phenomena (CEFAA), a dependency of the Chilean Air Force (FACH), is waiting to receive the material gleaned by the GEO ufologists in order to launch an official investigation into these sightings. Gustavo Rodriguez, the agency's secretary general, states that "it is surprising to speak of 17 sightings. We have never received word of anomalous phenomena in the area in question. It's quite a novelty." He adds that CEFAA is a highly pragmatic agency.

Source: Diario "Las Ultimas Noticias", Date: December 6, 2001

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Scott's Final Word

Policeman Sees Giant UFO in Argentina

via Scott Corrales

Guillermo Arias, who provides services in the dependency of the town of Chaján, 60 km southeast of Río Cuarto, was on routine patrol through rurla Chajan at 23:00 hours on Sunday, July 21, 2002, when he heard over the radio that his colleagues in arms over at Achiras were seeing lights in sectors of said community, and that they were heading toward Chaján along Nat'l Route 8, which links the cities of Río Cuarto, in Córdoba with Villa Mercedes in the province of San Luis Arias. At the wheel of the police patrol van, he managed to see a formation of 7 lights in the distance and decided to drive 10 km along a rural dirt road. When he had covered said distance, he noticed, not without surprise, that the engine of his vehicle sputtered and died, causing the police car to strike the edge of a guard rail.

Simultaneously, the lights on the van's dashboard began turning on and off randomly, the police radio went haywire and its dial displayed the random shifting of the frequencies (channel codes) while the cabin became filled with an acrid odor, as though of burnt wiring, and the interior lights and stop indicator, which were broken, began lighting on and off. Seized by fear, Arias leaped from the van and walked away a few meters down the road, losing his cell phone in the escape.

The darkness was total, when suddenly, amid the [confusing] situation, an immense light emerged from a field adjacent to the road as a triangular object rose majestically into the air. Now, [the officer's] condition went from fear to abject terror as he saw what he described as a real "floating city" some 200 meters long with a long row of windows (perhaps as many as 100). Arias claims having seen something move behind them, describing the movement as "TV sets which make lines and shadows" (sic), which he defined as "non-human", and that many beams of light came out of the giant triangle, aimed at the ground. The event lasted 2 or 3 seconds, but Arias "it felt like an eternity to him."

The object suddenly rose and sped away, vanishing behind the hills of a local field. Arias's statement indicates that while the object moved away, the entire sector was lit "as though it were daytime", since he could clearly make out farms, fields, barbed wire fences, etc. and that the afterglow lasted another 20 minutes.

Recovering from his nervous condition, he returned to the vehicle and notified his comrades of the experience, receiving radio instruction that reinforcements were being set out. In the darkness, he heard the cell phone ring, and that is how he found it in the darkness: his wife was trying to find him and his fellows. He told her briefly about what had happened and sat down to wait for the expected assistance. Patrolman Barrios from Achiras was trying to keep him calm over the radio, while Sgt. Medina, who was the first to arrive on the scene, and Sgt. Córdoba were among the sub-officers who reached the area to lend aid to their comrade in distress.

Meanwhile, other police elements radioed the incident to their superiors at Regional Unit 9 at Río Cuarto. After learning the details, these superiors issued specific directions. In this regard we add that today, Monday noon, the senior officers of said police unit reported to Chaján to order a medical exam for Sgt. Arias and a subsequent re-creation of the events, for which they returned to the scene.

There was news coverage from Río Cuarto Channel 13, LV-16 Radio Río Cuarto and numerous FM stations of this city interviewed members of the C.O.R. to learn further aspects of this spectacular incident.

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