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**Editor's Notes**

By Phyllis Budinger



Apologies from your Editor for an untimely newsletter. My bad! It was almost finished in April when a bad fall, due to my stupidity, which resulted in a broken leg, seven broken ribs and a neck vertebrae. This 'deft' maneuver qualified me for a "fun-filled" five days in the ICU of University Hospitals Trauma unit.

I'm currently on home Rehab and doing quite will.

When I got back to this issue, I found it difficult on what to include, because of so much information being reported in anticipation of the promised Government's report on UFOs. Then what is credible? I anticipate the government will report the UFOs (sighted in the air and underwater) are unknown, but cannot (or will not?) tell us what they are. My personal main objectives for many decades have been to find out who/what is piloting these objects, and why they are here. I hope to get another newsletter out as soon as the Government's report is issued.

Most of you know by now that there will not be a conference. In November/December when we plan and make arrangements, there were too many

unknowns due to COVID. Instead we will put out four newsletters instead of three like last year. Also some will have 20 pages rather than the usual 16. We feel confident there will be a conference next year and already have speakers in mind.

Our members from Circleville, Pete Hartinger, Jon Fry and Delbert Anderson, who also represent "The Roundtown UFO Society", continue to inspire interest in southern Ohio publications. Another article appeared in "Southeast Ohio Magazine" ([www.southeastohio.com](http://www.southeastohio.com)), which is the only student-run regional magazine in the United States, put out by Ohio University's journalism students. An article "Saucers Soar in Popularity" relates how Pete got interested in UFOs as a teenager, and it discusses the Roundtown organization. It was well done! Thanks Jon for the "head's up" on the article!

In this issue, Tom Wertman, our State Director, wrote an article on the extensive data evaluation he did of the widely publicized Navy UFO encounters which no doubt will be featured in the much anticipated government report. (See Bill Murphy's Column for background) Bill Murphy has contributed his up-to-date column on Recent UFO Highlights. Scott Santa kindly did a book review. And, of course, Rick Hilberg made a contribution he published in February 2021 "Alternate Perceptions". Thanks to all!

*(Bill Murphy's "Recent UFO News" column contains good background information on the cases discussed in Tom Wertman's feature article which follows this one. Ed.)*

## Recent UFO News

### UAPTF Report, Big Changes at TTSA, and March and July 2019 "Drone" Imagery Headline

By Bill Murphy



Note: while I've included some url addresses here, if you'd like references behind the other information just email me at [murphybillufo@gmail.com](mailto:murphybillufo@gmail.com).

This news cycle since my last submission to the *Ohio MUFON Newsletter* was busy! There've been major developments in the story of Navy F/A-

18 images of UFOs in 2019 off the US East Coast, an added July 2019 "drone swarm" of Naval vessels off of the West Coast, two new controversies within the UFO Community, an intriguing aerial near-miss over New Mexico, some really useful articles and books published, and a huge business change was finalized in the group that since its late 2017 formation has played such a large role in UFO news.

## The Big UFO Story

Beginning with the December 16, 2017 Revelations of a Former Pentagon Program and Some F/A-18 ATFLIR videos: Luis Elizondo's exact former role in the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program (AATIP) was still being debated. There's continuing friction between "Tic Tac" star witness Cmdr. David Fravor and sailors who were stationed on the support ship USS Princeton in November 2004. Important People such as former CIA Director John O. Brennan spoke favorably to the notion of ET visitors -- and mainstream media took note. Adrenaline pumped up further in the UFO Community when *two more* former intelligence chiefs spoke out more recently. John Ratcliffe, past Director of National Intelligence, strongly backed up Luis Elizondo's claims as reported in <https://thedebrief.org/us-military-has-a-lot-more-on-ufos-ex-intelligence-director-confirms/>. In an interview with Fox News host Maria Bartiromo, Ratcliffe talked about objects "picked up by satellite imagery that frankly engage in actions that are difficult to explain," and emphasized Elizondo's point about multiple different sensing systems latching on to the same unknown objects. R. James Woolsey, like Brennan a previous CIA Director, told *The Black Vault's* John Greenewald "I think there will be a lot of examination of what's going on over the course of several months or years."

In the wake of the Ratcliffe interview, Ranking Senate Intelligence Committee Republican Senator Marco Rubio participated in an impromptu interview at Reagan National Airport and a more standard Maria Bartiromo interview. Rubio said the perhaps expected, commonsense things about the need to know just what's going on in our skies (and, just maybe, our seas?) He also rather lowered expectations on just what the UAPTF report may say and whether it will meet its "deadline." Luis Elizondo continued emphasizing the essential

characteristics apparently displayed by UFOs/UAPs and the seemingly only three choices about their origins. Professor Haim Eshed, the former General and longtime head of Israel's space program, alleged the existence of a "Galactic Federation" that's been in contact with the U.S. for years, building a joint underground base on Mars! And, additional information has been uncovered concerning what Bigelow Aerospace Advanced Space Studies (BAASS) did during its contract with the Defense Intelligence Agency.

### **Drone Swarms and Acorns, Spheres, and Metallic Blimps:**

"In July of 2019, a truly bizarre series of events unfolded around California's Channel Islands." Thus *The Drive's* Adam Kehoe and Marc Cecotti began their March 23<sup>rd</sup> article <https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39913/multiple-destroyers-were-swarmed-by-mysterious-drones-off-california-over-numerous-nights>. Kehoe and Cecotti covered an investigation of the US Navy's own investigations into a series of events that remain unexplained. The incidents certainly concerned the Navy, with the "drones" demonstrating long-distance and extended flight time characteristics, plus unusually good coordination and location abilities. On April 5th Kehoe and Cecotti reported that the Navy's top officer said the "drones" remained unidentified. Regarding a different sensational 2019 UFO/UAP event George Knapp on April 6<sup>th</sup> posted "Mystery Objects Remain Unidentified" <https://www.mysterywire.com/ufo/new-uap-photographs/>. Included in this article are snapshots of three different aerial phenomena an F-18 weapon systems officer photographed on March 4, 2019 off the East Coast of the US. Imagery of two of these objects – the "Sphere" and the "Metallic Blimp" -- had not been publicly released until now. Knapp also released more photos of the "Acorn," as it's now termed, a Batman-shaped object that like the others the Navy insists is unidentified.

On April 8<sup>th</sup> filmmaker Jeremy Kenyon Lockyer Corbell combined both the March and July 2019 events with George Knapp's work into <https://www.extraordinarybeliefs.com/news4/navy-filmed-pyramid-ufos>. This article includes video and still photos of the July destroyer-buzzing, so-called "pyramid-shaped" drones, and a spherical object that moved down from the sky into the water --

leaving no wreckage that searching including a submarine could detect. The term "transmedium vehicle" has been applied to this particular event. Corbell and George Knapp, Duncan Phenix, and Matt Adams of *Mystery Wire* discussed how all these materials came to be published, the secret intelligence briefings that included these unclassified images, answers to some of the skeptical commentary on the internet, and in particular the anomalous behaviors of the so-called "drones." The skeptical site *Metabunk.org* has attempted to find mundane explanations for these videos and stills, but this writer hasn't been impressed with their results. Pentagon spokesperson Susan Gough has confirmed that Navy personnel *did* capture these images. But what are they? I'm looking forward to Tom Wertman's article on the July drone swarms in this Ohio MUFON edition!

The request of a UFO report within 180 days from The Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) was included in an "Advanced Aerial Threats" provision attached to the FY 2021 Intelligence Authorization Act, itself part of an omnibus spending bill passed by Congress and signed into law. *The Debrief* writers Ryan Sprague and Tim McMillan observe in <https://thedebrief.org/uap-task-force-set-in-motion-with-passage-of-intelligence-authorization-act/> that "there is still no guarantee that a comprehensive, "all-source" UAP report will end up seeing the light of day." More depressing information indicates the former UAPTF head was reassigned and replaced at a lower governmental level, with no specific funding for the report and work on it being done in spare time. Mainstream writers tended to project wildly unrealistic views on what the report would divulge, while UFO-savvy commenters were reticent, and Twitter comments ran the gamut. Marc Cecotti and Adam Kehoe analyzed information providing insights into the Department of Defense's "stonewalling" handling of the UFO/UAP issue, especially regarding Freedom of Information Act requests. Don't expect the US government to satisfy all such queries, says Bryan Bender in "Military and Spy Agencies Accused of Stiff-arming Investigators on UFO Sightings" <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/25/ufo-sightings-report-478104>. And the "investigators" Bender refers to are those *within* the government, working for the UAPTF itself!

Tim McMillan authored another important article on UAPTF efforts in <https://thedebrief.org/fast-movers-and-transmedium-vehicles-the-pentagons-uap-task-force/>. “For the last two years, the Department of Defense’s newly revamped ‘Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force’ (or UAPTF) has been busy briefing lawmakers, Intelligence Community stakeholders, and the highest levels of the U.S. military on encounters with what they say are mysterious airborne objects that defy conventional explanations.” McMillan described great interest in “USOs” – Unidentified Submersible Objects -- and two photographs of UFOs: one “cube-shaped” (later released), and one an equilateral triangle, that image “taken after the triangular craft emerged from the ocean and began to ascend straight upwards at a 90-degree angle” (*not so far released, and we’re waiting!*)

The Navy commented to *The War Zone*’s Brett Tingley about the truly physics-bending experiments of Salvatore Pais, whose “seemingly out-of-this-world work and the service’s equally strange outright support of it” had for about 18 months fixed our attention. The “Pais Effect” that could create sci-fi power and “extra-galactic” propulsion apparently couldn’t be confirmed in the Naval experiments, and Pais was transferred to another Navy office and now has a job with the Air Force. A compensatory “bone” was *The Debrief* writer MJ Baniyas reporting that a “New Plasma Propulsion System Generates a Helluva Lot of Thrust” <https://thedebrief.org/fusionpropulsion/>. Now we’re only talking travel within the solar system here -- not outside of the galaxy, for goodness’ sake -- being expedited, but hey, that’s *something*.

Other major news includes changes within *To The Stars...Academy of Arts and Science (TTSA)*. Towards the end of last year burlblings about problems within that organization turned into a major shakeup in its staffing and its purpose. In early December a brouhaha developed over the presence and apparent main role of Board of Directors member Christopher Mizer. In a December 20<sup>th</sup> *Coast to Coast AM* radio interview Lue Elizondo announced that he along with Christopher Mellon and Steve Justice were leaving the organization, seriously wounding its intelligence, engineering, and dynamic leadership. The shift from a predominantly science/engineering/government relations

organization to concentrating upon Tom DeLonge’s entertainment passions was made clear in a February 17<sup>th</sup> filing with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. TTSA’s relevance to the UFO Community may dramatically suffer from what the filing claims is a commercially-savvy move.

Regarding Current Sightings, the February 21<sup>st</sup> overflight of an American Airlines Airbus by a “cylindrical-shaped” object generated considerable discussion. Attempts by *Metabunk.org* correspondents to explain the flyby as a Learjet crossing the passenger plane’s path don’t seem to match the data, and FOIAs are afoot to extract more information about what seems a quite dramatic encounter. A January 23<sup>rd</sup> observation from a Pakistan International Airlines cockpit was diagnosed as a lenticular cloud (seems unlikely), and a balloon per Scott Brando’s “Pakistani Pilot Spotted a ‘Massive UFO’ in Karachi Sky? A Possible Explanation” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z\\_sKDTvpGPM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_sKDTvpGPM) (rather more likely, though the crew strenuously disagrees with that verdict).

Tony Bragaglia is the center of one of two **Controversies within the Field**. In 2017 he submitted a FOIA for documents pertaining to, as he claims, the study of materials from UFO crashes. Bragaglia claims the five Defense Intelligence Reference Documents (DIRDs) he got in return constituted proof the government was in possession of and had studied ET stuff. The documents themselves look more like a literature search than proof -- part of the 38 studies commissioned by the Advanced Aerospace Weapons Systems Application Program. And three of these DIRDs had already been published. But Bragaglia maintains it’s not what the documents say that proves possession of extraterrestrial materials; the fact they were given to him *per the wording of his request* proves his point. Most of the rest of the UFO Community, including John Greenewald and Kevin Randle with their long experience with FOIAs, doesn’t concur with Anthony’s interpretation. Pentagon spokesperson Susan Gough also doesn’t agree with Tony, for what *that’s* worth!

And Travis Walton’s former logging crew chief and best friend Mike Rogers said he was “No longer to be considered a witness to Travis

Walton's supposed UFO abduction." Personality clash? Hoax confession of some sort? Something in between? Whatever, an observation made by Miguel ("Red Pill Junkie") Romero is particularly apt: "this field tends to eventually erode and destroy whatever it decides to focus on, whenever the entertainment aspect becomes more important than trying to make sense of the mystery." The latest as of April 14<sup>th</sup> is that the spat seems to have been composed.

### **"Jet Pack Guy" and Black Helicopters**

"Jetpack Guy" – who twice had dangerously flown in the Los Angeles International Airport landing corridor -- was videoed flying over the ocean, relatively harmlessly at least, on December 21<sup>st</sup>. John Greenwald published results of a FOIA request for records about the October 15, 2020 jetpack sighting over LAX, and linked to data he got on the August 30th, 2020 jetpack incursion. And Los Angeles continues experiencing Aerial Weird: in mid-January black helicopters mysteriously plagued the City of Angels.

### **Monolith and Other Fun Stuff**

An absolutely bizarre development was the late November discovery of something out of "2001: A Space Odyssey" during a Utah Department of Public Safety's Aero Bureau count of bighorn sheep in southeastern Utah. Immediately, similar "monoliths" – generally metallic pillars – popped up all over the world, and often were almost as quickly removed. My references include about twenty articles on this phenomenon. A "Mystery Monolith" that appeared in Turkey near the Gobekli Tepe site turned out to be government "PR" for a space initiative. And a really hi-tech production by the United Arab Emirates actually created the appearance of two moons -- Demos and Phobos to be exact -- to commemorate the UAE's *Hope* probe to Mars. On the wacko side, a man claiming to be a Saturnian filed a lawsuit against the American Federal Government, as well as the United Kingdom and the United Nations. And then there's the cow that allegedly dropped through the roof of a barn on December 9<sup>th</sup>, in the presence of a UFO as seen by the amazed, anonymous farmer. A short bit of Googling sufficed to prove this story erroneous.

### **More on UFO Personalities**

Nick Pope's claims about his former employ at the British Ministry of Defence continue generating friction amongst researchers. Robert Bigelow still made UFO-related news, especially in interviews on *Mystery Wire* and *The Joe Rogan Experience*. There's a good dialogue between the former head of the Advanced Aerospace Threat Identification Program and the creator of *Metabunk*, whose views sharply differ over the three Navy "UFO videos" so far released to the public. Miguel ("Red Pill Junkie") Romero analyzed and embedded that in his article <https://www.dailygrail.com/2021/03/forcing-a-saucer-peg-in-a-pentagon-hole-luis-elizondo-talks-to-mick-west-about-ufos-and-the-aatip-program/>.

### **Deaths and Illnesses**

Calvin Parker is having very serious health problems. Sadly, the UFO world lost ally Larry King and personality Clifford Stone. And particularly distressing are the too-soon passings of former *Paratopia* co-host Jeff Ritzmann on February 24<sup>th</sup>, and brave journalist Angelia Joiner, whose work on the 2008 Stephenville Texas case made it prominent and cost her job. Angelia died at age 59, the day after her husband Randell, both victims of the horrid COVID-19 virus.

### **Important Media Notes**

A Washington Post opinion piece on April 1<sup>st</sup> (no fooling) by Tufts University Professor of International Politics Daniel Drezner, noting progress toward "the normalization of the idea of unidentified flying objects (UFOs)," argued <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2021/04/01/we-need-talk-about-ufos-again/>. *The Debrief* is fast becoming a good "go-to" online source for intelligent discussion, and its January 19th article by Tim McMillan and Tom Rogan <https://thedebrief.org/the-decades-long-ufo-taboo-the-biden-administration-will-have-to-face/> just may one day rank as one of the more significant in the history of ufology. Omnitalk Radio Network's Giuliano Marinkovic was interviewed by *Mystery Wire*'s Duncan Phenix in <https://www.mysterywire.com/ufo/documenting-ufo-media-around-the-world-the-man-behind-omnitalk-radio/> posted on January 29<sup>th</sup>, covering Marinkovic's amazing resource for UFO-based articles. Though Jack Brewer is much more

skeptical than this writer and probably most readers, his survey on “Discerning Truth” on February 9<sup>th</sup> at <http://ufotrail.blogspot.com/2021/02/discerning-truth.html> is worthwhile. In a January 12, 2021 Martin Willis podcast, Center for UFO Studies Scientific Director Dr. Mark Rodeghier and leading ufologist David Marler announced the transition of the CUFOS case files from Chicago, Illinois to Marler’s New Mexico archive. This will assure the files’ preservation and their greater availability for study, including eventual digitization to promote public research efforts. A three-part *History Channel’s Greatest Mysteries* series on Roswell began with some promise as experts helped an intelligence “newbie” to UFO investigations plumb new sources of information about Roswell. But the story petered out with a lot of loose ends, including a journal in Marcel’s personal effects turning out not to have been written by Marcel.

Worthwhile Books include the remarkable Avi Loeb work *Extraterrestrial: The First Sign of Intelligent Life Beyond Earth*, reminding me of the courage abduction researcher John Mack had all those many years ago. Loeb’s argument for a more open-minded scientific attitude towards ET intelligence helps the general credibility of our field. Ralph Blumenthal’s *The Believer: Alien Encounters, Hard Science, and the Passion of John Mack* was published on March 15<sup>th</sup>. And in mid-March Jerome Clark’s 7-book Kindle series *The UFO Phenomenon* came out. This is a Kindle reworking of Jerry’s *The UFO Encyclopedia*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.



## Can Media Control Disclosure?

By Tom Wertman  
Ohio State Director



Recently it has been much more difficult keeping current with UFO Unidentified Flying Object), UAP (Unknown Aerial Phenomenon), UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) or whatever other derived terms are used for happenings in ufology. I will use UAV in this

article which is the military designation. The pentagon’s admission of photos and videos containing unknown aerial phenomenon (UAP) taken by military personnel has helped make UAV news the flavor of the day. UAV news is now more widely viewed and discussed on late night radio shows such as Coast-to-Coast AM. Fox, CBS, CNN, and the New York Times. And others have jumped on the UAV bandwagon. The April 2021 CBS 60 Minutes report was a breath of fresh air for those of us locked in during the pandemic. The story showed a much-deserved respect for the subject through fact-based reporting featuring interviews with former military and pentagon personnel. Unfortunately, not all follow suit. There are still those distractors who have to play X-Files themed music and attempt to ridicule the subject through a limited knowledge of the subject.

Will the media respect and willingness to feature UAV stories continue to grow? That answer may lie in the publics shifting general opinion. Prior to the 60-minutes report, CBS conducted a random sample survey of 1009 adults nationwide. Following are the results of the March 2021 CBS survey related to an individual’s opinion of UFOs. The belief in intelligent life on other planets has grown from 47% in 2010 to 66% in 2021. 32% believe we have either had contact with intelligent life from other planets or will have in their lifetime. 51% that UAVs might be an alien spacecraft compared to 39% that believe it is natural or human activity. When it comes to UAVs, 73% believe the US government knows more than it’s telling. Basically, from these numbers 2/3 of the sample believe in intelligent life on other planets, 1/2 believe they might be alien spacecraft, and almost 3/4 believe that the government is withholding information on UAVs.

The role media plays in the future of ufology couldn’t be more important than any point along the UFO history timeline since Kenneth Arnold’s 1947 sighting. Our primary sources of information are no longer limited to the morning newspaper or 6 o’clock news. Depending on the technologies at hand, we can be exposed to information overload. 24/7 we can surf the internet for news updates, participate in social media sites, send/receive texts, etc. That makes me wonder what is the source of those surveyed beliefs.

Maybe CBS should have added the following question: “What is the source of the information that makes you believe in UAVs, or that they might be alien spacecraft, and do you think the government is withholding information?” Revealing the source can be very telling about how individuals form their opinions. As an example, let’s look at the 2019 naval encounter with what the TheDrive.com WarZones article titled “Multiple Destroyers Were Swarmed by Mysterious 'Drones' Off California Over Numerous Nights” by Kehoe and Cecotti. In looking at this article, lets also look at it from a MUFON field investigator’s point of view. This includes reviewing sources of information, some basic fact checking, and seeing how they developed their story.



**USS Omaha Destroyer**

The story consists of two main portions, the Nimitz UAV encounters in 2004 and ending with the USS Omaha 2019 UAV/drone swarm. Rather than start at the beginning, let’s look at the more recent events, then go backwards. The 2019 USS Omaha story begins with posts being made in documentary filmmakers Dave Beaty’s twitter account on June 8, 2020. The post indicates on July 14, 2019 the USS Kidd (DDG-100), an Arleigh Burke class destroyer, encountered UAV in a region termed as the Southern California Operation Area (So Cal OPAREA).

One of the main sources of information for TheDrive article centered around brief notations in various ships logs. A portion of the USS Kidd’s ship log is pictured with a notation of the “SNOOPIE Team” being alerted at 2156. Never being in the Navy, much less any branch of the military, mandated surfing the internet for the meanings of numerous acronyms. “Away SNOOPIE Team” refers to Ship Nautical or Otherwise Photographic Interpretation and Exploitation team being sent to stations. The team consists of a team leader, photographer, videographers, photography team leader and recorder who logs data and writes a script. The team’s purpose is to acquire both video and photographic documentation of any contacts so that they can analyze the data, and determine if the contact is friend or foe. In this incident the team is to observe “2 UAVs”. The logs use of UAV seems implies the unknowns are already being classified as some form of unknown aerial vehicle.

In search of evidence to support the encounter “The War Zone” authors stated they obtained copies of the involved ships’ deck logs of ships Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Additional research used in the article was in the form of ship location data obtained through the Automatic Identification System (AIS). This system tracks commercial and military ships as long as the tracking devices are enabled. For investigative purposes, I used the info in the ship’s logs provided in the article, but obtained my own AIS data at <https://marinecadastre.gov/ais>. Data for the entire year of 2019 were available in form of one 900mb file. Working with a file, this log posed a major challenge. It needed insight into what data were available, and how they were being presented during the review.

2156			ASSUMED THE WATCH WOODWAY AS BEFORE
			AWAY SNOOPIE TEAM FOR 2 UAVS
2158			SET BANCON I
2201			BANCON I SET
2210	L20R	090	
2214			SET RIVER CITY 2
2216		090	078 DEAMC
	PAF	20	

**USS Kidd Log**

The following log reference at 2214 “Set River City 2” is a term dating back to the Vietnam War used to document a temporary communications blackout. Its intent is to minimize electronic

emissions from the USS Kidd. The AIS transponder, ships inbound and outbound communications, satellite uplinks and others all provide an electronic signature of the USS Kidd. This signature can be used for not only tracking purposes, but as a targeting signal for adversarial drones. What's not known from the deck log is whether this was done as a standard procedure, precautionary measure or an actual threat was determined.

Further examination of the log below reveals seven minutes before entering "River City 2", the USS Kidd advised the USS Rafael Peralta (DGG-115) of the situation. The USS Rafael Peralta and also mentioned USS John Finn (DDG-113) are both Arleigh Burke class destroyers in the same region.

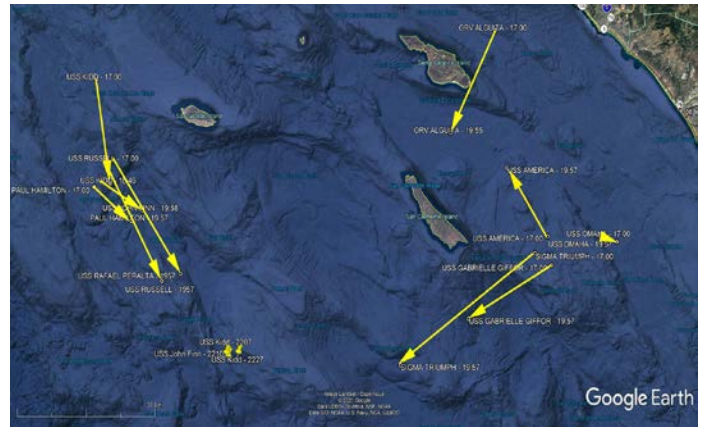
2221			CAPTAIN IS OFF THE BRIDGE
2207			USS KIDD REPORTED UAV OVERHEAD WARNED
			OPERATORS TO SECURE USE LAT: 32°29.902'
			LONG: 119°21.385'
			SET 74.8°T DRIFT LINKS
2210			AWAY THE SNOOPE TEAM
			JOHN FINN REPORTS TWO DRONES OVERHEAD LAT:
			32°21.398' LONG: 119°23.903'
2213			COMMODORE IS ON THE BRIDGE
2215	AAG	IL0	
2218			SECURED LOW VIS DETAIL
			SECURED SOUND SIGNALS
2227			USS KIDD REPORTED UAV OVERHEAD WARNED
			OPERATORS TO SECURE USE LAT: 32°29.902'
			LONG: 119°21.284'
2259			WHISKEY AUTHORIZED BURN THROUGH

**USS Rafael Peralta Log**

A Google Earth graphic fellow was created by combining the AIS data retrieved the MarineCadastre.gov website. Information was available in the form of one file for the entire year of 2019. Specialized software is best suited for analysis, but being on a MUFON budget standard database software was utilized. TheDrive article mentioned that available ship AIS data was fragmented. In my review that was confirmed. Except when comparing the ship logs to the AIS data, a correlation between "River City 2" and a ship immediate turning off of transponders was not seen. What is not known from the AIS data is whether the transponders were already off as part of a training exercise. An additional consideration with random transponder signals is up to 100 UAVs were reportedly observed from July 14-17<sup>th</sup>. More on that later.

A second challenge in data interpretation arose with potential confusion associated with time zones. AIS data is created in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) which needed converted to Pacific Standard

Time (PST) then military time. UTC time of is ahead of PST by 7 hours. The yellow arrows in the diagram indicate direction of travel for ships in the region. Besides the USS Kidd, USS John Finn, and USS Rafael Peralta other naval ships were in the region. The USS Paul Hamilton (DDG-60), USS Gabrielle Giffords (LCS-10) and USS Omaha (LCS-12) were also part of the destroyer groups in training. The USS America (LHA-6) was close to the Channel Islands heading to port in San Diego. The importance of the USS Omaha will come out later in this article.



**Google Earth Graphic**

A combination of AIS data and ship log notations of position were used to complete the graphic. Ship movements along with times are provided based on best available information for July 15, 2019. Examining the fragmented logs indicate 22:07 on July 15<sup>th</sup> as being a time of high alert. The previous log book section is from the USS Rafael Peralta. Highlighted is the USS Kidd reporting a UAV overhead, three minutes later the USS John Finn two drones overhead, followed at 22:27 the USS John Finn again reporting a UAV overhead. Following is a redacted log section from the USS John Finn. Highlighted sections callout the USS John Finn securing AIS systems at 22:31 and a redacted section noting a red flashing light spotted.

2231			SECURED AIS DUE TO POSSIBLE UAV ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA
2238			CO IS OFF THE BRIDGE
2242	CR270		
2248		9270	256 DIFMC
2300	RD90		
2203			REF TO SPAREBOARD MARKETS ON TOP RED FLASHING LIGHT SPOT

**USS John Finn Log**



From the fragmented logs a picture is being formed where UAVs have been reported overhead of the USS Kidd and USS John Finn. The USS John Finn further reported observation of a red flashing light. At this point weather conditions are unknown, along with how far the UAVs may be from each ship. During the review of the logs, **one can't keep from wanting complete deck logs from each ship for the three-day period!** It would help complete a picture of what is recorded, how often events like this may occur and were alerts performed beyond what is noted in available logs.

The USS Rafael Peralta is a third ship noting a white light hovering over the ships flight deck at 2323. Arleigh Burke class destroyers such as the Peralta have flight decks to accommodate MH-60 Seahawk Helicopters. This log provides the first insight into how far the lights are from the ships by stating visibility is less than 1 nautical mile. A curious comment follows at 23:31 "Search of suspected UAV". This comment could be interpreted numerous ways. The most obvious meaning that comes to mind is the UAV went into the ocean and teams were beginning to search for the suspected UAV.

2307					COMBAT SYSTEMS CASUALTY LOSS OF TIS
2313					WHITE LIGHT IDENTIFIED HOVERING OVER SHIPS FLIGHT DECK
2329					VISIBILITY REDUCED TO LESS THAN 1 NM. STATIONED LOW VISIBILITY DETAIL.
2331					SOUND SIGNALS NOT ENERGIZED DUE TO SOUND
18-21	23-29	30-32	33-36	37-40	41
2100 - 0000 (CONT'D)					
2331					SEARCH OF SUSPECTED UAV.
2334					LOW VIC SECTION 3 OF 3 STATIONED ON WATCH @ 2334.

**Additional USS Rafael Peralta Log Data**

Space limits how much more detail can be given to the original WarZone article "Multiple Destroyers were Swarmed by Mysterious Drones off the California Numerous Nights". To summarize some of the details, the USS Russell (DDG-59) broke from the term UAV reporting drone activity in multiple directions. From the log it's difficult to determine how many drones were involved. The log lists drone spotted, direction from ship, direction of movement, elevation, and time. Estimations identified the drones as being less than 1,000' above the water. The cruise ship Carnival Imagination reported to the USS Russell it observed 5-6 drones near the Channel Islands. While the cruise ship did have drones, none were airborne. Before moving to segment two of the

2019 encounters, there are two separate terms being used of identify the objects: UAV implying unknown aerial vehicle and drone meaning a craft controlled by a source.

The majority of media based their reporting of the event on the WarZones article including the use of swarm of drones. Personal examination of the initial information suggests the possibility of separate events, one UAV related, the second drones. At this point "swarm of drones" may also be overstated, but a link to the reference can be found when reviewing the WarZones website. The site details recent military developments, many of which are drones and more specifically swarming drones. The implication of drones as the major activity and downplaying UAV falsely indicates the navy knows what they are. Origin of an extraterrestrial nature is ruled out along with vehicles of an unknown determination.

Enter a second source of information on the events provided by filmmaker Jeremy Corbell and news reporter George Knapp. This one shifts terminology from drone swarms to pyramid-shaped UFO swarms above the navy destroyer. At the heart of the story is a video of unknown origin which surfaced in the hands of Corbell. Why Corbell? Well he was involved with production of a documentary on Bob Lazar of Area 51 fame. Back to Corbell, he didn't review the source, he only stated that the video is from a night vision device used by a USS Omaha officer.

What does the video alone tell us? These objects were definitely close to combat ships. They appeared to be under intelligent control as they made figure eight moves and rapid turns. Lights appeared to be flashing so there was no apparent desire to utilize stealth related capabilities. What the video doesn't tell us? First of all: we don't know the source of the video, who took the video, their training, and a chain of custody. Chain of custody is important in this era of advanced graphic manipulation. Before your author is being compared to skeptic Phillip Klass let me explain. If the captured image goes from camera directly to the investigator the maximum number of sources handling the image are two. It minimizes chances of image manipulation. As an image, if copied over and over again, incurs the chances of image manipulation increased as well as image degradation. It can best be compared to making

multiple generations of photocopies. Hence the need of to document chain of custody.



**Night Vision Image of UAV (source unverified)**

Missing too is the media's metadata information. This is information attached to various forms of media by the creation device. Digital technologies from cameras have the ability to record date, time, camera make, model, image format, camera settings, etc. While the information contained may vary from camera to camera, the information provided can help with image interpretation.

When dealing with UAVs it is important to keep an open mind and not put on blinders like a horse. This is why investigators should always be trying to improve their investigative techniques. One of the things I've noticed since the 2004 USS Nimitz encounter by Cmdr. David Fravor is how many reports now feature "tic-tac" shaped objects. In my opinion the term seems used too liberally by witness and investigator alike. It's like how many sightings were automatically triangular craft after the Phoenix lights.

Getting back to camera information. Mick West of the skeptic sight "metabunk" reviewed the night vision video and implied the shape of the object may be incorrectly identified as triangular shaped. Camera optics, more specifically the iris which opens and closes to control the amount of incoming light may be distorting the image. Basically, the iris is a series of panels that open and close like blinds. The number of panels can make the opening appear triangular, hexagonal, etc. West states that some night vision cameras have triangular iris. Taking a video of a bright light source creates a distortion called a "bokeh". Being personally familiar with cameras and advanced photographic techniques, West's explanation falls into the category of plausible. West offers a second

possible explanation of manually restricting incoming light to improve night vision quality with a triangular lens mask.

Knowing the exact make and model camera from the metadata information would provide necessary insight into the possibility of the camera lens distorting the image. Secondly, are military personnel trained on techniques such as utilizing a lens mask to restrict incoming light on night vision equipment? We could then focus on the true shape of the object which may not be triangular.

Field investigation requires direction of view. The video shows a light source making turning above what appear to be ship masts. Was this in the direction of the ships helicopter flight deck? Were the hovering objects above the other ships also hovering over the flight decks? So many questions, so little information to make an informed statement.

Possibly the most interesting portion of the Corbell/Knapp release was a short video, now expanded to approximately 46 seconds. This occurred at approximately 23:00 on July 15<sup>th</sup>. It features what is termed as a "transmedium" sphere traveling slowly above the water. The video was captured initially with an infrared camera and displayed in the USS Omaha's Command Information Center (CIC). This again is a video which was released through unknown sources. Examination indicates the video is from a hand-held recording device used to document what is occurring on a video monitor. The video monitor displays the date, time, longitude, and latitude. As the video advances one can see this is two videos spliced together. The reason for the splicing is unknown. The object which is hotter than the surrounding air descends towards the ocean. It then appears to make contact with the water's surface. At this point, one had to wonder if there was a way to determine temperature of the object based on equipment capabilities and surrounding water temperature.



**Infrared Camera Image July 15<sup>th</sup>, USS Omaha**

When reviewing video, witness audio comments can lead an investigator to making potentially false interpretations. Reviewing the audio comments, the crew seems calm. They perform their assigned duties logging longitude, latitude, direction. At the end of the video is a reference to splashdown. The USS Omaha then reaches out to other ships, USS Kidd and USS Rafael Peralta to launch helicopters. The video is inconclusive as to whether the object splashed into the water and descended below. Search missions conducted by helicopters and an unnamed submarine in the area netted zero results. The one take-away we do have is the request to deploy helicopters at “splashdown” explains the reference search for UAV at 23:31 in the USS Rafael Peralta’s log.

During the past few weeks, one can’t help but wonder where is all the technical data. These ships are equipped with some of the most state-of-the-art sensors available on naval ships. There has to be significant radar data, high quality optical and thermal images, not just images captured by recording video monitors. How much came out after the 2004 Nimitz encounter? Nothing. It either disappeared like the tic-tac or was protected under the guise of national security. The problem is this creates the feeling of the government hiding something. The reality is they may be no closer to having a true explanation than the general public.

Time to refocus for round three. Just when you think no more will come out Corbell/Knapp present radar information from the USS Omaha, again we have a video from an anonymous source. This one is a hand-held recording of a monitor which is identified as the USS Omaha’s radar system. One the screen can be seen multiple tracks. Images appear and disappear with no indication of why from the crew. Corbell offers an explanation that

the ship is using S- and X-band radar. The radar captures everything from sea level to 80,000’. If the objects go outside of that envelop, they disappear from the screen. As noted by Corbell before filming started, 14 objects were on one screen.



**USS Omaha’s Radar Screen as Displayed by Hand-Held Recording**

The crew can be heard stating direction and speed. The objects are not traveling at high speed. Speeds range at one point from 46 to 50 knots. At one point one track increases to 138 knots or about 158 mph. This is definitely not supersonic, yet interesting to say the least. It’s time to get out the magnifying glasses and confirm if the date/time on the radar screens matches that of the infrared transmedium object. Something else that may be able to be derived from a clearer image would be if these UAV are friend or foe. The radar has the capability of displaying this information. Something that makes the 2019 encounter so important is if the videos from radar screens, night vision, and infrared are confirmed. It creates correlating data like have never before been seen.

After watching the video one thing stands out. There is no indication by the crew of a threat. The object’s intent is unknown. Could it be an unannounced US training exercise, a foreign adversary testing our restraint and technical capabilities, or an unknown technology unafraid to reveal itself? Maybe we’ll find out in the upcoming June 2021 UAPTF report.

One thing for sure is after watching the videos we should be proud of our military personnel. They handled their duties in a matter-of-fact way. This is much different than typical YouTube reported sightings featuring colorful metaphors. Corbell’s clarification of the radar video is what provides the excitement, additional details to what occurred

before and after recording, and teasers of coming attractions. Corbell reported over a three-day period 100 such objects were observed. It was also reported that the military made attempts to bring UAVs down without success. Will Corbell/Knapp produce more information before the UAPTF congressional report. Who knows! It could be a way of keeping the fire fueled or say after-the-fact what wasn't revealed.

Moving on to the congressional report. There has been a lot of speculation about the content of the UAPTF report. Will it be an honest attempt by a government agency to provide insight into the UFO/UAP mystery? Or will it be another passive attempt to gloss over the subject?

The reality may be much closer to the announcement of an agency being established, a reporting structure, what types of cases are being reviewed, major cases of interest, and what is being worked on for the next report. Those expecting full blown disclosure will be disappointed. Expectations of an announcement of alien contact, or for that matter that extraterrestrials exist also most likely won't happen. The main emphasis will be on setting up an agency to determine if these encounters pose a national threat.

There's one thing that sticks in my mind after all the information overload during the past month. Luis Elizondo made a statement that these sightings may be attributed to something of a completely unknown origin. What did he mean by unknown origin? Maybe they come from closer to earth than we realize.



*(The following article by Rick Hilberg appeared in the February 2021 issue of "Alternate Perceptions". We have his permission to present it here. Ed.)*

## **Advent of the Flying Saucers** by Rick Hilberg A final look at 1947 activity in California

**(July 6)**



The R. V. Allen family of Ontario were driving in the car at about 9:30 p.m., when they saw what the three described as a "school" of strange disks overhead traveling from south to north over Riverside. The family insisted to the local newspaper that covered their experience that the disks "played about in the air just as perch do in water." The local ranch family was able to view the aerial maneuvers for several minutes before the objects were lost in the distance.

Earlier that evening, about eight, Mr. B. A. Runner who resided on West California Street in Ontario, told newsmen that several of the disks sailed right over his house, circled about and made a return, one flying so low that the "sound of an attached motor could be distinctly heard."

**(July 8)**

This was a busy day for flying saucer sightings in California, with such tidbits being reported to newspapers as: a "spinning platter" that was said to have crash landed in an almond grove near the town of Lancaster... Redlands truck driver H.J. Stell reporting that "silvery eggs in a straight line" flew overhead as he was driving his truck near March Field in Riverside... Jerry McAdams spotting a disk "as big as a house" in posh Beverly Hills that "seemed to give off a low whistle as it disappeared."

However, not everybody was impressed by these sightings of flying disks. On that same day an irreverent skywriter in Pomona drew two giant circles in the sky and spelled out the word, "Saucers", seemingly to mock the frenzy of sightings. (On the 10th, residents of West 10th

Street in Pomona would say that they saw three tumbling objects in the air, each sparkling as the sun reflected off them.)

The day also produced the news that designer Frank Borel of San Francisco created a new hat in the shape of a flying saucer that he saw in a dream.

But that day the real action was taking place at Muroc Army Air Field, when an Air Force lieutenant was walking into an office, hearing what he thought was an aircraft overhead and decided to look up.



Muroc Army Air Field

He saw the plane, but to its left he saw two silvery objects of either spherical or disk-shaped, moving about 300 mph at 8,000 feet altitude, heading northwest towards the town of nearby Mojave and glinting in the sunlight.

First Lt. Joseph McHenry called to his secretary and two sergeants inside the office.

When they stepped outside, the lieutenant pointed into the sky directly over them and said, "Tell me what you see up there."

The others said they saw two objects as well, flying in a straight line one behind the other.

The objects weren't birds, because they were glinting in the strong desert air sunlight. The definitely could not be weather balloons, because they were traveling against the prevailing wind, and at high speed, the four agreed.

"I have been flying and have been around all types of aircraft since 1943 and never in my life have I

seen anything such as this," Staff Sgt. Gerald Nauman told an Army Air Force counter-intelligence agent, who wrote a report classified as "confidential" on the matter.

"This was no hallucination," Staff Sgt. Joseph Ruvulo told the agent.

Just minutes before the lieutenant first spotted the mysterious objects in the sky, he had told other airmen in the post exchange: "Someone will have to show me one of these disks before I will believe it."

Others at Muroc saw the same objects, or ones just like them, possibly on the day before, according to documents that have made their way to the surface since that day in 1947.

After the lieutenant got his co-workers to look at the things in the sky, he ran into the base dispensary and got a nurse and a group of about seven other medical personnel. But by the time the others got outside, the objects had disappeared in the distance before they got there.

However, three or four minutes after the two objects disappeared, the lieutenant and his secretary spotted another spherical or disk-like object traveling in circles at about 8,000 feet altitude over the north end of the base, turning much too tightly to be conventional aircraft.

About two hours later, the base commander pointed out an object in the sky to Major Richard R. Shoop. "I observed between five and eight miles to the north what appeared to be a thin metallic object. It appeared to be metallic because the method in which it was flying caused the sun to reflect like an apparently aluminum-colored surface," Shoop said in an affidavit.

"The object moved from an intermediate altitude in an oscillating fashion, almost to the surface of the ground and then started climbing again.

"It climbed to a fairly high altitude and moved off slowly into the distance. The object appeared to be the size of a pursuit airplane but did not have the shape of a conventional plane.

"The time that the object was in view was approximately eight minutes." Shoop added: "This

same object was seen by my wife at the same time."

Five weeks after the July 8 Muroc sightings, an Air Force investigator talked to a test pilot, who said that he had seen a mysterious sphere on July 7, the day before the others.

Major J. C. Wise - who later in his career became a brigadier general - said he was running an XP-84's engine on the ground when he noticed other people looking into the air. In the sky at about 10,000 to 12,000 feet altitude he said he saw a spherical object that he first assumed was a weather balloon.

"After looking at it for a while I noticed that it was oscillating in a forward whirling movement without losing altitude. It was traveling at about 200 to 225 mph and heading from west to east," Wise said in an affidavit. It looked to be five to 10 feet in diameter and was yellowish-white in color.

He said he didn't have time to chase the thing in a P-80 jet aircraft.

While Shoop said the object he saw had been pointed out to him by Muroc's commander, Colonel Signa Gilkey, Gilkey didn't sign an affidavit on the matter.

More than a month after Shoop talked to the counter-intelligence agent, Gilkey told an intelligence officer investigating the sightings that he believed the object that Shoop saw was paper and of no significance.

"No further investigation of these incidents is being considered by this headquarters," according to an August 18, 1947 memo from the 4th Air Force.

And there the matter ended...



## Paintsville UFO and Train Collision ([https://completely-kentucky.fandom.com/wiki/Paintsville\\_UFO\\_and\\_Train\\_Collision](https://completely-kentucky.fandom.com/wiki/Paintsville_UFO_and_Train_Collision))



The following is the official report by the CSX Engineer:

Paintsville, Kentucky -- At exactly 2:47 a.m. on January 14, 2002, while working a coal train enroute from Russell, Kentucky to Shelbiana, Kentucky, our trailing unit and first two cars were severely damaged as we struck an unknown floating or hovering object. I know it was 2:47 because my watch froze, and to this day shows that time.

Along with my watch the entire electrical systems on both locomotives went haywire. Approaching a bend near milepost 42 in an area referred to as the Wild Kingdom, for the many different types of animals spotted there, my conductor and I saw lights coming from around the way.

This ordinarily means another train is coming and will pass on the other track. The outlay of the area is this, the river, #1 track, #2 tracks and a straight up mountainside, carved out for the laying of these tracks. I killed our lights as not to blind the oncoming crew.

As we rounded the corner our onboard computer began to flash in and out, speed recorder went nuts, and both locomotives died. Alarm bells began to ring and that's when we saw the objects. Apparently scanning the river for something. At least three objects had several "search" lights

trained there, the first object hovered about 10 to 12 feet above the track.

It was metallic silver in color with multiple colored lights near the bottom and in the middle. There were no windows or openings of any kind that we could see. It was 18 to 20 feet in length and probably ten feet high.

With both engines dead as we rounded the corner we made little noise, and the first object did not respond in time. I estimate that we hit the object at 30 mph with 16,000 trailing tons behind us. It clipped the top of our lead unit then skipped back slicing a chunk out of our trailing unit and first two coal cars. The other objects vanished.

Our emergency brakes had initiated due to the loss of power and we stopped approximately a mile and a half to two miles after impact. Our power restored after we were stopped and we notified our dispatcher, located in Jacksonville, Florida of what had happened.

We were told to inspect the cars to see if they'd hold the rail and try to limp into milepost cmg 60 which used to be the Paintsville yard, which is no longer in full operation. We checked everything out and the cab of the rear locomotive was demolished and smoking, the second two cars looked as if they had been hit with a giant hammer, but looked like they'd hold the rail.

We pulled into Paintsville yard at approximately 5:15 am. The huge overhead lights lining the yard were noticeably dark and the only lights came from what we assumed were railroad officials vehicles parked near the end of the track. We pulled to a stop and began unloading our grips off the wounded train. We could hear what sounded like an army of workers immediately tending to our train. Vehicle doors slamming, guys running by in weird outfits and lights glaring from all directions, the one thing missing was railroad officials.

A guy named Ferguson shook my hand and asked me to follow him into the old yard office. We did, once inside they, and by 'they' I mean I have no idea who these people were, began to ask us hundreds of questions, they then told us for our own protection we'd be medically tested before we could leave.

I asked repeatedly to talk to my road foreman or trainmaster, and not only were these requests denied, but they confiscated my conductor's cellular phone.

Hours later we were led outside the old yard office and the strange things continued to happen, the 2 locomotives and two cars were removed from the rest of the train we had brought in and my only guess was parked 4 tracks over under a huge tent like structure buzzing with activity.

We were led off the property and told, due to national security, our silence on this matter would be appreciated.

We were then put in a railroad vehicle and taken to Martin, Kentucky where we went through questioning again with railroad officials and were then drug tested. After all of this we were sent on to Shelbiana, where we took rest for 8 hours and worked another train back to Russell. Working back we passed by Paintsville, no sign of the engines, cars, tent, people, nothing.



*(My account of the analysis that I did on a dress that Betty Hill wore when she was abducted was published in the "Scientific Coalition for UAP Studies", Volume 2.1 January 25, 2021. It follows with a few revisions. Ed.)*

## **Examination and Analysis of Dress Betty Hill Wore During Her Abduction**

**By Phyllis Budinger  
Newsletter Editor and Membership Chairman**

### **Synopsis of the Event**

The following is a brief recount of the event according to the testimonies of Betty and Barney Hill.

On September 19, 1961, Betty and Barney Hill along with their dachshund, Delsey, were returning home to Portsmouth, New Hampshire after an extended weekend trip to Canada. Their itinerary took them to Niagara Falls and Montreal before traveling home. The Hills were

headed south on US Route 3 in central New Hampshire near White Mountain National Forest. According to the Hills, at approximately 10:15 a bright star appeared to move erratically. They continued observing as it paced them approaching closer and closer. Barney stopped to retrieve a .22 pistol from the trunk and resumed driving.

Shortly afterward, the couple observed the object through binoculars. It appeared to be a flattened, circular disk spinning in motion. The disk had multicolored lights on the rim.

About two miles north of North Woodstock, the object stopped spinning and began its descent. It hovered about 100 feet in the air, and a blue-white fluorescent glow shone through its windows. The object appeared to be the size of a four-engine aircraft.

Barney stopped the car and got out. According to Mr. Hill, he saw several uniformed, human-like figures standing near the windows. Fearing the worst, he jumped in the car and raced down the road. Suddenly, the couple heard an irregular beeping sound. Soon after they felt a tingling sensation and became drowsy. They remembered hearing a second series of beeps as they were passing through the town of Plymouth. After several more miles, they became fully awake and the craft was gone. Traveling through Plymouth should have amounted to a matter of minutes, however, the Hills consistently stated this short distance cost them two hours.

The Hills said they felt clammy and grimy. Barney had discomfort in his lower abdomen. Their Wrist watches had stopped working, and there were unexplainable marks on their car. This approximate span of 120 minutes, a blank moment in time for which neither Betty nor Barney could account, rendered them powerless and confused.

Due to the extreme strangeness of the events, the couple remained guarded. Feelings of traumatization, however, left them with no other option but to reluctantly seek help. Their search led them to Dr. Benjamin Simon. After thorough hypnotherapy, Dr. Simon's interpretation indicated that both Barney and Betty had been abducted and subjected to physical examinations.

## Dress History

When conducting a chemical analysis of a sample, the first step is to obtain a complete background history of a sample. Doing so helps to determine final conclusions. So it was with Betty's dress. Following is the dress history.

The dress Betty wore on that fateful night was new. She had worn it only one other day during that weekend, but not the day before the abduction. Therefore, it had never been laundered. The weather on the night of the event was unusually warm for that time of year, and it was not exceptionally humid.

Betty stated that she saw two beings standing beside her, one to her left and one to her right, when the encounter began. They escorted her on board the craft with their hands under her armpits. Betty related she put up a hell of a fight before she crossed the threshold of the craft. I asked whether she hit with her hands. She said, "No, I kicked like hell," because her arms were restricted. The dress most definitely had to suffer stresses.

While on the craft, she remembers that halfway through a physical examination they decided to remove the dress. They had difficulties with the zipper. Once removed, the dress ended up on the floor of the craft in a heap.

Betty did not notice any odor emanating from the dress, but she did note "a strong odor" which was "not pleasant" on the craft. She initially could not identify it but later said it smelled like marigolds. So the dress had had to be exposed to this.

After the event, when Betty and Barney arrived home, she undressed to go to bed. Betty related the following in a letter to me dated October 31, 2001.

"When I returned home that morning, I put my dress, folded, in the bottom of my closet, where it remained for several days. (Kathleen Marden reports in her book "Captured" that it was actually April or May of 1964 after the event. (Page 25.) When I removed it, it was covered with a pink powder. So, I threw it in the trash but quickly changed my mind. I decided to put it outdoors in the sun. The powder blew away leaving the stains."



Other damages to the dress were:

- The lining on the right side of the dress was torn, waist to hem.
- The top of the zipper was ripped (see photographs below).

Because of the damage to the dress, it could never be worn again.

The dress then hung on a hanger in Betty's closet for many years. It had not been enclosed in a protective bag. No disinfectants, moth repellent, or other chemicals were ever sprayed in the closet. Occasionally, the dress would be taken out and shown to visitors.

Barney immediately had his suit cleaned after the event. It never "developed" a pink powder, nor was it discolored. There was no damage to his clothing.

### Sampling the Dress

Four swatches from the outside of the dress were examined. These include three swatches from the discolored areas and a control from an area that was not discolored. Also analyzed was a swatch of the interior lining which had a stain.

The following documents the size of the swatches, along with photographs showing the areas of the dress from which the samplings were obtained.

Control: The control is from the back mid-section of the dress about 3 to 4 inches above the waist next to the zipper. It was sampled by Betty Hill and received on November 3, 2001.

Note: it is only designated as a control because it was not discolored.



Swatch #1: This swatch was sampled from the left sleeve by Betty Hill. It was also received on

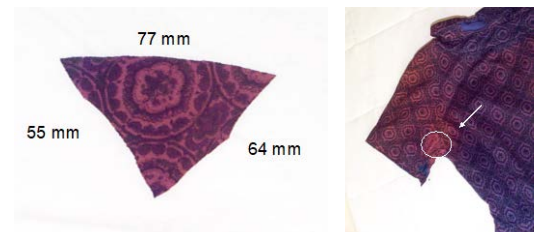
November 3, 2001.



Swatch #2: This swatch is from the front mid-section of the dress skirt. It was sampled by me on July 7, 2002.



Swatch #3: This swatch is from the right sleeve underarm. It was sampled by me on July 7, 2002.



Lining: A lining swatch was obtained from the inside back skirt section, also sampled by myself on July 7, 2002. It was selected because of the dark stain.



## Testing Procedure

I wanted to identify any foreign and anomalous contamination on the dress on a molecular level. FTIR (Fourier-Transform Infrared) spectroscopy, along with limited <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Proton Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) were the instrumentation of choice to accomplish this objective. I obtained numerous infrared spectra of the surfaces of the swatches, isolated particles, and solvent extracts. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained by Dr. J. Robert Mooney for the water extracts.

I also acquired many microscope photographs obtained from the front and back of the swatches, as well as some isolated particulates.

DNA analyses were done on Left Sleeve (Swatch #1), Mid-section (Swatch #2), Right Sleeve (Swatch #3), Dress Lining stain, and finally a blood sample from Betty Hill for reference. The analyses were completed in December 2004. They were done by an expert DNA analyst with the pseudonym "Collie" who was recommended by Bill Chalker in Australia.

### Foreign Materials Identified and Comments Analytical Results: on Them

#### Mildew

Particles of the pink powder that Betty shook out of the dress after it was removed from the closet are mildew. Some of these particles, as well as a coating of mildew, remained for analysis. Spectroscopy shows typical protein-type absorption characteristic of biological-derived material. The conditions were right for it to form. Betty and Barney felt clammy and grimy after the event. The substance on the dress was originally moist, and the moisture was not allowed to dissipate because the dress was folded.

This moist substance, probably slightly acidic, served as a nutrient for mildew. (See speculation on this substance below.) The mildew grew for almost two years. Later, when the dress finally dried, a pink powdery residue from the growth remained.

It is the mildew that caused the discoloration and interacted with the dress fiber. The dress interior and drier lining were not attacked.

Mildew is the most prominent coating on the stain areas. It is not prominent on the control. It is mostly on the exterior of the dress and not as much on the interior side or lining. Some decomposition of the mildew was noted over time. Mildew is responsible for the attack on the fiber and dye on the stained swatches. Furthermore, the stained areas are where Betty says the NHI (Non-Human Intelligence) had contact with the dress.

#### Household Components and Natural Oil

Common household components are detected which include the following: pet hair (Betty had a cat), skin flakes, fibers from other clothing/objects (cotton, polyethylene, polyacrylonitrile). These would be expected because the uncovered dress had hung in the closet for four decades before analysis. There is a natural oil which is specifically a glycerol ester.

#### DNA Types

DNA Analysis is most interesting. Explainable DNA can be found on all swatches except the right and left sleeves. For example, analysis revealed the stain on the back lining of the skirt is spider blood. Betty apparently sat on a spider during the journey. Kathleen Marden told me that Betty had a hot dog in Canada and sat at a picnic table to eat it. Also, there was human, mouse, and cow DNA. But there are two DNA results that raise questions. These are DNA sequences from soil bacteria and the Hmong-Mien speaking population from East Asia.

### Dress Physical Damage and Analytical Results Related to the NHI (Non-Human Intelligence) Encounter

On the outset, it should be noted that no evidence was found which would contradict Betty and Barney's account of the CE#3 experience and in fact lends support to the story. Consider the following observations.

#### Cause of Mildew

Betty reports a most unpleasant, unidentifiable odor on the craft. I offer a speculation that this odor emanated from the craft occupants and were a result of natural body elimination of oils/respiratory

agents. These substances transferred to the dress on contact. The pink areas are most profound around the top of the dress, especially around the sleeves where the NHIs had gripped Betty as they escorted her to and from the craft. The pink on the bottom is easily explainable because contact was made with Betty's "escorts" when she kicked them as she was forcefully taken over the threshold of the craft. It is also possible some material transferred from the top of the dress to the skirt when Betty folded the dress after returning home. This moist substance eventually caused the mildew to form on Betty's dress. The moist, damp, biological components found on the dress were probably also on Betty's skin, causing her to feel clammy and dirty.

### Presence of Soil Bacteria

On the swatch from the left sleeve of the dress, DNA of a soil bacterium (alpha proteobacterium) was found. The left sleeve of her dress was somehow in contact with soil. Betty reports her dress was removed and thrown "in a heap" on the floor of the craft. I contend there was soil on the floor tracked in by Betty and/or the NHIs. At the time of the abduction, the road the car was stopped on was dirt. It was paved in later years.

### Excess of Mildew and Other Foreign Material

The NHI on the right took the brunt of Betty's kicking attack, because this is where the lining is ripped. Additionally, it is noted that the right sleeve is totally permeated with pink material, more so than the left sleeve, which indicates a tighter grip on her was necessary.

### Hmong-Mien DNA

Also on the right sleeve is the Hmong-Mien DNA sequence. This demands explanation. Kathleen Marden related to me that Betty did not know anyone of Asian extract, nor is there any indication that the dress was ever handled by an Asian or made in Asia. In fact, Kathleen Marden found a label on the inside seam which said "Garment Workers of America".

Could the Hmong-Mien sequence have originated from the NHI? Kathleen Marden related in a recent email: "Betty and Barney described the entities as having flat, Mongoloid faces and large slanted

eyes." Based on Betty's description of the NHI following are an artist's painting and a sculpted head. Betty used to display the sculpted head at conferences.



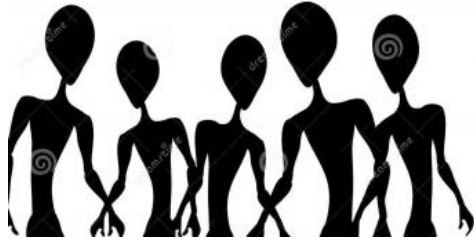
Following is a photograph of a man of Hmong-Mien extraction. There appears to be a resemblance. Does this indicate some genetic engineering done in ages past to the human race which involved introducing alien DNA?



### Recommendation

More DNA testing has to be done on the right sleeve, and perhaps also the torn zipper area which the NHIs had trouble undoing. The "Scientific Method" dictates this must be done.

The 2004 results need confirmation. This should be done by a highly qualified scientist well-versed in the most modern DNA procedures. There was DNA on the right sleeve in 2004. I feel some remains in 2020.

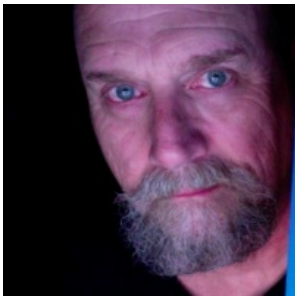


## Book Review

By Scott Santa

**“The Believer - Alien Encounters, Hard Science, and the Passion of John Mack.”**

by Ralph Blumenthal (2021) 330 pgs.



Think you know Dr. John Mack, Harvard trained psychiatrist and delver into the abduction phenomenon as we, fellow readers, have come to know it? Well, you don't - not until you've read this book. Ralph Blumenthal

digs very deep into the personal life and trials of a man trying very hard to balance the dichotomy he faced once he dipped his “scientific” toes in the world of ufos and “alien” abductions.

If you think you recognize the author's name, you are probably on the right track. He is THAT Ralph Blumenthal, co-author with Leslie Kean of the recent (2017) New York Times article that burst a significant bubble in ufological terms and he has written an extremely detailed and hard-hitting expose' of Dr. John Mack, and explores his journey into ufo abduction(s) which more or less sent his academic reputation to the brink of destruction.

John Mack, born in 1929 into a well-to-do academic family, grew up in New York. Losing his mother when he was a young man, sent him spiraling into abandonment issues and motivated his drive into psychiatry. In fact, he was the founder of Harvard's psychiatry department.

Along with publishing “A Prince of Our Disorder”, a biography of T.E. Lawrence which won him a Pulitzer Prize, Mack also explored psychedelics, and breath-work looking to clear his psychological trauma. He was also an anti-nuclear activist.

Blumenthal begins with Mack's earliest life and

covers everything in between right up to the point of Dr. Mack's sudden and heart-wrenching death in 2004.

Meeting Budd Hopkins in 1991, Mack was invited to listen in on Hopkins hypnotic sessions with several of Hopkins “abductees” and this sparked his curiosity to the point where he, Mack, decided that this was worthy of further exploration, and he began his own investigations with “experiencers”. Mack focused his work on the transpersonal aspect coming to the conclusion that none of the subjects displayed any psychopathology, that there was, indeed, a core truth to what was being reported to him, a core truth that “science” could not explain. Exploring alternative realities and the possibility of hidden dimensions became the norm of Mack's journey from hard-core science into the unknown side(s) of consensus reality.

Soon, word leaked out and colleagues began to disparage Mack and his work, claiming he was too quick to accept the experiencers stories, and pilloried him for being un-scientific and jumping to conclusion(s).

Having received exclusive access to Mack's personal archives, and interviews with his closest friends, Blumenthal opens up a life story little known and gives the reader not only a brand new perspective with which to delve into Mack's personal story, but also a great insight to those who have read or have yet to read Mack's books on abductions and his relationships with those that opened up their lives to him in order to find an answer to the abduction phenomenon.

The book earns top slot for those who know Mack only by his books and for those whose curiosity into the phenomenon is just beginning.

I found “The Believer” an engrossing read, and finished it in 2 sittings over 2 days. Blumenthal had me engaged and immersed all the way through. 5 out of 5 stars from this reviewer!

Rating:  out of 5