

SUNlite

Shedding some light on UFOlogy and UFOs

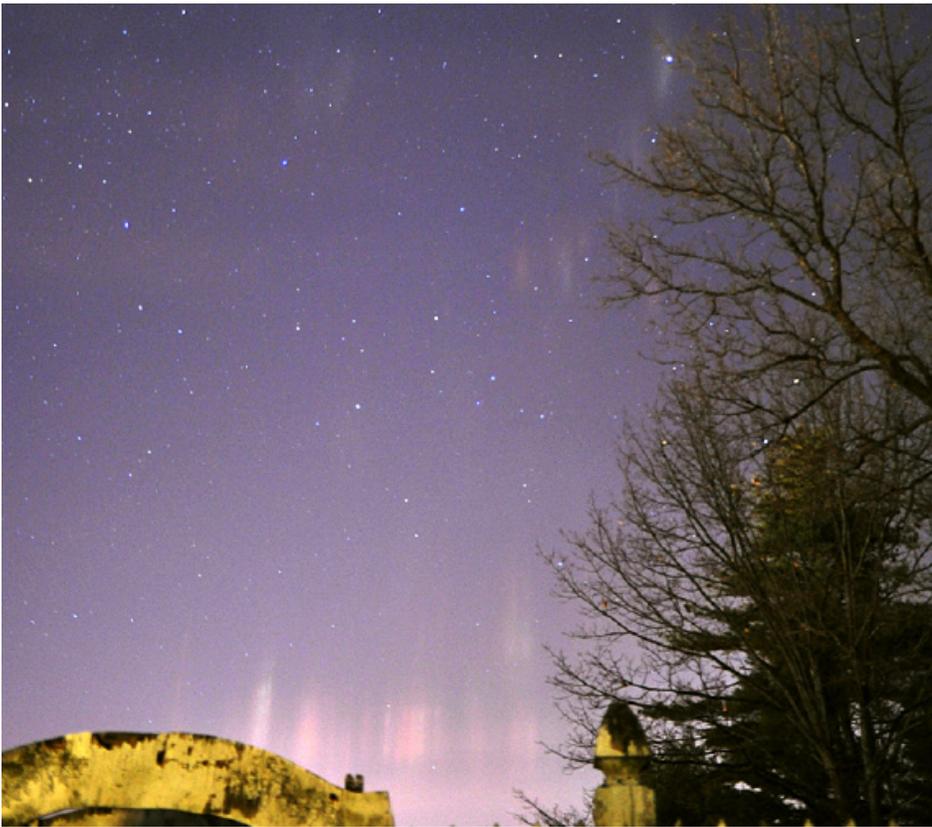


Seldom has a subject been so invested with fraud, hysteria, credulity, religious mania, incompetence, and most of the other unflattering human characteristics.

Arthur C. Clarke

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Cover: Photograph of a Minuteman III launch from USAF website.

Left: Photograph taken by me of Ice Pillars which I saw from my backyard on February 2nd.

Bad Aliens run amok

One might find the cover a hint at what might be in this issue of SUNlite. Yes, I plan on discussing the Malmstrom AFB missile shutdown. I had asked James Carlson to write the article on the subject. James is the son of the Eric Carlson, who was in charge of Echo flight the day the missiles were shutdown. Mr. Carlson wrote a rather extensive piece that is so lengthy, I would have to spread it out over 6 issues. Instead of making my readers wait for parts 2-6, I decided to summarize his article. If you want to read Carlson's piece, you can find it at the scribd web site. I am sure that there will be repercussions regarding what James wrote about the stories that have arisen regarding this event. However, he makes a convincing argument that the present theory of alien spaceships shutting down the missiles is one based on belief and not any real facts.

In other personal news, I attended a meeting of the Granite state skeptics in January and was pleased with the speaker. Barbara "Kitty" Mervine runs the web site www.badalien.org and it was interesting to hear her speak about how it was run. She deals with people

who say they are abducted. Kitty is very understanding and stated she tries not to be judgemental of all those who send her their stories. She is trying to provide direction for her contacts. While Kitty is not a doctor, she tries to direct potential abductees towards medical assistance. Her argument is that no matter what the reason for the story being told, real or imagined, these people need some actual medical attention. Hopefully, her advice is being taken.

The Socorro story continues to have some legs. Dave Thomas' efforts to find evidence for the student hoaxers has produced no results to date. Once again, we are treated with rumors and such. Most of the respondents to his search have indicated they are sure they would have known about a student created hoax. Like I stated two issues ago, there seems to be no good evidence for this rumor being true. As a side note, James Moseley recently published a rumor about something Mr. Braglia had stated about Lonnie Zamora in Saucer Smear. I regret to reveal that I am the original source for this information. Mr. Braglia had made the statement in an e-mail to me in the

belief that I would not reveal it. I must have let the comment slip in casual communication with Mr. Moseley. It was not done on purpose even though it appears that way. I can only admit my error in revealing this piece of information when I should not have.

Speaking of potential hoaxes, it seems that MUFON needs to get their act together. You will see in the "blogging" section that they are dealing with more and more hoaxes. Worse yet is that one of their STAR teams appeared to have let one get by. Somebody caught the red flag but it was not before the UFO Examiner revealed that this case was one of those that remained unexplained after initial investigation. I would hope that these STAR teams would approach such cases skeptically and check for hoax potential.

Finally, James Moseley wrote me an interesting note regarding the articles about Stan Romanek. His comment was that he was aware of Romanek being "the only professional abductee" and that he is "unimportant". He implied I was targeting, what we used to call in the Navy, "low hanging fruit". I agree that Romanek and Peckman are "easy pickings" but, as I stated in my article, individuals like these should be scorned by all UFOlogists. If UFOlogy wants to be taken seriously, they need to clean house and expose such individuals for what they really are.

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A different perspective spent some time on the Betty Barney Hill abduction. Kevin Randle has commented on Betty Hill's star map drawing. Randle suggested the latest data be examined to verify her map as well as look for other matching patterns. David Rudiak proclaimed it to be something authentic, that the stars are all sun-like, and configured correctly. To him it seals the deal because the odds of this happening by chance is astronomical. Unfortunately, Mr. Rudiak and Mr. Randle have been just simply accepting the Fish map based on old data. Brett Holman commented to set the record straight. He had published an article in the November 2008 edition of Fortean Times called "Goodbye Zeta Reticuli". He used the more recent Hipparcos satellite data. As a result, he rejected six out of the fifteen stars in the Fish map. That means 40% of the stars in her map are not valid matches. As a result, the Fish map appears to be an alignment by chance. See <http://airminded.org/2008/11/05/goodbye-zeta-reticuli/>

I was alerted to a most interesting newsletter web site. It is called "News of the paranormal and beyond" and is produced by the Alliance studying paranormal experiences (ASPE). It appears to be based in New Mexico and there are lots of UFO stories there. One thing I noticed was that there were lots of advertisements in a newsletter! We see ads for Jerry Pippin, The Journal of Abduction research (JAR), Angelfire properties, and Laguna Vista lodge (Which seems to guarantee that there are ghosts in the hotel and UFOs in the sky!). The web site for ASPE asks for "open minds", which is the usual buzz word for "please believe this".

Mark Easter describes his participation in the MysteryQuest episode about Area 51. His description of the events pretty much agrees with what I observed and learned from Peter Merlin. I think we can conclude that the producers of many of these shows are not interested in the "truth". They only want to present sensationalist stories that get people watching their channel. Is this any surprise?

Robert Hastings wants to know about

Who's blogging UFOs?

Hot topics and varied opinions



the Moscow flying pyramid videos. He is asking Jim Diletosso to analyze the videos. Diletosso's resume' is less than stellar and his work on the Phoenix videos of 1997 was exposed as flawed long ago. Why would Hastings be interested in what seems to be an obvious Youtube hoax and then invite one of the worst UFO video experts to examine it?

James Carrion stepped down as MUFON international director. He states the position was too demanding on him. However, I received an e-mail that had been distributed from somebody called Timothy WhiteEagle. He seems to have been terminated as the Wisconsin state director without cause and claims it was a "racist" decision by Carrion. I have no idea who is right on this matter but it sounds like the typical in fighting that happens in these kinds of organizations. Too many egos are involved and some people desire to control things so only their version gets out. It makes one wonder if anybody is interested in conducting actual research.

The UFO examiner revealed that all those Texas UFO landings reported recently were all probably hoaxes of some kind. Nice to see that MUFON got these right. Based on what is described

about the reports themselves, they should have been sent to the garbage can almost immediately.

Another item that was brought up was one of the nineteen STAR team cases I mentioned briefly last issue has turned out to have some problems. While the case was supposedly a first-time event for the reporter, it was discovered that the same person had made similar reports in the past. The case now appears to be a hoax. While one should praise the STAR team for identifying the hoax, I am curious as to why it was not identified in the first place? I would think the first thing to look for in any UFO case is the possibility of a hoax.

It seems that many people are calling in hoaxes to the MUFON database. This was a similar complaint by Peter Davenport of NUFORC. It is not surprising to see that various individuals on the internet are now attacking these UFO reporting sites with fake stories. The STAR teams/UFO groups should be very diligent in their investigations.

In another Examiner UFO case, somebody posted some pictures of the moon Jupiter and a UFO. Marsh seemed to think this was a good case but close examination of the low resolution pictures indicated the most likely source for the UFOs in the picture is an internal lens reflection of the moon. Because of the low resolution images displayed, I could not tell for sure. I find it interesting that nobody in MUFON suggested this. Maybe they did and Marsh never mentioned it.

Imagine my shock with the on-line magazine UFO digest posted an article by Linc Alexander discussing Roswell as a "crashed spaceship myth". That seems sacrilegious from a blog that presents some rather wild UFO stories! Is it possible that some people might be giving up on that goose that laid the rotten eggs? Don't worry, I am not holding my breath on that idea!

Amelia Crater wrote an interesting piece about Robert Bigelow for the Mysterious Universe blog. Her obser-

Who's blogging UFOs? (Cont'd)

ventions and documenting Bigelow's fascination with UFOs is worth reading. I am just wondering how long it will be before Bigelow gives up on MUFON.

Pierre Charles Dubreuil sent me an e-mail regarding the Rael movement. He reports that Jean Denis Saint Cyr, a member of the "cult" and a "bishop" is now exposing Rael for what it was. I normally pay no attention to these sort of things and consider such groups a big joke. Didn't anybody learn from "Heaven's gate"? It really is sad that the "leaders" of these groups take advantage of people, who are often easy to manipulate.

I understand the Martin Shough has "cracked" the strato-cruiser sighting near Labrador on June 29, 1954. This classic UFO case was one of those presented to the Condon study for analysis by Gordon Thayer (section III chpt 5). Shough presents an extensive argument and it basically comes down to an optical mirage. I am curious if the various UFO proponents will accept his "mirage" explanation or is it too classic a case for it to be ever explained to their satisfaction.

Frank Warren reported that a UFO landing had occurred in a park at Exmouth, UK. Roy Shaw, a retired engineer and supposed skeptic, saw a UFO landing in Phear Park. An alien entity exited the craft and approached him. The entity was sort of a translucent white blob and his dog reacted by growling at it. Shaw twisted his ankle when he ran away. He also reports his dog is not quite right and won't go back to the park. We are told there is another witness. I hope it is not the dog.

Paul Kimball wrote a very interesting article about the reliability of military men and police officers as witnesses. Paul pretty much rehashes some of the same old points presented in the past with some new examples. The bottom line of his blog entry is important:

This is not to dismiss military or police witnesses, of course. Rather, it is to remind people that no UFO case can stand on just eyewitness testimony, and no eyewitness testimony should be allowed a free pass, or the equivalent thereof, based on what

amounts to an appeal to authority.

It is nice to see somebody hitting the nail squarely on the head.

Chris Rutkowski documented some UFO reports from New Foundland that included some interesting pictures. The pictures were interesting and initial statements indicated either a French missile launch or some model rocket experiments. The photographs looked like neither in my opinion but they really were not very detailed. It was eventually determined by a Finnish UFOlogist that they were simply airplane contrails! I was surprised by this revelation but after reading the story it seemed plausible after all.

Chris also commented on an entry by Billy Cox concerning MUFON statistics. He notes that MUFON is reporting an "unknown" rate of 45%! Chris points out this has to do with weak or nonexistent investigations. He states the value should be more like 5%. Rutkowski goes on to state:

So, another statistical study of UFO reports shows there is a real phenomenon worth studying, but the data needs some serious examination.

I could not agree more.

Dr. David Clarke announced the release of more MOD UFO files. As always, his youtube video pretty much sums up the entire collection. My favorite was the "radar-visual" UFO case he described in his video. Who knows why radar operators were reporting the echo produced by a church spire as a UFO since, as Dr. Clarke states, the echo was normally there. The visual component was apparently the usual Venus misidentification.

Several UFO web sites/blogs posted the latest image from Hubble and called it a UFO. If it is in outer space, is it really flying? Anyway, the Hubble web site gave a reasonable explanation that was ignored by those trying to make this into something it wasn't. It was initially discovered by the LINEAR (Lincoln Near-Earth Asteroid Research program) telescope and assigned the designation P2010A2. Hubble was directed to image it. Is it a "mother



Courtesy HST website

ship"? I don't think so. The image is most interesting and it looks like an odd comet. However, scientists suggest it is the product of two asteroids colliding together. I am sure they will continue to monitor it to see if it changes course for earth indicating an "intelligent" origin. Until then, it is probably what they suggest it is.

According to the Stephen Greer's CSETI website, on November 17, 2009, they came in contact with an alien presence. The link states they were receiving "Orion transmissions" on their "radar detectors, laser detectors, Electromagnetic devices, magnetometers, tri-field meters"! Their location was in Joshua Tree National Park near a place they had experienced an incredible event in 1996,

... we were visited by a very large disc-shaped ET craft that descended quickly from space and merged with the earth.

They went to the area where the 1996 UFO had merged with the earth. After seeing a bright light in the sky and a bright laser light, they then went back into their "contact circle". There they saw lights and heard voices speaking unknown languages. Somebody then took some pictures and photographed an ET "floating" above their chairs! The photographs are with the link above. It looked like some bushes to me but the CSETI website pronounces it to be a genuine ET.

Make of this what you will but when I hear such nonsense as "laser detectors, tri-field meters, and contact circles", I instantly become skeptical. I think this little CSETI nugget once again indicates that Dr. Greer and his followers are people not grounded in reality. Perhaps Dr. Greer ought to show this to the media and congress the next time he has one of his dog and pony disclosure shows!

The Roswell Corner

JARS: Just another Roswell "story".

Mr. Braglia continues to present us JARS for consumption on the UFO Iconclasts blog. In his latest, we are presented the stories told by the widow of General Harry Cordes, Rogene Cordes. As always, we are fed the usual rumors and claims about an alien spaceship crash as if they are facts.

Some of her stories appear to be inaccurate. She claims her husband was a radar operator at RAAF but that was not the case. He is listed as a radar observer on B-29's, which means he probably operated the B-29's radar, which is different than operating an air search radar. The B-29 radar is basically used to identify a specific ground target from the air. It can also be used for navigation and gathering intelligence by identifying various ground based objects. However, it is not designed for air search. The image below is taken from the on-line version of the "Radar observer's Bombardment Information File" showing the basic capabilities of the radar. We also know that there appears to be no operational air search radar at Roswell in July 1947 based on documentation produced by Robert Todd some time ago. Therefore, one has to consider that any references to radar tracking of a UFO crash as being highly suspect and it certainly was not done using the radar on a B-29.

The one item I found amusing in her revelations was that the entire supply

of ice in Roswell was scooped up by the RAAF in July 1947. Nothing appeared in the papers and it seems unlikely that this would happen in mid-July without some serious complaints by the community. The lack of any mention that there was a shortage of ice in town by the local media indicates that this story should be seriously questioned. Of course, one has to wonder why would RAAF bother grabbing all the ice when they probably had these kinds of resources on the base? Like so many of the JARS that have surfaced over the years, it is hard to accept certain parts of these stories as accurate or factual.

The Battelle-Titanium story: Case closed?

Billy Cox reports that he has received the infamous Battelle first progress report on Titanium alloys. If you recall, Tony Braglia stated this was the study of the Roswell metal. When I saw the second progress report, it was my opinion that the "missing first progress report" was just the first sixty pages that were missing in the second progress report (and covered the previous time period). Cox did not provide a copy of the document but did state it was 59 pages in length and simply covered previous work on Titanium alloys. It sounds like those missing 60 pages I mentioned back in SUNlite 1-3. Of course, there was no mention of studying any Roswellian metal. Was that a surprise? Can we finally put this to bed or are we going to get more allegations and innuendo about how Battelle was feeding the Navy labs information to produce Nitinol?

Astronomers locate unidentified space object

In mid-January of 2010, there was an announcement regarding an object that was going to make a very close pass to the earth. The object was originally classified as a 10-meter asteroid (2010 AL30). However, its orbit was unique and gave the impression it might be a spacecraft launched from earth. Michael Kahn of the European Space Agency did some computing and determined it was possibly an upper stage from the rocket that launched the Venus express mission in 2005. It seemed like a reasonable explanation for the object's nature.

So why is this worth discussing? Well, I have always wondered why UFOs appear out of nowhere. Most of the time, these craft are relatively small and to make an interstellar voyage in such a craft would have been uncomfortable to say the least. The most common argument I have heard is they come from some "mother-ship" that is nearby. The "mother-ship" must be of significant size. I wonder why astronomers haven't located it? The Near Earth Object (NEO) telescopes have been working at an amazing pace finding asteroids that come near the earth but none have ever spotted a "mother-ship". For that matter, none have spotted the signs of any UFO coming into earth space.

I can only assume the arguments against this are:

- The UFOs come in too fast to be imaged by these telescopes
- The UFOs are too small to be seen by the telescopes
- The UFOs are arriving "cloaked" and therefore can not be imaged.

The first argument indicates the detectors in these telescopes are incapable of recording fast targets. This seems unlikely. The second is false because most UFOs reported are in the 10-meter range or larger. The third seems ridiculous in that the UFOs suddenly become "uncloaked" to the casual observer on earth. I am sure UFOlogists can come up with other reasons but it seems that the lack of confirmation by these telescopes indicates that it is unlikely that UFOs come from outside the earth's environment.



Previously in SUNlite 1-3, I had discussed DPP (Dual Process of Perception) events as “Minisaucer sightings and close encounters” while also presenting several case studies to better illustrate the strange phenomenon.

DPP experiences differ sharply from “Dynamic Display” (DD). DD’s are triggered by the interruption of consciousness by some visually perceived external stimuli (i.e. some “unknown” aerial object). This is not to imply there is an ET presence. Just that for the moment, the object is “unidentifiable” to the witnesses.

DPP is believed to be a “subconscious production”, which somehow finds its way into the waking state of the observer and is played out. DD requires a “consciously perceived triggering event” of some kind to occur. In the two case studies we are about to examine, we will identify the aerial object(s) and the experience narration as “symbolic dramatization”, which masks the “hidden meaning” behind the event.

In other words, the event is a dramatization of a then active (albeit latent) psychological complex, which is adversely affecting the observer(s) at the time of their saucer sighting. I suspect women will readily grasp what I am describing because women tend to be in better touch with their emotions and intuitive nature. In fact, our culture attempts to educate emotion flat, and affords intuition little more than a distant corner at the table of the taboo, the mysterious, and the unknown.

Some may argue this sort of UFOlogy may be a slippery slope for skeptical investigations to travel upon. But, it may also provide a spectacular mountain top vista for “all” researchers seeking a deeper understanding on some of the unknown phantoms of the skies events. I have come to believe DPP and DD events do have a definite place in Twenty-first century UFOlogy and hope SUNlite readers may offer their thoughts on the subject for further discussion. I welcome both pro and con opinions on the topic.

The case studies we are about to discuss were previously published in the UK’s Magonia Journal back in 2002 and 2003. However, several American saucer group leaders have not accepted my (free of

Twenty-first century UFOlogy Part III

Matt Graeber

charge) offer to use these data within their organizational publications. I shall not bother to venture a guess on their seldom stated concerns and objections to this alternative approach to UFOs. That’s another story for another time.

The point is Mr. Printy has extended his friendship, tolerance, and given me the opportunity to reach out to you through his fine on line publication. So, I feel we all owe him a debt of gratitude, respect, and appreciation for doing so. Perhaps Mr. Printy said it best in SUNlite 1-3, and I quote from his ‘Editor’s reply’ to a reader named Michael:

To be honest, I dislike the idea of Skeptics “battling” UFOlogists or “us against them”. I try and view it as two opposing opinions about the same problem for which there is no solution...yet. Too often proponents ignore critical information and it is my desire to make sure everyone gets the rest of the story. I have no interest in swaying those who want to believe in UFOs. They will always draw their conclusion based on emotion. I am more interested in providing the information to those willing to make a more objective evaluation of the evidence.

I feel pretty much the same as Tim does about things and have also never considered myself a UFO expert of any kind. Rather, I am but an aging “student” of the phenomenon. I am not seeking celebrity, a following, or financial gain through this series of articles. I just wish to pass the information along to others before the great mother ship swoops down from the sky for me. Hopefully, SUNlite readers will find these data to be of some potential value and merit.

The Raefield affair

This report comes to us from a 29-year-old man whom we shall call Mr. Raefield. On the misty morning of August 26, 1976, near Chester, Pennsylvania, he encountered four discoid UFOs, which somehow managed to knock out his

Citizen’s Band (CB) radio set and foul up his automobile’s performance. Here transcribed word-for-word, his account:

Time – 0637 (hours) – While driving to work north on I-95, I observed four disc-shaped objects, three ahead and to my left, and one ahead to my right. All the objects were about 100 yards above any existing or man-made structures. The objects seem to be approximately 300 yards ahead of me.

I had my CB in my car and was transmitting at the time of the sighting. My transmission was as follows, “Breaker 19 for a southbound on I-95. Oh my God! There’s three bogies over houses around Highland Avenue!” Someone replies, “Breaker 19, I see them bogies!”

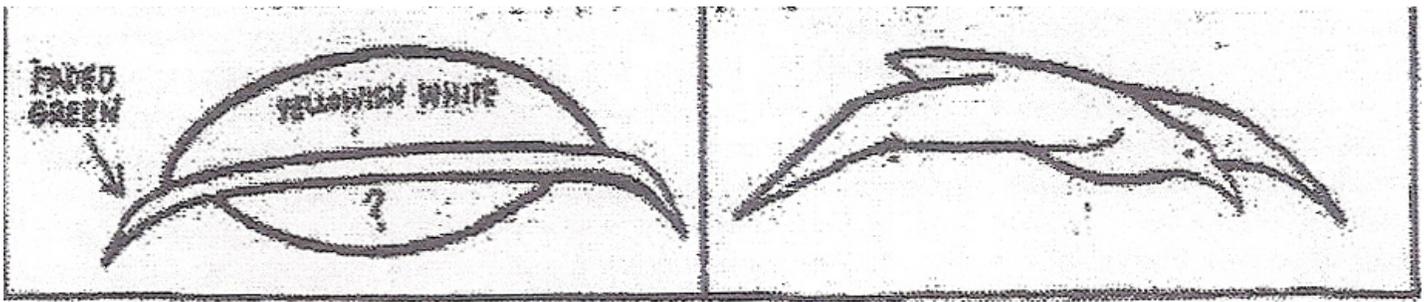
“At that instant my radio went dead, not off, just dead! I am very certain that what I saw was real, not a reflection of gas of any kind. I knew what I saw was not any type of aircraft that I have ever seen before. I’ve worked for an airline for nearly nine years. The objects were close enough that they did not look distorted. I estimate that they were about the size of a single-engine aircraft – like a Piper cub, about 19 feet long. No noise was apparent. A pale yellowish-white color emanated from all the UFOs. Also as they left a very pale green color was around the middle of the entire craft from the direction I was coming”

The duration of the complete sighting was estimated to be about 45 seconds.

A Misidentification?

The investigative reports findings indicate that we have several very good reasons to suspect that birds (probably gulls or terns) were actually the objects that Raefield observed. However, we also know that this witness has some practical experience at observing aircraft on a daily basis. Because of his reliable and intelligent character it is difficult to imagine how he could have been so far off-base and to have mistaken terns, or even the larger gulls, in flight to be comparable in size to a Piper aircraft. Additionally, even with this fluke of optics explained, there still remains the question of how a sighting of birds could cause a CB-radio to malfunction, and radically affect the relatively new car’s otherwise good performance.

One can easily account for the tremen-



dously inaccurate estimates for the UFOs size in some reports simply because of the effects of various atmospheric conditions existing at the time of the event, the separating powers of the human eye at the distance, and the effects of subjective emotional and/or anxiety-laden tensions and fears, which may adversely affect one's judgment considerably. In our witness's case the assumed size of the UFOs to that of a Piper aircraft does, of course, automatically provoke the piloted thought, and, in addition to that other visual clues such as the UFOs seemingly fixed sky positioning, came across as being an example of a rather well-disciplined flying formation for Mr. Raefield. However, a closer examination of the event illustrates that all of the above may have been little more than a chain of mistaken assumptions, which curiously tended to verify and reinforce each other. The problem is that we seldom bother to verify what we have seen with our own eyes, and, of course, one does not have the opportunity to replay a UFO experience for critical evaluation.

Witness sincerity

But, since our witness's sincerity in filing the report is beyond question and because it is the very "stuff" of so many other UFO reports, we must consider the fact that the mere sight of these strange objects must have been a tremendous psychological shock for Mr. Raefield. In fact, we might even go so far as to suspect that in such a state (observing and rapidly approaching four alien craft) he was probably experiencing the event emotionally and physiologically as well. Perhaps he was sweating, nervous, stammering, and experienced a momentary loss of control over his car. It is suspected that Mr. Raefield's automobile drifted onto the roadside shoulder during the UFO experience simply because his attention was fixed on the UFOs and not the highway. Therefore, the abrupt and

acutely rough feel of the shoulder's texture, which was transmitted through the steering column, caused him to assume, mistakenly, that the engine was malfunctioning.

Additionally, he was aware of the fact that quite a number of well-publicized UFO accounts inform us that UFOs are alleged to have the capability to knock out and adversely affect an impressive array of terrestrial apparatus and instrumentation. But it could also be that he had, in confusion, turned off the on switch of the CB set during the sudden event. Such "all too human" happenings are not uncommon when an individual is under great emotional stress or when one perceives a direct threat to one's safety.

In fact, such things can even happen when the tasks required of an individual so affected are supposedly very simple and, indeed, are and often are called "second nature". An example of this might be a lady who cannot fasten the clasp of her necklace no matter how hard she tries, simply because her dinner guests have arrived fifteen minutes early, and have completely upset her plans.

On such occasions, the problem might reach such proportions that she might call for her husband's assistance, whilst claiming that the clasp must be broken. In so doing, she has shifted the cause of her emotional state, its accompanying nervousness, and her diminished dexterity, to an alleged fault in the necklace. It seems reasonable to suspect that our witness may have done the same thing. For he informed investigators that the car and CB radio performed very well just before and immediately after his UFO encounter.

With such considerations behind our efforts, we must now attempt to take a more penetrating look at Mr. Raefield's psychological make-up before, after, and especially during the event. Our probe of the sighting particulars and the search for physical evidence to establish the fact he alleged (observing an extraterrestrial visi-

tation) certainly appears to have been so reduced that only a "subjective" psychological occurrence of a marked character could account for the reports emergence. In other words, our witnesses may have been primed (or "set") to see four gulls in a certain way.

The Raefield interview

When my wife, Grace, and I interviewed him, we found that he was a very interesting and intelligent person – he was sincere and did not come across as the type of person who would intentionally exaggerate his experience. He worked two jobs, liked to read novels and some science fiction, but most of all, he enjoyed technical publications on photography, which is his hobby. He was fond of art, and we noticed two poster-sized prints hanging on his apartment walls. One was a more-or-less religiously-toned rendition of hands (similar to Albrecht Durer's Praying Hands), while the other was an interesting abstract work in pale yellows, soft grays and greens.

His manner of dress was casual and his apartment was definitely bacheloresque (i.e. lacking feminine touches such as fancy curtains, etc.) although it was quite orderly. Oh yes, one small room in particular caught our eye, for it was obviously overfurnished- by that I mean to say he had a stereo, TV, end table, and an extra-wide reclining lounge crammed into it. This, he explained, was his favorite niche, the place where he and his girlfriend spent peaceful moments together.

As the interview continued, Mr. Raefield informed us of his recent "marital difficulties", and this new light, when shed upon case particulars, which were already gathered, seemed to bring several things into focus. This led to the following commentary of the Raefield case.

Tentative findings

The report indicates that the observer is

traveling to work, when suddenly, on the highway ahead of him, he notices four flying saucers. Three of them are situated on his left side and the fourth disc on his right. The latter, although identical to the others in design, appears to be rather smaller or positioned closer. In this instance, the objects on the left side of the roadway may be interpreted as a triadic subconscious assemblage (or symbols) that were projected upon Mr. Raefield's faulty observation of the gulls. So, on an unconscious level, these misidentified gulls may represent his family (an estranged wife and two children). While the fourth object, on the right, though appearing to be somewhat small, nevertheless has the potential of being of the same significance to him by virtue of the exact likeness to the other UFOs. I suspect this symbol is a symbolic representation of his new love and the developing relationship with her. If so, these dynamically-charged symbols indicate that the observer is heading towards the fourth UFO, which has its own uniqueness, in that it is situated on his side of the road. This loosely translates as "on his side" in his difficulties.

It is interesting to note that the three objects on the left side of the highway are a potential threat to his progression in reaching his destination, which lies in the direction of the larger object. At any moment, they could intercept him simply by crossing over the central median of the highway, to "cut him off at the pass", so to speak. Instead, our observer pulls his car off the road (after experiencing some sort of engine and CB malfunction) to take a better look at these fantastic objects; and just as suddenly as they appeared with an unusual "jerky motion" they "blinked out" simultaneously (both the jerky motion and the blink out effect are extraordinarily common descriptions of UFO behavior). Raefield then looks about quickly for the fourth object, only to discover that, it too, has vanished. He ponders his UFO experience, in light of the difficulties with his car; the other motorist's transmitted message, and the CBs sudden failure. It seems that much has happened in such a short time, and his mind is still reeling at the marvel of seeing alien craft.

This seem to be more than a reasonable suspicion for, as you might suspect, the combination of the car's motion and the bird's gliding flight could easily produce the hovering appearance of the UFOs. In

addition to this, the atmospheric conditions at the time of the sighting may have contributed to the illusion by acting as a sort of prism through which the misty morning's light reflected off of the bird's white feathers created the interesting UFO coloration reported (soft greens, whites, and pale yellows). The downward slant of the UFOs protrusions situated on the ends of the craft also points towards this avian speculations since gulls in flight often assume a pronounced downward slanted wing attitudes when gliding along, hanging on the thermals.

As the reader can see, a curious thing has happened here. The dynamics of an actual physical event (the UFO/bird sighting) have precisely mirrored the psychodynamics of an unconscious psychical complex affecting the observer (i.e. his immediate marital problems). So in a strange way, the witness was actually observing and experiencing a real world happening and his inner world's tension and fears on display. This unusual mix of perception and projection is then a kind of "subjective dramatization".

In this case, it seems reasonable to suspect that the impact of perceiving such a vivid "dynamic display", as we've come to call such UFO experiences, would transform the birds into what fits Mr. Raefield's and the worlds view of the great expectation of our times.(i.e. contact with a highly advanced extraterrestrial civilization) especially since so few positive visual clues as to the birds true identity were available to his conscious powers of perception in the first place.

If so, then the fact that a second (albeit unidentified) motorist, who also saw the bogies in the sky does not in the least bit threaten or destroy our psychological estimate of the situation. For, surely, that individual would have had similar difficulties in recognizing what he was looking at through the early morning haze. Unfortunately, that motorist did not file a report with UFORIC, local police authorities, or the international airport (which is located several miles form the sighting area).

Summary

It seems to be apparent our observer's personal problems may have been directly projected on a faulty UFO observation – but we cannot, in good conscience dismiss the fact that this synchronous in-

terplay of both internal and external elements was caused by an actual physical event, as well as being a coincidence. We know that the witness was "psychically set" to be looking for an answer to his problems, as well as fearing to run headlong into them, even though he may have been completely unconscious of the fact at the time of the encounter.

Thus we have discussed how the symbolic contents, which were buried deeply in the human psyche, can be catapulted into the field of consciousness during a UFO encounter, through the mechanism of a visually-triggered process of self-perception and emotional responsiveness.

But beyond our seemingly in-depth analysis of this UFO encounter, we must also ponder the fact that the investigators of this case cannot categorically prove that Mr. Raefield's experience was triggered by a faulty observation of gulls on the wing. In fact, he has never accepted this prosaic explanation, and insists that he accurately reported on the size, configuration, and coloration of the four strange craft he observed above the highway.

In light of this impasse, and because of similar statements voiced by others who had similar UFO experiences, I had to consider the possibilities that either the observers were simply reluctant to accept the idea that they had made an honest mistake about what they had seen with their own eyes; or, that I had completely failed to present them with a convincing explanation to what may have actually happened to them.

The problem is that the unsuspecting UFO observers seldom have the opportunity to closely scrutinize the sudden, shocking, and fleeting objects that come upon them. Because the highly emotional experience is theirs (not the researchers), one should not under estimate its subjective uniqueness and psychological value to them. For, if a DD-type UFO experience is a visually triggered "self-regulating" function of the human psyche, one should not attempt to extinguish its potentially beneficial affect upon the experiencers by reducing it to a mere optical flue of some sort.

Could it be that some UFOs are from outer space, while still others hail from the depths of man's inner space, that is, his subconscious mind? Perhaps UFO reports like Mr. Raefield's offer us a brief glimpse at both the physical and psychical components of the UFO experience and, in

so doing, brings us a bit closer to understanding this enigmatic phenomenon? It seems reasonable to suspect that this may be the case, and that by including investigative inquiries along these lines to those currently employed by researchers, we may both enhance our skills and expand our knowledge on the UFOs as well as those who observe them.

The Bailey family case

This report was passed on to us by military personnel (the officer of the guard) at Willow Grove Naval Air Station in south-eastern Pennsylvania, at 2200 hours on the night of 17 November 1977. However, the actual time of the sighting was fixed as about 7:30PM that evening and, as it turned out, this was an important point for the investigator to know because it was raining and completely overcast in the vicinity of the occurrence, which was eighteen miles away from the base. We contacted the primary witness (Mrs. Bailey) by phone that night (she was still excited about the experience) and gathered some basic information before dispatching our field investigator to interview her. In all, three interviews took place during the course of the inquiry, which lasted two months. However, our contacts with her continued until mid-1979.

The report

Mrs. Bailey said that she had observed several strange lights in the sky when she first noticed the UFO. The initial light was yellow in color, then seven appeared, or was it five (She seemed a bit uncertain about this point)? Anyway, then one object came into view: It was a disc which was flying very low. In fact, it was so close that it flew right over her car. The saucer was said to be gray in color, it had a dome on top, and sported a white light on its leading and trailing edges. It also had a red light centrally affixed to its underside. According to Susan, Mrs. Bailey's thirteen-year old daughter who was also present during the event, the object had an inverted V-shaped protrusion situated on its topside's trailing edge. Apparently, Mrs. Bailey did not see this protrusion because "the UFO flew on a kind of slant".

The four witnesses, Mrs. Bailey (36), Susan (13), Betty (11), and Debbie (5), all agreed that the object made a humming sound, had several lights that blinked as it approached them, and that it also seemed to slow down somewhat just as it passed over the car. The total observation time was thought to be about one and one half minutes in duration with the UFO being positioned no more than one hundred feet overhead. Mrs. Bailey guesses that its size was "something like seven or eight feet thick and about twenty feet long (meaning its diameter)".

The initial investigation of the matter was handled by Mr. Gordon Myers of UFORIC.

His report concerning the witness's sincerity and his attempts to shake them from their story reads as follows:

The people appear to be sincere about their sighting. The mother seemed to be still shook up about it, but did not seem to be afraid to talk about it. Her daughter, Susan, said very little but appeared to be interested in knowing exactly what they saw.

After talking to them, and after all the data were obtained, I showed them the book with the pictures of the different UFO configurations in it. The mother first: she picked out P44, P21 (only upside down), and P13 (with the bottom removed).

The daughter, Susan, picked out case 22 (but with no windows or triangular protrusions), also U16 and U102 except with the inverted "V" on top.

(The references pertain to object configurations found in the investigator's handbook – this method of determining what the object looked like is only used after the witnesses' sketches were gathered or if they were so artistically inept that such assistance was required.)

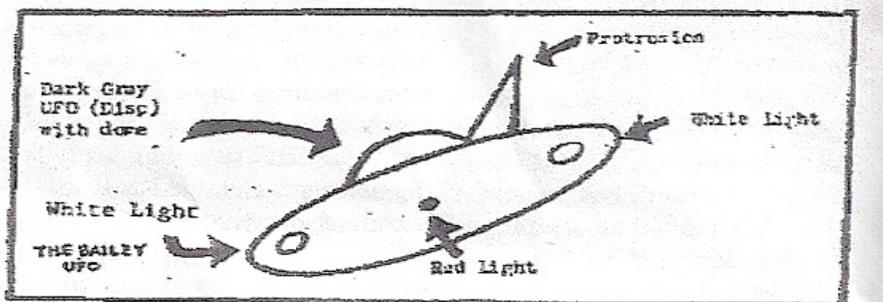
I tried to make the confused about the object's size, distance, and the experience in general, but could not change their stories.

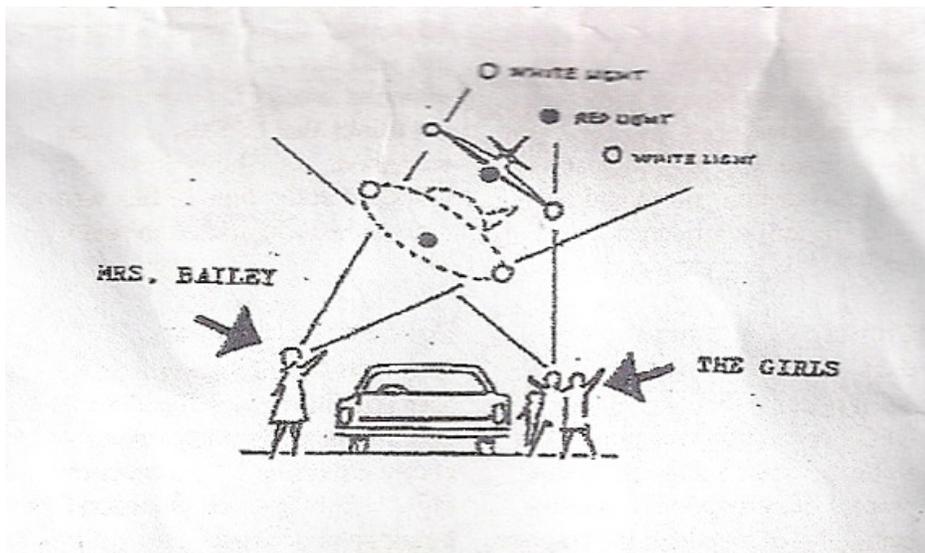
After gathering all the information required for the investigative process employed at UFORIC (an investigative technique that involves a search for both a physical and/or psychological basis for the event), we reached this tentative conclusion regarding the Bailey family's experience.

Investigative findings

The witnesses' description of the object's lighting pattern(s) and its characteristics of flight were not too far out of line to be considered as those of a small fixed-wing aircraft performing a banking maneuver. This seemed reasonable to suspect since Mrs. Bailey and her daughters had agreed on the positioning of the object's lights and the fact that the UFO made a humming sound "something like a motor" as it passed over their car. The only really puzzling factor remaining was why they saw a fin-topped disc and not an airplane's outline.

We have encountered this type of misidentification many times before at the





UFO center and found that when the human eye fails to obtain a complete configuration for contemplation because of observational distances, darkness, and/or restrictive atmospheric conditions, etc, the mind frequently fills in the missing pieces of the image with a subjective outline, or it may, less often, even create several UFOs from a single object. In such instances, it is very important for the investigator to ask if the objects appeared to be flying in formation.

Additionally, you may recall, according to the Bailey report, that the sky was totally gray (or overcast) in the sighting vicinity and so was the object reported. So, it is not too difficult to embrace the notion that no true outline was actually discernible to the witnesses at the time of the event.

Moreover, Susan mentioned during her interview with our investigator, Mr. Myers, that the object first looked like two high beams in the sky. Such is, of course, precisely the appearance of aircraft approach lights. This coincides with the fact that many small and medium-sized aircraft fly over the sighting area, which is close to a civil airport that services several small helicopters and many privately owned and shuttle-type corporate aircraft.

It was obvious to the investigators that the sighting was almost certainly a misidentification, and it seemed even the discrepancy involving the odd projection on the object's topside pointed to a banking fixed-wing aircraft as being the cause of the report. The airplane happened to be flying on an angle, which turned its tail away from Mrs. Bailey's line of sight, while making it a fleeting but,

nevertheless, noticeable characteristic to her children.

The impact of the sighting

Mrs. Bailey and her daughters were tremendously affected by the sighting and no amount of persuasion involving a logical (or prosaic) explanation for the event could diminish the validity of their UFO encounter. Mrs. Bailey staunchly maintains the belief that she had indeed observed an alien spacecraft. In fact, the impact of the observation was so profound that it rekindled her long latent desire to write poetry. Mrs. Bailey's first effort was, appropriately enough, about her UFO experience (we wish to thank her very much for allowing us to publish it):

*An experience
A lonely single little gray
Not at all reflected
A moving night sky
And I, the selected.*

*No beauty of its own
No moon to chaperon
No cheers, no welcome
I, the audience alone.*

*No mystery, no illusion
No trick of the eye
Yet, in my wonderment
I did not ask why.*

*You came to me in motion
I do not know from where
If memory serves me right
You just happened to be there.*

*You were my childhood dream come back
On the seventeenth of November
A dream I'd often dreamed
And now always will remember.*

*A child's dream come true
But as real as real can be
Born of elements unknown
Somewhere in the galaxy.*

*And in all your elegance
You stood without a glow
Bit I'll remember always
My little gray UFO.*

The Psychological probe

During our inquiry into the sighting, we asked Mrs. Bailey if she would be willing to cooperate with us and permit a psychological probe of her experience. She complied, and the investigation (as with the Raefield affair) revealed a rather remarkable point-for-point symbolic relatedness between the sighting particulars and her immediate personal life's situation, which, as it turned out, was something of a sad state of affairs. She had been recently separated from her husband (Doug) and was living in a small apartment with three of her five daughters. Kathy and Susan were residing with their father. Susan was staying with Mrs. Bailey at the time of the sighting. She said she felt good about getting away from Doug (her husband of 15 years) but was deeply concerned about how things might turn out for her, and extremely apprehensive about how things might go for the children.

Mrs. Bailey's dynamic display

At first Mrs. Bailey reported observing one yellow point of light in the sky (since the sky was completely overcast, that is, ominously toned, and because Mrs. Bailey's first perception was that a yellow (caution) light, we might suspect that an intuitively apprehensive attitude was in keeping with the coming event – simply because of its "ominous likeness" to her intrinsic tensions and fears).

Then seven lights (UFOs) appeared (i.e. the total number of family members) then five lights (i.e. the number of children), then one UFO, which was a disc-shaped (tri-lighted) contraption that featured a dome on its top and a fin-like protrusion situated towards its trailing edge. At the closest approach point during the event,

Mrs. Bailey said that “the saucer passed directly above her car!” causing some excitement and a curious mixture of fear, fascination, and awe. In fact, Mrs. Bailey attention was so riveted to the object that she was totally unaware that her five-year-old, Debbie, was actually standing on the hood of the car, jumping up and down and screaming her head off! It was at this point that the object symbolically took on the great emotional significance, which was primarily kindled by a deep-seated fear she had long harbored concerning the potential of an incestuous episode taking place involving Mr. Bailey and their oldest daughter, Kathy.

This fear was not a product of fantasy, but a hard-core reality that tore at her from many sides. Doug had already attempted “this unspeakable act” on a couple of occasions when he was drinking heavily. What’s more, her two oldest daughters, who were still residing with him, were receiving little, if any, meaningful guidance. Kathy and Susan were also creating additional stress loads on Mrs. Bailey because they were succumbing to a variety of teenage peer pressures.

In fact, the financial situation was so dire that even though Mrs. Bailey deeply yearned to have all the children living with her, it really was totally impossible to make all the arrangements primarily because of Doug’s obstinacy and lack of financial support.

Content of a “dynamic display” UFO experience

So it appears that Mrs. Bailey’s UFO observation was played out and experienced through “a dual process of perception”- the first being that of a sudden interruption of her consciousness by direct sensory stimuli (i.e. the observation of a fleeting UFO), and the second being that of a completely unconscious form of recognition and emotional response to the symbolic situation and confrontation dramatization of her immediate anxieties and fears that were unfolding in front of her. Perhaps Mrs. Bailey intuitively summed her experiences best when she wrote her UFO poem....*“You came to me in motion, I do not know from where, If memory serves me right, You just happened to be there.”*

Mrs. Bailey now expressed the thought that her existence was not mundane but rather exceptional and filled her with new

purpose (a sentiment often expressed by UFO observers). These remarks were not the kind of “ego-inflating” statement that might signify the lifting of one’s mind from its hinges; but, rather, the kind which bolsters an already battered personality, defending it from more harm.

Indeed, hers were expressions of an extraordinarily soothing nature, which emerged in her mind in a rapid-fire form of cognition. In them, she found refuge, strength, and hope. Was her UFO sighting the modern-day equivalent of a genuine religious experience? Her philosophical and “spiritual” transformation (or conversion) seems to be, at least in part, related to the event.

She found herself writing more poetry, sleeping and eating much better (gaining ten pounds in one month), and, most interestingly, a nightly skywatch (UFO surveillance) performed with binoculars borrowed from her brother became a family ritual for about three weeks (nothing was observed during this time). Since then, her situation has improved – all of her children now live with her and she has met someone who is very special and she thinks that he feels the same way about her. She is thirty-nine years old at the time of this writing and has just started to really live.

Summary

It appears that we are left with four possibilities to consider regarding these enigmatic experiences; either the UFOs are seemingly weightless alien spacecraft or holographic transmissions (of unknown origin) that tend to behave like (or mimic) mental mechanics and human emotions. Or, perhaps they are “psychic projections” that can leave a trace on a photo negative and even return a radar echo, as Dr. C.G. Jung mentioned many years ago. Or, they may represent something that is only perceived by people caught up in a synchronous psychical and physical state or situation. This is a problem that seems to challenge our concept of reality because it may illustrate that the observer and the phenomenon observed are one. If true, one could hardly be ridiculed for thinking of such UFOs as modern-day signs in the skies.

Conclusions

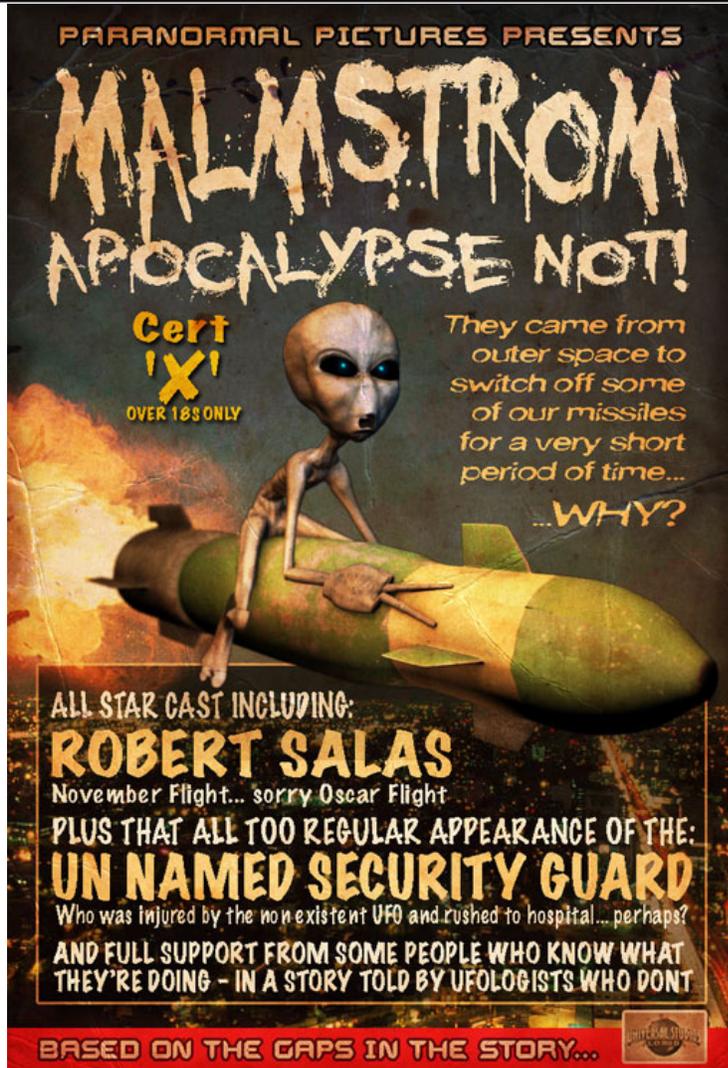
So there you have it, two case studies, the psychodynamic factors affecting the observer(s) lives, the mechanics of the events and the witnesses reported case narratives, along with the “symbolic meaning” behind the events. Read down-to-earth UFO experiences, which have eluded the understanding of many UFOlogists over the last six decades while adding to the bulging files of “unknowns”. More importantly, reports of this type, when mistakenly classified as “unknowns”, tend to contaminate the researcher’s database and led investigators away from their intended goal.

When I had investigated these cases my dear wife (Grace) accompanied me on the interviews and showed me an entirely new way of looking at UFO experiences. I would respectfully suggest all male field investigators leave their egos at home, and take their wives or, significant others, along on cases. It is a real mind-expanding learning experience. Especially, while driving home discussing the interviews. Women tend to read people much quicker and better than many men.

Because UFORIC researchers’ did not have the opportunity to perform a blind study with peers on the DD hypothesis using “unresolved” cases drawn from their UFO group databases, we have no idea what percentage, or fractional percentage, of the unresolved reports may fall into the DD category. But, we all suspect that since personal and/or family problems affect all of us from time to time, this may contribute to the frequency, dispersion, and persistence of some stranger UFO reports. Most pro-UFO groups seemed to be unimpressed with the DD hypotheses and refused to cooperate with UFORIC. While a skeptical journal’s editor choose to ignore the request of one of his own group’s contributing writers to publish DPP data, few offered any comment at all. So, I am left in the dark concerning their objections and concerns. However, one respected UFOlogist did say he felt DDs were far too exotic. Yet, hundreds or thousands of nightly abductions seemed not to be too exotic for him!

Matt Graeber is a retired commercial artist and cartoonist. He is the ex-director of a small pro-UFO group in Philadelphia. He is not a trained psychologist and offers these data as speculation and opinion.

The Malmstrom AFB Missile shutdown: An examination of James Carlson's critique



A very talented individual I met in the JREF forums did this little item for me. He wants to remain anonymous but he wants the image credited to "Psycho Clown". I think the artwork does say something.

About a year ago, I was made aware of James Carlson's personal knowledge about the Malmstrom AFB missile shutdown incident. This case had become a staple of UFO folklore as one of the best cases indicating that UFOs present a serious threat to national security and I was curious what he could add to the body of knowledge that existed. I contacted Mr. Carlson and asked him if he would write an article on the matter and he agreed to do so. I was surprised at the lengthy piece he wrote and quickly determined that it could not fit into SUNlite. Initially, I thought of editing it down but then decided it would not be fair to his work. Instead, I decided that he should post it on the internet and I would add a summary of it here in SUNlite.

I think it is important to understand who James Carlson is. He describes his position early on in his manuscript:

At this point, in all fairness to those propagating the March 16, 1967 UFO fables, and in the interests of full transparency, it should be noted that the author of this narrative is the second son of Captain Eric D. Carlson, who on March 16, 1967 was the ranking commander at Echo Flight, the missile station attached to Malmstrom AFB's 10th Missile Squadron that suffered an equipment malfunction that resulted in the entire flight of ten Minuteman Missiles going offline and reporting a "No-Go" status. My father has always maintained that the missiles went offline due to an equipment malfunction that was thoroughly

investigated by both civilian and military representatives. Contrary to suggestions by a number of individuals that he has confirmed their insulting and ridiculous assertions that one or more UFOs hijacked from one to three flights of nuclear missiles during his watch, he has repeatedly insisted that UFOs had absolutely nothing to do with the malfunctions that did occur on that date, a claim supported by the undeniable fact that UFOs were never reported by civilian or military observers on March 16, 1967. That deserves to be repeated : there were no UFOs reported on March 16, 1967 by anybody.¹*

* Mr. Carlson is stating that nobody made these reports in 1967. He is not including the stories told decades later in this remark.

I also would like to point out the James Carlson has been the target of some rather abusive responses by those defending Robert Salas and his story. While Carlson comes across as heavy handed, one can understand his point of view on the subject when you see people saying unkind things about him and his father. He and I have discussed this at length and I can not change his attitude about the matter. I may not completely agree with how he approached his manuscript but I think it is worth reading. With that being said, let's examine the major points of his document.

Does Robert Salas have that bad a memory or is he a liar?

Carlson spends a great deal of time recounting the various versions of the Salas story. What becomes clear is that Salas, the primary witness to the Malmstrom UFO event, has shifted his story over the years and can't seem to keep his story straight.

- He initially felt he was part of Echo flight, which did have its missiles shutdown on March 16, 1967. Echo flight was part of the 10th missile squadron.
- When it was discovered he was not part of Echo flight, he changed his position to being part of November flight (490th missile squadron) and stated their missiles shutdown as well. There is no evidence to indicate that November flight's missiles shut down like Echo flight. However, there

is mention in the unit history that a security team was sent to investigate November flight at the time of the Echo flight incident.

- After further investigation it was revealed that Salas did not belong to either Echo or November flight. Instead he was attached to Oscar flight (490th missile squadron).
- He later would shift the date of his missile shutdown to the morning of March 24, 1967 to match the new testimony of Bob Jamison. There is no evidence that any missile shutdown happened on that day. It is not in any unit history even though the Echo flight shutdown and subsequent investigation is there.

For a man who happens to have a vivid memory of the event, he seemed to have a problem even remembering where he served and when the event actually happened. Other points about the Salas testimony are brought up by Carlson:

- Salas claims that his Launch Control Center (LCC) was in communication with Echo flight. Carlson's father, who was in charge of Echo flight, denies such communication occurred. There would be no reason for Echo flight to contact November/Oscar flight, which was part of a completely different missile squadron. Salas would later refute his own claim by stating first that it was not Echo flight that told them about Echo flight but the "command post" and then it became "another Launch Control Center (LCC)". Changing the date of the shutdown to March 24th, which was not the day of the Echo flight shutdown implies that the story he told about the phone call was something he probably made up
- Salas claims that he was in communication with a security detail topside that was investigating a UFO and that a member of the security team was injured (possibly by the UFO). There is no evidence in the unit history to verify this and Salas tends to change the story over time with varying embellishments. No names are ever mentioned concerning the security detail. Apparently, in the

days that followed Salas was not interested in their identities or for the welfare of the injured man. His most recent claim (A story apparently never told prior to this) is that another unnamed member of the security detail contacted him shortly after the event wanting to talk to someone about it. Salas states that he turned this person away because he had given an oath not to discuss the matter. To this day, no security personnel from this group have ever stepped forward to tell this story. Claims of being sworn to secrecy just don't wash because Salas has violated his security oath (at least he claims he signed a non-disclosure agreement about this event) and has suffered no repercussions.

- Salas states it was dark outside when the event transpired. According to the unit history, the time of the Echo shutdown was 0845 local time. This is well after sunrise. With the shifting of the date to March 24th, he has eliminated this discrepancy.

In my over twenty years of Naval service, there are no events that I can not remember to the point where I would keep shifting the date of the event and the unit to which I belonged. My father, about to turn 80 years old, is a wealth of information regarding his naval career. He can recount many events when we talk. He may not remember the exact date of these events at his age but he does not forget the units or names of key individuals. Since my retirement, I have communicated widely with numerous members of the military (including Mr. Carlson). All seem to have no difficulty in recalling personnel and units associated with major events in their careers. Some may have trouble recollecting exact dates but their memories are not so bad that they have to keep revising what happened when or where.

The key point here is that Mr. Salas can not seem to remember the major details about the most important event in his military career. Would a D-day veteran fail to recall the date and beach he landed upon or his unit? Nobody is questioning that he was present at Malmstrom. However, in light of the fact that he has so much trouble with identifying the major

details, we have to seriously question his recollections. Such story shifting demonstrates a desire to make a story better and discard items that have been shown to be inaccurate. I find it amusing that Mr. Salas recently wrote the following:

At least for the sake of that airman I spoke with, and for all the other officers and men in the Air Force who have had to keep silent about what they experienced with these objects, I, without reservation, accuse the U.S. Department of the Air Force of blatant, pervasive and a continuing cover-up of the facts, deception, distortion, and lying to the public about the reality of the UFO phenomenon.²

By presenting the USAF as a target, Salas is creating an emotional appeal for the UFO community to ignore his constantly shifting story and focus their attention on a conspiracy theory they will accept.

USAF Histories

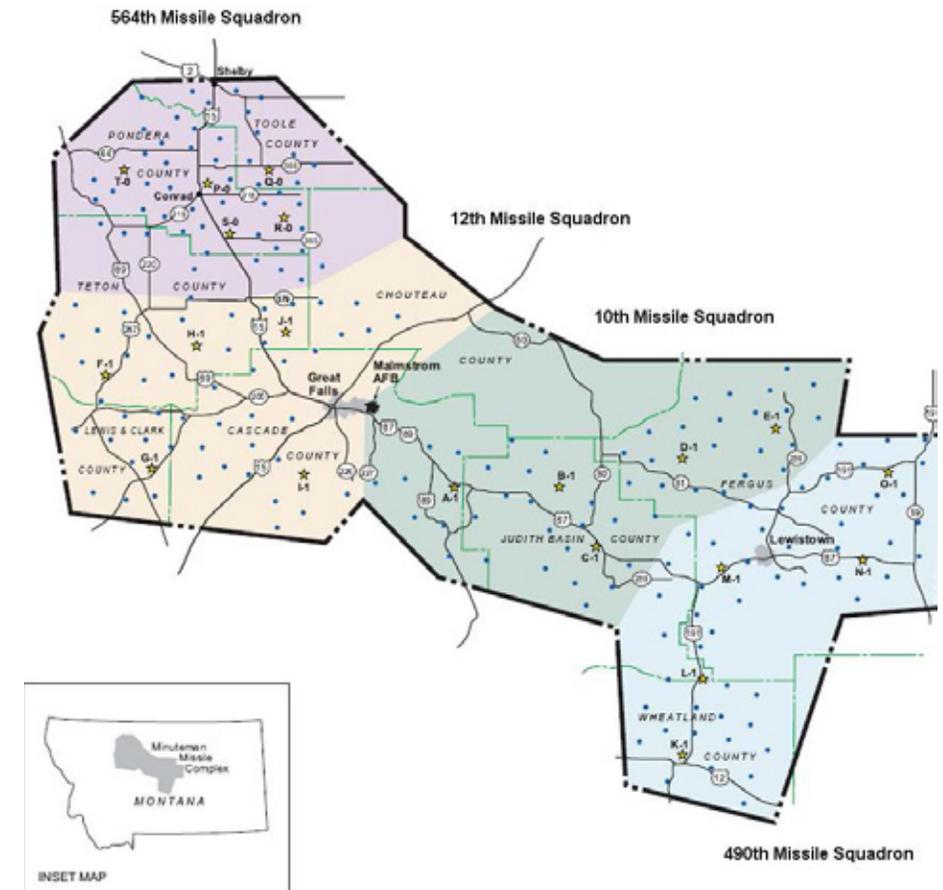
Mr. Carlson moves on to inform us about unit histories and the problems associated with them in the 1960s. He notes that the unit history was written by Airman second class (E-2) David Gamble, who was assigned the task of Wing Historian. Assigning an E-2 as the caretaker of the unit history indicates it was not considered a very important task. In 1967, Gamble was probably a desk clerk under the supervision of a junior officer. Looking at the documents at the black-vault regarding this event, one can see that the unit historians pretty much copied the messages and reports without any embellishments. Gamble has since been interviewed and stated he was told to write the entry into the history about UFO rumors being disproven. However, the same entry is footnoted as being taken from the report made by the investigating team so is this really true? Gamble told UFO investigators that he tried to investigate but received no cooperation from anybody. It is no surprise that an E-2, which is one of the lowest ranks in the USAF, did not get cooperation from the senior enlisted men/officers. The actual team of investigators led by a Major was conducting interviews with these officers and men. It is unlikely they would give the time of day to an E-2 clerk, who was making inquiries about the same time. The bottom line in all of this is that

the histories were as accurate as an airman second class could make them. Any reading between the lines at what they mean is just guesswork.

Rationalizing the documents

James Carlson moves on to argue about how UFOlogists have tried to make all sorts of speculation concerning the unit history entry. Brad Sparks' states at the NICAP web site that the National Security Agency (NSA) shifted responsibility for the case to the Boeing Company in order to hide the fact that UFOs were involved. By stating that all rumors of UFO activity turned out to be unsupported, the NSA could hide the fact that UFOs caused the shutdown. This forced the Boeing Company to conduct an expensive wild goose chase. Carlson points out that the NSA had nothing to do with such events and it was an agency designed for gathering intelligence about other countries by employing sensors. Why it would be interested in the missile shutdown is not explained by Sparks and James declares this to be a "paranoid fantasy". He also points out that the Boeing Company was not the only group involved and the investigation was headed by a Major James H. Schraff. Mr. Carlson also mentions that the entry about UFO rumors were originally an "unclassified" entry in the unit history meaning the information was not that important. Most important is that Bluebook had no entries about UFO reports from Malmstrom on the 16th of March. There is also no evidence that Lt. Col. Lewis D. Chase was involved in the Echo flight investigation. Being the Malmstrom UFO officer, he would have had to file the reports with Bluebook and investigated them. Finally, any UFOs present would have been reported by the civilian community and would have made headlines the way the Belt, Montana sighting made headlines on the 24th of March. Remember, this was not the middle of the night but around 9AM local time. The absence of any such reports indicates a lack of UFO activity on March 16th.

Of course, the recent shift by Salas to the 24th appears to be to match up with the Belt, Montana UFO sighting. However, this was at 9PM on the night of the 24th and not early in the morning as described



A map showing the layout of all the various flights and squadrons. It is interesting to note that Oscar flight and Echo flight are about the same distance from Lewiston, where Jamison went to restart the flight of ten missiles. The Belt, MT UFO sighting was near flight A-1. One must wonder why Alpha flight did not shut-down instead of Oscar on March 24th. Map comes from Carlson's manuscript (available on line).

by Salas. It implies that the Belt Montana UFO sighting/landing has little to do with anything described by Salas.

The supporting cast

Carlson points out that there is very little confirmation about Salas' version of events. Salas originally presented his watch commander, Frederick Meiwald as some sort of confirmation but his testimony seems to be limited to what Salas tells us. I am unaware of anybody performing an "on the record" interview with Mr. Meiwald. According to Carlson, it was probably Meiwald's revelations that forced Salas to change his location from November to Oscar flight.

Lt. Walt Figel was interviewed by Robert Hastings and he reported that maintenance teams were working on Echo flight the day before and the morning of the Echo flight shutdown. Documents revealed by Carlson demonstrated that a lot of problems existed with various system components and they were frequently

being replaced. So it seems likely the missile systems were being repaired or upgraded to prevent failure. Figel talked to the maintenance teams about the shutdown and there is some discussion about a potential UFO sighting. Carlson suggests it is basically banter between Figel and the maintenance team. One can not say for sure but it does appear to be some light-hearted discussion and not something that was being taken seriously. Carlson's father was with Lt. Figel in the capsule and reports that UFOs had nothing to do with the shutdown.

Another important supporting witness is Bob Jamison, who was interviewed by Robert Hastings. Jamison reports being involved in a "restart" of an entire flight of ten missiles at Malmstrom near Lewiston, Montana. According to Hastings, Jamison was ordered to stay at the base until all the UFO reports ceased in the area. He also received a special briefing to make sure they reported any UFOs near the site. It is concluded that this happened on March 24/25 and it was Oscar flight Ja-

mison was sent to restart. It is not hard to determine why the date selected was the 24th. It has a lot to do with the Belt sighting. Belt, Montana is some 15 miles from Malmstrom AFB but about 80 miles from Lewiston. If the Belt sighting was holding back activity near Lewiston, it seems odd. Carlson points out, and I agree, that this testimony appears absurd. Why would the USAF not try to restore a missile flight simply because of "UFO reports", which posed absolutely no threat? If the UFOs were truly a threat as implied by this testimony, the USAF would establish a combat air patrol (CAP) over the affected area(s). Certainly, the USAF could spare a few armed interceptors designated for air defense of the United States above the silos, base, and UFO location while the team went to restore these missiles that were vitally important to the defense of the country. This version of events appears to be more of a "sea story" full of some exaggerations and/or embellishments. Perhaps Jamison was recalling the Echo flight incident (which also was near Lewiston) and the UFO part had to do with those "rumors" that were circulating around the base. As suggested by Carlson, it was probably Hastings prompting that inspired Jamison to come up with the date of the March 24th.

The real story behind the missile shutdown

I have never seen any of the investigators of this case mention a TOP SECRET document titled USAF ballistic missile programs 1967-1968 by Bernard C. Nalty. Nalty was a professional historian, who's resume' includes many books on military history. Carlson points out that much of the material was highly classified and indicated that Nalty would have had access to any classified documents associated with the missile shutdown(s). Strangely, Nalty only discussed the Echo flight shutdown and there is no mention of any other shutdown of this nature.

Nalty's history identifies many problems with the minuteman systems. Contrary to popular belief, it seems that, in 1967, guidance and control system failures were far too common in the Minuteman silos. They were susceptible to electronic noise and this is what apparently shut-down Echo flight that day.

*Extensive tests at Malmstrom, Ogden Air Material Area, and at the Boeing plant in Seattle revealed that an electronic noise pulse had shut down the flight. In effect, this surge of noise was similar to the electromagnetic pulse generated by nuclear explosions. The component of the Minuteman I that was most vulnerable to noise pulse was the logic coupler of the guidance and control system. Subsequent tests showed that the same part in Minuteman II was equally sensitive to the same phenomenon. At the end of the fiscal year 1968, however, filters were being installed to suppress electromagnetic effects, and these might screen out noise.*³

Carlson's argument is that the source of the signal is not an electromagnetic pulse but electronic/electrostatic noise pulse that acted like an electromagnetic pulse (EMP).

James Carlson devotes many pages trying to explain the similarities between an EMP produced from a nuclear explosion and a noise pulse produced electronically. UFOlogists want everyone to believe that the pulse which shutdown the missiles have everything to do with the UFOs producing an EMP into the system. Of course, the question remains, why didn't the EMP event affect other systems such as radio communications. It seems that one can more logically conclude the source of the pulse was internal to the missile complex and not from some external source, which would definitely affect other systems. This is the argument presented in the unit history and other documents surrounding the Echo flight shutdown. This is why the USAF spent thousands/millions of dollars and man-hours chasing the problem. If the AF knew that a UFO was the cause, there would have been no need for the investigative team to conduct all this effort.

Despite the extensive effort by the investigative team, it seems they were never able to duplicate the no-go shutdown every time they tried. They came close and were able to duplicate the Echo-flight shutdown signals 60% of the time. They had pinpointed the cause as coming from the logic coupler but could never pinpoint the exact source of the noise pulse. They did eliminate the source being from commercial power sources, which led them to conclude that the

source of the pulse was internally generated. I would not consider the difficulty in locating the precise source of the pulse as unusual. Trying to establish the exact same conditions that existed is a very difficult task and one weak component, which was never identified, could have been the source. The more complex the system, the more difficult it would be to reproduce the exact conditions of the shutdown.

Is this the answer?

When examining the information presented by James Carlson, we have to seriously question the various stories told about any missile shutdown beyond the Echo flight on March 16, 1967. Only a few people have come forward to even provide testimony that might support Salas' tale. Some of it has been subjectively interpreted by over eager UFO investigators wanting to promote their books and research. Meanwhile, there seems to be a perfectly logical explanation for what caused the missile shutdown. In my skeptical opinion, it seems that James Carlson provides a very good case for what transpired at Malmstrom that spring and there is no reason to suspect that UFOs were involved in any way.

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I want to thank James Carlson for his contributions and necessary corrections to this article.

Twenty-First Century UFOlogy IV: SOCORRO REVISITED

By Matt Graeber, Edited by Grace L. Graeber

This entry in the series of Twenty-First Century UFOlogy actually began back in 1973, after my having read quite a bit about the Socorro 'landing' case and searching for similar objects, insignia and/or landing gear impressions which had been linked to any other UFO sighting reports.

Thirty-seven years elapsed and I found NO similar objects among UFORIC reports. There were NO landing gear impressions of a similar variety, but, a few vague UFO reports and very questionable UFO photos did sport similar insignia in the popular saucer literature. (Now, when I say similar, I am not referring to an exact likeness, just similarities, and I know this is a very subjective endeavor) However, it has recently been claimed Mr. Zamora a policeman and the key eyewitness to the UFO landing had falsified his description of the object at the behest of authorities who had investigated the matter. Presumably this was done to conceal what the object truly was from the public. As you probably know rumors and suspicions concerning government cover ups have long been a staple of UFO lore.

I have also been monitoring the recent claims emerging since Mr. Lonnie Zamora's passing on November 2, 2009, in regard to his legendary Socorro, N.M. UFO landing report of 1964. In weeks prior to his death, I was aware of Mr. Anthony Braglia's assertion the Socorro incident was a hoax perpetrated by several students from the New Mexico Mining and Technical College.

However, it is not the claims of Mr. Braglia and others I wish to address at this time (but, I do thank them very much for sending their most interesting information, thoughts, suspicions and opinions along.) Moreover, I have reached a point on the Socorro matter where I suspect it will forever elude 100% positive identification primarily because it is lost-in-time and we investigators are still attempting to establish exactly what the object was,

when I feel we should be seeking a better understanding of Mr. Zamora. This is essential to my quest for the establishment of a Twenty-First Century UFOlogical approach to the enigma.

As with many other convoluted, hearsay-filled, twist-and-turns of saucer lore, the claim Mr. Zamora knowingly falsified his report seems to go a bit haywire from its onset as there are so many speculative opinions about the case. The object may have been a hot-air balloon with its noisy propane burner; a prank pulled off by students from the New Mexico Mining and Technical College in Socorro¹; a hoax by a group of bikers who had machinist's skills and worked for a military contractor at the time (while also heisting parts to build their own experimental aircraft); an early 'Surveyor' lunar lander test gone awry; a hoax perpetrated by municipal authorities to spark interest in Socorro; and, of course, the most popular of the batch, an E.T. visitation, or 'CE-III' as it is affectionately known in the sub-cultural world of the saucer enthusiasts. The obvious fact, that hearsay (from any source) is not considered to be reliable evidence is often overlooked!

Close Encounters of the Third kind, as specified by the late astronomer and iconic UFOlogical figure, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, involve the observation of "Animate Beings" during an estimated 500 feet or less UFO observation. While it may be a bit difficult to conceive of precisely what is meant by the term 'animate beings' regarding unknown and assumed to be existing alien life forms. It might be assumed flesh and blood, man-like alien creatures (or so-called humanoids) of a mammalian type might fit the description (?) However, it would not quite fit the description provided by policeman Lonnie Zamora who was a "trained observer". Like military pilots, scientists and astronomers, Mr. Zamora had not been trained for a sudden, shocking and very bizarre UFO encounter. As a policeman, he was trained to provide commonplace

descriptions of autos, license plate numbers and the clothing suspects wore, etc.

So, if policeman Lonnie Zamora had estimated he had very briefly observed two little men (or kids?) wearing white coveralls at an estimated distance of 150 to 200 yards (that's one and a half, to two football field lengths away); They may have been the Surveyor technician and the Bell helicopter's pilot from White Sands; Or, two humanoid saucer occupants minus bulbous heads or, dark wrap-around eyes. They might also have been the hoaxing NMT students or the biker pranksters I mentioned above. Come to think of it they might have also been robots, cyborgs (like the Terminator), or, hybrids too? That is, 'IF' Mr. Zamora had actually seen them and was not further embellishing his story for the authorities. Lonnie Zamora also reportedly bumped his leg while hurriedly dashing from the object as it roared and flamed upward. His prescription eyeglasses and green sunglasses fell from his face and were momentarily lost. So just how well did Mr. Zamora see at the distance (or, even at closer range) while running, looking over his shoulder at the shiny object, while also gazing into the 5:45 evening desert sun?

Suddenly, the certainty, clarity and closeness of the well-publicized encounter seems to evaporate and great deal of reasonable doubt fills in the remaining void.

Capsulated version of a very cold case:

Friday - April 24, 1964 - approximately 5:45 P.M. New Mexican police officer Lonnie Zamora was in his police cruiser pursuing a speeder, when he was distracted by a bluish-colored flame (with some orange in it) and heard a loud roar in the sky. As he approached an arroyo in the general direction of the flame and sound, which was also the location of a dynamite shack, Lonnie feared the worst! Thankfully, the dynamite shack hadn't exploded, but, he then noticed what he first thought to be an overturned auto in the gully. Zamora broke off his pursuit of the speeder. He notified his dispatcher and further investigated the apparent accident. Upon closer inspection at the arroyo, the overturned auto now looked more like a strange egg-shaped object

standing upright on two slender legs. There were also two men wearing white jumpsuits (Zamora used the word 'coveralls'). They were moving about the object and apparently saw Lonnie's approaching cruiser. They immediately disappeared behind the now horizontally-positioned object (which sported a red insignia on its side) and then lifted off with a flaming roar, leaving behind landing gear impressions and footprints on the desert floor along with some smoldering foliage. The incident has since been known as the Socorro UFO landing case or, simply, the Zamora CE-III in UFO parlance. It was the case Ufologists pointed to as proof of visiting alien spacecraft more than a decade before the revisited Roswell saucer crash and cover up story became the most popular and legendary piece of modern-day American folklore.

Moreover, if Mr. Zamora was wearing his green sunglasses when he first noticed the 'bluish' flame in the sky, How certain can we be the flame was actually blue?² A blue flame generally indicates a hydrogen fire (as seen in color photos of the *Hindenburg disaster); while a hot-air balloon requires a propane burner with its bright orange flame. So too, the unmanned Surveyor lander with its mechanical scooping arm utilized Vernier engines and attitude jets producing orange flames.

So, if one should desire to classify this incident as a true CE-III, one would have to turn to Mr. Ted Bloecher's CE-III 'Subtypes' to move ahead with the matter. For as with CE-II subtypes, purely anecdotal and other very questionable accounts are usually of much lesser value to forensic scientists and skeptics who prefer to analyze hard physical evidence of some kind. Are you aware one of Mr. Bloecher's CE-III subtypes does not require a UFO to be seen during a close encounter with animate beings, and, he was also one of the early movers and shakers of the abduction movement?

Unfortunately, like Mr. Bloecher and many other self-proclaimed UFO experts, I can offer absolutely NO physical evidence on this matter; but like the experts, I can speculate a great deal with the hopes of expanding our store of knowledge on the case while possibly learning something about the witness as well. Since Lonnie Zamora was the only evidence left be-

hind at the scene, other than four alleged landing gear impressions in the soil along with some smoldering foliage, it might prove interesting to know what may have been affecting Mr. Zamora at the time of his close encounter with a UFO. I mean other than the shock and awe of the experience itself. Was he thinking straight, were his reasoning faculties working properly, or, was he in a semi-altered or, altered state of consciousness of some kind? We might suspect his adrenalin was up because of the auto pursuit. So too, his senses of urgency and danger may have been heightened as well as events unfolded at the arroyo.

Then, there is the matter of an analysis of the footprints. Were plaster casts made at the scene? Did they appear to be human footprints to a certified podiatrist? What size and approximate weight of the creatures involved in the event estimated to be? Did the prints indicate an abnormal gait of the creatures? I do not recall these questions being pursued by UFO field investigators back in 1964. It seems the big foot researchers of today would have surely sought such data.

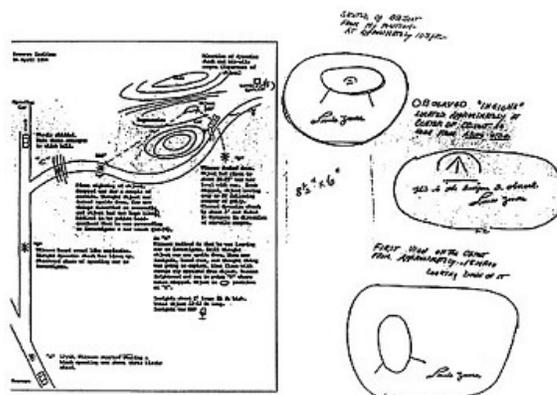
As stated above, I had read quite a bit about this case during the early seventies in the popular UFO literature. At the time, UFO occupant reports were rather exciting since the abduction malaise had not yet swept through saucerdom like a flu epidemic. Most UFO proponents were not thinking in terms of screen memories, mind blockages and floating through solid physical objects like wooden doors, etc. We were a rather backward bunch of nuts

and bolts enthusiasts who knew not how many species of alien creature were visiting earth; anything of the alien's failing genetic pool and their bolstering agenda; or, of the thousands of covertly abducted earthlings who were routinely returned to their beds and tucked in nightly by logistical wizards with swollen heads and huge black eyes. When we were later informed by abduction experts some of these unfortunate souls were returned to their beds wearing other people's underwear. we were naturally both amused and a left speechless!

The Blue-Book Report:

The blue-book report clearly indicates the investigators (U.S. Air Force) and the FBI investigator at the site, felt officer Zamora's character was good and his testimony was sincere. They also concluded the matter was not going to be easily resolved, but, thought it may have had something to do with various testing being conducted at the White Sands Missile Range. According to the UFO briefing Document Case Histories provided by Mr. Brad Steiger (Ed.) in 1976, and other researchers. Lonnie Zamora had provided testimony and sketches of his encounter to help clarify what had occurred and what he witnessed.

Among the many points mentioned by researchers, are the facts officer Zamora hadn't the object in continuous sight as the event played out in the arroyo. He had observed the object while driving from a distance and also on foot after he exited his cruiser to further investigate.



Map of Socorro landing site and Zamora's sketches of the object and its insignia, from the Project Blue Book case file. Courtesy of Brad Steiger.

NOTE: The depiction in the lower right corner shows the object in a vertical position (as officer Zamora had first spotted the object on the arroyo).

There were brief periods of time when land features did not permit viewing the object which officer Zamora initially thought was an overturned auto... then, an upright egg-shaped object standing upon two slender legs. Yet, within seconds or perhaps, another moment's time, it appeared to be horizontally positioned with the ground and standing upon four legs. Zamora also saw two men, the object's red insignia. Then, heard its loud pitch-changing roar and saw its flame as it lifted off.³

The local newspaper, El Defensor Chieftain, carried reports of an "unidentified tourist" at a local gas station who claimed "Aircraft flew low around here." The paper also reported the witness had said the object he observed about the time of the Zamora encounter was a "funny-looking helicopter, if that's what it was." Certainly a side-mounted early Surveyor lander carried aloft by a Bell helicopter would be kinda funny looking, and present officer Zamora with a very strange profile while it was upon the ground, as Mr. Thomas aptly points out in his word-economic post "The Socorro UFO - Explained?"

The object (or, craft) was said to be white aluminum in color and its crimson insignia was about twenty-four inches wide by thirty inches in height.⁴ The two small occupants wore white jumpsuits. Zamora did not notice if they wore helmets; nor, did he mention their having abnormally large heads. There is a great deal of information posted on the internet about this event - some serious and many others obviously of a humbug copycat variety. However, the above stated information seems to be fairly well-established and should suffice for the purpose of our discussion.

A Skeptical Point of View:

The incident has been examined, evaluated and speculatively attributed to various causes over the years. But it appears to be the sensationally sci-fi-like E.T. Visitations Hypotheses (ETVH) continues to seize and excite the imagination of many saucer enthusiasts.

Perhaps, the investigative efforts of skeptic Dave Thomas (of New Mexicans for Science and Reason) are most noteworthy since he speculates the object in question was actually a scheduled and documented.⁵ Surveyor test of the same date as the Zamora UFO incident. Mr. Thomas does make a very cogent and persuasive case for his thoughts on the Socorro incident, but, it is the amount of detail he puts into his effort which interests me most as a researcher (e.g., Mr. Thomas notes Lonnie Zamora had worn green-colored sunglasses over his prescription glasses at the onset of the encounter). Coincidentally, I had worn various colored sunglass lenses to determine how much they altered colors and the appearance of objects while I was at the UFO Report and Information Center (UFORIC) in Philadelphia during the early seventies - this was as I launched various shaped and colored party balloons while performing optical experiments.) I feel Mr. Thomas had made a very prudent, objective, humble, point-for-point case for the 'Surveyor explanation' of the long-ago Socorro incident without depending upon bolstering his thoughts with a lot of hearsay, rumor mongering and fantasy-prone arguments. In fact, he uses a question mark at the close of the title to his post. So, he is obviously an objective and honest man.

Back to Socorro 1964:

One thing stands out regarding this case. It may be the best documented landing report, but, it is far from being the best evidence one might hope to obtain on E.T. visitations. I realize some folks have recently claimed a similar craft was sighted in Montana. However, the claimant seems to lack the reputation of being an objective researcher. So, without further comment, I shall stick to my earlier remarks that NO similar object has been reported. NO similar landing gear impressions have appeared in the UFO literature, and only similar insignia have appeared in a few reports and upon UFOs depicted in very questionable photographs.

Let's briefly discuss the insignia as a psychologically-produced symbol much like the patient dream symbols frequently analyzed by clinical psychotherapists: The curved upper portion of the Socorro insignia might represent the female aspect of the symbol (as any concave items, such as cups, bowls and receptacles of various types are considered female symbols). They often appear in the dreams and during the subjective ramblings of patients being analyzed. Anything pointed, like the upward penetrating arrow depicted in the Socorro insignia, or, a sword, a lighthouse, or even a ray of light could take on phallic significance and are, therefore, considered to be masculine symbols.

Replicas of the red insignia on the Socorro object

It is important to understand the insignia on the Socorro object, like markings upon military aircraft and the badges on uniforms are representations of origin or, authority. However, a symbol (in the psychological sense of the word) might represent anything at all to the human psyche subconsciously, subjectively and even collectively, and is not necessarily specifically representational of origin, or, authority. In short, a symbol is an abstraction upon which an individual might project meaning, such as with an ambiguous Rorschach plate or, a work of modern art. Emblems, signs and icons should not to be confused with symbols or, insignias.



Three years after the unmanned craft Surveyor 3 landed on the moon, the Apollo 12 manned mission touched down nearby. This image shows mission commander Pete Conrad retrieving items from Surveyor 3; the Apollo 12 lunar module appears in the background.

Photograph by Alan L. Bean, courtesy NASA.



Thus, within the Socorro insignia, one might assume this union of sexual opposites may represent a bit more than the depiction of an arrow pointing upward towards a curved line. If we consider the possibility the Socorro incident may have simply been a prank - and the insignia was indeed the creation of NMT students with too much time on their hands; or, bikers who were sticking it to their boss or, the aircraft industry (biker's often use double-meaning insignia upon their jackets, tee-shirts and motorcycles). Of course, the message behind the insignia may not have been intended for insiders alone, and a much cruder and far more direct message may have been intended for anyone who might have observed the object(?) After all, boys will be boys!

But, it is the landing gear impressions in the soil and the scorch mark left behind which may also be evaluated to unique symbolic status. Not as a symbol or insignia crafted by human hands, but one that just happened to be left behind by the craft itself and suggested something to the eyewitness because of its 'archetypal' or rudimentary pattern and psychical impact. This is very much like the symbolic representations which have always appeared to men and women (in one form or another) throughout various eras in their art, literature, mythology, philosophy, and spiritual musings. There are a number of such symbols; but, for our discussion we shall focus on the Quaternity, a symbol with a four-part structuring (three often alike, and the fourth not exactly like the other three), and the Quincunx which is also called the Quintus Essentia by the late Dr. C.G. Jung (1875-1961) who wrote about analyzing flying saucer reports as a modern myth of things seen in the skies - Signet Publications January 1969 - fifth

printing.

Dr. Jung explained the Quaternity symbol by making use of the prophet Ezekiel's biblical vision. "Here the Quaternity has a 3 + 1 structure, three animal-demonic faces and one human one. The Quaternity might also be as a symbolic representation of the Trinity and the Devil, or, the four groups of Christian metaphysics - three synoptic, and one Gnostic. (Dr. Jung as a child was raised in a religious family with several relatives who were men of the cloth. So, it is not surprising to find so many metaphysical analogies in relationship to his psychological concepts.) However, to dismiss Dr. Jung as a mystic might be a huge lapse of good judgment on our part. After all, one does not dismiss Dr. Sigmund Freud's psychological concepts simply because he placed emphasis upon the sexual aspects of human psychology. It was Dr. Jung who gave us the concept of introverted and extroverted personality types, and I feel he was very much a man of his times, personal observations and tremendous educational achievement.

The Socorro landing gear impression, or, pad marks left in the desert soil more or less form a Quaternity, in that three of the impressions are equally spaced apart with somewhat circular pad marks forming a rough triad; while the fourth is very much askew and rectangular in shape. However, when we consider the scorch mark within the overall pattern we see a misshapen Quincunx or, five part symbol which is similar to the symbol found in the ancient tradition of 'the Philosopher's Stone'. I realize many of my readers will immediately scoff at the mere mention of alchemy but, one must also recall, the brilliant Sir Isaac Newton was a serious practitioner of the tradition...which I, too, believe is pure nonsense! But, it is not the practice of the tradition we are interested in here, it is the persistent re-emergence of this particular symbol. Might it be a part of mans hard-wiring or, was Mr. Zamora's encounter filled with the sense of being a numinous event?

Now, I realize this sort of psycho-babble is not very popular in Saucerdom, and I hope your eyes are not glazing over... However, it seems to me we should consider the symbolic significance, impact and affect upon the human psyche. Espe-

cially, since Lonnie Zamora is suspected of offering a bogus object description at the behest of the Air Force and FBI authorities (perhaps, doing so was something of a moral and emotional struggle for him?) Additionally, I respectfully ask, is there any good reason to doubt Mr. Zamora hadn't much of an opportunity to visually scrutinize the object, the little men, or, the insignia on the side of the craft at the time of his brief UFO encounter. However, Mr. Zamora did have plenty of time afterwards to eyeball and contemplate the landing pad impressions in the soil and, the scorch mark at the site, and then, come up with his bogus tale. We also know Lonnie Zamora was devout and very actively involved with his Christian faith, both the Quaternity and Quincunx symbols appear within church dogma, upon celebratory décor and vestments, numerous icons and church architecture. So, the question immediately arises: Had Lonnie Zamora made a conscious psychic connection with the similar pattern on the ground before him, or, did it autonomously (unwittingly, subconsciously or, unconsciously) spring into his mind and he fabricated his story from that point?

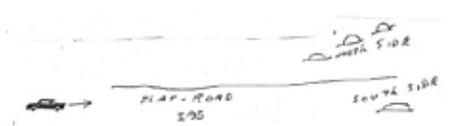
In fact, if the pattern/symbol was left upon the ground by the strange object, it really should not concern us very much if Mr. Zamora falsified his report or not, as the psychical impact and affect of the provocative symbol would have probably been similar for him. I shall offer a few examples of the Quaternity for my readers. Hopefully, doing so will not lead us away from Twenty-First Century UFOlogy and into the mind-numbing cul-de-sac of depth psychology. However, for those seeking more information on this topic, I'm certain Mr. Printy would be happy to pass your request along and I shall contact you directly.

Examples of the Quaternity may appear in literature, ancient text, a UFO report and religion (See below.) The symbol appears in expressions of various ideas, situations, events and human emotions at very different times. But, the motif of three plus one structuring is strikingly similar in all instances - Argument may be made these are merely coincidental. But, how many of such a uniquely complex and abstract psychical constellation [or, symbol] might we expect to find ap-

pearing throughout history? It is not as if one consciously had a particular number in mind (such as 33), and were continually discovering it in the amount pocket change they had, on building address, taxi cab numbers and within telephone numbers, etc. Coincidence might mistakenly be attributed to Dr. Jung's thoughts on the archetypal character of the Quaternity and the Quincunx because of his life-long researching. But, certainly, such is not the case with Mr. Zamora's UFO encounter which had distracted his conscious pursuit of a speeding automobile.

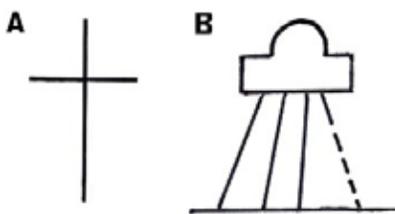
That is why I feel these symbols belong to a form of subconscious or, as Dr. Jung says 'unconscious' pattern resonance (not the process of conscious recognition) which I have come to call the function of Dynamic Display. Moreover, if it is a matter of common analytical practice to deal with dream symbols as being meaningful to the analyst's patient. So, why are non-dreaming symbols found within UFO reports thought to be too exotic and esoteric, while UFO encounters believed to be random events which do not relate to the UFO observers lives? According to Dr. Jung..."it must nevertheless be stressed that there is an unmistakable resemblance between the UFO phenomenon and certain psychic conditions which should not be overlooked in evaluating the observations"...

- Speaking of the Trinity and Satan the four may nevertheless make up a Quaternity too; though one is considered to be fallen from grace, sinful, dark and evil. We might even find a Quaternity in a family of four, consisting of three healthy individuals and a forth dysfunctional and addicted family member. (Perhaps, appearing as a Quaternity in a concerned and troubled family member's dreams about the situation.)
- The Time Machine in H.G. Wells classic science fiction story was said to be standing upon four legs, three of which were identical and the fourth was of another substance entirely. The Quaternity also appeared (and took on human characterization) in the heroic tale of "The Three Musketeers."
- The witness depiction of the UFOs involved in the UFORIC investigated Raefield (Dynamic Display) case, places three UFOs on one side of the highway, and the fourth on the witnesses side of the road. (i.e., on his side of his marital problem.)

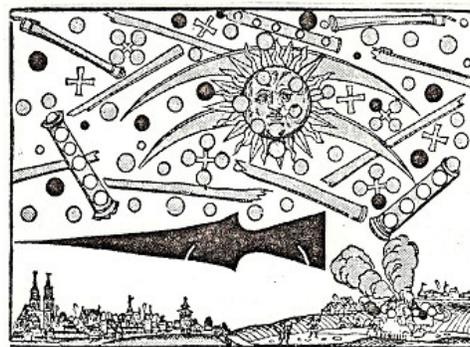


berg appear to be equally structured and none are positioned askew. Yet, (another variation of the Quaternity) while, the cannon-like tubes appear to be typical of artillery weaponry of the times; there may also be an analogy made for the tubes being similar to the so-called Mother ship sightings of today's UFO reports.

Within the foreword to the Signet edition of Dr. Jung's book we find the following written by Martin Ebon "Why would one of the grand old men of modern psychology [once heir-apparent of Sigmund Freud] sit down, in the last years of his life, and analyze the significance of "Flying Saucers" (UFOs) or, Unidentified Flying Objects....Because he saw many reports of the sightings of Flying Saucers, and started to puzzle about the people who said they had seen them. Because he found it intriguing to speculate on what, within ourselves, seems to demand that such things as UFOs are real. Because he sensed the deep emotional appeal which such extra-terrestrial vehicles, and their supposed inhabitants have - not just for those who report having seen them, but for millions of other people throughout the globe." Thus, Dr. Jung wrote about UFOs from a largely collective analytical perspective. But, he also analyzed UFOs as they appeared in his patient's dreams, as well as, their symbolic significance in abstract works of modern art.



- The Christian cross has three upper portions which are more or less equal in length (i.e., spiritually symbolizing the Trinity), while the fourth portion is much longer and touches the ground and might represent the earth or, perhaps, the domain of Satan. This three plus one symbol is not like an actual Roman cross used for execution purposes in biblical days as they were shaped like the like the letter "T".



- In 1561, an aerial spectacle (UFOs?) witnessed and recorded at Nuremberg, Germany, (thought to be a portent at the time.) The Quaternity appears within two of the crosses depicted within the broadsheet illustration, just as three of the four landing gear impressions of the Socorro object were identical and one was not. However, the crosses at Nurem-

Dr. Jung informs us (on page 101 of his book) about his thoughts on a literary work written by Mr. Edgar Sievers 'Saucers uber Sudafrika' he says "Anybody who is interested in the psychology of the [UFO] rumor will read this book with profit, for it offers a comprehensive survey of the psychic phenomenology of the UFOs." (Dr. Jung saw UFOs as "Visual Rumors", closely akin to the visions witnessed by the faithful multitude at Fatima and those reportedly seen by troops on the battlefield at Mons.) However, my Twenty-First Century UFOlogy with its individual case studies on 'Dynamic Display' (D.D.) and 'Dual Process of Perception' (D.P.P.) are my amateurish attempts at bringing the UFOs down-to-earth and making the UFO experience a bit more understandable for my readers. As one might recall, I am not a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or, flying saucer expert of any kind,

So, I am speaking to you as a totally unaccredited student of the phenomenon.

FOOTNOTES

1. Students at the NMT college in Socorro, New Mexico, have acquired a long tradition of prank-pulling - many of which have never been fully-authenticated and may be just campus rumor or, legend. Several versions involving the 1964 Zamora incident include the use of borrowed college equipment (such as a projector) which was obviously not useful in the daylight encounter, as well as, students who allegedly had altered soil sample evidence brought to the college laboratory for analysis by police authorities shortly after the Zamora incident had occurred.

2. Color photos and high-ranking eyewitness accounts of the 1937 Hindenburg disaster clearly indicate blue hydrogen gas vapors were escaping and burning from the upper portion of the Zeppelin's aft section. The terrible orange conflagration was fueled by the painted silvery (dope mixed with graphite), on the colossal airship's envelope.

3. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who came to investigate the Zamora incident felt the reported size and estimated weight of the landed UFO could not have been thrust aloft judging by the amount of scorching visible on the ground at the site. While Mr. Dave Thomas says the lift for the side-mounted Surveyor was probably provided by the helicopter, and the scorching may have been caused by the soil sample gathering mechanism of the lander. Phil Klass who also visited the site said pads like Surveyor's were among the only practical shapes for that function.

4. Optical experiments with a 22.5 X 30 inch (two inch in stroke) red Socorro insignia replica on a white panel clearly illustrate the insignia was not easily discernible to the scrutiny of the unaided human eyes at a distance of 100 yards. However, at 50 yards it was discernible to a person with good vision. (A photograph of the actual test panel with insignia appears within and at the close of this article.)

5. At (WSMR) White Sands Missile Range one of the tests for a Surveyor and heli-

copter were scheduled for 24 April, 1964. However, the scheduled time of the test does not correspond with officer Zamora's 5:45 P.M. encounter with a UFO at the arroyo. However, scheduling was quite flexible at White Sands and some testing and bomb run exercises caused delays with other scheduled testing. Socorro is about 40 miles north, north-west of White Sands Missile Testing Range.

Below the scheduling document from WSMR, courtesy of Mr. Dave Thomas (NMSR)

It has also been frequently argued a hot-air balloon was the object officer Zamora had observed. However, the departing object was said to have flown into the prevailing desert wind, which obviously defies balloon flight capabilities.

Parting investigative thoughts

Two photographs, taken at approximately 4:10 P.M. on January 13, 2010 at a Plymouth Meeting, Pa, community football field. The photos were taken using a Motorola three megapixel picture-phone at the ranges of 100 yards and 50 yards. The photo at 100 yards was taken with the sun in the background (much as was the case with the Lonnie Zamora encounter of 1964.) The test panel was then re-positioned to 50 yards on the opposite end of the football field, so it would be better illuminated by sunlight which was no longer behind it.

As you can clearly see, a white aluminum craft's body as described by the witness (actually, polished and unpainted aluminum) would not be exceptionally dis-

cernible at 100 yards with the sunlight behind the craft. Obviously, the pure white test panel (in the photo) is not sharply distinct to the separating powers of the unaided human eye at a distance of 100 yards. In fact, a polished aluminum metallic surface (frequently illustrated as 'chrome-like' on the internet regarding the Socorro incident) would have been rather dark because the sunlight would have been behind the craft making it a poorly contrasted silhouette.

Add to the above considerations: Perhaps, Mr. Zamora saw a glint of sunlight reflecting off the metallic, glass or, plastic upper section of the unidentified craft, and perhaps too, the after-image of the glint upon his retina caused him to think he had seen an upright object standing on two slender legs. Then, there is also the absence of a shadow of the object being reportedly cast upon the ground in the Zamora case. Surely, with the desert sun behind and above the landed object, a shadow should have been apparent and noted in the report. As one can see, there are numerous optical factors which may give rise to reasonable doubts concerning the reliability of the Socorro report.

As a spokesperson for the often ignored and neglected subconscious mind of some UFO observers, I thank you for reading and considering my thoughts on Twenty-First Century UFOlogy

Daily Range Schedule For Friday, 24 April 1964

Prepared by Range Operations Directorate
Deputy for Range Activities
AFMPC, WAFB, New Mexico, 23 April 1964

CODE	MISSION	TYPE	SCHED TIME	A/C SUPPORT	TEST SUPPORT	CONTROL
AA	Track	Sled Test	0715T.O.-0745Commo-0800E-0810C	Army Aviation		---
AB	Surveyor	Helicopter Flts	0745-1145			---
AC	RF4C/RF-6	Photo	0830Tol-0900R-1100C			K
AD	EMB	Tracking	0855-1105			C
AE	Computer		0900-1000			---
AF	ROD Check	Radar	0900-1900			---
AG	AeroBee	Ground Check	1000-1100			---
AH	Zamor	Equip Check	1000-1400	C-130		---
AI	Track	Sled Test	1015T.O.-1100T-1110C	Army Aviation		---
AJ	TFW	Rockets & Bombs	1100-1300			---
AK	Chaff		1130T-1215C			C
AL	ROD Check	Radar	1200-1400	T-33		K
AM	RF4C/RF-6	Photo	1300-1430			---
AN	RDV	Tracking	1315-1400			---
AO	TFW	Rockets & Bombs	1400-1600			---
*SUPERSONIC FLIGHT: "AC" Mountainair to on range.						
**MISSIONS NOT FORECAST						
MISSIONS FORECAST BUT NOT SCHEDULED:						
			AIR FORCE 2 TFW, 2001	ARMY Zeus, Tracking	RANGE ROD Check, Met	



Test panel at 100 yards



Test panel at 50 yards

Donning UFO goggles

Recently, I read Joe Capp's blog entries about the use of night vision scopes to see UFOs. I was intrigued for two reasons. I had experience in working with a night vision scope-video camera system back in the late 1980s for astronomical work and I felt that such a system would be useful in finding objects that can not be identified with real time scientific data for analysis. After reading much of what was written, I was disappointed. This appears to be more of a "gee...wow...sell DVDs" endeavor than a "let's do some real science" project.

Understand your equipment and its limitations

The first thing that stood out in these entries is that the title (In the heat of the night) is wrong. According to Capp,

These UFO objects, according to the best expert on spotting them, are best viewed within the first two hours of complete darkness after sunset. If these objects, the expert reasoned, are flying at night visibly cloaked, they should still give off heat signatures. They do.¹

Reading this, one would expect them to be using a thermal imager of some kind but they are not. Instead they are using night vision scopes. These are photocathode tubes that act as image intensifiers. They take existing light, multiply its strength, and then presents the brighter image on a viewing surface. The end result is an amplified image that shows objects that are fainter than what can be seen with the naked eye. It has nothing to do with "heat signatures". Capp's statement that it is best to see these about two hours after sunset is indicative of seeing



A Geminid meteor using a video system with image intensifier back in December 1988. Note the problems with coma distorting the images of the stars that are furthest from the center of the field, which is centered on the bowl of the big dipper. (Video courtesy of Dale Hatch)

satellites, which are most prominent by reflecting the sun a few hours after sunset and before sunrise.

Capp's article appears to use Ed Grimsley as his principle source of information. Apparently, it is Grimsley, who is telling him that these are heat signatures. So, I went to Grimsley's website to see what he had to say about his technique and equipment. I could not find anything other than a few videos, which revealed that Grimsley has some preconceived ideas about what he is seeing and that he does not operate his equipment very well.

The raw video I saw from his website jumped around way too much and was not in focus. Is it because of his equipment or is it he just does not take the time to get the focus correct? I am not sure. Another thing obvious in his video is that the system suffers from some awful coma. This coma distorts the images that are not in the center of the field. Pinpoint star images take on a gull-shaped/elongated appearance. This is what I experienced back in the late 1980s when my friend and I were using this type of

system to record meteors, deep sky objects, and other nocturnal lights.

It appears that Mr. Grimsley's "evidence" is far from compelling and his videos section revealed other aspects about Mr. Grimsley's understanding of what he is seeing.

Space battles over the earth

On Ed Grimsley's website, we see that he is selling DVDs. The title had the ominous name of UFO Wars: Objects in earth space shooting it out. I tried to figure out what Mr. Grimsley was seeing by watching him explain it in his videos section. According to him, he watched space battles happening in the sky since 1961 when he was just a boy. That is astonishing in that no astronomical telescopes or astronomers (professional or amateur) have seen these events even though Grimsley was able to see them with his unaided eye before he obtained his night vision goggles.

According to Grimsley, "Whoever it is we are battling, it is very serious and a threat to our National Security."² He also has claimed in these videos to have seen at least 45 "kills" in one single space battle. Despite this claim, not one of his videos show any "kills" or "space battles" that I could see. Maybe, I have to buy his DVD to see this "evidence".

Grimsley eventually brings out the usual conspiracy theory so prevalent in UFO folklore, "Why is the government not telling us the truth?"³ Is he correct? Are there really space battles going on overhead every night? Is there a government/scientific cover-up being performed?

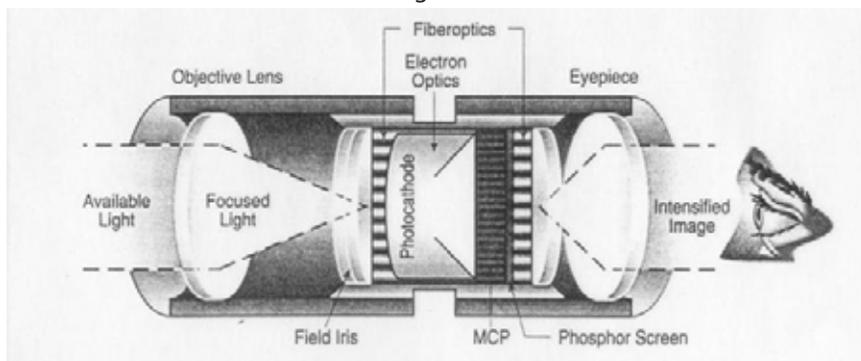


Diagram of a second generation night vision instrument. Courtesy of <http://www.physics.ohio-state.edu/~wilkins/writing/Samples/shortmed/johnmedium/index.html>

Sky watching Grimsley style

Grimsley gives us a short raw video of one nights monitoring. The raw video, which was difficult to follow, has the camera/goggles jumping about like one of those Bigfoot movies. It is very difficult to follow. With the jumping about and out of focus objects, I can't figure out what he recorded. You would think if he could afford equipment that costs thousands of dollars, he would invest in a good sturdy tripod of some kind and learn to get the camera in focus. The group's commentary during the video about what they are seeing demonstrates they seem to have absolutely no knowledge whatsoever in viewing the night sky.

During the video period, Grimsley made two interesting statements that were telling.

- *"They just covered about a thousand miles in space in...what...four seconds"*⁴ The space shuttle travels at about 5 miles per second, which is about one degree per second angular speed. Assuming these UFOs were in orbit at the same altitude, they would move too swiftly for him to follow at the speeds he describes. The objects he was recording did not do this. Obviously, Mr. Grimsley has no concept of the actual speeds, distances, and sizes of these objects.
- *"These are two satellites flying side by side...yeah...right"*⁵ Actually there are several satellites that do fly in formation. The NOSS satellites fly in a triangular formation or a pair formation. I once saw USA 160 A and B race across the sky one only a few seconds behind the other. It was the first time I had seen a satellite pair do this. These types of satellite pairs are often too faint to see. However, using night vision goggles will make them easier to see and track. His statement is indicative of the fact that he has no clue about what he is talking about but is being presented as an "expert".

Not once, did I see a date, a time, or a location given for Mr. Grimsley's video. He also never mentions constellations, azimuth, or elevation. It seems that just about anything they were seeing was described as something extraordinary. Is it possible that he is viewing satellites and other nocturnal moving lights instead of "real" UFOs?

More videos

Watching Grimsley talk on youtube, I was amazed at how good a story teller he was. I think his story about the superman/mothman he saw was, to say the least, difficult to believe. According to Grimsley he was out one night and his dog started growling at something. He looked with his night vision goggles and saw a humanoid creature flying in the sky with a cape. It approached him and he ran into his house with the dog. In my opinion, this demonstrates a distinct gap between what he claims he is seeing and what he is actually seeing.

The rest of the video discussion describes seeing points of lights and giving size descriptions and distances, which is almost impossible for him to do. I noticed he was able to achieve focus on some recordings but still seemed to lack a tripod mount. Despite his descriptions during the videos, I saw no distinct shapes with these dots of light and how he was able to determine how far away they were is nothing more than wild guesses. When he stated one UFO was too fast to be a satellite, I laughed because it appeared to have the same angular speed one would expect from a satellite.

The real night sky

Sadly, Mr. Grimsley's evidence is not that compelling and the stories people are telling (including Mr. Capp), can probably be explained if more information were available. These night vision systems can make faint objects appear very bright. The lens systems can also distort images to the extent they appear to change direction and makes point sources appear distorted/oblong.

During my experience with the night vision scope videos, we recorded all sorts of things. A flock of birds, airplanes, satellites, meteors, balloons, bats, moths, bugs, and just about anything airborne showed up in our videos. We also chose to use a black and white security camera because it gave better contrast and brighter images (due to the higher sensitivity of the camera sensor). It also took away the awful green tint one sees in the Grimsley videos. What Grimsley is doing is nothing new even though his followers seem to think it is.

Amateur and professional astronomers have been monitoring the skies with

equipment far superior to what Grimsley is using for many years. For instance you can read the following links:

<http://www.hindawi.com/journals/aa/2010/943145.html>,

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayFulltext?type=1&fid=997700&jid=IAU&volumeId=2&issueId=S236&aid=997692>

<http://www.molau.de/meteore/status.html>

These articles have been written in the past decade but the footnotes demonstrate that people have been doing this kind of work for some time. Does Mr. Grimsley seriously believe that all of these astronomers are not seeing this or, is it possible that these astronomers see what he sees and can readily identify them?

Doing it right

What is being done by Grimsley right now is more about creating spectacular videos to sell. If Grimsley and Capp were really interested in doing this correctly, they would establish a three station network of cameras using this gear. The systems would record an object with date and time to establish actual real-time data. Additionally, the operators will state where in the sky they are recording. This will help establish angles of elevation and azimuth. All of this will create data that can be used to analyze what is being recorded. Of course, this requires actual work and research. It appears to be much easier to proclaim that what is being seen are alien spaceships conducting space battles over the earth. It sells DVDs and gets you noticed.

References

1. Capp, Joseph." UFOs: In the heat of the night". UFO Media Matters. Available WWW: <http://ufomedia.blogspot.com/2010/02/ufos-in-heat-of-night.html>
2. Grimsley, Ed. Mission statement. Available WWW: <http://edgrimsley.com/mission.html>
3. Grimsley, Ed. Videos. Available WWW: <http://edgrimsley.com/videos.html>
4. Ibid
5. ibid

UFOs on the tube

UFOs over Phoenix

I was surprised to see the National Geographic channel do a program about the Arizona UFOs of 1997. Intrigued, I sat down to watch what I thought might be something new. Instead, I was presented with what appeared to be an episode of "UFO hunters" repackaged for the National Geographic channel.

The show starts by calling this an "unprecedented investigation". It was clear almost from the outset that investigation was not what this program was about. We got the usual emotional plea of the witness stories and how they were awed by what they saw. They focused most of their attention on two of the most famous "dark object" witnesses, Tim Ley and Mike Fortson. While they used Ley's observations to determine the physical size of the object, they never bothered to suggest that Ley's observations could be mistaken.

The show then moved on to explain how this craft could have flown. They presented physicists "thinking outside the box" about electromagnetic propulsion systems. That is all well and good as long as the witnesses were accurate. However, it appears they were not. These 'dark object' witnesses did not agree with the bulk of the witness reports that night. Many saw a formation of lights but no object. Others saw a shifting pattern of lights. Back in November, 1997, I compiled a list of all the witness reports from the NUFORC database, MUFON's report by Bill Hamilton, and news articles from the time period. Out of the twenty-six reports I found, only seven described a dark object behind the lights. Twelve stated the lights were independent of each other. The remaining seven made no commitment either way and stated there were simply lights in formation. This means that only 27% of the eyewitnesses described seeing a dark object. This was not mentioned in the show.

What was missing from the "unprecedented investigation" was the one video of the formation of lights, which clearly showed a shifting pattern over time. This demon-

strated they were not fixed as if they were attached to a huge "V". This evidence was ignored as was the eyewitness testimony of Mitch Stanley and others that pointed towards a more reasonable explanation for the event. It was easier to exaggerate the event with the mysterious dark "V" that was translucent.

The show did not stop with its absurd analysis there. I thought it was agreed long ago that the videos of the lights shot at 10PM that night were flares dropped by the Maryland Air National Guard. It was never mentioned that several analyses (Maccabee, Scowan, Rudin/Cognitech) have been performed on the various videos and all demonstrated that the lights were well behind the mountains and were consistent with the flares explanation. Additionally, none of the A-10 pilots were even questioned. Instead, the show trotted out the Mike Kryston video and presented Jim Dilettoso's analysis using "spectral histograms" to demonstrate that these lights were not flares. Back in 1998, Tony Ortega of the Phoenix Newtimes presented Dilettoso's work to Dr. Paul Scowan and he essentially laughed at what he was doing. It is not possible to perform this kind of analysis off of a video tape. Not surprisingly, no real experts were brought in to demonstrate what Dilettoso was doing was worthless and incorrect. The show gave the impression that the flare explanation had been disproven. Good grief!!!!

I have come to put certain television channels in high regard. I used to enjoy the History channel but after UFO Hunters, Monsterquest, and Mysteryquest, that opinion changed. Now I have to add the National Geographic channel to the list of channels that have disappointed me. It was probably inevitable that it produced something that is interested in promoting UFOs. The National Geographic society should be ashamed for calling this science because it wasn't. I wonder how long it will be before NOVA, "Myth busters", and the "Science Channel" cave into the same pressure of producing shows that leave science behind in order to grab ratings.

Book Reviews

Buy it! (No UFO library should do without it)

UFOs: A scientific debate - Carl Sagan and Thornton Page ed.

This book has just about everything for everyone. There is commentary/papers from some very prominent individuals on both sides of the fence. The papers cover everything from some prize UFO cases to discussion about the limitations of radar. It is a great resource no library should be without.

Borrow it. (Worth checking out of library or borrowing from a friend)

UFOs: An insiders view of the official quest for evidence - Roy Craig.

Dr. Craig was one of the investigators for the Condon project. He documents how the project was envisioned and all the cases he examined. It sheds some light on some of the comments in the report that indicated there was more behind these cases than what was written. His anecdotes are humorous. Most intriguing are his recollections regarding the "trick" memo and the "mutiny".

I found it interesting that he expressed concern that the Condon Report was being phased out of libraries and could eventually disappear. Thanks to the dreaded internet, the document exists in at least two locations. James Moseley would be happy to see that the internet serves a useful purpose after all.

Bin it! (Not worth the paper it is written upon - send to recycle bin)

Above Top Secret - Timothy Good

To me this book starts off wrong the instant I open the cover and see Whitley Streiber's endorsement! Basically it is a collection of stories that are picked from other books and sources. It is nothing special and seems to fall into the trap of accepting just about any story now matter how wild. I almost thought of considering it a "borrow" book but there really is not anything here that can't be found elsewhere.