

THE CANADIAN UFOLOGIST

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UFOs ACTIVE IN ONTARIO

During the early morning hours of Thursday, April 3, 1997, an Anishinabe man living at the Wikwemikong Indian Reserve on Manitoulin Island, located in Lake Huron's Georgian Bay, spotted a UFO.

The eyewitness "happened to look out of his living room window and noticed a yellow, saucer-shaped object a few degrees above the horizon. In the foreground stood a street light. The time was approximately 4 a.m., and the sky was overcast. He estimated the object to be about half a cigarette held at arm's length. He also said at one point, the light blinked out for half a second or so, then reappeared. Soon after, the object disappeared from view."



The witness told his girlfriend about the sighting the next day. She said "it must have been the northern lights Aurora Borealis. He pointed out that the UFO was in the southern part of the sky (over Lake Huron) and the northern lights usually occur in the northern sky.

Michel Deschamps, MUFON Ontario's Sudbury Section is also working on a case in Whitefish, Ont., 19 kilometres (12 miles) Southwest of the nickel-mining city of Sudbury.

On Saturday, February 1, 1997, at 12:40 a.m., a man watching a sports program on TV "noticed a yellow light coming through the kitchen window." When he looked outside, he saw "two quarter-moon-shaped objects hovering

about 100 feet (30 meters) in the air over the neighbour's property...The objects were slightly blocked from view by tall trees in the foreground.

As he watched the UFOs, the thought of reaching for his rifle crossed his mind, but then he decided to go into the living room instead, where the large bay window offered a better view...But by the time he got there, the two objects were gone."

A week later, on February 8, 1997, the man's son and daughter-in-law "who reside in Cochrane, Alberta (population 1,450) observed a similar sighting of two quarter-moon-shaped UFOs." No further details on the Alberta sighting are available.

'FIDO' FOOLS A FEW

A new blimp has appeared over Toronto in the past few weeks advertising 'Fido', day and night. The night views of it are quite pretty - lit from the interior and viewed from a distance it looks almost discoid in shape.

We've received a few calls about a brightly-lit 'UFO' over the downtown Toronto area.

'Fido', it transpires, is the name of a new digital personal access portable-phone system. As of publication time, 'Fido' (the blimp) is still startling the unsuspecting at night. But it seems most Torontonians are now used to it.

TILLSONBURG SIGHTING

On Thursday, May 22, 1997, at around 10:30 p.m., an amateur astronomer set up his telescope in his backyard in Tillsonburg, Ontario, 150 kilometres (94 miles) Southwest of Toronto.

The witness was looking around the sky "to find galaxies in the Big Dipper" when he spied "a giant white cloud and against it as a background saw a cigar-shaped object about the size of an aeroplane, black or brown in colour."

The UFO was not illuminated in any way) and "had four or five 'wings' at right angles to and along its body." The object passed right over the witness, who kept it in view for 30 to 40 seconds.

"It flew at the speed of a plane," he reported, "with no sound." He had no idea its height but it was beneath the clouds. It hadn't rained. He had an intermittent view of stars and planets. It was close to a full moon. He didn't see the craft through telescope." My daughter was with me at the time, but since it was near bedtime, she didn't have her glasses on."

The witness drew a picture of the object and showed it to his colleagues at work. One said it was reminiscent of "a picture of craft from '60s in Belgium."

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**FROM THE EDITORS.....**

The first issue of our fourth year, gives us a new look and a broadening of our ufological horizons - two of our regular contributors, Hugh F. Cochran and Clay Foley combined in an interesting synchronicity this month. Hugh's 'TELEPORTATION' on page 3, and Clay's 'CONJURING UP PHILIP: AN ADVENTURE IN PSYCHOKINESIS', on page 7, while perhaps causing a momentary qualm will, we feel sure, give readers more 'Things that make you go, Hmmm'. We use the word 'interesting'. 'Fascinating' is perhaps more apropos. The more time we spend delving into 'UFOs' the more we realise that many of the things that intrigue us outside of ufology, actually manifest within the UFO phenomena. Happy hmmm-ing

SUE ME, SUE YOU

Doctor Stephen Greer's CSETI (*The Centre for Study of Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence*) arranged to 'secretly' brief some staff of United States Senators in Washington recently, on UFOs. The ufological community in general is quite upset about Greer's methods - for a couple of reasons.

Other than the 'secrecy' issue, Greer rushed to head-off a planned, concerted effort by several prominent UFO research organisations to bring the current UFO evidence before various world governments.

Greer used a document titled 'UFOs: The Best Available Evidence' as the central thesis for his presentation. Unfortunately, the document was not his to use. It was commissioned by *The UFO Research Coalition: (The Centre for UFO Studies, The Fund for UFO Research and The Mutual UFO Network)* and written by Don Berliner & Antonio Huneus. Lawsuits are imminent with charges and counter-charges being bandied around the internet.

WHO SAID WHAT?**INTERNET INTIMATIONS**

A 'Post' by Dennis Stacy, Editor of *The MUFON UFO Journal* to the *UFO Up-Dates E-Mail List*.

Date: Sat, 10 May 1997 14:11:52

To: UFO UpDates - Toronto

<updates@globalserve.net >

From: Dennis Stacy dstacy@texas.net>

Subject: Re: 'Project Mogul' - let's get it right!

Dear Group:

I don't know where to stick this one, so I suppose under 'Mogul' is as good as anywhere. One thing about the Roswell incident has always struck me as curious and I don't remember seeing any really satisfactory explanation for it. In fact, hardly anyone ever brings it up, but since it's relevant to the question 'how could anyone in the military make such a mistake?', we might as well run it past everyone and see what kind of response(s) we get.

The issue is this: The original press release said something to the effect that a relatively "intact" flying disc had been towed into his barn by a local rancher.

Presumably, the infamous press release would only have been composed after Blanchard 'debriefed' Marcel and Cavitt upon their return to base. Where did the idea of a flying disc come from in the first place, then? Given the nature of the debris field, whatever it was, there was nothing so large left that a circular disc-shape could have even been guessed at, let alone logically inferred.

In the same vein, how did a debris field get translated into the relatively intact disc of the press release? Theoretically, it could only have come from what Marcel told Blanchard, seeing as Marcel was the one so excited about the debris (he stopped off and told his son he had pieces of a flying saucer). So it would seem that Marcel exaggerated the situation to begin with, and if he didn't, then Blanchard did. In other words, the press release was a complete foul-up in the first place -- at

(Continued on page 16)

TELEPORTATION



by
**Hugh F.
Cochrane**

Alien abductions are difficult to prove or disprove. Yet the attention they command on the printed page and at conventions far exceeds that given to other equally important issues. While the investigation of these cases may help resolve some questions of why the individual was abducted, it reveals nothing of the mechanism by which the aliens might accomplish it.

Also curious is that, in the earlier years of UFO encounters the contactee was given a tour of the craft and a few ambiguous hints concerning alien technology. That is not evident in today's encounters. Instead we are left to ponder how aliens travel through space or time and how human beings could be taken through solid doors, walls and windows and end up aboard an alien craft.

After almost fifty years of investigation all we have is the "Buzz" word teleportation used to describe events where objects seem to vanish, travel in a non-material state to a new location almost instantly, then rematerialize.

Its a phenomenon often encountered in UFO events but it is also found in Fortean and paranormal events where small items vanish and turn up in other rooms or locked cupboards, some items vanish and are never seen again. In some of the most bizarre cases, rocks have been seen materialising as they emerge from ceilings or pass through walls and windows without doing any damage. When water pours from walls or actual tears appear on the faces of religious statues or paintings we are left to wonder

how these material arrive at the site. Most are of a non-local nature and their source seems to have been 'elsewhere'.

Equally puzzling are those incidents where rocks of non-local origin seem to materialise in a clear, windless sky over a specific location and intermittently, for periods of minutes or hours, continue to fall, sometimes recurring over a period of months. This category also includes falls of fish, animal parts and a weird assortment of other items, none of which seems to be native to that locality.

Also among the reports on file are a wide range of cases where people have vanished from streets, from inside buildings, even from their cars and, in some instances, they and their vehicle are somehow transported to a different location. At times the new location may be a short distance away, in others it has been thousands of miles.

Most difficult to rationalise are cases where individuals claim to have been transported back in time and, after a short visit, they are returned and find they have only been absent for fifteen or so minutes. In these cases the geographic location is the same and the transition took them back to an earlier time at that location, usually to a time when a highly emotional event was in progress.

Since we do not know who or what is behind the majority of these events, the purpose, if any, behind the choice of destination is unknown and seems random and unintentional. Therefore we can only wonder whether aliens actually are behind all of these events or whether some of these events are the result of some still unrecognised natural force that is intermittently triggered into activity. If that's the case, given the phenomenon's random choice of destinations, we might wonder how many "missing persons" or things were downloaded in the middle

of the ocean or in some remote region where their cries of terror would never be heard and eventual fate unknown.

While the majority of these events seem to involve some form of teleportation, few reveal any evidence that might implicate alien entities making use of a superior technology.

For example: what purpose is served when a huge chunk of soil weighting tons, is removed from a farm field intact and deposited some distance away from the site without being broken? These events are not exactly rare and investigators looking into these events have reported that the roots systems of plants on the removed chunk turf are still intact and left dangling as if the soil in which they were growing had been loosened to allow the roots to freely slip out.

The puzzling nature of these events has led to a variety of speculative solutions concerning the mechanism behind the events. Most favoured are methods involving ways to disassemble the material components, particle by particle, which are then transmitted by some equally speculative mechanism and, hopefully, all arrive and are reassembled at the receiving end and in some way end up in their proper location. Others have proposed models in which the object is 'clone-scanned' and the scanning data is transmitted to guide the reassembly process.

While some proposals seem to have merit, a more productive route might be to first determine whether the event reveals any intelligent intent and therefore may be a product of

...among the reports on file are a wide range of cases where people have vanished from streets, from inside buildings, even from their cars...

alien technology. If there is no definable purpose, then the event may be the result of some still unrecognised natural mechanism that is intermittently active and causing these events.

If the results indicate that a natural mechanism exists which may independently cause a teleportation event, then aliens may well have developed the capacity to make use of it. The bonus then might be clues to the basis of their technology that allows them to travel in a timeless state or inter-dimensionally and to pass through doors and walls like wind through a wire fence.

Even so, if a solid object is reduced to a matter-less state where only the memory of it remains, is it the memory that's teleported? And if only the was the memory of the object is teleported, where does the material matter come from to reconstruct the object?

Part of the answer may already be available in theories being proposed by physicists who now believe matter is composed of 99% nothingness and 1% spinning energy. If only 1% of an object is actually something and the other 99% is a virtual assigned domain for the object's existence, then it may not be impossible that something so tenuous might suddenly be caused to vanish and be transported elsewhere without expending a great amount of energy.

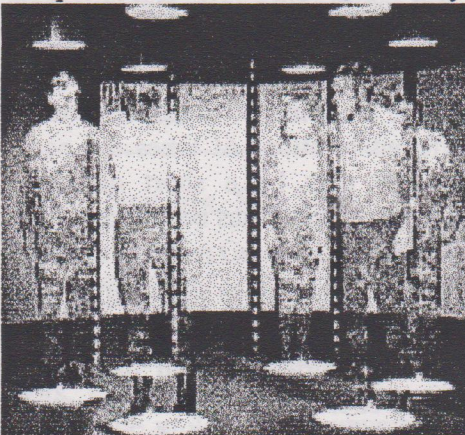
Along with this, clues gleaned from reported teleportations indicate that the targeted object is engulfed in a field whose perimeter includes the object and a portion of the atmosphere surrounding it. Some reports tell of a shimmering effect within which the object is enclosed. Others report a grayish fog settling over the object, or the patch of fog was stationary and the object entered it. When the fog dissipated, the object was gone.

Some victims of these phenomena report being engulfed by a white or

greenish fog that quickly dissipated, stranding them miles from where they had been moments before, leaving them to find their own way back. Still others claim the event began when a brilliant aerial light came towards them, or that they were drawn up in a column of light and found themselves inside an alien spaceship.

But there are also a large number of incidents in which humans and things are mysteriously transported elsewhere and there's never any evidence of any intelligent intent behind the event.

For example: when a rain of stones and pebbles fall from a clear, calm sky



and are said to be hot or at least warm when they land, it hardly seems likely that they were sucked up by an alien craft or a hot wind able to heat and transport large and small stones yet leave sand and other lighter materials behind.

Some witnesses claimed to have seen these falling rocks materialising in the air over the site and falling slowly as if they lacked normal gravity. Others reported seeing the rocks passing through windows, walls and roofs without doing any damage. They say its as if the rocks were not fully materialised until they land. There are also times when a strange rain brings only a specific specie of fish, yet there is no proof that any sort of wind blowing over water possesses such a selectivity.

When we include poltergeist events during which a variety of objects vanish and appear elsewhere in the room or in another part of the house, the temperature of the affected object or the room may rise or fall.

And it doesn't end there. The same force seems active when large or small animals are mysteriously removed from locked and un-tampered wire and steel enclosures and deposited nearby, usually badly injured or dead and mutilated.

If these reports are correct, then since the cages containing the animals showed no signs of tampering and locks are still intact, it would seem the targeted animals may also have been dematerialised and lacked any gravity and could be passed through the solid steel bars or fencing, and are then rematerialized outside the cage.

As simple as that sounds, the questions needing an answer is how could the material matter be stored, even for a few seconds, then be recycled for reconstructing the animal? And would it be possible to get every particle get back in its correct place in such a short period of time?

Whether or not the matter is stored and recycled may not be as important as the need for a non-material record of the complete former state needed to be duplicated during rematerialization. Like a memory, it would have to be an accurate guide for every single particle in the original object.

There may well be something like a 'virtual memory' for every material thing if the proposals put forth by Drs. Burr and Ravitz in the 1950s and Dr. Sheldrake in the 1980s are valid.

Briefly, they proposed non-material, 3-D 'pattern fields' (PFs) existed for all things everywhere throughout the Cosmos. They further proposed that these PFs come into existence before the material object to guide the object into the proper shape and form and

remain available to make all required changes and repairs throughout the existence of that object.

These researchers then went on to propose that these PFs were composed of simple or extremely complex combinations of resonances depending on what the PF represented, whether a single particle of matter, a grain of sand, a stone, crystal, tree or human being. They further proposed that PFs should exist for planets, suns, universes and even an enormous PF for the Cosmos itself.

Burr and Ravitz believed these PFs consisted of energetic resonances while Sheldrake proposed non-energetic morphogenetic resonances. All agreed these PFs were in some way interconnected, that all were intercommunicating and had access to the past, present and future. Sheldrake likened this interconnection to Jung's collective unconscious operating through a morphic resonance for all individual species. In this respect the network acted as a central data bank for storing information for all species. Operating on various levels there would be data storage for individual particles of matter and on up to celestial bodies.

Since these PFs would be non-material, their 3-D pattern of complex resonances could exist as stored information in a virtual living blueprint able to select, guide and control the PFs of all types of particles needed to reconstruct the material form of the object it represented. But even the PFs for the smallest particles used in the construction would be matter-less. All PFs would be the potential for material of a specific type and form, but only when that potential was energised.

If that's the case, then the energy needed to transform these matter-less resonances into what we perceive as solid matter may come from the gigantic PF of the Cosmos itself. Since

it would be the dominant PF of which all other PFs were microscopic components, then it might define and control the location of all of the PFs of galaxies, universes and solar systems and their individual planets and all that these contain.

The individual resonances of this Cosmic Pattern Field (CPF) might all be of a single type and all structured in the form of a gigantic 3-D cubic lattice filling space-time with an ultra-fine gridwork whose resonances occupy the equally spaced intersections and the entire structure interpenetrates everything everywhere.

This would be similar to that proposed by Heisenberg who in the 1930s postulated a cubic lattice of energy points spaced at 1 fermi apart.

...there are also a large number of incidents in which humans and things are mysteriously transported elsewhere and there's never any evidence of any intelligent intent behind the event...

Around the same time, physicists Everett and Wheeler proposed a similar space-filling field connecting every point in space with every other point in space and all were connected in time; past, present and future. Einstein referred to it as the fabric of space-time. Today scientists speak of space-time as being filled with an unlimited supply of zero-point energy

In that case it might be proposed that this CPF's fundamental resonance dominates all of space and during each of its pulsations simultaneously energises the entire space-time lattice, activating the intersection resonances and causing them to interact with the wide variety of other resonances of all PFs everywhere.

This interaction, causing all other resonances to produce a "beat" reso-

nance, may produce the product which gives rise to the 1% spinning energy (mentioned above) which our limited sensory systems perceive as material reality. This interaction product, or 'beat', would come into being simultaneously throughout the whole of space-time and involve all PFs of everything everywhere. In short, the entire material Cosmos would be recreated with each pulsation of the CPF.

During each interaction the resonances of all PFs everywhere would need to remain fixed and unchanging to protect their integrity. Therefore each bit of material reality would be a static bit of time and all change would be limited to the space between each of the CPF's pulsations.

This would mean time would not be continuous but segmented as proposed by Einstein--and the ancient philosophers--who believed the smallest bit of time was unchanged from beginning to end and followed by another static, but slightly different segment, also unchanged from beginning to end. Einstein called these segments "Chronons" and estimated their duration at 10-23 second.

But our perception reality is dynamic not static. This may be because of the extremely rapid flow of these time segments. Like TV and movies, the rapid flow of static frames seems dynamic because each frame is different and our sensory systems cannot detect the intervals between segments. In the realm of the above PFs, we, our reality and the entire Cosmos would not even exist during these no-time intervals.

If our reality was actually structured this way, then causality would be limited to the interval between the CPF pulsations where all change takes place and reality does not exist. Only the individual PFs and the CPF would occupy that dimension and its duration would be beyond our perception

or ability to measure. If we allow that gravity and inertia are also by-products of each interaction, then even they might only exist during the reality segments when the energised CPF resonances are active and attempting to localise and minimise the lattice distortion being created by the presence of the resonances of the PFs of all things.

There's another feature of this model that offers some interesting possibilities. First is that in this vast mechanism an anomaly may exist which can randomly engulf and neutralise a PF and prevent it from interacting and during the next series of time segments. The result could be that the object represented by the PF would fail to materialise and would seem to have vanished. If during this capture period the anomaly transported the PF elsewhere, it might travel at or near the speed of light, since there would be no matter, gravity or inertia involved. Further, regardless of where it was located when the captive PF was freed and resumed interacting, the object it represented would seem to have suddenly materialised out of nowhere and the event would be interpreted as a case of teleportation.

If this model applies to our reality, there would be no need to teleport an object particle by particle. Only the PF of the object would be required since it's resonances, possibly held in a static state, would provide the complete pattern for the object as it existed at the time it's interactions were suspended. Once freed to interact it would again be subject to change between time segments.

A mechanism capable of capable of suspending PFs in this manner would be ideal for launching spacecraft into orbit or for travel to other planets. For world travel it would eliminate the need for aircraft and airports and the lost time caused by weather delays and aircraft breakdowns.

But before we could even begin to think about teleporting an object we would need to know what sort of energy could temporarily suspend the interactions of a PF. Does such an energy actually exist in nature and is the cause of the above purposeless teleportations? If that's the case, where does it come from? Is it a product of some mechanism inside the earth? Has it any relation to antimatter and if so how could it be stored without the container vanishing? It might be an energy that has to be generated at the point of use.

Proposals like those offered by Burr, Ravitz and Sheldrake may only be the tip of the iceberg. Because if humans have non-material PFs that guide and control their material shape, form and even destiny, and through these PFs are endowed with a consciousness and memory as part of the feedback mechanism, then we might ask if the PF for this planet could also be endowed with its own individual consciousness? To take it a step further, if there is a PF for the entire Cosmos, would it also have a consciousness? If so and it is that master PF that contains the PFs of all things, then where did it originate from?

Finally, in the early years we believed the UFOs were space craft piloted by human-like beings who were coming to make us part of the galactic brotherhood. Today the message being given to contactees and abductees is that we have messed up this planet and the ETs are here to set things right even if it means sacrificing a lot of humans in the process.

We could sum this up with: "Whatcha gonna do when they come for you, bad boy?" ☹

The MUFON ONTARIO

Home Page

has moved again, to:

<http://globalserve.net/MUFON/index.html>

TELEPORTATION

The term and concept of "teleportation" first came to the consciousness of the vast majority in the 1960s via the Star Trek television series, however the term was coined and the phenomenon first described nearly a half-century prior by renowned collector of anomalous data, Charles Fort. In his 1931 book, *Lo!*, Fort suggests that "throughout what is loosely called Nature, teleportation exists, as a means of distribution of things and materials, and that sometimes human beings have command...of this force." Fort goes on to explain how the existence of teleportation would conveniently explain such things as (one of his favourite subjects) anomalous falls of fish, stones and the like from the sky (or, when indoors, from the ceiling).

Science is fairly clear in its position that teleportation does not occur, less so on whether or not it could occur. Quantum physics seems to indicate that teleportation is indeed a possibility. History provides some data which seem to suggest that the possibility of teleportation might be more of a probability.

THE XXXX FILES



David Lines & John Abbott

A LITTLE BOOK REVIEW

The XXXX Files (Arrow Books 1996)
by David Lines and John Abbot

For those who like their humour a little on the grey side, this little book of 'alien' cartoons is a must. Englishman David Lines and Toronto born expatriate John Abbott managed to make several of us grin several times. A little gem for a little price. \$6.95.

FROM FOLEY'S LIBRARY.....

By
C.R.FOLEY



'Conjuring Up Philip'
(Fitzhenry & Whiteside
1976) Iris Owen with
Margaret Sparrow

"This is one of the most unusual and
interesting books ever printed."

A.R.G. Owen

'Conjuring Up Philip' examines an amazing phenomenon that may have significant bearing on Ufology. In the early 1970s, members of the *Toronto Society for Psychical Research* and the affiliated *New Horizons Research Foundation* conducted a series of scientific experiments to determine whether 'ghosts' are the spirits of the dead or a form of hallucination that can be collectively seen and experienced by a number of people. They adopted the well-known hypothesis that they are created in the minds of the living who unwittingly, pass on the information to others via telepathy. The recipients then, more or less, experience what they received from the sender.

The group decided to create a fictional male character, complete with a biography that detailed his: physical description, religious beliefs, temperament and his family life. Co-author Margaret Sparrow (aka 'Sue'), who was responsible for the bulk of the story, named the character *Philip*. Members were encouraged to read about the times that *Philip* would have lived in and to develop a complete mental picture of what he would have been like. One member produced a sketch of *Philip* to assist in the overall exercise.

Subsequently, the group experienced a narrow range of psychical effects that primarily included rapping phenomena and psychokinesis ('mind over matter'). The raps re-

sounded from various areas of the room and responded intelligently to questions by rapping out a coded response. On occasion, *Philip* beat time to various melodies. These effects were real and the raps were actually tape-recorded and subjected to an acoustical analysis (*New Horizons* June 1976, Vol.2 #2). Other noises were heard including scratching and pinging sounds, and some electrical disturbances were noted. On another occasion a cool breeze was also produced which felt "as if a fan were blowing." These effects are consistent with those reported in Poltergeist outbreaks and various haunting occurrences.

There were also impressive displays of psychokinesis (PK) which involved various movements of a table including its levitation and even 'paranormal' metal-bending. The ultimate goal of the group, however, was to induce a materialisation of *Phillip*. In other words, they were attempting to create a thought form. On this count, it would appear that they were unsuccessful, although it was reported that some smoke-like forms were detected and photographed (presumably in connection with the *Philip* experiments). Following the publication of the book, Iris Owen also reported on some apparently successful Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP) experiments that the group had engaged in (*New Horizons* June 1977, Vol. 2, pt.3). For further details on EVP refer to my July/August 1996 *Canadian Ufologist* article.

Perhaps the most fascinating display, concerns the groups apparent ability to project the 'entity' to distant locales, and make it's presence known. The authors stated that *Philip* was "... not to be summoned...", ex-

cept by group decision, and that he was forbidden to "...manifest himself to any member except to the group at their request." On at least one occasion, however, there was an unplanned display of PK in a group member's apartment while it was empty. Evidence suggests that no human agency was responsible, but whether it was *Philip* or an example of *psychic contagion*, is not clear (refer to the aforementioned review in *The Canadian Ufologist* July/August 1996).

In retrospect, the group experienced a mild display of *psi* phenomena, consistent with what was often reported in the classical studies of mediumship and 'Poltergeistery' from the nineteenth and twentieth century.

Of interest to the UFO researcher, is the fact that the group apparently created an entity that adopted specific cultural and psychological attributes *as directed*. Further, that this entity was able to manipulate the environment and respond as an *intelligence*, while engaging in repeatable experiments in the presence of various witnesses and recording apparatus.

At this juncture, we must ask ourselves the following question, "If it is possible to create an independent intelligence that is capable of manipulating the environment while masquerading as a dead Englishman, is it

If it is possible to create an independent intelligence that is capable of manipulating the environment while masquerading as a dead Englishman, is it possible to create a similar independent intelligence that can assume the identity of an extraterrestrial?"

possible to create a similar independent intelligence that can assume the identity of an extraterrestrial?" Further, that if the answer to this question is

yes, then how might such an entity interact with those (or the person) who created it? Of further interest is whether the entity's creator would even be aware that such an intelli-

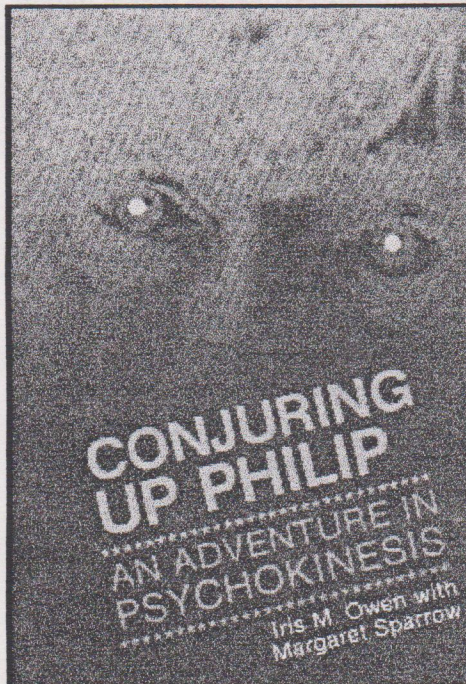
gence was produced by thought, and therefore does not represent a truly independent being. This may prove especially true with respect to close encounter and abduction cases. In other words, are some *aliens* and other related UFO experiences complex psychological events whose origins are strictly paranormal, rather than extraterrestrial?

Some of you may be saying, "Interesting point, but what about some of the physical evidence associated with abduction cases such as unusual scars, scoop marks and burns that are often found on the bodies of abductees?" In response, Ufologists must remember that the origins of these reputed marks have not been established. They are part of the ET Hypotheses (ETH), and are usually associated with the presumed surgical procedures that these beings are conducting on humans. While this theory may ultimately prove to be correct in some cases, science dictates that we first exhaust all natural explanations before contemplating an esoteric source for the marks.

If we presume that such an investigation has been conducted, and that their cause was not determined, there are still problems for the Ufologist. The annals of *Psychical Research* are filled with reports of Poltergeists and ghosts (whatever they ultimately prove to be) that have inflicted physical injury upon human and animal subjects. I have catalogued several hundred occurrences that involved physical assaults, and have also investigated a number of such cases myself.

The literature is also filled with reliable and scientifically investigated cases that involve *stigmata*, a Christian term for unusual markings on the body which corresponds with the wounds of the crucified Christ. While some of these cases may be attributed to autosuggestion, (an interesting and potentially relevant field of study in

itself), this explanation is clearly unsatisfactory for all such accounts. Padre Pio, for example, possessed a wide range of paranormal abilities while a stigmatist. The monk's doctor even reported that blood seemed to coagulate and assume the appearance of nails in the stigmatist's hands. Padre Pio's extreme sanctity appears to have generated (or augmented) his vast paranormal abilities. His experiences are indeed awe inspiring, and occurred within a Christian Spiritual



context. I have often wondered what kind of events Padre Pio may have experienced had he led a secular lifestyle...

Another objection that may be raised is that abductees often report how and where they allegedly received their questionable scars. Such information is usually obtained through regressive hypnosis sessions. While it is beyond the scope of this article to discuss the limitations of this technique, I feel that extreme caution should be exercised as the probative value of such evidence has yet to be determined. I trust that even the casual reader of abduction experiences has noted that they often con-

tain many dreamlike qualities which are difficult to reconcile with, (as in the Andreasson case study for example). Again, the annals of *Psychical Research* can provide many parallels to this situation.

In a small percentage of cases, however, abductees apparently *do* recall the event (or certain elements) without resorting to hypnosis. Again, there is much evidence to support the belief that many paranormal experiences are actually not *real* in the generally accepted sense, but appear to represent a complex and hitherto unexplained form of hallucination that can be collectively shared by a number of witnesses. In retrospect, these people often swear that the apparition *they* observed was dressed in a particular way or they perceived some minute detail that *normally* would have been undetected, for example. The observers may not have even been aware that what they saw was remarkable until they compared their account with other witnesses (who may have perceived the event differently). Even though both parties had initially believed that the occurrence was genuine, was it *real*? Perhaps a more appropriate question is, *What is reality?*

'Spacemen' and apparitions are almost always 'clothed' when observed, and often display an array of 'accessories' or 'props' to augment their presence. In some haunting occurrences, an entire scene may be 'fabricated' as part of the vision with startling reality. As previously noted, so convincing are such cases of retro cognition, and other apparitional displays, that the subject is often unaware that they witnessed or partook in a paranormal event.

If we are willing to accept the premise that 'ghosts' exist as based on reliable observations of them, then we must also be prepared to accept the existence of ghostly clothes and

scenery for example. Of course this sounds preposterous because ghosts are usually associated with the souls of the departed, and inanimate objects are not supposed to have a 'soul.' Unfortunately for the Ufologist, the appearance of inanimate objects as observed or detected in a wide variety of paranormal occurrences is most common. Therefore, is it possible that what abductees have reported as '*real*' is actually a manifestation akin to the complex process that almost certainly is responsible for the production of some paranormal phenomena? In other words, could the accessories of the aliens and their crafts be similarly manufactured psychological artefacts?

Those involved in close encounters and abductions often experience a wide range of *psi* phenomena. Research has not established whether "psychic" people are prone to fantastic UFO related experiences, or whether they develop these abilities as a result of such stimuli. In **contrast**, I suggest that should the *reality* of the abduction experience be established, the intelligence responsible may have interests that exceed those pertaining to our physical anatomy. I contend that *they* would probably have an interest in mankind's *psychic abilities*. This is a reasonable assumption as *they* have already demonstrated proficiency in utilising the psychic realm as outlined (in part) above. Indeed, in regard to the intelligence behind the UFO mystery, the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek was quoted as saying, "...*they know something about the physical world that we don't, and they also know something about the psychic world that we don't-and they're using it all.*"

When abductees report that they are floated from their beds and transported through walls, they are actually describing the phenomena of levitation and that of matter passing through matter. When abductees report that they communicated with their captors by

thought they are actually describing the phenomenon of telepathy. When abductees have been imparted with knowledge of specific future events that prove true, they have experienced precognition.

Ironically, I am not saying that all abduction reports have no basis in reality. If abduction cases (as caused by real aliens) are also comprised of psychic components such as those noted above, then perhaps that would explain the dreamlike qualities that proliferate abduction reports. In other words, abductees may be unable to reconcile these occurrences with reality as they have no basis in which to draw comparisons to (except dreams). While it may sound as if I am attempting to "*have my cake and eat it too,*" so to speak, I am merely attempting to analyse a confounding array of data. In so doing, I must draw attention to certain facts while making note of some of the repeating occurrences that are common to many UFO and psychic occurrences. This is where the evidence trail leads us; therefore we are compelled to follow, despite what prejudices we may secretly harbour. In other words, I'm not building a case to link *psi* phenomena with the UFO experience because of personal preference. *Psi* phenomena and the UFO experience *are* linked because the evidence is there to establish this fact. At present, the underlying causative factors behind these anomalies, however, remain unknown.

While space does not permit me to elaborate, I urge all ufologists to examine such literature due to the many psychic components that are undeniably part of the UFO experience. The perplexing blends of objective and subjective elements as found in both UFO reports and Psychological Research case studies, is perhaps the most frustrating yet fascinating aspect of these subject matters. ■

THE TOP TEN REASONS SCIENTISTS DON'T STUDY UFOs

- 10 Can't afford MUFON Field Investigator's Manual.
- 9 Have to ask embarrassing questions like "Did the little gray gentleman have any genitalia?"
- 8 Teenage girls no longer impressed by flying saucer stories.
- 7 Black helicopters follow you everywhere you go.
- 6 Have to spend your family vacation in Roswell, New Mexico, every year.
- 5 Can't trust your friends, family or government.
- 4 Aliens constantly wake you in the middle of the night, asking for sperm samples.
- 3 Philip Klass threatens to cut off your laboratory's funding if you do.
- 2 Men in Black call you on the phone, demanding to know "What's the frequency, Kenneth?"

And the Number One reason why scientists don't study UFOs:

"Sagan said so!"

— Dennis Stacy

The 1996

CANADIAN UFO SURVEY:

AN ANALYSIS OF UFO REPORTS IN CANADA

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THE 1996 CANADIAN UFO SURVEY

OVERVIEW

Since 1989, UFOROM has solicited UFO case data from all known and active investigators and researchers in Canada for analyses and comparison with other compilations. Individual researchers normally maintain their own files with little or no communication with others. In fact, representatives of major UFO organisations often do not regularly submit case data, and the parent organisations themselves tend not to do much analyses with the data they *do* receive, although this is slowly changing.

It always has been felt that the dissemination of such data is of great advantage to researchers, although the collection and organisation of the data is not yet standardised. However, in 1996, UFO data researchers began discussing database development on the Internet through several LISTSERVs, and it appears that some standards may be in place within a few years.

Allan Hendry, in his landmark book *The UFO Handbook* (Doubleday, 1979), pointed out flaws in such studies and asked:

"... do UFO statistics represent valid pursuit for more knowledge about this elusive phenomenon, or do they merely reflect frustration that none of the individual reports are capable of standing on their own two feet?" (1979, p. 269)

Hendry offered six questions to ask of statistical ufology:

- 1 Does the report collection reflect truly random sampling?
- 2 Have the individual cases been adequately validated?
- 3 Are apples and oranges being compared? Are NLs necessarily the same kind of UFOs DDs?
- 4 Are differing details among cases obscured through simplification for the purpose of comparisons?
- 5 Does the study imply the question: Surely this mass of data proves UFOs exist?
- 6 Do the correlations really show causality?

The Canadian UFO Survey was undertaken with these and other critical comments in mind. Hendry's questions will be addressed later in this report. Readers are left to judge for themselves the value of these statistical analyses.

THE COLLECTION OF CANADIAN UFO DATA

It is recognised that UFO clubs and groups tend to be rather transient. This is because many members join and leave with the waxing and waning of popular interest in the subject. Furthermore, UFO buffs tend to be loners, and group dynamics within UFO groups often lead to major rifts or splits within the ranks. Something as simple as a difference of opinion regarding the 'reality' of a particular UFO sighting can lead to significant disagreements.

These and other factors tend to make the annual collection of UFO data problematic. For example, in the 1990s, MUFON Canada experienced some rather divisive problems which resulted in the creation and dissolution of parallel, breakaway or shadow UFO groups. Maintaining contact with all the various factions is sometimes a careful exercise in diplomacy. Even then, it is difficult to estimate how many good researchers and good sets of UFO case data have been lost in the shuffling of membership.

An added problem is the rapid increase in the number of individuals collecting UFO cases through the Internet. Every few days, it seems another Website is announced, heralding yet another location for witnesses to report and record their sightings from around the world. Tracking down all UFO cases from a given geographical region is therefore very time-consuming.

Further, although it would appear that there are many very active ufologists and ufology groups in Canada, some exist, it seems, only to garner media attention and massage delicate egos, without actually doing any research or in-depth investigation of cases. This is certainly a product of the non-professional nature of the UFO field, where post office clerks and truck drivers can claim expertise as well as astronomers and psychologists. This may be frustrating to serious researchers, but must be accepted as an artefact of the

subject area.

Some researchers do not maintain useable case files and do not retain quantitative criteria in their investigations (for example, contactee groups). Further, it is now known that only a small fraction of "active" ufologists and self-proclaimed "researchers" actually investigate cases and maintain useable records.

Many individuals, associations, clubs and groups claim to investigate UFO reports or otherwise solicit reports from the general public. However, very few of them actually participate in any kind of information sharing or data gathering for scientific programs. Many are only interest groups, perhaps based in museums, planetariums, church basements or members' homes, and do virtually *nothing* with the case reports they receive. Indeed, because there is no way to enforce standards in UFO report investigations, the quality of case investigations varies considerably.

Further complicating this problem was the cessation of the collection of UFO reports by the National Research Council of Canada (NRC). The NRC routinely received UFO reports from private citizens and from RCMP, civic police and military personnel. Included among the NRC reports were many observations of meteors and fireballs, and these had been added into the UFO report database since 1989. However, in 1995, due to budget restraint and the lack of continuing research in meteoritics at the NRC as a result of retirements, deaths and other staff changes, the NRC announced it would no longer be accepting UFO reports as a matter of course. In addition, RCMP reports of UFOs and fireballs to the NRC summarily ceased.

This has resulted in an increase in Access to Information (AI) requests filed by ufologists with various government and military agencies in Canada. These have yielded some UFO cases, but the process is very time-consuming, costly and may not uncover all the cases needed for study.

As an unfortunate consequence of all these factors, what has been adopted for this present study is a requirement for an "official" status regarding UFO reports. If

UFO sightings are reported to groups or individuals who do not share their case data with serious researchers, those sightings are effectively *lost* to scientific analyses. The reports may accumulate in impressive numbers claimed by some organisations, but without the data being available for study, they are of no value whatsoever.

Therefore, for the purposes of this and other scientific studies of UFO data, only those UFO sightings which have been made to contributing and participating groups, associations, organisations or individuals can be given any kind of official status. Cases reported to any other group, association, club or individual cannot be considered *officially* reported.

These factors made collection of Canadian UFO data rather challenging. Certainly, because of the changes in the way in which reports have been received, the results of the 1996 survey cannot be compared easily with earlier annual analyses. However, it will be shown that the data obtained for the present analysis yields similar results to previous studies and is still useful in understanding the nature of UFO reports in Canada, and can shed light on the nature of UFO reports elsewhere in the world.

UFO REPORTS IN CANADA

For this study, the working definition of a UFO is *an object seen in the sky which its observer cannot identify*.

In 1989, 141 UFO reports were obtained for analysis. In 1990, 194 reports were recorded. In 1991, 165 reports were received and in 1992, 223 cases were examined. In 1993, 489 reports were obtained. There were 189 reports received in 1994 and 183 in 1995. In 1996, however, there was a large increase in reports; 258 cases were obtained for study.

Although some researchers have suggested that the numbers of UFO cases have declined around the world in recent years, this does not appear to be the case in Canada. Numbers have risen and decreased from year to year, but if anything, there appears to be a slight overall increase in the numbers of sightings reported. Admittedly, the yearly figures are greatly dependent on many factors, including the co-operation of contributors to

the survey. The all-time high count in 1993 was almost entirely due to a single major fireball event which was reported by hundreds of independent observers across the country.

There are several reasons for including IFOs such as fireballs and bolides in the UFO report database. First, previous studies of UFO data have included meteor and fireball reports. In many instances, observers fail to recognise stars, aircraft and bolides, and therefore report them as UFOs. That is why some UFO investigators often spend many hours sorting IFOs from UFOs. Historically, analyses of UFO data such as American projects Grudge, Sign and Blue Book all included raw UFO data which later resolved into categories of UFOs and IFOs. Another reason is that observed objects are sometimes quickly assigned a particular IFO explanation even though later investigation suggests such an explanation was unwarranted.

With the exception of 1993, the number of Canadian UFO reports appeared to remain constant at an average of about 190 cases per year, if we discard the 1993 figure as an aberration. If we include the 1993 data, the Canadian average is about 230 cases per year.

The most interesting implication of this event was that the UFO reports from 1993

Year	Number of cases	Cumulative total
1989	141	141
1990	194	335
1991	165	500
1992	223	723
1993	489	1212
1994	189	1401
1995	183	1584
1996	258	1842

FIELD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
EXPLA- NATION	Year	Month	Day of Month	Local Time	Loca- tion	Provinc e	Type of report	Dura- tion (secs.)	Colour of ob- ject(s)	# of Wit- nesses	Shape of ob- ject	Strange ness of Report	Reliabil- ity of Report	Source of Re- port	Evalu- ation of Report	Comments noted about case
DATA	994	01	09	1530	Vernon	BC	dd	900	Silver	2	ps	6	5	MUFON	p	4 objects

actually reflected a *real* event that had occurred. This lends some credence to the belief that when a UFO is reported, a real object has been seen and was not just a fantasy of a witness' imagination. Therefore, it can be said that UFO reports usually imply actual observations of something out of the ordinary.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE FOURTH KIND

Each year, a few Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind (CE4) are included in the UFO data. CE4s are the sensational "alien abduction" cases which currently receive wide attention in the media. Some researchers have speculated that thousands of such abductions occur each year, based on various surveys and the number of witnesses ('abductees') coming forward. Since abductions are often reported long after the fact, exact times and dates are meaningless as UFO data. Similarly, since witnesses' memories often are clouded or obscured, other data such as colour, duration and even location may be impossible to ascertain.

Some skeptics suggest that abductions may be a psychological rather than a 'real' phenomenon. For these reasons, CE4s do not seem appropriate for inclusion in UFO databases. And, if they really are true close encounters, their complexity decrees that their inclusion in a raw data listing might be inappropriate as well. The few that were included were accepted only because they were reported to an official reporting body. It is likely that annual surveys eventually will not include CE4s as data.

Method

Data for each case was received by *UFOROM* from participating researchers across Canada. The information then was coded by members of *UFOROM* and entered into a *Microsoft Access* database and

then exported into a *Microsoft Excel* file format where it was statistically analysed.

(An example of the coding key is shown at the top of this page)

ANALYSES OF THE DATA

DISTRIBUTION OF UFO REPORTS ACROSS CANADA

In previous analyses, British Columbia garnered between 30% and 40% of the total number of cases per year. In 1994-95, the percentage dropped to 24% and in 1996 this dropped to 16.67%. Ontario and Quebec together constitute more than 60% of Canada's population, but had only 38% of the total number of UFO reports in 1994-95. In 1996, they had about 42%

**TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION OF UFO REPORTS BY PROVINCE**

	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	PQ	NB	PEI	NS	NF	YK	NWT
1989	15	16	18	22	34	28	1	-	3	3	-	1
1990	76	9	10	20	21	36	7	3	5	4	1	2
1991	59	22	7	6	30	16	9	1	7	4	1	-
1992	90	8	9	23	56	10	9	-	3	4	3	1
1993	157	56	93	74	51	32	3	1	3	7	-	5
1994	14	39	8	10	51	34	6	-	9	6	3	3
1995	45	10	11	48	41	20	-	-	1	1	-	4
1996	43	10	11	39	63	45	1	-	9	1	-	35

of the total cases.

If we consider that UFOs are a function of population, then the percentages of UFO reports per province works out, except for an over-representation of cases in British Columbia, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, and under-representation in New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Some of these distribution effects are certainly due to the active solicitation of UFO reports from the public by regional investigators and groups. Other anomalies, particularly the large increase in cases in the Northwest Territories, are due to regional UFO flaps.

Monthly Trends in UFO Reports

The monthly breakdowns of reports during each year show slightly different patterns from those of previous years. In 1989, there was a significant increase in UFO reports in the late fall, with other months maintaining what appeared to be a fairly constant "normal" level of reports. 1990 saw two major increases in report numbers in two months: April and August. The "normal" level of monthly report numbers appeared to be constant in other months, with minor fluctuations. In 1991, reports peaked in August, but there was no single obvious trough.

The 1992 breakdown again showed no clear peaks in monthly report numbers. This is most curious, because UFO reports often are said to peak in summer and trough in winter, presumably due to the more pleasant observing conditions during the summer months, when more witnesses are outside. In 1993, the opposite of what is usually imagined was true: there were peaks in winter, and troughs in summer. The October 1993 peak is easily explained as due to the fireball. Even taking this into account, there were more cases in fall that year than in summer, and more in winter than spring and early fall. In

1994, there was a noticeable increase in UFO reports in the late spring and early summer, whereas in 1995, the peak months were in the late summer and early fall.

In 1996, there were three separate peak months for UFO sightings in Canada: January, July/August and November. The January peak was almost entirely due to the flap in the Northwest Territories.

We can observe that there appears to be no *definite* monthly trend in UFO reports across Canada. However, there does appear to be some regional

fluctuation in report numbers. When selected provinces are examined, it can be seen that the general monthly distribution contains many localised fluctuations. These fluctuations (flaps) reflect local increases in UFO sightings as opposed to national or global increases, called waves. The distribution of UFO reports in BC showed a very significant peak in September 1995, whereas UFOs were generally more common in Alberta in 1994 and almost non-existent in 1995. Ontario and Quebec, on the other hand, shared two clear peaks in June 1994 and July/August 1995. And, in 1996, October and November had unusually high report numbers.

In a historical analysis of 480 Manitoba UFO cases in *UFOROM's MANUFOCAT*, a distinct June peak and December trough was found. Analyses of 13,000 cases in *Project Blue Book* found a similar June peak and December trough, though Hendry suggested that this was a statistical artefact. It is felt that further studies are needed to fully understand the monthly distribution of UFO data.

UFO Report Types

An analysis by report type shows a similar breakdown to that found in previous years. The percentage of cases of a particular type remains roughly constant from year to year, with minor variations. **Nocturnal Lights (NLs)**, for example, comprised 60% of all reports in 1989, 73% in 1990, 67% in 1991, 61% in 1992, a high of 76% in 1993, 63% in 1994-95 and 67% in 1996. The average of these is 67%, which agrees well with the meta-analysis conducted by Hendry (1979), which found that NLs comprised 70% of the cases studied. But, because he was using the original standard Hynek classification system, he

TABLE 2
MONTHLY REPORT NUMBERS

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1989	13	9	6	9	5	9	5	5	12	32	27	9
1990	17	7	6	47	10	10	9	47	15	16	10	-
1991	13	7	17	12	7	12	16	25	16	12	11	17
1992	15	16	27	16	22	16	23	19	11	16	21	21
1993	59	15	20	22	14	38	27	49	41	152	24	21
1994	16	12	15	21	15	37	19	8	15	10	7	13
1995	14	12	13	9	9	10	28	33	28	11	11	5
1996	37	18	20	16	8	20	30	32	10	22	30	11

did not have the present category of Nocturnal Discs (NDs). These were probably distributed between NLs and DDs in his study.

In 1996, out of 255 cases coded, nocturnal discs comprised 67% of the total. That is, one in three UFOs were objects seen at night and thought to have discernible shapes. NL and ND cases comprised 82.35% of all 1996 UFO reports. That is, the vast majority of cases occur at night. Only 5.88% of all cases were close encounters.

For those unfamiliar with the classifications, a summary follows:

NL (Nocturnal Light) - light source in night sky

ND (Nocturnal Disc) - light source in night sky that appears to have a definite shape

TABLE 3
Report Types (Modified Hynek Classifications)

	NL	ND	DD	C1	C2	C3	C4	EV	RD	PH
1989	84	20	16	0	7	-	2	2	-	-
1990	141	24	15	2	1	-	4	3	-	-
1991	110	26	13	7	4	1	2	-	1	1
1992	136	44	20	15	5	2	3	-	-	1
1993	372	77	26	8	2	1	1	1	-	-
1994/5	234	78	28	21	1	1	5	1	-	-
1996	170	40	27	8	3	4	1	2	-	-

DD (Daylight Disc) - unknown object observed during daytime hours

C1 (Close Encounter of the First Kind) - ND or DD occurring within 200 metres of a witness

C2 (Close Encounter of the Second Kind) - C1 where physical effects left or noted

C3 (Close Encounter of the Third Kind) - C1 where figures/entities are encountered

C4 (Close Encounter of the Fourth Kind) - an alleged 'abduction' or 'contact' experience

EV (Evidence) - a case where physical traces left by an event are the primary claim

RD (Radar) - UFOs observed on radar

PH (Photograph) - photographs of a UFO, but no actual sighting

The category of Nocturnal Disc was created by *UFOROM* for differentiation within its own report files. Similarly, Evidence is also an *ad hoc* creation, and may not be applicable by other researchers. Normally, Evidence would include such physical traces as 'crop circles', 'landing rings' and 'saucer nests'. However, in 1990, there was a great increase in the numbers of such traces discovered in North America, and it was decided by *UFOROM* to treat these as separate from UFO reports in these annual surveys, except where reported to an official investigating body such as the *NRC*. For this reason, two *EV* cases classified as 'CC' were added as data in the 1996 analysis.

HOURLY DISTRIBUTION

The hourly distribution of cases has usually followed a similar pattern each year, with a peak at 2200 hours local and a trough around 1000 hours local. Most sightings occur between 9:00 p.m. and midnight. Since most UFOs are nocturnal

lights, this is not unexpected. The number of possible observers drops off sharply near midnight, and we would expect that the hourly rate of UFO reports would vary with two factors: potential observers and darkness.

However, in 1996, this smooth, bell-shaped curve was not as strongly evident. There was a general trough centred around 12 noon and a three peaks at 6:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. There is a smaller peak at about 2:00 a.m. This uneven pattern is quite unusual, although it can be smoothed to show a general peak at 11 p.m. and a trough at about 9 a.m. It is not known why the hourly distribution was so irregular this year.

While the majority of UFO sightings are nocturnal, many are daylight observations. Many, too, are detailed and well-recorded observations of objects at night that do not automatically seem to be dismissable purely on the grounds they were observed at night under poor observing conditions.

DURATION

The category of Duration is interesting in that it represents the *subjective* length of time the UFO experience lasted. Naturally, these times are greatly suspect because it is known that people tend to misjudge the flow of time. However, some people *can* be good at estimating time, so this value has some meaning. Although an estimate of 'one hour' may be in error by several minutes, it is unlikely that the correct value would be, for example, one *minute* (disregarding the claims of "missing time" during the abduction category of experiences). Furthermore, there have been cases when a UFO was observed and clocked accurately, so that we can be reasonably certain that UFO events can last considerable periods of time.

The average duration of a sighting can be calculated as the summation of all given durations divided by the number of cases with a stated duration. The resulting value for 1991 was about 12 minutes, down from 19 minutes in 1990. In 1992

and 1993, the average duration was again about 12 minutes. In 1994-95, the value was down considerably to approximately seven minutes. But in 1996, the average length of time witnesses observed a UFO was up to a remarkable 26 minutes! This is very long time for a witness to be observing an unusual object in the sky.

In 1996, 30 cases (23%) of all sightings were briefer than 30 seconds, and 48 cases (37%) were of two minutes or less. But 36 cases (28%) were longer than half

TABLE 4
EVALUATION OF CANADIAN UFO DATA

	EXPLAINED		INSUF. INFO.		POSS. EXPLAN.		UNEXPLAINED	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
1989	0	0	74	52.5	47	33.3	20	14.2
1990	0	0	90	46.4	78	40.2	26	13.4
1991	2	1.2	80	48.5	69	41.8	14	8.5
1992	17	8	83	37	74	33	49	22
1993	154	31.5	170	34.8	115	23.5	50	10.2
1994/5	71	19.1	124	33.3	131	35.2	46	12.4
1996	24	9.3	105	40.7	87	33.7	42	16.3
Total	268	14.5	726	39.4	601	32.6	247	13.4

an hour in duration.

Previous analyses have shown that long-duration sightings tend to occur in the early morning hours, from about midnight until 6:00 a.m. It is probable that the majority of observations at this time are those of astronomical objects, moving slowly with the rotation of the Earth.

It should be noted that Duration data by itself is not wholly useful in analysing UFO behaviour. Hendry describes Duration data this way:

Duration is a powerful feature of identity when it refers to extremely short and long events, but is otherwise mostly a reflection of the witness's behaviour during the event, coupled with the fluctuating behaviour of the objects watched. (1979, p. 249)

Extremely short duration events are usually fireballs or bolides, while very long duration events of an hour or more

are very probably astronomical objects. In between, there can be no way to distinguish conventional objects from UFOs solely with Duration data. (Hendry also cites a Canadian study by an Ontario UFO group which timed aircraft observations and found that the duration of such sightings varied between 15 seconds to more than 8 minutes.) There seems not to be a clear relationship between the number of reports and the Duration of UFO sightings.

COLOUR

In cases where a colour of an object was reported in 1996, the most common colour was white (27%), followed by 'multicoloured' (22%) and then blue (12.4%). Since most UFOs are nocturnal star-like objects, the abundance of white objects is not surprising. Other colours such as red, blue and green often are associated with bolides (fireballs). It should not be surprising that daylight discs are most commonly described as black or silver.

The 'multicoloured' designation is problematic in that it literally covers a wide range of possibilities. Some studies of UFO data have adjusted the category of colour to include both 'primary' and 'secondary' colours in cases where the observed UFO had more than one colour.

The multi-coloured label has been used, for example, when witnesses described their UFOs as having white, red and green lights. For the present study, the Colour classification refers only to the primary colour in the witness' description.

WITNESSES

The average number of witnesses per case went down from a value of 2.12/case in 1989 to 1.40/case in 1990, then up again to 1.91/case in 1991. In 1992, this value was up slightly to 2.36/case. The average number of witnesses in 1993 was 2.07/case and for 1994-95 the value was 1.98/case.

In 1996, the average number of wit-

nesses varies between a high of 3.125 and a low of 1.7 witnesses per case. The variance is due to the difference in interpreting a coded value of 'many' witness, which in the database is indicated by a value of 20. The real number of witnesses in some cases has been as high as 100, and this would skew the values greatly. If we interpret the '20' coding as being approximately 10, the 18 cases with this value combine to yield an overall case average of 2.4 witnesses per case. If we look only at those cases with between one and five witnesses per case (which comprise more than 90% of the total cases), the average value resolves to 1.70 witnesses/case.

The eight-year average is 1.87 witnesses per case, using the highest figure of 1996 data. This indicates that a typical UFO experience has more than one witness, and supports the contention that UFO sightings represent observations of physical phenomena since there is usually a corroborator present to support the sighting.

In 1996, 115 cases had only one witness. All the others had more than one. In fact, 18 cases had more than 10 witnesses, and 53.4% of all cases have more than one witness.

SHAPE

Although witnesses' descriptions of the shapes of UFOs varied greatly, the overwhelming majority of cases (43%) are of 'point sources' - that is, star-like objects. The next most common shape is a triangular, or 'delta-shaped' object (12%) followed by discs (9%), ovals (7%) and 'round' (6%).

STRANGENESS

The assigning of a **Strangeness** rating to a UFO report is based on a classification adopted by some researchers who note that the inclusion of a subjective evaluation of the degree to which a particular case is in itself unusual might yield some insight into the data. For example, the observation of a single, stationary, star-like light in the sky, seen for several hours, is not particularly unusual and might likely have a prosaic explanation such as that of a star or planet. On the other hand, a detailed observation of a saucer-shaped object which glides slowly

away from a witness after an encounter with grey-skinned aliens would be considered highly strange.

The numbers of UFO reports according to strangeness rating show an inverse relationship such that the higher the strangeness rating, the fewer reports. The one exception to this relationship occurs in the case of very low strangeness cases, which are relatively few in number compared to those of moderate strangeness. It is suggested this is the case because in order for an observation to be considered a UFO, it must usually rise above an *ad hoc* level of strangeness, otherwise it would not be considered strange at all.

The average strangeness rating for UFOs during 1996 was 4.4, where 1 is considered not strange at all and 9 is considered exceptionally unusual. This would seem to suggest that most UFOs reported are of objects which do not greatly stretch the imagination. Hollywood-inspired flying saucers are, in reality, relatively uncommon in UFO reports.

RELIABILITY

The average **Reliability** rating of reports in 1996 was 4.73, indicating that there were slightly more of lower than higher quality, although the typical report is of medium reliability. Low reliability was assigned to reports with minimal information on the witness, little or no investigation and incomplete description of the object(s) observed. Higher reliability cases might include actual interviews with witnesses, a detailed case investigation, multiple witnesses and other supporting evidence.

The **Reliability** and **Strangeness** ratings varied together in classic bell-shaped curves. In other words, there very few cases which were both highly unusual and well-reported. Most cases were of medium strangeness and medium reliability. However, there were also very few low-strangeness cases with low reliability. Low-strangeness cases, therefore, tended to be well-reported and probably had explanations.

CONCLUSIONS/EVALUATIONS

The breakdown by **Evaluation** for 1996 cases was similar to results from previous years. There were four operative cate-

gories: **Explained**, **Insufficient Information**, **Possible or Probable Explanation**, and **Unknown (or Unexplained)**. Readers are cautioned that a classification of **Unknown** does *not* imply that an alien spacecraft or mysterious natural phenomenon was observed; no such interpretation can be made with certainty, based on the given data (though the probability of this scenario is admittedly never zero).

In most cases, evaluations are made subjectively by both the contributing investigators and the compiler of this report. The category of **Unknown** is adopted if the contributed data or case report contains enough information such that a conventional explanation cannot be satisfactorily proposed. This does *not* mean that the case will never be explained, but only that a viable explanation is not immediately obvious.

The average proportion of **Unknowns** since 1989 has been about 13%, a high figure, considering that this would imply that more than one in ten UFOs cannot be explained. However, there are several factors which affect this value. The level and quality of UFO report investigation varies because there are no explicit standards for ufologists. Some "believers" might be biased to consider most UFO sightings as mysterious, whereas those with more of a sceptical predisposition might tend to subconsciously (or consciously) reduce the **Unknowns** in their files.

As can be seen, during the first few years of these studies, an evaluation of **Explained** was almost non-existent. This likely is because contributors at first tended to ignore UFO sightings that had a simple explanation and deleted them as actual *UFO* data. However, because many IFO cases such as fireballs and meteors are initially reported as UFOs, the **Explained** category is necessary for a full review of UFO data. Early American studies of UFO data included such cases, so present-day comparative studies should include such data as well. Furthermore, since there are no absolutes, the subjective nature of assigning **Evaluations** is actually an interpretation of the facts by individual researchers.

[To be continued in the next issue]

(Continued from page 2)

least as far as accuracy goes.

A few other questions for those who think the material was so extraordinary. If it was so strong, durable and other-worldly, then how come it got blown completely to smithereens -- enough to cover a debris field 200 yards wide -- and in such small pieces? Doesn't sound like ET titanium to me.

Why is the debris so basic and 'simple'? I know it doesn't pay to outthink ET engineers, but one would logically expect a vast array of all different kinds of debris from a crashed, technologically advanced space craft -- everything from knobs and cushions, to seating material and bath room fixtures, not to mention power plant parts, et cetera.

Which brings me to my last point. If the Brazel debris wasn't from a Mogul balloon array, then by what cosmic coincidence would it resemble a balloon 'crash' at all? Apart from the miraculous properties (super-strong, etc.) attributed to the material, it still 'sounds' (or looks) much like what made up a Mogul -- sticks, tape with pastel designs, lightweight foil and neoprene, or whatever the hell it was balloons were made of in those days.

How could Marcel Sr. make such a mistake? Who knows? By the same token, who told Blanchard about a relatively intact flying disc towed into a rancher's barn in the first place? Or did Blanchard just make it up on his own? We now know that piece of 'evidence,' 'intelligence' or whatever you want to call it was totally and utterly wrong to begin with. (How much of a flying disc would it be, anyway, if Brazel could tow it across rugged country with an old flathead-six Ford pickup -- or better yet, on the back of a horse? Besides, Brazel didn't have a garage or barn at the site.) Why did Marcel then think he had found a flying disc not made on this planet? Only he can tell us that, but he's no longer alive. He had no way of *knowing* that the debris wasn't from some super-secret terrestrial technology, ours or the Soviets, nor did he have a way of intuiting that all the tiny pieces, when put back together, would form a disc shape. They could just as easily have formed a triangle or flying wing shape. Clearly, Marcel was extrapolating from

the start.

And I don't mean that as a character slur, but as a simple statement of fact. The Arnold case was less than two weeks old, 'flying saucers' were in the air (and news), and so was a \$3000 reward. Under similar circumstances, any one of us might have jumped to similar conclusions.

The same also applies to Marcel Jr. Try imagining yourself as an 11-year-old boy just roused out of bed by your father who wants you to look at pieces of a flying saucer from another world. You'd be excited, too.

Just as interesting as what Marcel did say is what he *didn't* say, and here supporters can't have it both ways. Nothing is said of a second crash site or recovered alien bodies. Yet it's inconceivable that Marcel, sent out to recover the 'first' saucer, wouldn't have been involved in any additional recoveries as well. Given his record and who he was, you can't just write him out of the loop that conveniently. In short, had there been a second crash site and bodies (and autopsies), Marcel would have known about it. If he already 'knew' a flying saucer had been recovered, there would have been no earthly reason to boot him out of the loop now. In fact, had such evidence been obtained, it's likely that Marcel would have been on his way with it to Wright-Pat instead of Ft. Worth.

It's also likely that *if* a UFO and alien bodies *had* been recovered, that Blanchard would have been severely punished for prematurely announcing same without first acquiring approval and permission. You can be damn sure that if it had happened like that, that orders would have gone out to every base commander in the country as to what procedures to take when the *next* crashed UFO was recovered. Similarly, you would have expected every base in the country and around the world to have been put on a high state of alert in anticipation of the next saucer 'recovery' -- or even eventual attack. In other words, flying saucers would have been a known *reality* at that point -- and this country's first military priority, even more so than the Soviet Union. But we also know for a fact that this didn't happen. Sorry, folks, but no

way that kind of immense paper trail could have been covered up. Fact of the matter is we would probably have approached the Soviets, at least by diplomatic feelers, at that point and said something to the effect that, Look, I know we just whipped Hitler, but this could be worse. After all, if a saucer could accidentally crash here, what logical reason would we have for thinking that they wouldn't crash in Russia just as easily.

This is one reason why Vallee and others say the Air Force couldn't cover up the UFO phenomenon even if they had a rationale for doing so. A UFO crashing in the suburbs of Paris, for example, would make just as much news as the crash of a 747 outside Orly Airport. And Roswell, if nothing else, 'implies' that saucers are as failure-prone as our own aircraft. In 50 years' time, then, if UFOs were as numerous as everyone seems to think they are, there would have been at least one unequivocal crash in the world somewhere that the US Air Force would have been incapable of sweeping under the privacy rug, no matter how big a broom they wield.

- SA Sasquatch - Dennis Stacy

Which reminds me that I feel one of those compelling self-promotional moments coming over on. My own UFO book, "UFO 1947-1997: Fifty Years of Flying Saucers," co-edited with Hilary Evans, has just been published in England by John Brown Publishing, Ltd., who do Fortean Times. I'll bore you with more details soon -- when my CIA handler tells me what to say. 🐾

MUFON ONTARIO'S
JUNE 25 GENERAL MEETING
 7:30pm 145 St. Clair Ave. W. Toronto
'UFOs & ALIENS:
A SKEPTIC'S PERSPECTIVE'
Dr Michael De Robertis
Professor of Physics & Astronomy, York University, the Executive of the Ontario Skeptics
 "The Ontario Skeptics are a group which encourages science education and critical thinking, particularly applied to paranormal phenomena."