

UFO ENCOUNTERS

Worldwide coverage of the UFO phenomenon

\$2.50 October 1992

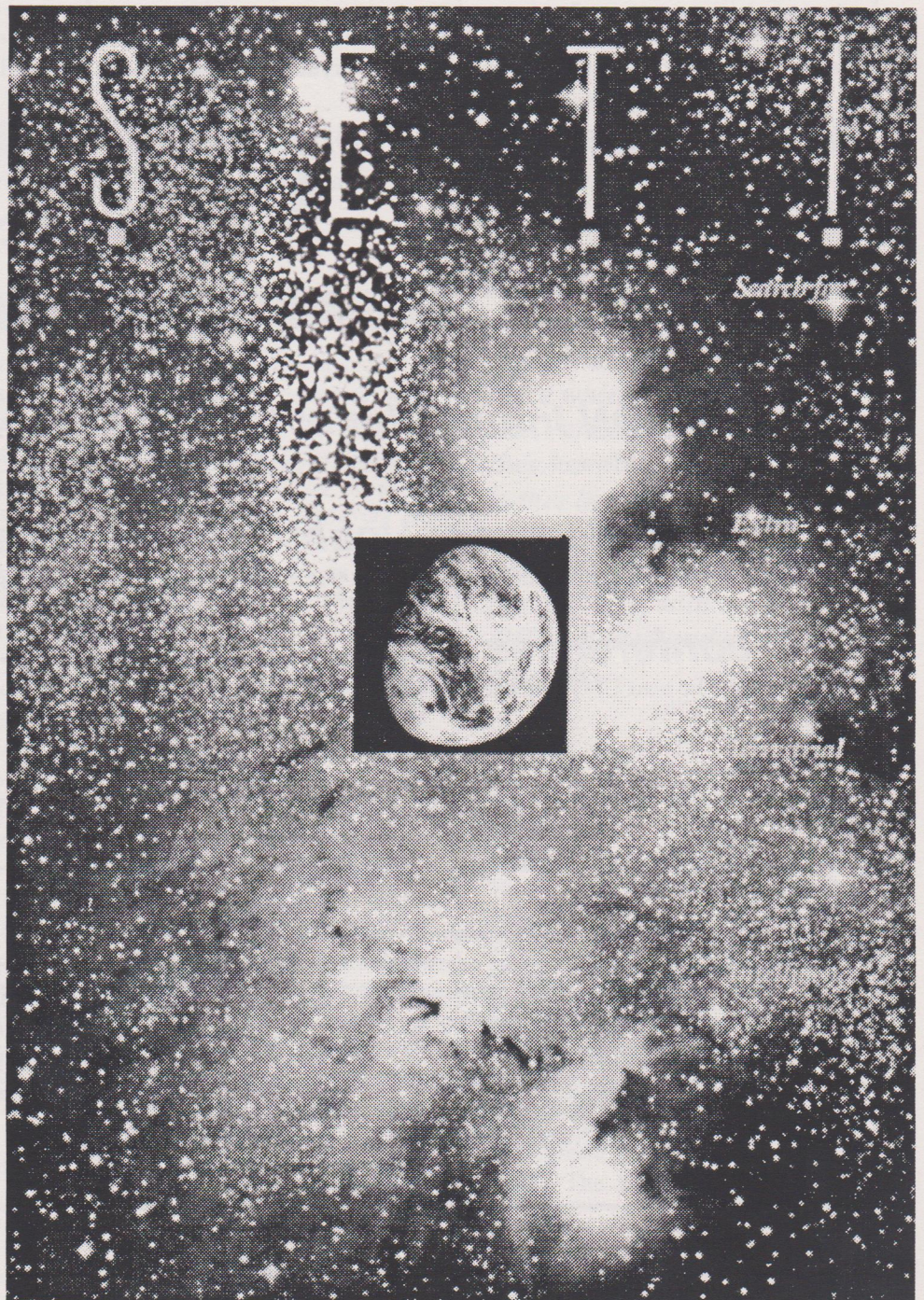


NASA SETI PROGRAM

UFO BUZZES AIRLINER OVER ENGLAND

STRANGE ENCOUNTERS IN AUSTRALIA

UFO ABDUCTION IN TEXAS



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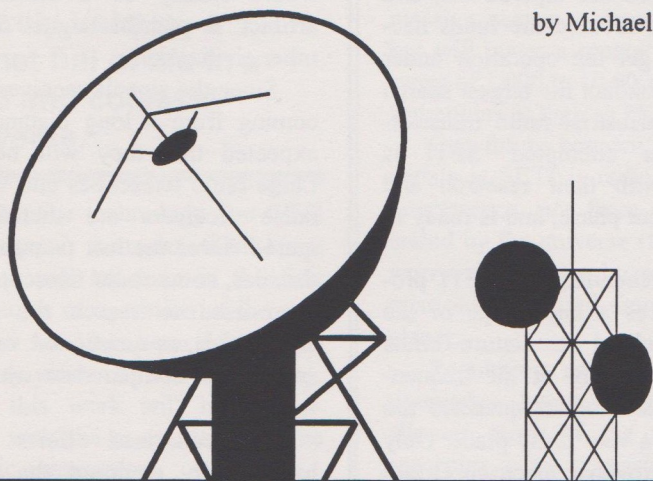
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NASA's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence

by Michael Norris



On October 12 of this year, NASA's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) will come of age. The 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America is the day chosen to inaugurate SETI's Microwave Observing Project. The NASA SETI project is part of NASA's Exobiology program to understand the origin, evolution, and distribution of life in the universe.

I feel we need to keep a close eye on this project, especially in the first few months. Even though NASA's official position with UFOs, in respect to the project, is of no interest, I believe this may be the avenue the government uses to break the ice.

When NASA is asked if the SETI Project will search for UFOs, its official response is: "NO. It is not the intention of SETI to search for UFOs; the search strategy is designed to detect signals from technological civilizations elsewhere in the Galaxy. NASA's approach to SETI has nothing to do with UFOs."

Although their stated purpose of

the project is clear, I believe that if certain government agencies wish to prepare people for the idea that other life does exist in the universe, NASA SETI would be a good choice. The official discovery of intelligent signals sent to Earth millions of miles away, is truly a more pleasant scenario than what mainstream ufology is discovering.

The announcement that extraterrestrial beings are taking people against their will, and subjecting them to genetic experiments to produce hybrid alien/human offspring, might create a world panic. But, a discovery by the NASA SETI MOP (Microwave Observing Project) wouldn't, mainly because the discovery of other life so far away from Earth would not seem threatening to our planet.

I believe the Government will never release sensitive information about the UFO phenomenon unless they are somehow forced to (good luck). However, the phenomenon is

so large that I believe the Government is going to do something soon. Either they will prepare people for the idea of the existence of life in other worlds, or they will divert attention from the real crisis, to a phenomenon that is very distant and non-threatening. Either way, the results of the SETI program will be very interesting. It is scientists' way of answering the question, "Are we alone?"

Space contains such a huge supply of atoms that all eternity would not be enough time to count them and the force which drives the atoms into various places just as they have been driven together in this world. So we must realize that there are other worlds in other parts of the universe, with races of different men and different animals.

Lucretius
Roman philosopher
1st century BC

There are over 400 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy, and about a hundred billion galaxies in the Universe. By just looking at the numbers involved, it becomes more difficult to believe that we are truly alone among the billions of stars in the Cosmos.

Scientists at NASA and other organizations have devised a way to search for possible extraterrestrial intelligence from right here, planet Earth. The easiest and most cost

effective way would be to scan the skies for radio signals of intelligent origin. Extensive thought over the past few decades has led to the conclusion that electromagnetic radiation is the most efficient means for accomplishing information transfer over interstellar distances. Since radio waves leave our planet daily, might extraterrestrial signals be heard if we just listen? Our current level of technology is adequate enough to carry out a meaningful search for evidence of other technologies.

Talk of searching the sky by radio for extraterrestrial signals is not a new idea. It was first tried in 1960 by Dr. Frank Drake in Project Ozma. He used the 85-foot radio telescope of the National Radio Observatory at Green Bank, West Virginia, to listen to the stars Tau Ceti and Epsilon Eridani. Both stars are like the sun and are about 12 light years away (70 trillion miles) from Earth.

Drake listened to the same frequency that hydrogen naturally emits, figuring anyone wanting to attract the attention of another civilization might choose this wavelength. His attempts, after 150 hours of listening to both stars, didn't

turn up any signs of extraterrestrial signals. But, the planned SETI project, in comparison to Project Ozma, is infinitely larger.

Since the days of Project Ozma, the idea of searching for extraterrestrial radio waves has been criticized by many. Today, the criticism has tapered off, and NASA has secured the funds necessary to get the operation under way - to conduct the largest search for extraterrestrial radio transmissions ever attempted. SETI is finished with their research and development phase, and is ready to begin.

Comprehending the SETI project requires a knowledge of the science behind it. Nature emits photons naturally at all frequencies. So, at most frequencies the Galaxy is a very noisy place. Only in the microwave spectrum (1,000 to 100,000 MHZ, where 1 MHZ corresponds to a frequency of one million vibrations per second) is the Galaxy fairly quiet. This is where scientists believe interstellar communication would take place.

It will be in this frequency spectrum that SETI will be searching for narrowband signals, since natural radiation generated in

the universe is broadband (occurs over a wide range of frequencies). Even the narrowest natural emissions are spread over a band of frequencies hundreds of times wider than artificial signals. NASA figures that narrowband radiation occurring at one or even a few frequencies would clearly be a technological artifact: A possible signal from another civilization.

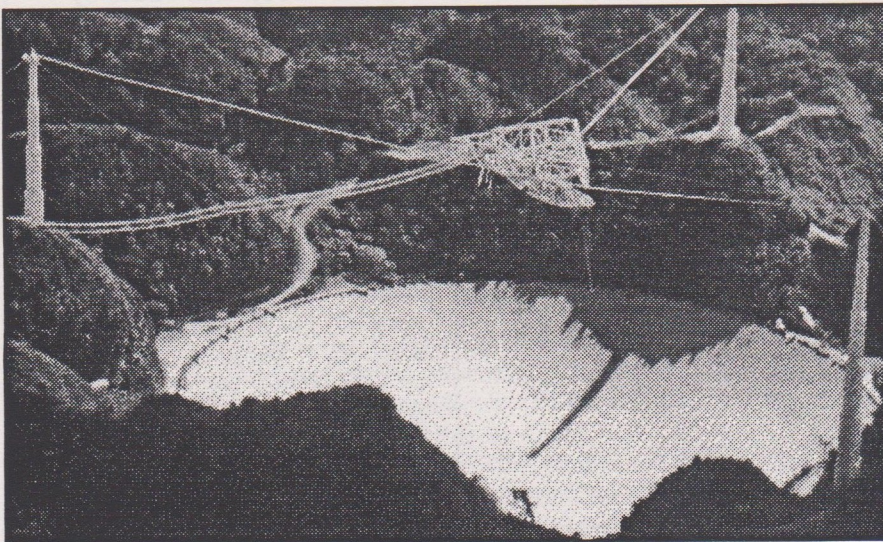
Since the signals received will be coming from a long distance, it is expected that they will be weak. Large radio telescopes and very low noise receivers are therefore required. Over the last two-and-a-half decades, some radio telescopes have been used to search the sky for signals, but, as mentioned, only on a small scale compared to what SETI will do.

The combined efforts to date have hardly explored the possible directions, frequencies, signal types, and sensitivities. This is mainly because conventional instrumentation until now has been too inadequate. In the past, detectors used in radio astronomy could only scan a small range of frequencies at once.

Recent advances in microelectronics, along with the existence of radio telescopes perfect for the frequency range of 1,000 to 10,000 MHZ, have allowed SETI engineers to design signal processing equipment with *tens of millions* of simultaneous, narrowband channels. This same technology was also used to develop real-time computer analysis of the data. SETI will be capable of finding any narrowband signal whether it is a continuous signal or a pulsed one.

Once set up, the computers will do all of the work - scanning for millions of signals every second. All that the SETI people will have to do is wait until the computer identifies a suspicious signal. Imagine doing the work manually; it would take all eternity.

To get a better appreciation for



The 305 meter (1000 ft.) diameter radio telescope near Arecibo, Puerto Rico. This telescope will be used to begin NASA's targeted search for radio signals. (Photo - SETI Institute)

Either we are not alone, and the thought provoking reality is other intelligences exist, or we really are alone in this vast universe, which makes us truly unique - a planet full of life in a cold and colossal universe.

the innovative technology that SETI has designed, consider this: More searching will be done in the first few minutes of operation of the project, than what has been done in the last thirty years of radio astronomy. All of this work will be accomplished with the cooperation of the scientific community.

There will be two types of search strategies performed under the SETI project: The targeted search and the sky survey.

The targeted search will begin by using the 305-meter (1,000 feet) diameter radio telescope near Arecibo, Puerto Rico. It will concentrate on about 800 solar-type stars within 100 light years from Earth. The idea motivating the search is that since life evolved around one of these stars (our own sun), then the highest probability of other life is within stars closest to us.

The observations of selected targets will take about six years, and will involve the scanning of frequencies around 1,000 to 3,000 MHZ. Management of the target search is done at Ames Research Center in California.

The sky survey will scan the entire sky, and will be managed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. It will focus on the 99% of the sky not covered by the targeted search. One of the six operational systems will go on-line and begin at NASA's Deep Space Communication Complex in

Goldstone, California, on October 12, 1992. It will take about five years to complete.

The sky survey will use the network of the smaller 34-meter telescopes that are part of NASA's Global Deep Space Network (DSN). The sky survey will sacrifice some sensitivity because of the massive search it must complete, but will cover a greater frequency range of 1,000 to 10,000 MHZ, and sometimes as high as 25,000 MHZ.

One future concern of the scientists at SETI is radio frequency interference, not from noise generated by the universe (too wide to worry about), but by radio transmissions generated from our own planet.

Regulatory agencies are continuously being pressured to allocate more of the microwave spectrum to an increasing number of uses. These include cellular telephone communications, anti-collision radars for automobiles, air navigation, and communications satellite broadcasts. People want to be able to stand in the middle of the desert, pull out their pocket telephone, and be able to call someone on the other side of the world.

As demand for these uses arise, more interfering transmissions will be created, which will further contaminate the microwave spectrum. The problem is that these powerful transmitters will use the same frequencies as the weak signals SETI will be scanning for. This means more extensive data processing to identify and screen out false alarms. So, NASA is in a hurry to begin the search before it becomes too difficult.

It will be interesting to see the results of this project. One scientist noted that either way, the discovery will be earth-shattering. Either we are not alone, and the thought-provoking reality is other intelligences exist, or we really are alone

in this vast universe, which makes us truly unique - a planet full of life in a cold and colossal universe.

□

Scientists' views on extraterrestrial life exclude UFOs

by Michael Norris

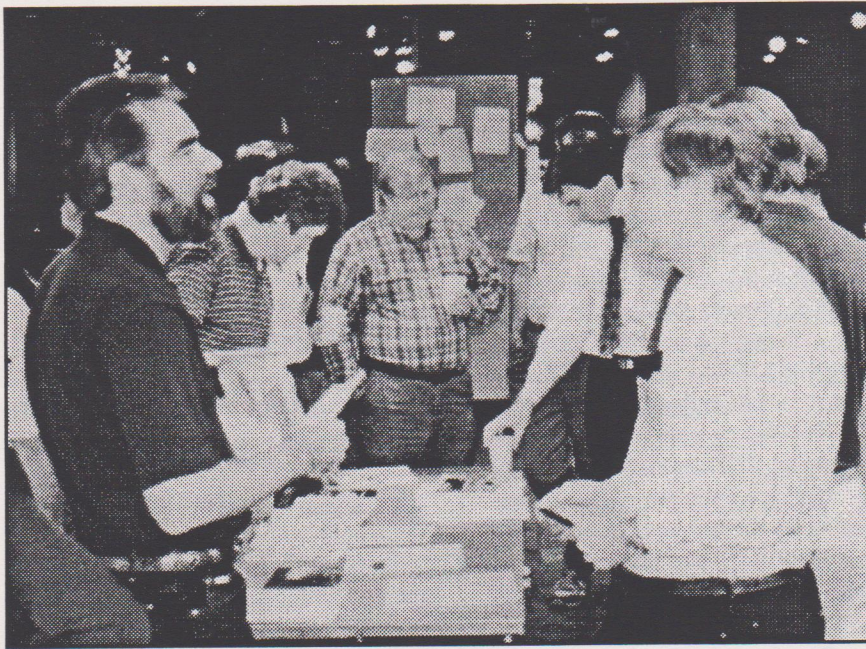
In August of this year, I attended a meeting with members of the Astronomical Society of the Atlantic. They sponsored a seminar on the NASA SETI Microwave Observing Project given by Paul Steffes, a professor from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a consultant to NASA.

Mr. Steffes explained the philosophy of the SETI program - how it is a discipline, and how it is pursued in different ways. He talked about the Drake equation: The formula that attempts to determine the number of communicable civilizations in the Galaxy. In addition, Professor Steffes covered many other theories and ideas on the existence of other life in the Universe.

He then continued with a summary of the Microwave Observing Project. If a discovery is made, said Mr. Steffes, the results will be double-checked many times before a confirmation is accepted.

He told the group that many organizations, including the United Nations, would be informed if a discovery of an extraterrestrial signal is made. Even the Vatican, he said, has taken an interest in the results of a finding and the impact it would make on the philosophy of our society.

Professor Steffes was a very intelligent man, and I enjoyed his lecture. After his presentation, I found Mr. Steffes and a small group of Ph.D.'s,



Members of the Astronomical Society of the Atlantic meet after Professor Steffes' lecture to discuss the the SETI program.

along with other members of the society standing in a group talking. Not able to resist a good conversation, I decided to walk in the middle of them and bring up the taboo subject (I always love the reaction). "What about the UFO phenomenon?" I asked.

Mr. Steffes went into a long speech about how modern day science knew what would be required for interstellar travel, and that it was impossible. He explained that even if someone could harness the energy from antimatter, it still would not be enough to travel among the stars. Mr. Steffes said the energy requirements are too great to achieve interstellar travel.

I continued asking him questions, and he continued giving me reasons why interstellar travel is impossible (where's Stanton Friedman when you need him). However, having an electronics and science background myself, I was able to keep up with him, and continued asking questions. About this time I happened to glance around and noticed we had attracted a good

sized crowd who seemed very interested in our conversation.

Although I was enjoying myself - putting a top notch scientist on the spot with a subject that he definitely seemed uncomfortable with - I concluded I had occupied enough of his time, and decided to end our discussion.

I made some interesting observations while we conversed. First, he never said the word "UFO" during our entire discussion, and secondly, he never looked me in the eye when he spoke to me. Therefore, I knew he wasn't very happy with the topic, especially in the small crowd, but there wasn't much he could do about it at the time.

To many scientists, especially those in the SETI project, the UFO phenomenon is not a respectable topic (thank the tabloids for helping). They either believe the phenomenon is not significant enough to study, or they think that because modern-day science can't come up with a way to travel among the stars, it must be

impossible.

Jill Tarter, project leader in the SETI program, will be the first to tell anyone that extraterrestrials have never visited the Earth, and probably never will. NASA SETI researchers along with others, dismiss flying saucer reports and abduction stories, not because of the evidence, but because of their scientific views.

I'm sorry, but if an apple looks red and is red, but a law in one of our physics books says its purple, then we need to rethink that law of physics. Similarly, if people all over the world keep reporting strange aerial craft that seem to defy our known laws of physics, we shouldn't pretend those objects don't exist simply because we can't rationalize them on paper. We should re-examine our views of science! I find it very arrogant to think we understand all there is to know about traveling in this universe.

When I was a child in science class, the teacher would often say: "This is what people used to believe." I remember laughing at some

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The Drake Equation

$$N = R f_s f_p n_e f_l f_i f_c L$$

N = The number of communicable civilizations in our Galaxy

R = Average rate of star formation (stars/year)

f_s = Fraction of stars that are "good" suns

f_p = Fraction of good stars with planetary systems

n_e = Number of planets per star with ecoshell

f_l = Fraction of n_e on which life develops

f_c = Fraction of intelligent species reaching an electromagnetic communicative phase

L = Lifetime in communicative phase (years)

Puerto Rico- A hotbed for UFO activity

by Michael Norris

The first part of this article will cover the series of UFO related events that began around 1987, and continued up till the end of 1991. Next month we will bring you up to date with the present situation in Puerto Rico according to Jorge Martin - UFO investigator and publisher of Enigma magazine. Also next month, you'll read an account from an investigator who just returned from Puerto Rico, and who tells of something very strange she discovered while walking through the rain forest on the island.

Puerto Rico has a rich history of peculiar events. This article will only concentrate on UFO-related stories, even though a book could be written on all of the bizarre occurrences that have been encountered on the island.

In 1987, there was an explosion in the Cabo Rojo area, which seems to have triggered a wave of UFO activity that continues today. According to Jorge Martin, "There have always been many UFO incidents here on the island, but this amount of activity really began in 1987, when that (the explosion) happened in Cabo Rojo - that strange explosion in the Cartagena Lagoon area."

I asked Martin what type of explosion it was. "Well, at first they thought it was earth tremor, and an underground explosion due to gas or gas pockets," he said. "But, the strange thing is, the explosion happened directly under the Cartagena Lagoon, the place where UFOs are seen going into, and coming out

from regularly." Mr. Martin continued: "When that happened, blue smoke began spewing out from the lagoon from crevices that appeared in different parts nearby." Martin explained that American personnel dressed in contamination suits were seen shortly afterwards inspecting the area.

After the explosion, people continued reporting UFO sightings

Mayor Ramos, who has seen strange lights in the sky himself, sent a letter to President Bush requesting an investigation and/or explanation of the sightings in the area. So far, he hasn't received a response from Washington.

around the Cartagena Lagoon, and hundreds of citizens from all around the island visited the area. Some people went to learn more about the phenomenon, while others went to drink and have a good time.

Local authorities said they were concerned about the damage residents were causing, since so many people were going to the lagoon. A fence of nonrusting wire was put up around the area in an attempt to discourage people from going

there, but someone cut it with steel scissors. The public resumed going to the lagoon, and people continued phoning in reports of sightings from the area to the police department and the press.

The local police department tried keeping people from talking about experiences with UFOs. They stopped paying attention to people calling in requesting them to investigate the phenomenon. When individuals called with reports of sightings, the police literally made fun of them.

Fred Schaffner, an official with the Fish and Wildlife Service who is in charge of the lagoon, said the light effects in the sky were produced by high power flashlights used by marine ships. "There are no UFOs; sometimes people can see light tricks that are produced by high power flashlights that a person can buy in any boat store," he said.

Another official, Anibal Roman Morales, regional director of the Civil Defense of Mayaguez, along with other government agencies, wanted to prove that the colored lights seen in the sky were nothing more than the reflection of the lighting system of the nearby Candelaria district. Morales promoted a blackout to prove his point.

On the night that the government agencies prepared for the blackout, about 200 people gathered near the lagoon to observe the results. The Electrical Energy Authority suspended electricity in the nearby precincts. Then, they focused a reflector on the center of the Cartagena Lagoon in an attempt to prove that the strange lights reported in the past were nothing more than reflections. However, the witnesses said that they did not see the yellow, red, green, and blue lights such as the sightings in the past.

Wilson Sosa, an investigator from the local area, pointed out that the mysterious colored lights seen in Cartagena Lagoon came forth from

the water to the outside, not downward into the water. He charges that Roman Morales and others are trying to diminish the legitimacy of the phenomenon.

Although government agencies were trying to discredit the UFO sightings, one local politician, Mayor Heriberto Ramos, wanted more answers. Ramos, who has seen strange lights in the sky himself, sent a letter to President Bush requesting an investigation and/or explanation of the sightings in the area. So far, he hasn't received a response from Washington (probably never will).

Besides sightings of lights, many Puerto Rican residents have reported interactions with beings from UFOs. One witness who reported his experience is a member of the National Guard and wishes to keep his identity anonymous. He described an encounter with entities who abducted him. "I could observe six extraterrestrials of short height - maybe three and a half feet, with only three fingers in their hands, and an oval head. One of the beings signaled me to go inside the ship, where I was examined," the man said.

The man also mentioned, that during his abduction the extraterrestrials made noises, but during the twenty minutes he was with them, communication was done telepathically. The man said his abductors told him, "We come in peace, but to conquest, because we want to avoid a catastrophe."

The National Guardsman, responding to encounter seekers flocking to the lagoon, said, "They (extraterrestrials) are the ones who look for us and select us. We can do nothing."

Today, people disagree on the true identity behind all of the sightings. Some say the lagoon is a center for science experimentation by the American government. Others believe it is a base for strange crafts of unknown worlds. We may never know, especially if the Government is

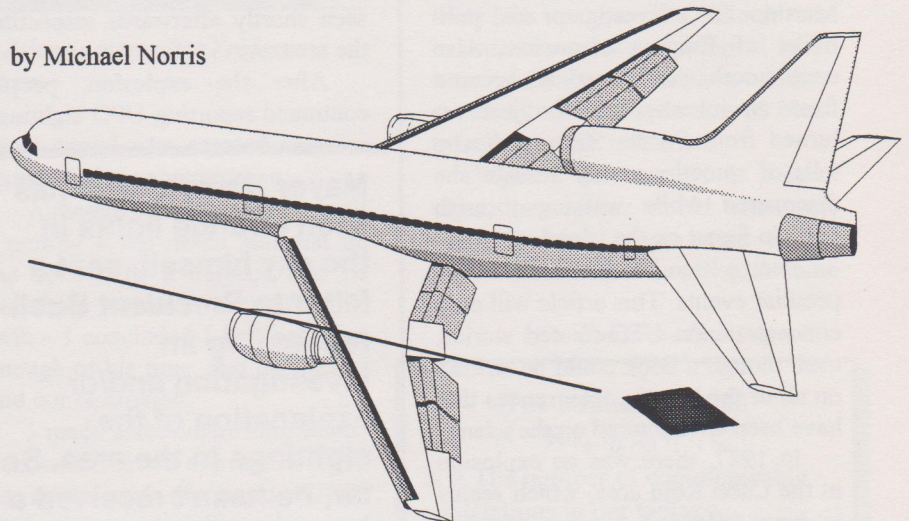
involved.

Next month *U.E.* will publish the second part of this article from Puerto Rico, including our conversations with Jorge Martin, the principal investigator for the island. You'll also read some frightening predictions and revelations about the future of our world told from

people on the island who claim to have been abducted, and given this information. In addition, *U.E.* will reveal a little-known discovery made by a ufologist who's just returned from Puerto Rico. The discovery is one that we have never heard of before. So don't miss out on next month's issue! □

Airliner experiences near-miss with UFO

by Michael Norris



In April of this year, a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) report was released that told of a close encounter between a Britannia Airways Boeing 737 and a UFO. The encounter took place in the summer of 1991, over Southern England (Sussex). The Boeing 737 had departed from Cyprus, and was making its descent to the Gatwick airport at the moment of the encounter.

According to the official report, at 14,000 ft., the crew "saw a small black lozenge shaped object about 500 meters ahead of the aircraft and at the same level." The report went on to say that "within the space of

1.5 seconds it passed very close, less than 100 yards away, down the port side of the aircraft, and, at the most, 30 ft. above the level of the wing." The report claimed that the pilot "assessed the risk of collision as high," while the aircraft was traveling about 355 knots. The crew described the movement of the object as appearing like a helicopter flying at low level.

Right after the crew spotted the strange object, they immediately reported the sighting to London air-traffic controllers. London air controllers spotted the object on radar behind the plane, and tracked the

UFO as it headed southeast traveling at about 100 knots. They radioed another aircraft to warn them to turn to avoid collision.

After the report was released this year, a CAA spokesman tried to dampen the idea that the UFO might have been an extraterrestrial craft. He said, "It's exciting to think it might have been something from outer space, but it was probably a balloon. Balloonist often send up smaller balloons to test weather conditions. It may well have been something like that."

However, a spokesperson for the central forecasting room at the Meteorological Office in England said the object was at the wrong height, and was the wrong color to be a balloon. "A cloud-based balloon would only reach six thousand feet. It would never reach the height of the plane," he said. "It would be an orange/red color, not black."

A spokesman at the Jodrell Bank Observatory also agrees. "It doesn't fit the description of a balloon," he said. A NASA spokeswoman in Washington was reportedly baffled

by the occurrence as well. The CAA finally admitted it was "at a loss to identify the object."

In the course of writing this article, I called Jenny Randles, the director of investigations for BUFORA (British UFO Research Association). She told me that her organization is researching this incident, along with two others. "There were actually three encounters that involved aircraft within the space of eight weeks," Ms. Randles told me. She explained that all these events took place between late April to early July of 1991. In two of the incidents, the UFOs were tracked on radar traveling about 120 MPH, she said.

Ms. Randles explained how the Boeing 737 incident, along with one of the others, were successfully hidden for about a year until the CAA near-miss reports were released. She said the third sighting they got right away, and she told me that I could read the preliminary report in her book, *From Out of The Blue*.

Continued on page 17

Australian Encounters

It was after 6:30 p.m. when Chris Matthews' wife, Yvonne, noticed a thumping sound coming from the outside of their Midland farm near Stanhope. Chris, not thinking much of it, said good-bye to his wife who was leaving for ceramics class.

After his wife left, Chris and his two sons, Nathan and David, continued hearing the noise. "The banging continued, from the top of the house running down the side. It shook all the windows," he said. "The last knock I heard was on

Nathan's (bedroom) window."

The banging lasted for about 10 to 15 minutes, and sounded like a person thumping a hand along the weatherboards, Chris reported. At first he thought maybe it was an animal under the house, but then began thinking perhaps a prowler was outside. Worried, Chris called his brother Mark, who decided to rush over.

As Chris sat in his home, he noticed a bright light shining through the curtains of one of his windows. Curious as to the source

of the light, he pulled the blinds back and was stunned to see a conical shaped object sitting on the ground across the highway.

The object that Chris saw was "10 meters wide and the same in height." He explained that the object had "a triangle on top, like a tent, with an egg shape on the bottom."

Describing the object further he said, "It had orange lights around the top and along the side. There was a glow of light from the top, and then the lights dimmed from the top and the ones along the side turned a pale blue." Chris described the glow around the top of the object as a "bubble of light."

Mark Matthews, rushing over to his brother's farm, said he first saw the object about 15 kilometers away. "It was very bright," Mark said. "It had a bubble (of light) around the top of it." Mark eventually caught up with the craft and watched it hover over a paddock (an enclosed field) about 400 meters away from him.

He met up with his other brother Shane, who arrived at Chris' house soon afterwards. The two of them took off after the UFO with a videocamera in the direction that it disappeared - a quarry at the end of Cooma Rd. Unfortunately, they were unable to locate any sign of the craft, or capture it on videotape. But, Mark told reporters, there were other cars on the road who also said they saw an object. Later, three police units did a foot search of the old quarry after receiving reports that the object was there, but found nothing unusual.

A half-an-hour before this incident, James Merrick, a fourteen year old from Cooma Rd., saw a strange craft as he was trying to get a bogged car from a paddock. James described seeing "three reddish lights" which "cruised across the sky," 150 meters overhead. He said the objects stopped and hovered for a bit, and "flashed all at once, about every one or two

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1992 MUFON International UFO Symposium

by Michael Norris

Last month we brought you the "Linda Cortile" abduction case, presented by Budd Hopkins at the 1992 International UFO Symposium sponsored by MUFON in July. This month we want to fill you in on a few other researchers who were featured at the conference.

Linda Moulton Howe

Linda Moulton Howe is a graduate of Stanford University with a Masters degree in Communication. Her career revolves around creating film and television productions on science, medicine, and the environment. Her list of UFO contributions includes *A Strange Harvest* - a film exploring animal mutilations; *An Alien Harvest* - a book showing further evidence of the animal mutilation/UFO abduction connection to alien life forms; *Earth Mysteries: Alien life Forms* - a television production associated with WATL-

FOX, Atlanta; and *UFO Report: Sightings* - a television program based on her *Earth Mysteries* program.

I talked with Linda the evening before her lecture. She looked forward to giving her presentation, and she asked me if I would give her a one-word reaction when she finished. That would prove more difficult than expected.

The morning of Linda's lecture, my associate editor and I arrived at the convention center just in time to register and secure choice seats. A sizable crowd was already gathering in the auditorium and by the time the program started, nearly all seats were

full.

As Linda began her presentation, I mentally flipped dictionary pages in search of that magic adjective she asked for. Despite a strained voice from hours of conversation the night before, Linda was just as articulate and confident as she appears in her documentaries.

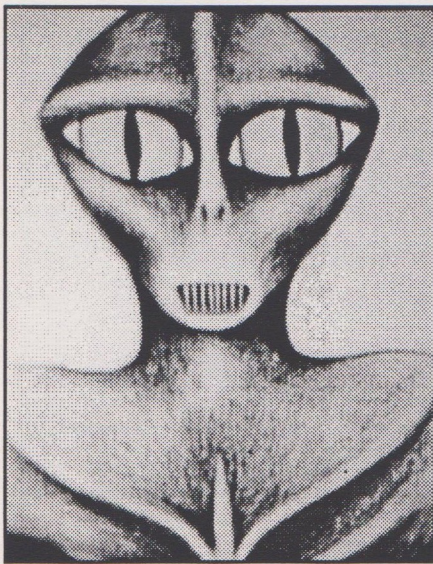
Linda covered many controversial aspects of ufology: crop circles, abductions by different entities, hybrid breeding between humans and aliens, the animal mutilations/UFOs link, underground alien/government bases, and the Bob Lazar story.

Linda gave descriptions, some translated to drawings, of different alien types that have been encountered. The most common being is the "gray." She presented testimonies from people who have seen grays dressed in blue leotards marked with circumscribed triangle insignias on their left chest.

The gray is a short being (around 3 1/2 ft.), with whitish/gray skin and a large hairless head. The eyes are very large and black. Grays are typically seen by people who find themselves in the middle of an abduction event. Occasionally, they



Linda Moulton Howe speaks at a press conference the day before the symposium.



One of Linda's slides showing an alien type creature described by a witness.

have been seen taking cows from farms.

The "taller grays" are another group of beings Linda described. Similar to the small grays but taller, she said, they are called the "scientists" by many abductees, because they are always present during the examinations.

According to Linda, many abductees feel that the large black eyes on the grays are just coverings, similar to sunglasses that we wear. Underneath the coverings are "cat-

like eyes," which are reported by abductees also. This may explain the varied eye descriptions given by abductees.

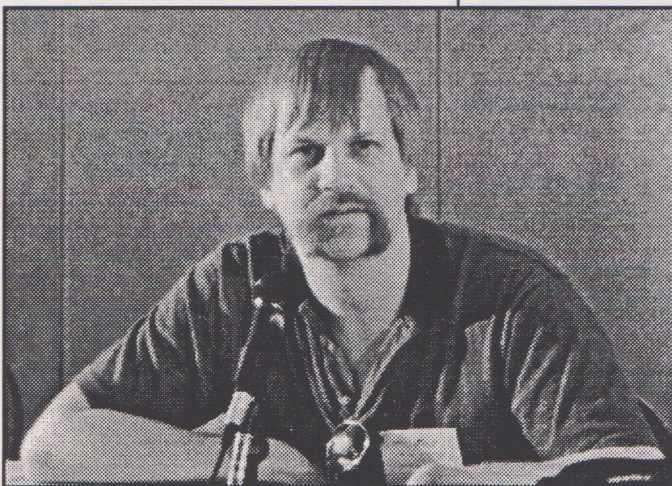
One of the more bizarre beings Linda talked about was the "lizard-type." She described it as a reptilian/humanoid with a green scaly hide and yellow eyes with vertical pupils.

Others included the greenish/gray "praying mantis type," and a humanoid type with large, beaked noses and tight head gear that they wear. Also included in her list: The tall blonde beings, bigfoot creatures, and the men in black. Linda had color slides showing all these entities according to the witnesses' descriptions.

These slides seemed to overwhelm those in attendance, myself included. As Linda finished, I found myself unable to provide a satisfactory one-word description of what I'd just seen and heard. After patiently waiting my turn to speak to Linda following her lecture, I finally offered my best two-word description: "Reality-shaking."

Jeffrey W. Sainio

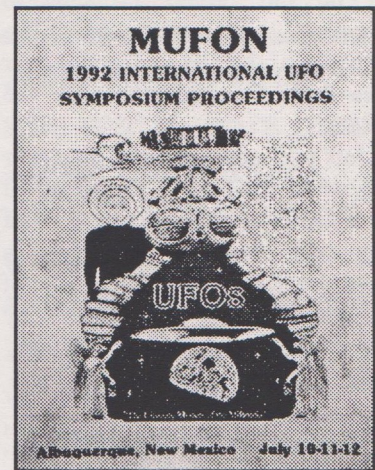
I've gotten to know Jeffrey Sainio since the MUFON conference, and I am very impressed with his work. Jeff is manager of imaging R&D at Quad/Tech division of Quad/Graphics. He works in the field of printing press color register controls, and holds three patents in the field. Jeff performs



UFO photograph analyst Jeffrey Sainio.

computer enhancement and analysis of UFO photographs and videotapes in his spare time.

Jeff mentioned during his presentation that most UFO photographs are quite bad. The reason is most of them are taken at night, and nighttime photography is difficult even with the right equipment, film, and training. UFO photographs are normally taken by an ordinary camera, ASA 100 film, and with no tripod. The results are usually black images with an overexposed, smeared blob. But, Jeff says, with the right computer equipment, you



can obtain valuable data to decide whether the photograph is a real object, a faked image, or a defect in the film.

He showed how by examining the lens flares, you could tell what color the UFO was, even if the UFO itself is too bright to tell.

Shadows are more clues he looks for to determine if objects in photographs are real UFOs. Jeff will look at the shadow's size and position in respect to the UFO to gather insight on the photograph.

Sun illumination can reveal more evidence. If the illumination on the unidentified object is at a different angle than the other objects in the photo - the UFO is probably not real.

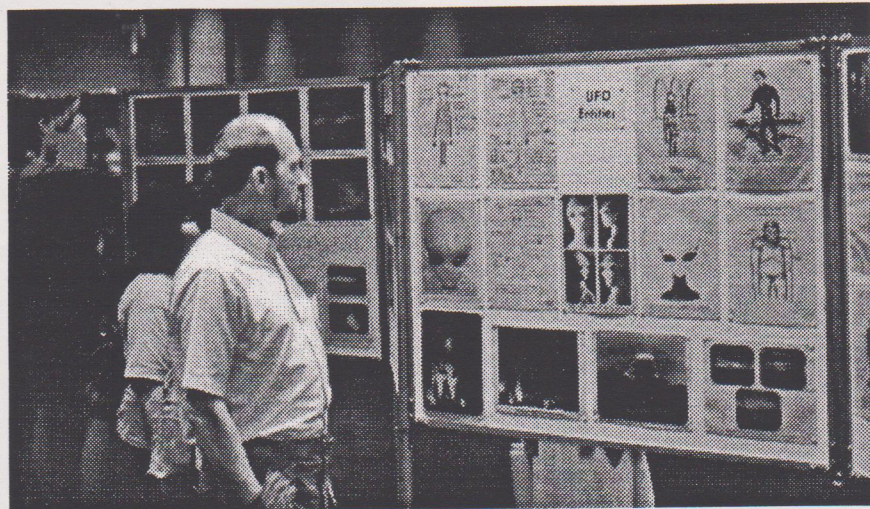
Comparing the focus of the UFO to other features in the photograph, is another technique Jeff uses. He

used a beautiful photograph showing a UFO from the Swiss photographer Billy Meier as an example of this test. The problem with the craft in the photograph is that it's too beautiful.

Meier's UFO is in sharper focus than the distant hill. Jeff explained that a camera's focus is indistinguishable between 50 ft. and infinity. So, Jeff concluded that the UFO in the photograph had to be closer than 50 ft. Therefore, the object must actually be quite small. Mr. Sainio showed the edge detection results between the UFO and the horizon that he did on a computer to determine his conclusion: The sharpness of the UFO edge was over twice that of anything else on the horizon.

Jeff uses sophisticated computer analysis to aid him in almost all of his tests. He says with the cost of computers constantly dropping in prices, affording this level of analysis will soon be reachable by almost anyone. But, Jeff explains, the best tools are still a good eye, and common sense.

In next month's issue of *U.E.*, Jeff will be writing an article on some new photos and videotapes he



An observer looks at a display board set up at the conference.

has received from different parts of the world that show striking similarities to the Gulf Breeze UFO. In addition, you'll read the results of Jeff's analysis of the Gulf Breeze flare theory (that theory is very weak based on some technical evidence).

If anyone has videotapes or photographs of unidentified objects that they would like the results of professional analysis, then contact Jeffrey W. Sainio. His address is 200 Millington Lane #2, Hartland,

WI 53029-1644.

Jacques Vallee, Ph.D.

Jacques Vallee received his Masters degree in astrophysics, and his Ph.D. in computer science at Northeastern University in 1967. He has worked as a principal investigator of computer networking projects sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense and the National Science Foundation. Dr. Vallee has written three books about computer communications, and several UFO books including his trilogy on "Alien Contact": *Dimensions*, *Confrontations*, and *Revelations*.

Jacques Vallee had some strong criticism for both sides of the UFO spectrum - those for, and those against. Reflecting on ufology and its opponents, Vallee said, "Never has the situation been so polarized. Never has it been harder to do good research." Vallee calls UFO research a "forbidden science."

Vallee says, "The skeptics do not want free inquiry on the subject because it might disturb their rational universe. And, many advocates are equally opposed to free



Jacques Vallee is surrounded by people after giving his lecture.

Continued on page 16

UFO Abduction near Hobby Airport, Texas

Julie drove home from a friend's house and realized she had lost six hours of time. by Michael Norris

The following article is a story of a woman from Wisconsin. She tells of a bizarre encounter she had when she lived in the Houston Texas area. The woman is one of the many people known as UFO abductees.

This month and in the months to follow, U.E. will covering testimonies from people who tell of their strange encounters. To do this, we are presently enlisting the help from a number of different researchers around the country, who are actively investigating this phenomenon. This will give U.E. readers the opportunity to learn more about this controversial part of ufology.

All names will be changed to protect the identity of the witnesses. For this article, we will refer to our witness as Julie.

It was a Friday night around 10:30; Julie was visiting a friend and decided she would head home at a decent hour. "I figured at least I would beat the bars home," she said.

"I walked in and went right to the bedroom; I picked my clock up, and I looked at it and said, 'My clock must be wrong.' - I left my friends house at 10:30, and when I got home it was 4:30 in the morning."

What Julie didn't know, was that this night would change her life forever.

Julie walked out of her friend's house, and got into her car to leave. "It seemed to me it was clear when I walked out the door," she explained, "and by the time I had gotten onto one of the main roads, it had gotten very, very, foggy." Julie described the fog as "one of the good-ol-Southern fogs where you can't see a car length in front of you."

She described what happened next: "I came up to a light and that is where I was supposed to make a right; instead of turning to the right, I went through it (the intersection)," Julie explained. "I remember sitting there looking down the street thinking: 'You know, I'm supposed to be going down the street, and I went straight instead.' The only thing I could think of was 'Oh well, I can make a U-turn, and go back.' "

Julie continued driving when the evening took a strange, and very unexpected turn. "I had seen a bright light on the left-hand side - my driver's side," she explained. "I thought, 'It's an airplane; God, I've gone farther down the road than I thought.' " Knowing Hobby Airport was down the street, Julie thought she had driven so far that she was right next to it. "It never crossed my mind that it would be anything else," she explained.

Julie resumed looking at the lights flying through the fog. She

thought perhaps an airplane had lost its way. She said to me, "I felt the poor guy was lost, and couldn't find the runway, so he was going to try to land on the road."

The situation became even stranger. "The next thing I remembered after that was seeing red and blue lights. The first thing that came to my mind was that I had driven onto the airport (runway)," she said. "I was just about ready to scream at myself: 'You idiot, you just ran onto the airport! You are going to jail!' " Julie said her memory about the following events becomes very cloudy at this point.

Julie claims what she remembers most about the entities, were the hands and the eyes. She explained that some had big black eyes, while others had "cat eyes."

Afterwards, she claimed that all she remembered was being back in her car. "I knew people were out in the fog, but I didn't seem concerned about it. I was in my car, the doors were locked, my motor was running, and all I had to do was drive away. They couldn't get me," she thought. Later, she would realize how wrong she was.

Finally arriving home, Julie walked inside. "I walked in and went right to the bedroom; I picked my clock up, and I looked at it and said, 'My clock must be wrong.' - I left my friends house at 10:30, and when I got home it was 4:30 in the morning," Julie stated. The next thing she did was very odd. "I found a little piece of paper and I wrote 'UFO' on it, and I went to bed."

The next morning Julie called

time and temperature to check her clock; her time was correct. Afterwards, she said the entire event "kind of went away" from her mind. Even when she looked at her note, which read "UFO," she never thought much of it.

Reflecting back, she told me, "It still astonishes me that I actually forgot thinking that I was going to be run over by a plane. I couldn't believe it; it was completely wiped out of my mind!"

The following year was difficult for Julie. She began experiencing bizarre disturbances in her home: "poltergeist activity" as she called it. Julie described seeing strange shadows walking around her front room. She would get up and turn on the lights, but would find nothing there.

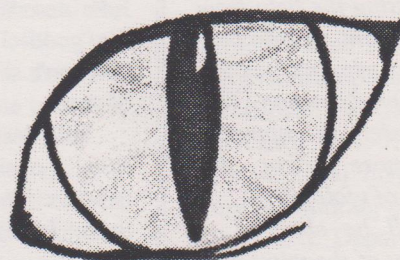
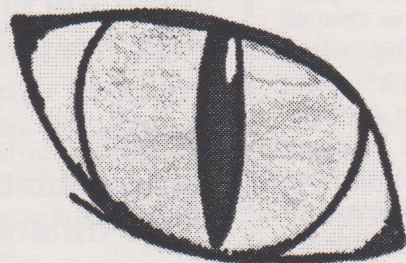
Julie started becoming paranoid. "I would look in closets, underneath beds, in shelves - I mean everywhere," she told me. Julie would also double check doors and windows to make sure that they were closed and locked. "It's terrible, you feel like a little kid," Julie said. It got to the point that she finally started ignoring the shadows. But, other strange occurrences continued to frighten her.

One day Julie came home to find her air-conditioner on, the television on, and the oven on with the door open. Julie said before she would leave her home, she would do rechecks of her entire house. "It made me wonder: 'Well, maybe I really am crazy.'"

Julie figured she had picked up something somewhere, "and moved six times over the following year." She would pace floors, trying to figure out what was following her.

The only thing she could point to was a UFO sighting she had a year earlier. This was a different sighting that took place two weeks before her abduction near Hobby Airport; the events of the abduction at Hobby Airport, were still hidden from her conscious memory.

Julie tied all of the experiences in her home, along with strange dreams she was having, to the time of the UFO sighting a year earlier. She wanted help in understanding her experience, so she contacted an international organization called the UFO Contact Center International (UFOCCI). UFOCCI is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people who have had traumatic experiences relating to visitations or sightings of UFOs.



Julie started thinking her problems were somehow connected with her previous UFO sighting. While searching for answers to the source of her problems, UFOCCI led Julie to a woman named Betty. Betty in turn put Julie under hypnosis, in attempt to discover the root of her mental anguish. It was then that the events of a UFO abduction started unfolding from her memory, but only in bits and pieces.

I asked Julie what she remembered after the hypnosis sessions. She told me she remembered small parts of an abduction event, but couldn't remember "every little detail," as she put it.

I then asked her if she felt that there was an external force preventing her from remembering her experiences. "Sometimes I felt like

I was starting to remember something, and it was like a hand erasing it," she explained. "I could almost picture a hand wiping it all away."

Julie was still confused about the time of her abduction. She kept thinking it took place during her first UFO sighting. "Nothings fitting," she told Betty. "It just doesn't seem right."

After her hypnosis sessions, Julie began to keep a diary when pieces of her memory would resurface. She would write them down whenever they came to her. That is when her memory finally revealed to her the true time of the incident. "All of a sudden it just hit me one day that I thought I was going to be run over by a plane," she said. The missed turn, the strange lights, the people in

the fog, the missing time, the UFO note - it all rushed back to her mind.

Hypnosis brought out memories of entities who performed

various physical procedures on her. The descriptions of her abductors are limited, but she still remembers some very interesting things. "I remember they (entities) all looked different - all different shapes and sizes," she told me. "I can't tell you what the faces were like, because all I get is a blank when I try to see a face. But, I know they were all different heights and sizes."

I asked Julie if she knew of the typical gray types of entities described during abductions, and if she remembered seeing anything like them after her hypnosis. "I think there were some of those there, but it was just a really big mixture. After I realized what was going on, I read everything I could get my hands on. I was really disappointed because that was all I could find were the

"After injected, the outside wall would melt and these little bitty things would go someplace. They said they would all melt into where they were supposed to go - kind of like dissolve into that area."

grays," Julie said. "What about the other guys?"

After collecting and reading many books on abductions and UFOs, Julie said she would hide all of them, because she "didn't want anyone else to see them" - fearing ridicule.

Julie claims what she remembers most about the entities, were the hands and the eyes. She explained that some had big black eyes, while others had "cat eyes." Julie told me: "The being I remember with the cat eyes was a very tall person." She described the entity as appearing to be as tall as six feet in height.

During our conversations, I asked most of the questions. But, Julie hit me with a question that opened up a whole new aspect to her experience. It also sheds some new light on a subject that we know little about.

In the middle of one of our conversations, Julie asked me, "Do you know anything about implants?" I told her that I knew very little - only what I've read from a few cases. She then told me that she remembers during her abduction that the entities put a device in the back of her head.

"I know something was put in the back, during the encounter. It didn't hurt, and the funny thing about it, I know they said what it was for, and what it was going to do," she explained. But, she told me, after her abduction she could not remember

much of what they said.

I asked her if she remembers what it looked like. "It looks like, umm . . . probably like a triple A battery shrunk down - real, real, little," Julie said. "I can picture what it looks like in my mind. You could hold it [the implant] between your thumb and your finger." She described the size of the implant as less than a half-an-inch in size. Julie then told me that her abductors showed her the device. I asked her if she could possibly remember what they told her the purpose of the device was.

"It was like a Contact cold capsule, with all of the little things inside it. This is what they said was inside, all of these little bitty things. After it was injected, the outside wall would melt and these little bitty things would go someplace. They said they would all melt into where they were supposed to go - kind of like dissolve into that area," she explained. Perhaps this is why we cannot find the many implants that abductees describe during abduction procedures.

Julie continued to describe the procedure to me: "It was like some kind of little straw thing, and they would push it up [in her head], and I could actually remember hearing the skin pop, like plastic bubbles when you pop them; but, there was no pain or what-so-ever," she said. Betty, Julie's hypnotist, told Julie that during the hypnosis session while they were going over the implant procedure, she would bend her head forward and to the right.

I asked Julie exactly where on the back of her head that they inserted the device. She said, "I'm not sure where they put it." She told me that she looked for peculiar marks on the back of her head that might show some kind of evidence, but failed to find any.

Today Julie lives in Wisconsin, and she helps in leading a group for

UFOCCI that meets regularly to give support for those who have had UFO abductions, or related experiences. Julie told me during their meetings they have found some interesting similarities among abductees, which even include herself.

After Julie's abduction, she noticed that she took a strong dislike of meat. She first noticed her dislike for meat when she was preparing to cook some salmon steaks. "I went to pull the skin off, and I got really sick. I just dropped it, and I will not eat it anymore," she said. "When I look at the salmon's skin, it looks like skin from someone else. It made me feel like I was being a cannibal or something." Julie said the salmon's skin had the same pattern as something she experienced. She wasn't clear exactly why she felt the way she did.

During the UFOCCI meetings, they took a survey of those who disliked meat. About 75 to 85 percent of the people in three different groups of about twenty each, said they had become vegetarians, or that their meat intake had cut in half. Today, Julie explained, if she eats meat she will get sick and break out in rashes.

I asked Julie if the incident near the airport and the brief sighting she had two weeks prior, were the only UFO encounters she knew of. "It's the only one that I've really gone into. I've had flashbacks of being real little and looking out a window and seeing my house from the roof," she said, "but that's about it." When

"It seems like if you find one answer, it opens up six-thousand others. I think we are kind of running around in circles; That's what I feel like."

Julie says during the group meetings she will just sit back and keep quiet, because she feels funny talking about her own experiences.

asked about further hypnosis to explore these memories, she said she is thinking about it, but hasn't decided if she wants to.

I wanted to know if her experience was a negative one (this is a very debatable issue right now). "I've come to the conclusion that whoever it is, they are very positive people," Julie said. "The encounter or abduction was so unexpected and so unusual, that it made me very nervous." Other than that, she said, it was a positive experience.

Today, Julie continues to meet with others who have had UFO abduction experiences. She says that she will receive calls from people at two and three in the morning, who just want someone to talk to while they cope with their experiences.

Julie says during the group meetings she will just sit back and keep quiet, because she feels funny talking about her own experiences. Julie said, "It seems like you find one answer, it opens up six-thousand others. I think we are kind of running around in circles; That's what I feel like." □

Australian Encounters

Continued from page 9

seconds." All witnesses said that the strange craft never emitted any sound, as it traveled across the clear sky.

Rob White, a Merrigum resident, said he went outside feeding his cat around 9:00 p.m. (take notice of the time), and saw a glowing "big orange

ball" of light rise from the ground. "It came up from the horizon and hovered at about 60 meters," he said. "It appeared quite close, just behind an orchard about two kilometers away. It scared me."

Neighbors of the Matthews, Mary and Ken Trimby, also saw something strange. They went outside to investigate a bright orange light in the direction of the southern sky. They said that they eventually saw seven separate lights. "It was behind the shed and it looked like it was bright orange," Mrs. Trimby said. "It was

Another strike against the military's explanation is that the witnesses, who dismiss the explanation of helicopters, planes, and flares, said no sound was ever heard coming from the objects/lights that the military called helicopters.

like the lights on a footy oval. There were two on either side, another on the top, and another in the middle. There was a red glow behind it, like a sunset."

Lynette and Bevan Miller captured a photograph of three orange objects that they showed to the news media. The three orange lights appeared over the same area as the other sightings. The Millers were standing in their back yard when they saw the lights appear, one by one.

After the lights appeared they formed a triangle and hovered in one spot for five to ten minutes. Before the sighting, the Millers reported that their house was shaken for a half-an-hour by what they described as a "banging sound." Also, before the sighting they said they saw a flash of pink lightning in the sky.

Officials at Puckapunyal Army Base said the sightings were nothing more than flares and helicopters that were part of a firepower demonstration that took place from 6:30p.m. to 7:30p.m. that evening.

The officials did admit, however, that the flares they used would only look orange and yellow, not blue such as the color seen by Chris Matthews. Another strike against the military's explanation is that the witnesses, who dismiss the explanation of helicopters, planes, and flares, said no sound was ever heard coming from the objects/lights that the military called helicopters.

Also, an officer from the base, Captain Geoff Adams, said that all aircraft activity definitely ceased at 7:30p.m. (notice the time of Rob White's sighting), and, no more aircraft activity took place for the rest of the evening.

Mrs. Miller didn't buy any of the explanations given by the military. For one, she says, flares don't form into triangles. "I reckon it was a craft of some sort, there is no other explanation," she said. "In my mind, yeah, it is a UFO." □

MUFON

Continued from page 12

inquiry because the systematic application of the tools of science to this problem might reveal their incompetence as researchers. It would show the UFO phenomenon as far more complex, stimulating, awesome and ultimately important and mysterious than the specific limited version they are presenting today."

Vallee believes both sides of the controversy have contributed to distorted, biased, and censored data over the years to boost their positions. He says that makes it very hard for the

independent scientist to find reliable and knowledgeable investigators to work with because of the two extreme positions.

One major reason why mainstream science doesn't get more involved, Vallee claims, is because the debate has remained fixed in the idea that if UFOs exist, they must be extraterrestrial spacecraft. Any researcher who dares to question this belief is met with unbridled rage and censorship from UFO zealots.

Vallee used the abduction phenomenon as an example of a large group of people who have their minds made up about the phenomenon, and will exclude anyone with different views. He uses himself as an example to that exclusion. Vallee says he was "disinvited" from the first TREAT conference on abduction research and trauma. The reason he says, was because he claimed to "happen to have evidence, in the form of firsthand data, that flies in the face of the theories the abductionists are marketing."

During his lecture, Vallee continued his criticism of some abduction researchers because of private complaints he has received from witnesses. The witnesses described feeling victimized by investigators' rash and amateurish treatments of them. He says his files show cases where the ufologist actually increased a victim's distress.

Vallee doesn't stop there with his criticism of the interpretation and investigation of abductions. One thing a superior extraterrestrial intelligence with a knowledge of biology would not need to do, he says, "would be to scoop up skin samples and remove embryos from millions of terrified Americans." Vallee believes people are experiencing abductions and the resulting trauma, but he says the real work to understand and alleviate their suffering, has not yet begun. □

Scientists' views

Continued from page 6

of the ridiculous ideas people used to have - scientists included. I wonder what current scientific beliefs that we have today, will be laughed at a thousand years from now. We simply don't know everything there is to know.

I thought science was derived by looking at the evidence. Dismissing or ridiculing the UFO phenomenon without looking at the evidence is crude science - don't you agree?

I find it ironic that NASA has chosen Columbus Day to launch the SETI Microwave Observing Project. A day that commemorates a time when most scientists were wrong - they believed the world was flat. Later evidence (Columbus never fell off the edge of the world) changed people's

views of science.

It does seem strange that we are spending millions of dollars, and searching millions of miles, for tiny signals that may give us clues to other life in the universe, when, in our own backyard, there is a phenomenon pointing to that likelihood. Don't get me wrong; NASA has developed some impressive technology - technology that is already being used in many applications. But, as I've said before, mainstream science will continue to ignore the UFO phenomenon not because of the evidence, but because of their limited view of science.

If they looked at the evidence, they might come to a humbling conclusion: We already know we are not alone in the Universe; the very life-forms scientists are waiting to hear from are here *now* and *have been* for some time! □

Boeing 737 encounter

Continued from page 9

On page 117 of her book, Randles describes a case that took place on April 10, 1991. It involved a passenger jet (Alitalia MD80) with 57 people on board. The plane was heading for London Heathrow on a flight from Milan in Italy.

The aircraft was crossing the English coast traveling at 22,000 ft. while making its descent to land. That is when the pilot, Captain Achille Zaghetto, saw an object about 10 ft. long shaped like a bullet or cigar. The object passed the aircraft traveling in the opposite direction at one thousand ft. ahead and above them.

If it wasn't for the fact that the pilot went public in Italy with the story a month after it happened, the

civil and military aviation authorities in England would probably of kept the episode a secret. When the incident was officially reported in April, it was studied to determine the source of the object. On May 5, 1991, Civil Aviation Authority spokesman, Robert Flannigan, said, "Extensive inquiries have failed to indicate what the sighting may have been."

An interesting note is that radar at London Heathrow picked up the UFO about 10 miles behind the jet seconds after the crew reported it. This case, along with the Boeing 737 incident, are the two radar cases that took place within eight weeks of each other. Ms. Randles reported in her book that the Ministry of Defence was left telling reporters, "What happened is a mystery. It was yet another UFO." □

Editor's response to letters:

I have received several letters from people around the country expressing disagreements and conflicts with some leading UFO groups. I feel it is important that I establish *U.E.*'s position with other UFO organizations. *U.E.* does not favor any one UFO

group over another. We work with everyone, so that we can cover every aspect of this phenomenon. Our primary goal is to report accurate information about UFOs. At Aztec Publishing, we work with an open door policy. Outside of the publication itself, I try to help any UFO organization that I can, with what time will allow. I feel we all need to work together, in order to reveal the full truth behind this phenomenon.

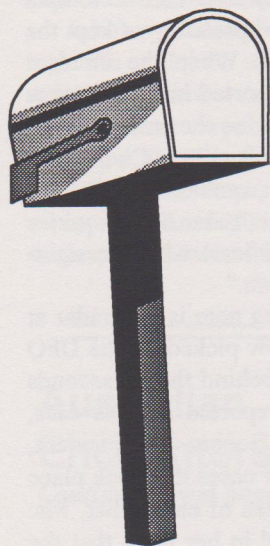


Bulletin Board?

We are thinking of starting a UFO computer bulletin board. This would give UFO buffs another avenue of information, and a platform for communication with other investigators. Let us know if any of you are interested.

We want to hear from you!

Have an experience you want to share? Have something on your mind you want to talk

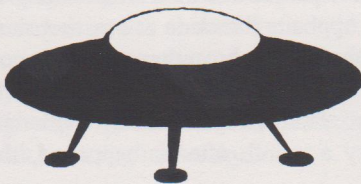


about? Do you agree or disagree with anything we've published? Have you ever had a UFO sighting, an abduction experience, or any other kind of

close encounter? If so, then please write us: Aztec Publishing, P.O. Box 1142, Norcross, GA 30091. Letters kept confidential if requested.

"Human Reactions to UFOs Worldwide"

Last month we brought you an interview with George Fawcett, a forty-year veteran of UFO research. George has recently announced the release of his four year study, written in 1986, of "Human Reactions to UFOs Worldwide" (1940-1983). The project covers 31 different human reactions to UFOs and their occupants from 25 nations. Can be ordered from: Arcturus Books, 1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952. \$5 plus \$2.90 S&H.



Costa Rica case will be covered next month

This month *U.E.* was going to bring you a case from Costa Rica. There has been some confusion and some conflicting testimony, so we want to trace down a few more leads before we bring you the article. Look for next month's issue for complete coverage of this story.

Abductions still the hottest debate in ufology

We received more mail on abductions last month than any other subject, especially after our review of *Secret Life* by professor Jacobs. Keep writing with the comments.

Dear Editor:

With the rising "popularity" of the UFO phenomenon, it is refreshing to read a publication like *UFO Encounters* which does not compete to out-sensationalize the other guy.

As a 20-year veteran of UFO research, I become increasingly frustrated with the caliber of so-called experts and authorities in this field. There are disturbing numbers who boldly present unsubstantiated claims as fact. Others propagate fear with grim disclosures of elaborate global conspiracy, a notion impossible to prove or disprove.

Then there are those who cleverly disclaim as fiction their accounts of actual events but subtly lure readers into accepting their version as truth.

What I appreciate most about *UFO Encounters* is its integrity in providing current, unadulterated information that doesn't insult my intelligence.

UFO Encounters is one of the few UFO publications I respect and helps keep me from becoming disillusioned with a pursuit made stale by so many conflicts between self-righteous factions.

W.S.
Atlanta, GA

Upcoming UFO Conferences:

Oct. 24: SHOW ME UFO CONFERENCE - Harley Hotel, Earth City, Missouri (near St. Louis). Call Bruce Widaman - (314) 946-1394.

Oct. 24-25: NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE (NUFOC) - Holiday Inn, 1302 Apalachee Pkwy., Tallahassee, Florida 32301. Call Jim Moseley - (305) 294-1873.

Nov 1: 13TH QUARTELY MEETING OF THE MUTUAL UFO NETWORK OF NORTH CAROLINA, Inc. - Lincoln County Citizens Center, adjacent to the Courthouse Square in downtown Lincolnton, N.C. 1-6 pm. \$2

Nov. 27- Dec. 3: INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS & UFO FILM FESTIVAL - Hacienda Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Call (510) 428-0202.

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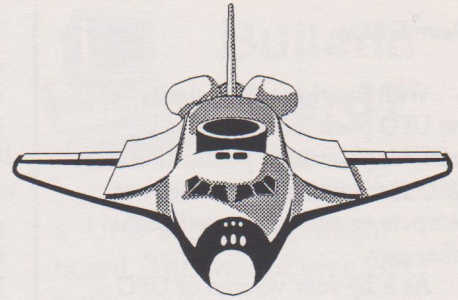
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Coming next month:

STS48 Mission - In September of last year, the Space Shuttle *Discovery* captured some strange objects with their on board cameras. NASA says it's nothing more than ice crystals, but others say it was a test of SDI, along with some alien visitors!



Richard Hoagland and the Monuments of Mars - Are there ancient monuments on Mars with incredible geometric designs? Or, are they just natural formations. With the Mars probe due to reach the red planet in about a year, we'll soon know!

UFO Detectors - Where can I find one? Do they work? Will they warn me of an oncoming abduction? We'll tell you where you can buy one and how it works.

Crop Circles - Read what George Wingfield of the Center for Crop Circle Studies in England has to say about the history of crop circles. And, learn the results of the recent competition in England to construct the best crop circle. Did they pass for real ones?

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