
UFO ENCOUNTERS

Worldwide coverage of the UFO phenomenon

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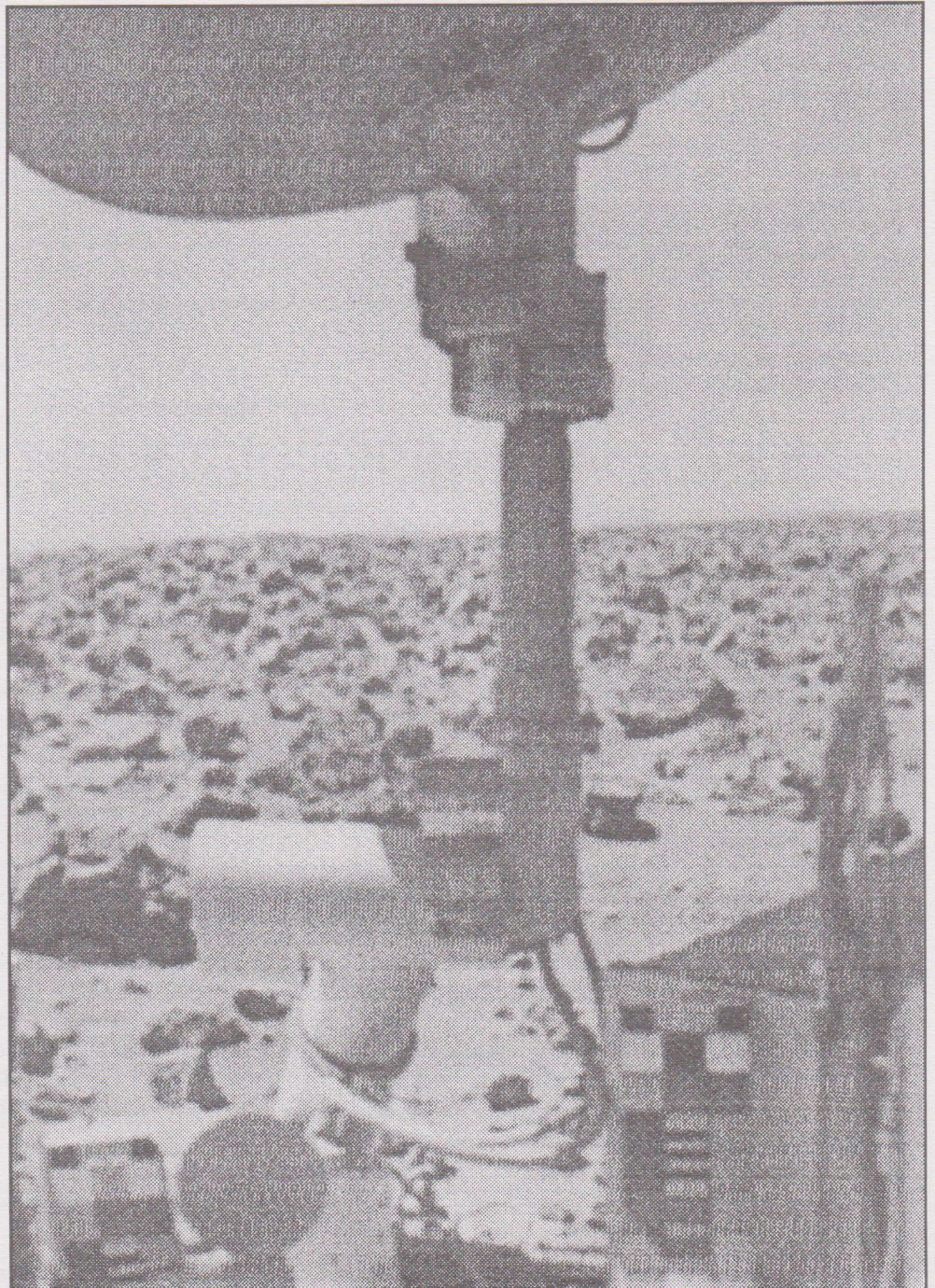


**WHAT
HAPPENED TO
THE MARS
OBSERVER?**

**"AREA 51
VIEWERS
GUIDE"**

**MJ-12: THE
FBI LINK**

**MYSTERY
SOUND IN
TAOS**



This month's issue:

<i>From the Editor</i>	3
<i>The Disappearance of The Mars Observer</i>	3
<i>Mystery Sound Is Newest Addition to UFO Enigma</i>	7
<i>MJ-12: The FBI Link</i>	8
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	9
<i>"AURA-Z" Or From Russia With Knowledge</i>	10
<i>Crop Circle Update</i>	11
<i>Australian Research Into The Abduction Phenomenon</i>	12
<i>"Area 51 Viewers Guide"</i>	14
<i>What Was Flying Around Broome, Australia?</i>	15
<i>Strange Encounters</i>	16
<i>Letters From The Mailbox</i>	16
<i>Classifieds</i>	18

Contributing Writers

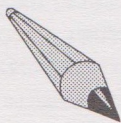
W. L. Garner, Nicholas Redfern, Paul Stonehill, Keith Basterfield,
Dennis Stacy and Michael Norris

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From the Editor:



Welcome to another exciting issue of *UFO ENCOUNTERS*. This month's edition is packed with amazing new information. We start it off with a very controversial story concerning the vanishing of the Mars Observer spacecraft. Richard Hoagland of *The Mars Mission* reveals a complex conspiracy surrounding its disappearance.

Also this month we add another strange phenomenon to the UFO field -- the mysterious Taos Hum. What does this have to do with UFOs? Read and find out.

For those of you who have followed the MJ-12 controversy, be sure to read "MJ-12: The FBI Link."

Paul Stonehill, who, by the way, was the center subject of a recent article in *OMNI* magazine, informs readers of a recent publication from the former Soviet Union. Readers can look forward to more exclusive coverage of the UFO phenomenon from that region of the world by Stonehill in future issues.

Be sure to check out Keith Basterfield's coverage of the UFO enigma in Australia. Also, since Area-51 has been of continued interest, readers may want to pick up the new "Area 51 Viewers Guide," reviewed by Dennis Stacy, editor of the *MUFON UFO Journal*.

If you haven't noticed, OUR PHONE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED. However, our mailing address remains the same. The new phone number for the office is (404) 923-7247. The Fax number is (404) 923-5900. Until next month!

Michael Norris

The Disappearance of The Mars Observer

Is NASA Pulling a Fast One?

by Michael Norris

This is part one of a two-part article. The second half of this story will appear in next month's issue.

The Mars Observer that launched from Florida on Sept. 25, 1992, was a space probe designed by NASA to be the first robot explorer to reach Mars since the Viking 1 & 2 missions in 1976. The nearly \$1 billion mission, entailed sending a craft on a 450 million mile journey to the red

What did NASA do when this startling data was received? Nothing!

planet to study its terrain, weather, and seasonal climate changes.

The spacecraft was scheduled to go into a long elliptical orbit around Mars, and then spend three months maneuvering into an orbit 234 miles above the planet's surface. Afterwards, it was to occupy 687 Earth days (one Martian year) studying the distant planet. Part of this surveying was to be done by a highly sophisticated camera capable of spotting an object as small as a Volkswagen Beetle from its orbital distance of 234 miles.

It is this very camera that Richard Hoagland, founder of a group called *The Mars Mission*, is interested in. Hoagland hopes this very powerful camera may resolve a controversy that has brewed over a group of photos taken seventeen years ago.

In 1976, NASA's unmanned Viking missions sent images to Earth showing possible evidence that there are "intelligently designed structural artifacts on the planet Mars, located in the Cydonia region of the planet." (See *U.E.* Vol. 1 No. 3.)

What did NASA do when this startling data was received? Nothing!

Vincent DiPietro and Gregory Molenaar, who were working at Goddard Space Flight Center, analyzed the Viking photographs and found several frames suggesting that, not only did there seem to be a mile-long carved face on the red planet, but also some structures that appeared to be intelligently constructed (one of which is a five-sided pyramid).

However, over the past 17 years, NASA has ignored all research done on Cydonia where these potential artifacts are located. Even with the launch of the Mars Observer, NASA steadfastly refused to give any priority to obtaining new high-resolution photographs of the potential artificial structures -- when they were fully capable of doing so! In fact, NASA had left the possibility open that the photographs of Cydonia may not have even been obtained -- or even released if they were obtained!

Despite all research on Cydonia, which has involved many scientists who have thoroughly documented their work (including the massive amount of data that Richard Hoagland has brought together),

NASA strongly maintains the idea that there is "no credible evidence" that any of the landforms are artificial.

Mars Observer Disappears

To add to the suspicion and controversy, on Saturday, Aug. 21, 1993, NASA announced that all communication had been lost with the Mars Observer. Some experts began speculating that the craft probably blew up. However, other NASA engineers stated that because the propellant tanks on the spacecraft had backup pressure regulators, they doubted that there was enough pressure to rupture the tanks, which is what would be required for an explosion that would destroy the craft. One NASA spokesperson, Bob MacMillin, said, "The spacecraft is perhaps in orbit around Mars."

So what happened to the Mars Observer? Richard Hoagland believes someone in our government wants the world to think the Mars Observer failed. Sounds crazy you say? Take a look at the picture Hoagland has managed to piece together and decide for yourself.

In a lengthy phone conversation, Hoagland explained to me that he has inside sources verifying his suspicions.

Sources Reveal Conspiracy

"We have begun receiving (through *identified* 'third parties') a series of 'deep throat' phone calls from alleged NASA Mars Observer engineers at JPL," Hoagland had stated, "claiming that our deepest suspicions regarding a manipulation of the process are indeed correct."

According to these sources, a handful of NASA personnel have temporarily hijacked the Mars Observer to be used as a "stealth Cydonia mission." This mission, claims Hoagland's sources, will

NASA had left the possibility open that the photographs of Cydonia may not have even been obtained -- or even released if they were obtained!

involve acquiring secret, high-resolution images of the Face, the Pyramids, and other potential artifacts that Hoagland and others have been researching for ten years! Hoagland was also told that this secret stealth mission will last until January 8, 1994. Then, the spacecraft will be miraculously "brought back to life" by a series of "ingenious NASA computer commands."

Hoagland told me over the phone that this plan involves acquiring Cydonia images in secret so as to alter them over the next few months by a sophisticated computer image process. Then, "they" plan on releasing the manipulated images next year on "live Cydonia television" to prove once and for all that *The Monuments of Mars* are nothing more than figments of wild imaginations.

Before the disappearance of the Mars Observer, there was a cloud of puzzlement surrounding this mission. For the first time in its history, Hoagland explained, NASA had planned to operate a major exploration mission in space that was actually going to be censored. There was not going to be any live coverage of the images sent back from the Mars Observer. Only selected photos were going to be released after a period of time. Hoagland says that certain groups within NASA thought they could get away with examining images of Cydonia without releasing any

of them to the public. But, Hoagland theorizes, because of the outcry from organizations such as *The Mars Mission* with increased support from the public and media, NASA felt they couldn't get away with it, so they went to "plan B" -- the lie that the Mars Observer was somehow lost.

Hoagland, on the other hand, is far from quitting now. He and others are alerting radio astronomers around the world to the possibility that some "rogue group" inside NASA is attempting to pull off the largest scam in history. According to Hoagland, if the Mars Observer is alive and is sending back images of Cydonia, then it must send them back via radio transmission. If any radio astronomer picks up signals from the vicinity of Mars, it will prove that NASA has lied to the world.

Strong Evidence Against NASA

Dr. Stanley V. McDaniel, an ethicist and historian of science, and former Chairman of the Department of Philosophy at Sonoma University, did a critical, year-long review of Hoagland's Cydonia investigation and NASA's 17 years of documented "non-science" toward the Cydonia mystery. Professor McDaniel concluded that, "On the whole the researchers, acutely aware of the controversial nature of their subject matter, have conducted their work with a remarkably high degree of scientific integrity. In many respects, their work has been a model of the way science, at its best, should work."

On the contrary, as McDaniel states in his report, the very opposite is true with NASA and those surrounding the Mars Observer project, for the following reasons:

"NASA has regularly distributed documents containing false or misleading statements about its

evaluation of the Face to members of Congress and to the public. NASA's ignoring of AOC [Artificial Origin at Cydonia] research, the absence of legitimate scientific evaluation of the AOC landforms by NASA, the apparently exaggerated warnings that such photographs would be extremely difficult to obtain, the possible sequestering of the data under the aegis of 'private contract,' and the ambiguous language used by NASA officials to generate a sense of complacency around the issue all support the suspicion of the motivation contrary to the stated policy."

In a prophetic ending to his report, McDaniel writes:

"Because of the position NASA has taken, a massive failure of NASA's public responsibility is imminent. NASA may in fact, be about to commit *one of the most egregious crimes against the ethics of science in all history.*" [emphasis added]

The McDaniel report was delivered to Mars Observer Program Scientist Dr. Bevan French at 10:00 a.m. Friday morning, August 20. Thirty-six hours after NASA received this lengthy study that exposed in detail NASA's avoidance of the Cydonia issue, NASA conveniently announced that communication was lost with the Mars Observer. The events surrounding this loss, however, raise suspicion.

NASA Turns Off Radio

On Friday evening, Aug. 20, NASA sent all the computer instructions to allow the Mars Observer to begin its orbit procedure. The following day, there was supposed to be a sequence of events that were going to take place. One was the pressurization of the fuel system prior to the ignition of the retrorockets to slow the craft down

so it could be captured by Mars' gravity.

The manufacturer recommended, according to Hoagland, that before any major movements such as this, the radio be turned off.

"There are some very strange developments around that sequence," Hoagland said in our telephone conversation. "This has never happened before in the history of space flight. Engineers loathe to have things occurring when they can't see them. If you turn off the radio, you have no telemetry, no engineering, no measurements -- and if something happens during a particular maneuver or event, you have no data in which to backtrack and unravel what went wrong. So you can't fix it for the next time. It is bizarre that NASA actually sent a command to turn off the radios -- and that's what they are telling us they did."

Hoagland said that since the Mars Observer disappearance, he has received calls from engineers who worked on the spacecraft who said they sent instructions not to turn off the radio.

"So there is a real contradiction that we need to get to the bottom of. Because if NASA is claiming that this is standard procedure, and the engineers who built the spacecraft say it was not, then we've got a problem," Hoagland explained. "What this does, however, is to remove any data that would be

"NASA has regularly distributed documents containing false or misleading statements about its evaluation of the Face to members of Congress . . ."

made public as to what really happened after the radio was turned off."

NASA gave their excuse for this strange procedure. "We are told here," Hoagland continued, "that their plan was to turn off the radio to prevent damage. Well that's bizarre because why not put in some more vibrational shielding."

When it came time to turn the radio back on, it never happened. But, the mysterious events didn't stop there.

NASA Delays Announcement

"The failure took place around 9:00 p.m. Saturday night," Hoagland explained. "On Sunday morning, in the ninth hour of this emergency, NASA still had not told the world. "They had several previous little problems with communications during the mission as it was flying between Earth and Mars, and they typically notified everyone within an hour or so. In this case they waited over 10 hours!

"On that Sunday, the 22nd, I was scheduled to have a national debate on 'Good Morning America,' ABC's program, with Mars Observer Program scientist Dr. Bevan French. The main thrust of our debate was me saying, 'Bevan, why aren't you going to take pictures of Cydonia, and why for God's sake aren't you going to make them public?' "

On the show Hoagland also asked why the current plan didn't allow the release of all pictures taken by the spacecraft, and also why the pictures that were to be released would only be so done after they were inspected under "private contract" for six months.

"On all previous missions," Hoagland explained to me, "photographs were released live and the spacecraft sent them home by means of radio television. So there was this censorship of the entire plan from

the beginning of the Mars Observer program, which simply doesn't make any sense.

"So ABC, the host, joined me in asking these questions over and over again and getting no good answers. Exactly at 11:00 a.m., when 'Good Morning America' ended in New York, that's when NASA announced it had lost the Mars Observer spacecraft, 12 hours earlier. Why did they wait? Were they notifying next of kin?! I think they wanted to see whether ABC would make us look like idiots, or if they would take our substance of arguments to heart. When they [NASA] saw they were going to lose the war on secrecy, that there was no way they could successfully defend a policy of not taking the pictures and not making them public, that's when I believe 'Plan B' was put into effect."

A Hijacked Mission

During our interview Hoagland explained how this mission was so different from any previous ones in so many ways -- mainly in technology, which, on the Mars Observer, was extremely sophisticated.

"It [The Mars Observer] didn't require hundreds of people gathered in a room the size of a football field to run it, like in previous missions. It could be run by five guys in a basement with the right uplink. The problem now is, we think the wrong five guys are running it," says Hoagland.

"It was computer driven. Every experiment has its own computer. The spacecraft is separate from the experiments, in each having its own computer. So you could send commands to do science and not impact the spacecraft itself, and visa versa. And it has multiple radios. The point is that it is inconceivable, given all the backup systems and computers, that any one failure could have taken this thing off the

The study then considered, "How might such information, under what circumstances, be presented to or withheld from the public . . ."

air. It's just impossible. We are at the end of a 35-year process boys and girls, not at the beginning. You know, we sent to Mars Vikings, with 60's technology, which were designed to carry out far more complicated functions than this thing had so far been asked to do."

Why all the conspiracy? And have we heard the last of the Mars Observer? I asked Hoagland these questions.

"They are going to have to return it," Hoagland answered. "The reason is, they are dedicated loyal NASA people who are doing this for what they think are the best possible motives. They're not out to screw NASA or their fellow employees. They're out to protect us from things they think we should not know because we are too infantile. The basis of this presumption, is a document we found in NASA's files . . ."

A Prophetic Document

This document that Hoagland refers to, which he only discovered a few short months ago, is titled, "Proposed Studies On The Implications Of Peaceful Space Activities For Human Affairs." The lengthy report (several hundred pages), was prepared by the *Brookings Institution* for a very young NASA. On April 18, 1961, the study was delivered to Congress as *official NASA policy*.

Several hundred top consultants contributed "their experience, imagination, and critical insight" to this long study to be used as a blueprint for the basis of NASA's future policy regarding its space program.

The Brookings Report anticipated the possible future discovery of intelligently designed artifacts in other parts of our solar system by unmanned NASA probes. ". . . artifacts left at some point in time by these life forms might possibly be discovered through our space activities on the Moon, Mars, or Venus," the study states.

The study then considered, "How might such information, under what circumstances, be presented to or withheld from the public, for what ends?" [emphasis added]

The reason for "withholding" this information the study says, is the fear that society may "disintegrate" when such information became known. Who would be the hardest shaken by such an alien discovery? "The fundamentalist (and antisience) sects are growing apace around the world . . . For them, the discovery of other life -- rather than any other space product -- would be electrifying," the study reports. The study also says, "It has been speculated that of all groups, scientists and engineers might be the most devastated by the discovery of relatively superior creatures, since these professions are most clearly associated with the mastery of nature, rather than with the understanding and expression of man."

Here we have it in black and white! This is a known document, not any alleged accusations. And this advised policy existed from the near beginnings of NASA's creation. So, once again, what's the motive?

"If you think civilization is going to be destroyed if you reveal this information," Hoagland commented, "the motive is obviously

continued on page 18

Mystery Sound Is Newest Addition to UFO Enigma

by W. L. Garner

To many, if not most, the UFO enigma has grown to encompass many mysteries that may or may not have anything to do with unidentified flying objects. Literally, and in its purest sense, UFO research is concerned only with the investigation and study of objects passing through the atmosphere, or space, which cannot be identified as a known natural phenomenon or a manmade object. Actually, it has expanded to include a number of phenomena which many think have a direct relationship to UFOs or to the hypothetical beings who made the UFOs. Among the better known of these phenomena are crop circles, animal mutilations, missing time (abductions), The Monuments of Mars, ancient earth megaliths and, to some, Sasquatch or bigfoot.

Now you can add another phenomenon to this collection of enigmas -- a sound; a low pitched vibration that only some people can hear and no one, including scientists, physicians and audiologists, have been able to identify. Many UFO buffs are quick to blame underground bases, secret electronic pulse research, electronic beams from satellites, etc.

This mystery gained notoriety and the nickname, "Taos Hum" last year after Bob and Catanya Saltman of Taos, New Mexico, spoke out about a continuous humming sound that was driving them nuts. After their story spread literally hundreds of other people from Northern New Mexico came forward with similar complaints. Some have been hearing

this hum continuously for years. But it doesn't stop here.

The reports of incessant machinelike humming sounds go back to at least the 1940s and comes from many places across North America and Europe. In the U.S., areas most frequently reporting such noises are the Southwest, Northwest and Northeast.

To those who can hear it, the constant audible vibration can be as irritating as an insect in your ear. Those who hear this sound find relief only by drowning it in other sounds. When they finally

Many UFO buffs are quick to blame underground bases, secret electronic pulse research, electronic beams from satellites, etc.

give up after trying 24 hours a day to drown it out with other sounds, they pack up and move to another city or state.

The audio range for humans is from 20 to 20,000 hertz, with speech generally between 1,000 and 3,000 hertz. Low bass vibrations are at the bottom of the hearing range and high penetrating hisses are at the top end. Scientists have not succeeded in recording or measuring the actual mystery sound, but "hearers" listening to sounds produced by a signal generator and speaker have selected frequencies from 33 to 80 hertz as

sounding like it.

The sound is described most frequently as like a powerful engine idling in the distance or the low hum of an electrical generator. Engineers and physicists have been unable to locate any external vibrations. They are currently investigating "power line harmonics," or the interference between power lines and other electronic signals such as radar or radio waves. Another line of research is geological stress and movement in the earth's molten core. A third is medical including tinnitus, a high frequency hissing sound over 4,000 hertz heard by some.

Speculation that the sound emanates from a secret, defense-related project got a boost last February when U.S. Representative Bill Richardson, D-NM, a member of the intelligence community, said he believed the Department of Defense probably was the culprit. The House committee staff is looking at classified DOD projects and numerous military installations scattered around Northern New Mexico, but John Deutch, a DOD undersecretary, says DOD is not responsible and he has no idea where the sound comes from.

The mysterious hum even made *Fate* magazine's 1992 list of the ten strangest occurrences. Columnist Mark Chorvinsky noted, "Residents of Hueytown, Alabama and Watford, England, were being driven to the edge of madness by the loud sound of incessant, mysterious humming that continued without end for days at a time." British authorities announced that it was "the result of low frequency resonance along high pressure gas pipes."

The current rash of publicity about the Taos Hum stems from a series of articles by John Donnelly that appeared in Sunday papers in mid-July. The Baton Rouge *Sunday Advocate* carried a lengthy version on page 1D of its July 11 issue.

Donnelly cites many experiences of those who hear the Taos Hum and mentions work being done at the University of New Mexico. He says that the two largest populations of "hearers" are in Northern New Mexico and in London and South Hampton areas of Great Britain where more than 2,000 people have reported this phenomenon going back to the 1940s. He reports that the English have an organization (The Low Frequency Noise Sufferers Association), a comprehensive newsletter and even a name for themselves (The Hummers). Donnelly advises that four studies spanning 20 years in England and New Mexico's first round of research have found no answers.

The Nov.-Dec. 1989 issue of *International UFO Reporter (IUR)*, contains the article, "Machinelike Underground Sounds and the UFO Phenomenon" by Greg Long. Long became interested in these mysterious sounds in the mid-1980s when he was investigating some 200 UFO sightings on the Yakima Indian Reservation in South-Central Washington. Many of the sightings were associated with machinelike underground noises. In his research, Long cited documented reports from England, Italy, Puerto Rico, Colorado, Texas, California, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

The well-known writer, John Keel, devotes his monthly "Beyond The Known" column in the August 1993, *FATE* magazine to "Those Mysterious Hummers." Keel begins by citing reports of newspaper reporters who visited the early scientific stations in frigid Antarctica back in the 1960s. He states that they were not only seeing odd flying machines (UFOs), they were also hearing rumblings, hummings, and the sound of heavy machines operating out on the ice fields near their bases. Keel goes on to discuss some investigations into humming sounds

he conducted in the northeast U.S. in the 1970s and sounds associated with crop circles in the 1980s. Keel concludes with a review of the Taos Hum in New Mexico. In his unique way, Keel concludes, "From the snowy plains of Antarctica to the Catskill Mountains and the deserts of New Mexico, the phantom hummers have been active for two generations or more.

Science is totally bewildered, as usual. Politicians and bureaucrats are blaming each other, as usual. Conspiracy buffs are wailing "Cover-up!" as usual.

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MJ-12: THE FBI LINK

by Nicholas Redfern

Ever since their emergence in the UFO community in 1987, the so-called "MJ-12" or "Majestic 12" documents have been the subject of intense debate regarding their authenticity or otherwise. They first gained prominence in *Above Top Secret*, written by Timothy Good, and have been the subject of numerous reports authored by an array of researchers ever since (Ref. 1). The documents allege that in early July 1947, an extraterrestrial vehicle crashed approximately 75 miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base in New Mexico, and that bodies of the crew from the object were also discovered, and that a high-level committee (the Majestic 12) was created in response to this startling event. Are these documents authentic? Have classified U.S. Government papers been "leaked" to the public? These were questions that numerous UFO researchers asked themselves. They were questions also asked by the United States' Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On September 15, 1988, a Special Agent with the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) contacted the office

of the FBI in Dallas and supplied FBI agents with copies of the MJ-12 papers. There was concern by the FBI that they were possibly in possession of a genuine U.S. Government document that had not been properly declassified. The Dallas office noted that there had been at least two radio show broadcasts on MJ-12 in September and October 1988, and this had generated some publicity. On October 25, 1988, Dallas FBI sent a "Secret" Airtel, titled "POSSIBLE DISCLO-

TOP SECRET / MAJIC EYES ONLY TOP SECRET		002
TOP SECRET	COPY ONE OF ONE	
SUBJECT: OPERATION MAJESTIC-12 PRELIMINARY BRIEFING FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT EISENHOWER.		
DOCUMENT PREPARED 10 NOVEMBER, 1952.		
BRIEFING OFFICER: ADM. ROSCOE H. ELLENKOEFTER (MJ-1)		
NOTE: This document has been prepared as a preliminary briefing only. It should be regarded as introductory to a full operations briefing intended to follow.		

OPERATION MAJESTIC-12 is a TOP SECRET Research and Development/Intelligence operation responsible directly and only to the President of the United States. Operations of the project are carried out under control of the Majestic-12 (MJ-12) Group which was established by special classified executive order of President Truman on 24 September, 1947, upon recommendation by Dr. Vannevar Bush and Secretary James Forrestal. (See Attachment 4.) Members of the Majestic-12 Group were designated as follows:		
Adm. Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter Dr. Vannevar Bush Secy. James V. Forrestal Gen. Nathan F. Twining Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg Dr. Detlev Bronk Dr. Jerome Kunzaker Mr. Sidney W. Souers Mr. Gordon Gray Dr. Donald Menzel Gen. Robert H. Montague Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner		
The death of Secretary Forrestal on 22 May, 1949, created a vacancy which remained unfilled until 01 August, 1950, upon which date Gen. Walter B. Smith was designated as permanent replacement.		
TOP SECRET	TOP SECRET / MAJIC EYES ONLY	
TOP SECRET	TSP-EXHPT (E) 002	

SURE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION REGARDING OPERATION MAJESTIC-12," to the Director of the FBI requesting guidance as to whether or not they should launch an investigation into what appeared to be a serious security leak (Ref. 2).

On November 30, 1988, an arranged meeting took place between agents on the FBI and AFOSI in Washington. During this discussion, OSI informed the FBI that they were aware of the existence of the papers, and were aware that they had been distributed to various parts of the country, but were satisfied that the documents were completely

The documents allege that in early July 1947, an extraterrestrial vehicle crashed approximately 75 miles northwest of Roswell Army Air Base in New Mexico.

bogus. This information was duly passed on to the FBI in Dallas via communication again classified "Secret" and the Dallas office was advised that it should close its file on MJ-12.

This would appear to lay the matter to rest. However, there are several aspects of the above events that remain murky. I have been told by the Chief of the Information Release Division at AFOSI, Bolling Air Force Base, that they have no records concerning Majestic 12 other than the documents themselves. I have also been told that the OSI agents who discussed the MJ-12 documents with the FBI made no notes regarding their "chat" because the MJ-12 papers were not the property of the U.S. Air Force. If OSI is not in possession of any documentation regarding MJ-12,

and has not carried out an investigation regarding their authenticity or otherwise, how have they been able to determine that the documents are not genuine, and how have they been able to determine that they are not the property of the U.S. Air Force? Furthermore, if OSI has not carried out an investigation, then how have they been able to determine that the documents have been distributed to various parts of the United States? (Ref. 3)

It would appear that a study of the papers simply must have taken place to allow OSI to inform the FBI so confidently that the papers were bogus. Despite this, it does appear that the MJ-12 papers are indeed fakes and enough legitimate reasons have surfaced that appear to confirm this. The main question that seems unanswered is why were these documents created in the first place? I have gone to great lengths to answer this. Having had contact with three people who appear to have "inside" knowledge regarding the documents' origin, it would appear that its purpose was threefold. First, to discredit research into the Roswell event; secondly, to confuse the issue surrounding the *real* Majestic-12, which several researchers were investigating; and thirdly, to diffuse the interest that a number of people were taking in the Paul Bennewitz case. While a genuine UFO link to the Bennewitz case is possible, it has been suggested to me that, at least in part, Bennewitz had uncovered and intercepted a number of highly-classified, low-frequency electromagnetic emissions that he believed were connected with UFOs. (Ref. 4)

Suffice it to say, if the purposes of the MJ-12 documents are as described in the above paragraph, then they have surely worked.

continued on page 19

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 30-31: UFO EXPO WEST - San Mateo Dunfey Hotel, San Francisco, CA. Call (415) 905-8874 or write to P.O. Box 1011, Pacific palisades, CA 90272.

Nov. 13: THE SECOND DELAWARE UFO SYMPOSIUM - Copeland Lecture Hall, Winterthur Museum and Gardens, suburb of Wilmington, DE. Call (302) 328-3804 or (302) 737-6127.

Nov. 20-21: INDIANAPOLIS INDIANA: "ARE WE ALONE? CURRENT CASE STUDIES FOR THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL HYPOTHESIS" - Adam's Mark Hotel. Call (417) 882-6847 or write to Triad Res. Foundation at 4033 S. Belvedere, Springfield, MO 65807.

Nov. 28-Dec. 5: INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS AND FILM FESTIVAL - Las Vegas Showboat Hotel. Call (510) 428-0202.

To be included in this section, send info to Aztec Publishing, P.O. Box 1142, Norcross, GA 30091.

"AURA-Z" Or From Russia With Knowledge

by Paul Stonehill

The Russian Ufology Research Center was formed in May 1991. The Center was a creation of several ex-Soviet scientists, American researchers, and UFO phenomena study enthusiasts. We had no idea that later the same year, another research center was created, a very important and intellectually unmatched entity set to explore the anomalous phenomena. I urge all American ufologists to pay heed to it. In December of 1991, the Research Centre (alas, in Russia they use British spelling) "AURA-Z" was founded in Moscow. The aims and objectives of the Centre are to conduct research into the problems of ufology, psychotronics, parapsychology, and modern and alternative medicine.

In particular, "AURA-Z" plans to conduct on-the-spot investigations of alleged UFO landings, and their influence (energy, etc.) on the environment; conduct experiments with people who have phenomenal abilities; investigate the potentialities for vision in the infrared and ultraviolet spectra; test new alternative treatment methods, and so forth.

In 1993 the Centre embarked on publishing its quarterly journal "AURA-Z" in five languages (Russian, English, French, Italian, and Spanish). I have the first issue in front of me. It is not only the quality of paper, unsurpassed by any similar publications known to me, whether in Russia, Asia, or in the West; it is not only the abundance of illustrations and photographs; nay, it

is the sheer intellectual might that stands behind "AURA-Z," and it is about to make its presence known in the international arena.

Alexander Avshalumov is the founder and Director of the Scientific Research Centre "AURA-Z," as well as the Science Editor of the journal. This young man (he is but 29 years of age) was born in the city of Baku, USSR. In 1985 he graduated from the Mathematical Faculty of the Azerbaijan State University. Avshalumov is an International Chess Master. He has been engaged in research on experimental hypnosis and human psi-energy. The first issue of the journal contains his article "Laws of the spiritual world." There are many other fascinating articles, too.

In the UFOLOGY section of "AURA-Z" one finds an article by Lev Chulkov, Ph.D. of Mechanics and Applied Mathematics. An avid UFO researcher since 1960, and author of the first book in the USSR to promote the ET concept of UFOs ("The Sons of the Stars"), Mr. Chulkov has contributed his article UFO AND POLITICS (several episodes in the 40-year history of Soviet ufology). The "episodes" confirm my findings of



the intense interest Joseph Stalin, that omnipotent Soviet dictator, had with regard to UFOs. I have already submitted my research paper on "STALIN AND UFOS," and could not use this latest confirmation of Stalin's suspicions as to UFOs. The other "episodes" tell of the persecutions of Soviet ufologists by Communist Party functionaries, the "luminaries" of science, and the KGB. Everything is well-documented, facts are stated, names are named. The next article in the UFOLOGY section mentions that secret "laboratory" for the study of UFOs that I had written about last year; but the site is not mentioned, nor are such serious witnesses as scientists L. Termen. However, in the EXCLUSIVE section of "AURA-Z," there are documents from the KGB archives, testimonies of Soviet military witnesses. As a rule, these were people whose professional duty it was to watch the

sky and record everything that was going on there. I compared the documents to those contained in the files of the RUSSIAN UFOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER, and must say that the Journal's documents appear to be genuine, and places and dates correlate to my own findings. On pages 16 and 17 of the Journal are three very interesting photographs taken by Nikolay Nilov at an airfield near Moscow during test flights of an IL-96 plane in the spring of 1990. The photographs should be viewed by experts, for they are strikingly realistic, and the "unknown objects" caught by the camera deserve to be studied. Then there is "My Encounter With A UFO" article by Lev Vyatkin, Fighter Pilot 1st Class, Lieutenant-Colonel, a graduate of the Komarov Higher Naval Aviation College (1953), and of the Mechnikov State University (Odessa, USSR), 1974. The encounter took place in 1967. Now, the date of his encounter was August 13, 1967. Later the same year another interesting event in the world of Soviet ufology took place: the recently established UFO Department of the All-Union Committee of Cosmonautics (it included both military and civilian ufologists, such as Major-General L. Reino, and F. Zigel) was disbanded late in November of 1967, by Army General A. Ghetmanov. Then came other blows against Soviet ufology.

The aims and objectives of the Centre are to conduct research into the problems of ufology, psychotronics, parapsychology, and modern and alternative medicine.

gists; painful, ruthless, powerful blows.

Lev Vyatkin's encounter was with a UFO of the "solid rays" variety. I urge prominent researchers (such as Dr. Richard F. Haines) of the encounters between UFOs and airplane pilots to contact Mr. Vyatkin, for his description of the encounter is quite detailed.

Those in the West who study the effects of UFOs on the landing sites are urged to read Yury Simakov's article "UFOS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE." The author, a graduate of the Moscow Lomonosov State University, is a biologist and zoologist, and presently a Professor of the Department of Ichthyology and Pisciculture at the All-Russian Food Industry Institute. He has authored 155 scientific and general interest books ("Live Instruments," "Fish Genetics," "Water Toxicology" and others). The article contains a detailed scientific analysis of soil samples from the alleged landing sites, as well as microscope photographs and diagrams.

There are other sections with articles penned by noted Russian scientists and scholars. Remote psi-influence, analyses of energoforms captured by cameras, prevision and foresight, dowsing, scientific research of Relict Homioid (Bigfoot) Phenomena including the latest developments, reversal of the process of aging, visual hallucinations captured on film, the physics of quantized space and time . . . all of these subjects are explored in the Journal, and more.

Mr. Avsahlumov had asked me to become the Centre's coordinator in the United States. After reviewing the contents of "AURA-Z" Journal, I feel that it is an honor to be associated with the Moscow

Centre, and have agreed to the proposal. The people associated with the Centre, the journal they publish, the scientists and scholars that continue to study the phenomena of UFOs in these most difficult for Russia times, the results of their work . . . all of the above have convinced me that modern ufology is by no means in the state of decline. I look forward to cooperation with the Centre, and will keep American and Western ufologists apprised of the work conducted by the Centre. Those who wish to get in touch with "AURA-Z" should write to:

Paul Stonehill

Director, Russian Ufology Research Center, 5700 Etiwanda Avenue, Suite 215, Tarzana, CA 91356

Crop Circle Update

Project Argus, a 1992 scientific analysis of crop and soil samples where crop circles had formed, was fully documented in a new study titled, "Report on the Results of Project Argus: An Instrumented Study of the Physical Materials of Crop Circles."

The study was initiated by two groups: The North American Circle (NAC), and The Centre for Crop Circle Studies (CCCS). Several physicists, biologists and engineers were involved in the project. Various scientific laboratory tests were used in analysis, such as electron microscopy to examine plant cell walls, but no "smoking gun" was found as a result of the research. However, many interesting results did emerge from the project.

A greater incidence of microscopic "blisters" on plants found

inside the crop circles were discovered. A few unusual molds and types of cellular damage were also detected. No evidence of anomalous radioactive traces in the plants tested were found. Complex lay patterns on the floor of the crop circles turned up -- including plant braiding! Also, some formations seemed to have appeared during or immediately after wet weather -- complicating the hoax theory.

The 115-page report on Project Argus mentioned above is available from Michael Chorost by writing to North American Circle, P.O. Box 61144, Durham, NC, 27715-1144. Price is \$11 U.S. funds and an additional \$5 for overseas customers to cover airmail.

Prominent crop circle investigator Colin Andrews says he now has over 70 cases in his *Circles Phenomenon Research* (CPR) files from individuals who claim to have seen crop circles in the process of formation. The most interesting aspect of these eyewitness accounts is that none of them are the same. They vary from reports of "shimmering columns of mist which disappear leaving behind a circle," to reports "of beams of light, sometimes without a visible source, sometimes associated with an orange ball of light, which inscribes a circle or formation into the crop, invariably within a few seconds."

An interesting crop circle case that Andrews has reported on comes from Milestone, Canada, in 1992. A farmer was harvesting his crop when he noticed two 15-foot circles in his field. Upon further inspection, he found that the stalks were still standing, but were cut off about 10-12 inches from the ground. Nowhere could the farmer find any of the severed tops of his crop!



AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH INTO THE ABDUCTION PHENOMENON

by Keith Basterfield

An outline of the collection of data on Australian abduction cases is presented. The question of potential explanations for abductions as due to psychopathology, fantasy proneness, or altered states of consciousness is examined. A current Australian research project is outlined.

Data Collection: A Historical Overview

In 1976, the author, with colleague Bill Chalker of Sydney, compiled a work which brought together abstracts of all known local CE3 events, a total of 36 cases. An examination of these revealed that none were abductions.

At national conference UFO-CON3, in 1977, at Surfer's Paradise, Bill Chalker, in presenting a paper remarked concerning Aus-

By 1980 the author had produced a more definitive study of local CE3 events that brought together 104 CE3 cases to that time.

tralia that: "Upon first inspection, we appear to have a complete absence of time lapse, abduction . . . cases."

By 1980 the author had produced a more definitive study of local CE3 events that brought together 104 CE3 cases to that time. Several of these fell within the general definition of an abduc-

tion. One was the classic 1973 incident involving Maureen Puddy of Victoria, in which she recalled finding herself in a round room lit from an unknown source, with an unusual entity present.

During the period 1980-1987, several other accounts filtered into Australian UFO research organizations. By 1987, American University folklorist Thomas E. Bullard, had undertaken a massive compilation of texts of over 300 global abduction events and produced a report which included 14 entries for Australia.

Noting the upsurge of abduction cases in other countries, particularly in the U.S., the UFO Research Australia network (UFORA), for which the author is Research Director, decided to see if previously *unreported* abductions existed here in Australia. Therefore, a carefully worded "letter to the editor" was forwarded to 20 metropolitan daily newspapers requesting individuals who might identify with being an abductee to contact us. Although 20 replies came in, none were from an abductee, although all related to the general UFO phenomenon.

In June 1989, UFORA extended the search to 51 regional newspapers, selected metropolitan daily papers, and radio stations scattered throughout the country. The net known media coverage was two TV interviews, items in five major newspapers, and 31 radio station interviews in a week by the author. Several previously unknown cases came to light.

At the same time, many previously unreported cases arrived,

without media awareness, through UFORA itself, UFO Research (Qld), Bill Chalker and UFO Research (South Australia).

June 1992 saw the compilation of two UFORA documents. One was titled: "A Catalogue of Australian and New Zealand 'abduction' and 'potential abduction' cases." It contained abstracts of 49 events. However, using the stricter definition of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, this number reduced to 20 documented abduction cases. These 20 formed the basis for the second UFORA document.

Lastly, in November 1992, the author initiated a third national search for abductees using a national hotline telephone number, advertised widely through television, newspapers and radio throughout the country. Sixty-one telephone calls were received which involved about a dozen new cases on top of the already known.

The Debate

We have therefore learned that here in Australia, we do indeed have individuals reporting abduction experiences. The content of these reports closely parallels those arising elsewhere in the world. What is the cause of these reports?

Discussion concerning abduction reports has centered, like the debate about the UFO phenomenon as a whole, around the question of reality. Are abduction reports caused by the human mind in some way, or are these events really occurring? Health professionals, particularly when confronted with an abductee, often fall back upon the response that it must be psychopathological in origin. However, study after study finds this response to be untrue.

As far back as 1981, after pursuing the use of hypnosis with

abductees, clinical psychologist and psychotherapist Dr. Aphrodite Clamar, stated that she could find: ". . . no common pathology; indeed, no discernible pathology at all."

American Psychologist Elizabeth Slater, in 1983, conducted psychodiagnostic test batteries on nine abductees. Her finding was that: "The first and most critical question is whether our subjects' reported experiences could be accounted for strictly on the basis of psychopathology. . . . The answer is a firm 'no.'"

In 1990, 264 subjects undertook a through-the-mail self-completed questionnaire survey organized by Ring and Rosing.

Health professionals, particularly when confronted with an abductee, often fall back upon the response that it must be psychopathological in origin.

They utilized a UFO encounter group (n=97), a control group of persons interested in UFOs (n=39), and compared these with a group of persons who had undergone a Near-Death Experience (n=74), and a group of persons interested in NDEs (n=54). Their analysis showed that: ". . . persons reporting abductions were psychologically indistinguishable from those who had other types of UFO encounters" and that psychopathology was not evident in abductees.

Another paper published in 1990 by Parnell and Sprinkle, scored 142 females and 83 males in the U.S., who reported UFO experiences, including abductions, on the MMPI and found no overt

psychopathology was indicated: ". . . claims of UFO experiences are not associated with pathological personality self-report."

Finally, a 1991 study (Rodeghier et al) looked at psychological data from 27 individuals meeting the strict CUFOS definition for an abductee. They reported: "MMPI results suggest that the sample as a whole suffers from no overt pathology."

Other psychological explanations have been advanced.

Fantasy Proneness?

In a series of articles, U.S. sociologist Robert E. Bartholomew and this author postulated that abductions might be explained in terms of fantasy-prone personalities. Fantasy-prone individuals (a better term of imagery-prone individuals had been suggested by Dr. Michael Thalbourne of Adelaide) had first been discovered in 1981 by Wilson and Barber. The characteristics of fantasy-prone people and abductees were similar enough for us to suggest testing abductees to see if they were indeed fantasy-prone or not.

This testable, falsifiable scientific hypothesis was put to the test by two groups. The Ring and Rosing study concluded: ". . . fantasy proneness is not a factor that differentiates our experiential from our control groups."

The second study, undertaken by CUFOS noted: "The abductions clearly cannot, as a group, be described as having fantasy-prone personalities."

Dissociation?

Could abductions be altered states of consciousness, perhaps evidence of dissociation processes of the brain at work? Ring and Rosing utilized the Wogan Psycho-

logical Inventory in their study that measured tendencies toward dissociation. They reported: "Thus, there seems to be good support for the assumption that tendencies towards dissociation are indeed implicated in the psychological profile of our experiential respondents and especially so for our UFOers."

A Current Research Project

The UFORA network, together with CUFOS and BUFORA in the United Kingdom, are currently undertaking a major study of abductees to address some of the above issues.

Abductees, chosen to match the CUFOS definition, are being asked to complete a number of psychological and other questionnaires.

1. MMPI-exploring tendencies toward psychopathological disorders.
2. ICMI- exploring fantasy-proneness.
3. DES-exploring tendencies to dissociate.
4. A lifestyle questionnaire.

5. An abduction date record sheet.

The analysis will look at whether or not psychopathology, FPP or dissociation are more prevalent in abductees in the three countries. A cross-cultural analysis will also be undertaken. This will replicate and build upon earlier work.

Reality?

Many UFO researchers have jumped the gap between abduction reports and their analysis, straight to a conclusion that the events are physically real, but without rigorous scientific exploration. If psychological explanations are tested, but fail to explain the cause of abductions, then alternatives such as a reality based one will be strengthened.

The author, Research Director of the UFO Research Australia network, is interested to correspond with anyone conducting research into the abduction phenomenon. His postal address is GPO Box 1894, Adelaide, South Australia 5001.

helicopters, and blazed new trails of his own (up new-found "Freedom Ridge"). He's also debunked a myth or two along the way, primarily that of "Old Faithful," the daily early morning "UFO" that turned out to be a 737 leased by Janet Airlines, which routinely flies workers into Groom Lake from nearby Las Vegas. Still, he tells you not only *what* to look for, but where, when and how.

Meat of the guide is a milelog of Highway 375 and attractions (including the celebrated Little A'Le'Inn), but along the way Campbell covers the historical background of Area 51/Dreamland, Lazar, John Lear, et al. Several

If you're contemplating a trip out west to take in the infamous Black Mailbox and see for yourself, you won't want to leave home without it.

maps are included (along with ready made order forms for others), as well as practical tips about what to wear and what to expect from the desert climate, not to mention what to do during close encounters with the local security guards. If you haven't thought about it, chances are Campbell has, from where to find gas, supplies and camouflage clothing, to instructions for getting in and out of Las Vegas with your wallet relatively intact.

For the unsatisfied, Campbell also includes a complete listing of sources for additional books, articles, videos, and audiotapes relevant to Area 51 and S-4. If you ever wanted to know it, it's probably here. About the only thing he doesn't do is pick you up at your front door and hand-hold you through the security gates into the

continued on page 19

"Area 51 Viewers Guide"

Reviewed by Dennis Stacy

The personal computer and laser printer have revolutionized desktop publishing. A prime example of same is this ongoing, routinely updated series of informative viewers' guides to Area 51 and environs, including Dreamland and Area S-4, the latter made famous by Robert Lazar's claims of having helped reverse-engineer alien flying saucers at this remote desert outpost. Compiled by Glenn Campbell, a former Boston software developer who now lives year-round

in Rachel, Nevada, this spiral-bound *Guide* is as entertainingly written as it is exhaustively detailed. If you're contemplating a trip out west to take in the infamous Black Mailbox and see for yourself, you won't want to leave home without it.

Campbell himself is a curious cross between interested skeptic, travel guide and political activist. He's been up and down the mountain (White Sides, which overlooks the restricted runway at Groom Lake), buzzed by

What Was Flying Around Broome, Western Australia on August 8, 1992?

by Keith Basterfield

A little time has now elapsed since some rather interesting happenings around the remote town of Broome in North-Western Australia. The passage of time has allowed us to piece together the following account.

The "West Australia" newspaper, dated 15th August 1992 broke the initial story. A telephone interview was conducted that day by Brian Richards, investigator for the Perth based UFO Data and Collection Centre.

Brian's interview confirmed that the chief witnesses lived on the Willie Creek Pearl Farm, some 37 Km north of Broome. Chris Davis and Iella Bailey were out fishing on a clear night. At 2020 hours local time, they saw a white crescent, quarter-Moon-shaped object fly overhead. It was traveling from the south-south-east, heading to the north-north-east. The object, flying vertically with the crescent points trailing, moved at a steady pace. It seemed to be enveloped in a mist, thus having a "fuzzy" appearance overall.

Both witnesses described hearing a faint droning sound. Total duration of the observation was at least one minute.

Sally Bennett, researcher for the

The object, flying vertically with the crescent points trailing, moved at a steady pace.

Melbourne, Victoria-based Phenomena Research Australia group located and interviewed a Mr. George Read. George had been out to sea near Coulomb Point, some 60 Km north of Broome. He heard a distant, high pitched sound approaching from the south. Over trees, he saw a boomerang (crescent) shape. In color it was a bright, white-golden hue. Angular size-wise, it was estimated to be 3-4 times that of the full Moon. Over a period of 2-3 minutes it traveled

He heard a distant, high pitched sound approaching from the south. Over trees, he saw a boomerang (crescent) shape.

north and was lost to sight over the horizon.

Sally also located a person at Crab Creek, 3 Km south of Broome, who heard a droning sound and then sighted a brilliant white object with gold edges. It had a crescent shape and was enveloped in "fog."

John Kernott, a resident of Broome who conducts a postal run through the area came across another person who had also been at Crab Beach that night. Kerry Hogan described seeing, at about 2100 hours, a crescent-shaped yellow object that was traveling very fast from the south to the north.

In addition John interviewed a man called Norm Archer who is working with Aborigines at Sunday Island, 180Km north-north-east of Broome. He, three other adults and four children were camped in a valley on Sunday Island when a large, yellow light, the shape of a crescent Moon, standing upright, cruised above the contour of a hill in front of them.

It was said to be a yellow color, with a mist of cloud around it, and this was especially radiating from the inside of the crescent. The crescent "horns" were trailing. It appeared low in the sky, and he estimated it looked to be about five times the size of the full moon. The object moved east to west along the contour of the hill.

As it came to the end of the hill, it turned, and looked then like a yellow pencil, as it had a shape like a flat crescent shaped biscuit. It then shot straight up in the air and vanished.

Other witnesses of apparently the same crescent shaped object included a Mrs. Sarah S., and her husband who sighted it about 2030 hours from a position halfway between Port Hedland and Broome. Also a Joy Walker and Pam Anthony, staying at the Broome caravan park, between 1930-2000 hours saw it. Finally, a group at the Port Smith caravan park declared they also had seen it between 1930 and 2000 hours.

Although suggestions were made as to the identity of the object causing these reports, the remote locality, the duration of observations and the unique description of a crescent shape, misty in appearance, in the end drew a blank as to conventional explanations.



Strange Encounters

A series of incidents southwest of Monroe, LA, between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1992; Investigator, W. L. "Barney" Garner.

Two deputies enroute to investigate an unidentified bright light in a rural area, and a third deputy nine miles to their southwest watched the light at a distance before it suddenly disappeared. Minutes later at the complainant's home a very large object with two bright lights in front flew slowly and silently at tree top height directly over the two deputies before "zipping out of sight."

Shortly thereafter the third deputy, now 12 miles away and with a deputy from another county, watched an object as large as a

... a very large object with two bright lights in front flew slowly and silently at tree top height directly over the two deputies . . .

commercial jet that resembled a bright ball at a distance but was actually triangular shaped when seen overhead. It passed slowly and silently above them and then zipped away toward the northeast. Seconds later the police radio was reporting a bright light going down behind the paper mill 17 miles away.

For the next hour or two, more than a half-dozen deputies, a shift at a fire station, and possibly up to 50 civilians watched one or more bright, multicolored objects over a large wetlands area south and southeast of the paper mill change color, hover silently, bounce up and down like yo-yos, make sudden jumps in position, and repeatedly just disappear. Witnesses were east,

south and west of the object and estimated their distances from it as several hundred yards to three or four miles. In one case a brightly lit, turtle-shaped object bigger than a house floated slowly at tree top level over a small group of civilians then suddenly just disappeared.

An electronics technician, an estimated five miles NW of the object, with a camcorder and telescope lens got 01:41 seconds VCR tape before it moved out of his sight. Jeff Sainio's analysis of the tape stated that it was better than usual in quality and strangeness, and that the UFO's lighting characteristics were inconsistent with aircraft, incandescent lights and pyrotechnics.

Sometime later, three deputies in two cars were parked north of the paper mill when they spotted a UFO approaching from the west. Turning in front of the paper mill to head it off, one car suddenly found itself directly under the UFO. When the deputy got out and looked up, he found a boomerang-shaped object bigger than a football field hovering silently less than 50 feet above him. A carload of civilians headed in the opposite direction had also stopped. Then suddenly the UFO just zipped away and was not seen again.



Letters From The Mailbox

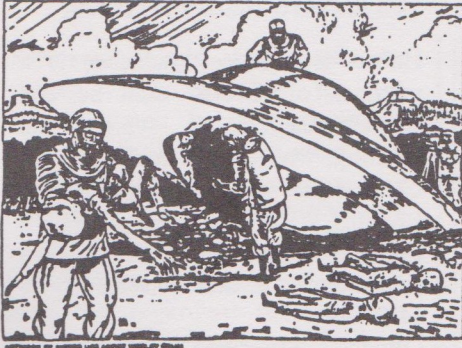
Editor:

In reference to Derek Sikes' coverage of George Knapp's presentation at the MUFON Richmond Symposium (UFO Encounters, Vol.

1, No. 9), there were those present who thought Mr. Knapp's lambasting of my article about "The Ultimate UFO Seminar" (*MUFON UFO Journal*, June 1993) were in remarkably bad taste, myself among them. They were funny, but in bad taste, still: one does not, after all, normally ridicule the host organization that has invited one to speak and paid one's room and board for the weekend.

Mr. Knapp particularly objected to my describing Robert Lazar's physical appearance, never mind that the material probably amounted to a single sentence or two out of a six-page article running to several thousand words. For one thing, many people are interested in Lazar and his story. Excuse me if I'm wrong, but the fact that Lazar cultivates a certain stylish, youthful appearance and arrives at a UFO conference in the middle of the desert in a Corvette sports car -- with vanity license plates "MJ-12" yet! -- says something about both the man and his story. Some have wondered why Lazar has supposedly -- and presumably selflessly -- risked life and limb to make his experience public. They might find some clue or consolation in an announcement in *Daily Variety* for June 11 of this year, which notes that a feature film based on the Lazar story is now in production, estimated budget \$8 to \$10 million. Reportedly, Lazar received \$500,000 for the rights. It's nice to know that he will be handsomely paid for performing his civic duty. I don't begrudge him his fee incidentally, I merely point it out.

Finally, my article about the so-called "ultimate" UFO seminar at which Lazar answered questions from the audience, was never intended as a scientific examination or in-depth investigation into the Lazar story; it was a first-person report on the conference itself, and



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made no pretense otherwise. If Mr. Knapp wants to complain about an apple not being an orange, fine, but surely an investigative reporter of his distinction should be able to at least distinguish the difference between the two.

Happily, for the record, Mr. Knapp and I have aired our "grievances" in private correspondence, and he has apologized for his remarks made about my article in Richmond. No film at eleven, then, but watch your local theatre marquee for the Hollywood version of the Bob Lazar story.

Dennis Stacy, Editor
MUFON UFO Journal

Editor:

I want to personally congratulate you on the growth and professionalism of your excellent *UFO ENCOUNTERS* magazine. I'm rec-

ommending it to everyone, both beginners and veterans in the UFO field alike.

George D. Fawcett,
 MUFON North Carolina, Inc.

Editor:

A Proposal: Federation of Independent Ufologists

Many ufologists are electing to work independently on various projects within the UFO community. I would like to explore with others the possibilities of becoming more organized amongst ourselves to better investigate, share and distribute information to the news media and public at large.

Our common interest seems to be how to better work together to find and distribute the truth as we know it without becoming embroiled in secrecy and politics as is

often the case with the established UFO organizations. We also desire to maintain our independence so we can openly speak out without fear of reprisals by established UFO organization leadership.

I would hope other independent ufologists will send me their ideas and perhaps I could compile, copy and mail them back out to those interested in this endeavor.

Some ideas I would be interested in discussing would include:

1. How to better link our personal information networks.
2. How to best protect our sources of leaked information.
3. How to develop better access to the press.
4. How to build a database or repository for UFO information.
5. How to recognize counterintelli-

Classifieds:

INTO THE FRINGE: A TRUE STORY OF ALIEN ABDUCTION, BY KARLA TURNER. One family's chilling account of alien encounters. Available from Arcturus Books, 1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 USA. Berkley, 1992, paperback - \$4.95.

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gence attacks and defend ourselves from them.

6. How to promote better relationships among ufologists.

I am sure there are many more concerns and ideas, and I would appreciate your input. Mail to Ed Komarek, Rt. 3 Box 1076, Thomasville GA 31792. Please copy and distribute freely. It would be helpful if this first response could be kept to one or two pages per person.

Ed Komarek

Organizer, Operation Right to Know

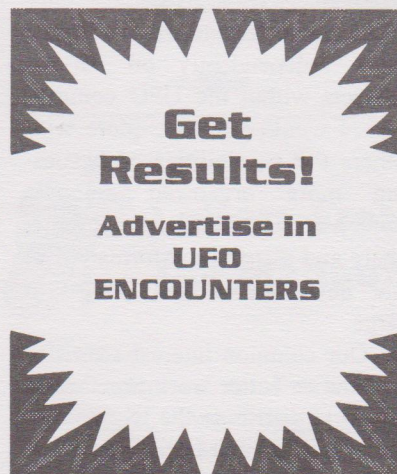
Editor:

The anonymous Associated Investigators Group (AIG) are mad at Bruce Maccabee because he lectures at the CIA about UFOs and because while Bruce was chairman of the Fund for UFO Research, the Fund gave Stanton Friedman \$16,000 to research MJ-12. AIG, which is circulating a paper in the UFO community, says the MJ-12 documents are a hoax and that the CIA influenced Bruce to go on a wild goose chase.

I don't know why AIG is so mad. They ought to be happy the Fund tried to find out whether the MJ-12

papers are a hoax. But the truth is it wasn't Bruce Maccabee's idea to fund Stanton Friedman. It was the idea of Fred Whiting, secretary of the Fund for UFO Research, and Fred doesn't lecture at the CIA. I know because I was at the Fund meetings when those decisions were made. Following that, with others I worked hard to raise the \$16,000 -- and I don't lecture at the CIA.

AIG is also mad because the Fund for UFO Research didn't support Operation Right to Know's July 5th march at the White



House. But Bruce Maccabee is a member of ORTK and he did support the march, while Fred Whiting, who doesn't lecture at the CIA, is the one who opposed it. Cool off, AIG!

Elaine Douglass

Washington DC State Director,
MUFON

Organizer, Operation Right to Know

Mars; continued from page 6

God, country, motherhood and apple pie. And these guys think they're the good guys! Now, how do you remain good guys in this scenario? You can't keep the Mars Observer a secret. If you do that you end up killing NASA. At the very least you end up wounding it one more time when it is winning its budget battles by one vote in the Senate. So that means they have to bring it back. They are going to have to make a big fuss about giving in to us, and they are going to have to substitute the pictures they have taken and altered, for real pictures, blow us out of the water, demonstrate that there is nothing there but a pile of rocks, and everybody is happy. NASA wins, congress wins, the American people win -- the only people who lose are people who understand the implications of *The Monuments of Mars*. And of course all those who don't understand the implications yet is because they are being manipulated in thinking there is nothing there."

More on Hoagland's thoughts and this hot controversy in next month's issue of UFO ENCOUNTERS. Don't miss out!

However, things appear to be turning. The evidence for the Roswell event being the genuine crash and recovery of an alien craft is mounting. New revelations are emerging, and at least one more book on the events is scheduled. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that regardless of the bogus MJ-12 papers, a committee such as MJ-12 would surely have been established following the Roswell crash. If, as it appears, the Majestic 12 papers are part of a sophisticated plan to deceive the public, it would be ironic that it would be brought down by the FBI who are now releasing copies of the MJ-12 papers with "BOGUS" written through

them with a thick black marker pen. (Ref. 5)

MJ-12 Ref.

REF. 1 See also "The Final Report on Operation Majestic 12," by Stanton T. Friedman, "The MJ-12 Documents: An Analytical Report," by William L. Moore and Jaime Shandera, and *Alien Liaison*, by Timothy Good.

REF. 2 An "AIRTEL" is an intra-communication with highest priority of those sent through the mail. Originally conceived as a teletype sent via airmail, it may be in teletype phraseology.

REF. 3 Information concerning AFOSI knowledge of the MJ-12 documents was related to me by Frank H. Batten, Chief, Information Release Division at Bolling Air Force Base.

REF. 4 From information obtained between January and May 1993 from

sources who have convinced this writer of their authenticity.

REF. 5 All information concerning the FBI and MJ-12 as related above is available via FOIA.

Area 51; continued from page 14

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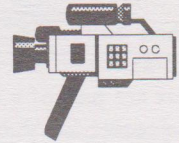
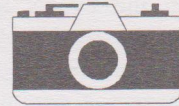
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