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FINAL SYMPOSIUM ANOTHER SUCCESS



Frank Feschino Jr. shows the resource map that assisted his investigations.

by Scott Waldyn, Staff Writer

Authors Frank Feschino Jr. and Robert Hastings and Illinois Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) State Director Sam Maranto spoke at this year's final Truth...If You Dare UFO Symposium 4 at Tinley Park on November 9th. Sponsored by Illinois MUFON and the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS), the featured program updated and educated visitors at the Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center on three specific areas of interest regarding UFOs.

Feschino, author of *Shoot Them Down* opened the event with an in-depth presentation on the 1952 case concerning the "Flatwoods Monster" in West Virginia. The specific case, regarding a mechanical entity landing in the wooded, rural area, was just a large piece of a greater puzzle the investigator put together. Having worked on this particular event for 17 years, Feschino unveiled a brief documentary of his findings as well as surrounding UFO sightings all happening within a 21 hour period.

Describing the array of mass reports as a "shotgun pattern" in the eastern region, the author spoke of how what happened in Flatwoods was just one sighting out of many in one of the longest sustained UFO sightings documented. On September 12, 1952, 25 UFOs were seen in 38 locations in West Virginia from about 1:30 a.m. to about 10:30 or 11 p.m. (*Continued on page 2*)



Symposium attendees awaiting the start of the final symposium of the year.

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THE DIRECTOR'S VIEW

Sam
Maranto

NEW HOPES ON DISCLOSURE

With a new administration waiting in the wings, is there reason for a revived hope for UFO disclosure? Well, on the surface there may be and here is why. The co-chairperson for the Obama-Biden transition team is none other than the last chief of staff for the Clinton administration, John Podesta.

This is of course the same John Podesta that presented his advocacy for disclosure at the National Press Club and who's involvement was keenly noted in the press. Should this by itself warrant hope? Of course not.

If we expect any individual to step forward from this or any other administration and wave what ever it would take for this to indeed happen, we would be sorely disappointed and in all likelihood be dead and gone before this were to happen.

Much like the Vatican finally admitting to the fact that Galileo being correct in supporting the Copernican Theory and was justified in doing so. It came four hundred years too late for the man and well after the general acceptance of such truth.

We can't rest our hopes on anyone other than ourselves to bring about whatever it is that inevitably will be know as truths.



UFO HUNTERS SEASON PREMIERE PARTY

The turnout was over whelming and no less than a hundred made it a point to come out on October 29th at Gatto's Restaurant in Tinley Park and share the excitement of their town and friends featured in the season's premiere episode of UFO Hunters on the Discovery Channel.

In attendance were many of the local stars and starlets themselves. T..J. Jabcon, who's now famous "I've got it...I've got it on tape!" was heard in a number of commercials on television and radio. Our own Alison Nettles and Bill Dooley were in the those spots as well. Jason Freeman, a reporter from the South Town Star newspaper, was present with his family. He was also interviewed in the episode being a witness on two separate occasions and covering his personal account in his articles.

The positive response from this fine community from the mayor on down is truly indicative of the support I've received on this case for the past four years. Carl and the staff at Gatto's treated us with such warmth and friendliness this was a most memorable event. Expect to see similar concepts in the future.

(SUCCESSFUL SYMPOSIUM continued from page 1)

In regards to the specific Flatwoods case, Feschino lectured great lengths about an entity he described as “some kind of probe,” first lighting up the sky and descending in Flatwoods, terrifying local residents curious enough to venture to its landing spot.

“It was like daytime with the reddish orange glow on the mountain top,” Feschino said of the probe’s sudden descent.

Following Feschino’s presentation was a lecture conducted by Robert Hastings, a witness to a 1967 UFO sighting at Malmstrom Air Force Base. Hastings, who has spoken at over 500 colleges and universities since 1981, engaged the audience into the topic of UFO sightings and nuclear weapons.

Having conducted interviews to eye-witnesses since 1973, the author of *UFOs and Nukes* told the crowd about the relationship between nuclear weapons and nuclear silos and UFOs, stating that these weapon sites have been a target for these visitors for the past 60 years.



Frank Feschino, Jr.

“[UFOs] have a distinct interest in vital nuclear weapons facilities,” Hastings said. “This is absolutely factual material that has been hidden from the public for 60 years.” In his presentation, the author stated that UFO visits to weapon sites created disruptions and malfunctions to the electronics, particularly anomalies with guidance and control equipment.

“On some occasions when UFOs appeared near missiles, the missiles malfunctioned. They went offline,” he said.



Robert Hastings

Hastings spoke on the brevity of this topic, stating that he believes all people living within a democracy have a right to know. He conveyed the air force’s interest and hit home the public’s right to hear about these types of sightings and what they could mean on a global scale. Hastings also briefly noted worldwide disclosure regarding UFO sightings as a whole.

“I think we’re all in for a very interesting future,” he said in closing.



Potential new Roswell revelations disclosed by a witness during a Sam Maranto interview.

Bringing the symposium home, Sam Maranto spoke last regarding a very important local case to the Tinley Park area. From August 21 through October 31 in 2004, over 100 residents in the area witnessed multiple sightings of three red lights in a triangular formation hovering in the sky. The lights, remaining stationary and sometimes moving slowly around, were accompanied without sound.

Maranto, as the chief investigator of this case, updated residents and visitors on the matter, showing video footage and fielding questions on what came to be known as the “Tinley Park Lights.” ☺



Filming the symposium presentations

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PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE FIELD INVESTIGATOR (PART THREE): STEREO AND INFRARED

by Frank Coffman, MUFON Field Investigator, Editor

This third in a series of articles on photography for the Field Investigator explores the wondrous potentials of stereography (3D photography) and infrared photography. These topics will likely be new for most readers, and this article intends to be essentially an introductory into these interesting varieties of “drawing with light”—what the ancient Greek roots of the word “photography” translates to: from *photo*, “light” and *graphein* “to draw or make graphic images.” I’ll discuss first the practices and potentials of stereo photography and then infrared. I hope the reader will bear with me as I give a bit of history on, especially, the former.

Stereo Photography Basics

The origins of stereography go back almost as far as the advent of photography itself when Nicephore Niépce created the first photographic image back in 1826 in France. Niépce called it a “heliograph,” or “sun drawing.” It was made by employing a camera obscura, and exposing a pewter plate sensitized with bitumen of Judea for a period of eight hours! Niépce placed his camera in a window of his home in order to capture a view of the neighboring roof tops.



The world’s first photographic image. Nicephore Niépce, 1826, 8 x 6 1/2 inches.



This photo was found in London in the 1950s among some letters written by Niépce. Niépce had obtained images as early as 1813, but they gradually faded, because he was unable to fix them.

It didn’t take long for photography to become practical, due to the pioneering work of Niépce and others like William Henry Fox-Talbot in England.



The Boulevard of Paris by Wm. Henry Fox-Talbot, salted paper print from paper negative, 1843.

First described for the Royal Academy of Science in 1832 by English physicist Sir Charles Wheatstone, the potential for stereoscopy (stereo or 3D photography) was improved by Sir David Brewster in 1849. The production of the *stereograph* (as opposed to simple “photograph”) entailed making two images of the same subject (either drawn or photographed). We see in three dimensions, in other words, we have “depth perception,” due to the recombination in our brains of the two images that our two eyes take in. It wasn’t too great a leap after the advent of the photographic image to discover the technique of putting two images side by side taken from very slightly different camera positions (2.5” or 65mm, the average distance between human eyes, pupil to pupil) and achieving the reconstructed 3D image.

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Stereographic viewing was done initially with side by side pairs viewed through a device with lenses that recombined the images to produce the illusion of depth. The 1850s saw the use of single cameras taking two photos from slightly different angles. This was done best by the same camera on a “slide bar”

OR by the use of two separate cameras or the use of newly devised cameras with twin lenses, exposing two images simultaneously.



An array of twin lens cameras for stereo photography.

Later 19th century photography—both single image “2D” and stereo “3D”—was done with what is known as the “wet plate” or “collodion” process. The process is simple in concept: bromide, iodide or chloride salts were dissolved in collodion, which is a solution of pyroxylin in alcohol and ether. This mixture was poured onto a cleaned glass plate, and allowed to sit for a few seconds. The plate was then placed into a solution of silver nitrate and water, which would convert the iodide, bromide or chloride salts to silver iodide, bromide or chloride, respectively. Once this reaction was complete, the plate was removed from the silver nitrate solution, and exposed in a camera while still wet (hence the “wet plate” designation). It was developed with a solution of iron sulfate, acetic acid and alcohol in water. These chemicals are both caustic and poisonous, and, of course, extreme care had to be taken. The ether used in the process was a danger in itself, both because of its anaesthetizing effect and its flammability.

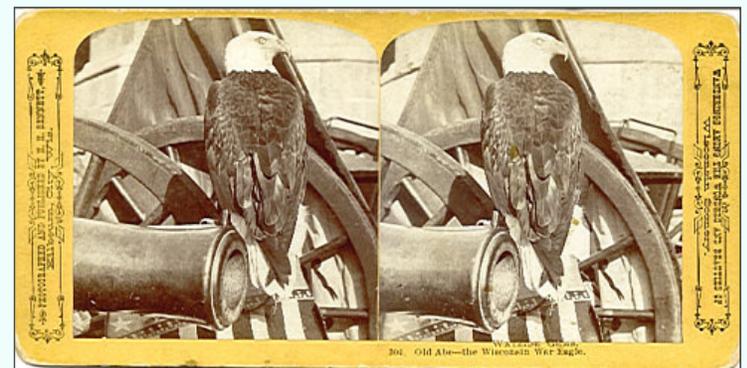
By the time of the American Civil War stereography had advanced so far that it was customary for photographers such as Matthew Brady, Timothy O’Sullivan, and the great Alexander Gardner to have both stereo and regular single lens cameras in their normal equipment. From

around the Civil War era in America through the early 20th century, the device most associated with stereo images was the Holmes Stereopticon, a device perfected by Oliver Wendell Holmes. Many readers will be familiar with this device, perhaps having viewed stereo images through them or at least seeing the device as something their parents or grandparents owned.



The Holmes type ‘Stereopticon’—still in use today with the reinvigoration of stereography. [\[CLICK this line for a brief 360° slide presentation.\]](#)

Here is a Holmes-type stereogram of Abe, the “War Eagle” of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, who served as the unit’s mascot through the entire war and became famous both in legend and in song [\[lyrics & music\]](#).



Stereogram of Old Abe, the War Eagle of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, mascot of that Civil War regiment through more than 20 battles.

One does not have to have a Holmes type stereopticon or other similar (and usually relatively expensive) viewer to see stereo pairs in side-by-side orientation. The viewing of side-by-side images is most economically

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done through the use of relatively very inexpensive LORNETTE viewers, obtainable from the several 3D specialty vendors that can be accessed online.

After George Eastman's invention of celluloid film in the late 19th century and the birth of "photography for the masses" brought about by the Eastman-Kodak company and its competitors, the mid-20th century saw the development of 35mm dedicated twin-lens stereo cameras and photo processing of the twin images done by Kodak. The best known of these cameras was the Stereo Realist.



The Stereo Realist was, without doubt, the most popular of an array of twin-lens stereo cameras that used common 35mm film. When Kodak quit mounting the stereo slides in the early 1960s the popularity of stereography diminished. But there has been a resurgence of late, and many are configuring stereo digital rigs using two small "point and shoot" digitals and a double camera system.

Other popular stereo cameras were produced by Wollensak, Revere, Kodak, and even one that created images to be viewed through the ViewMaster system.



ViewMaster camera and viewer

Other than the simple fact that seeing three-dimensional images as in real life is Super!, Nifty!, Neato!, and Amazing!, there are definite potentialities for the use of stereo imagery in the area of Ufology. But first a few more "techie" terms and a bit more theory.

First, anyone can make stereo view photos if one knows: 1) how to take the photos, and 2) how to view them. Likely the easiest method to begin with is the use

of a single camera taking two images. This is best done with the camera resting on a tripod or some other stable surface OR on a SLIDE BAR on a tripod, but it can be done by the method known as "CHA CHA." In the "cha cha" method, the photographer stands with feet close together and first on one foot, then shifting to the other so as to allow a horizontal movement of the camera of only 2 to 4 inches, a single photo is taken at each position creating the necessary STEREO PAIR.

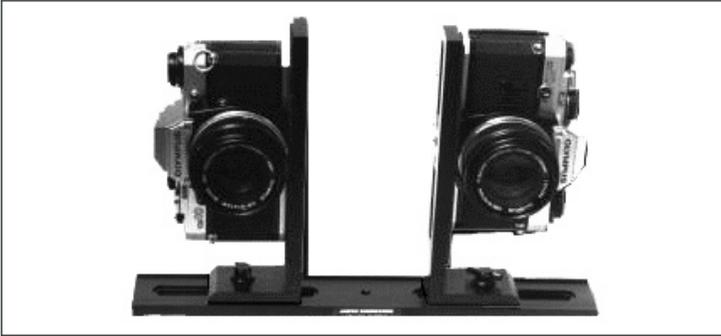


A single camera stereo (right) showing the use of a slide bar.

While the adjustment and MOUNTING (or other work) of this pair is a bit more involved, that's essentially enough. Of course, the problem with the single camera technique is that it's only good for scenes that don't have any (or very little) movement—landscape on a still day, for example. There is no way to take both photos at once and, therefore, no way to capture a shot of anything in motion.

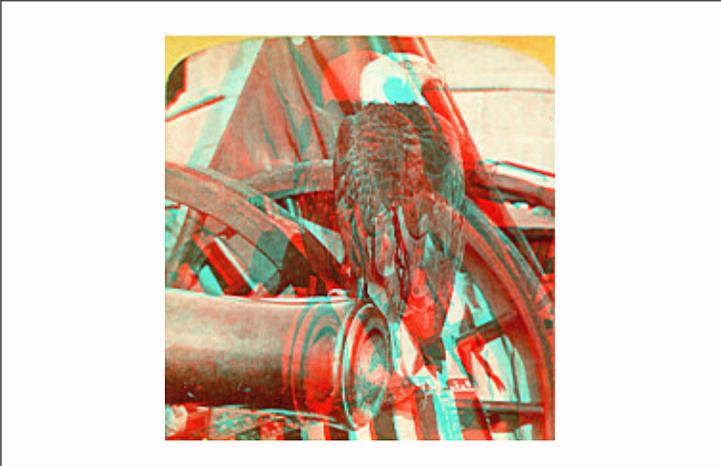
The second method—preferred by stereographers— involves either a twin lens camera or the incorporation of twin camera techniques. Cameras such as the Stereo Realist mentioned above were great in their day—when the development and mounting of the slide film was done commercially. But the process of mounting tiny bits of slide film into cardboard or plastic or metal mounts is a "labor of love" and somewhat tedious (at least time consuming). With the twin camera system on what is known as a DOUBLE BAR, the potential for twin 35mm cameras (allowing for the development, mounting, and viewing of regular 35mm slides in pairs [there are viewers made for just this purpose]) AND the great potential offered by modern side-by-side digital cameras show real prospects for the reinvigoration of stereography in this "AA" age ("After Analogue"). Of course both cameras must be set identically for focus and have identical lenses, AND they must be triggered as close to simultaneously as possible.

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Twin camera system mounting

The viewing of “3D” that most people relate to is what is known as ANAGLYPH stereo. If you’ve seen a 3D movie and recall the red and blue lens glasses, you’ve experienced the technique. The stereo pair is colorized in the complementary colors of Cyan (light blue) and Red. The two images converge when viewed through the colorized lenses that let through their respective colors while screening out the other. The result is the same binocular vision our eyes allow in the normal course of seeing depth. The “Old Abe” photo is shown below in anaglyph form. If you happen to have red-blue glasses you can see the stereo effect.



Stereography Meets Ufology

So, to finally wind back to the underlying topic at hand, what about the usefulness of stereography for the field investigator and for ufological studies and investigations? Certainly it can be argued that well-composed stereographs (pairs to be utilized in any of the various presentation modes—and there are others, including cross-eyed viewing of reversed pairs) would add the real-seeming quality of depth to any reported and prospective landing sites or places where trace evidence might be found. The added verisimilitude of that third dimension will add,

quite obviously, a new perspective to hard (or digital) copy reports and published articles which might include stereo pairs side by side—either of which is, of course, viewable as a 2D record—but which would add depth to the reader equipped with a stereo viewer.

I’ll have to admit right up front that it’s far less likely that an actual UFO sighting will occur with any sort of stereographic camera system at the ready. Heck, it’s hard enough for a person to ALWAYS have a single camera at hand, let alone a twin-lens stereo camera, and certainly not a twin camera, double bar rig with matched cameras on a tripod base. But there is one scenario where this might happen, and that is the incident that becomes a set of incidents over time. To my mind, there are at least two types of “multiple sightings” (possibly three, allowing for the convergence of the first two): Multiple Sighting, [I’ll call it] Type MW—the single event is witnessed by multiple witnesses; Multiple Sighting, [I’ll call it] Type MO—multiple events over hours, days, or longer intervals of time witnessed by the same, single Observer; and Multiple Sighting, [I’ll call it] Type MWO—which blends the two: multiple occurrences over time which are also viewed by multiple witnesses. If such a scenario as either of the latter two presents itself, then, feasibly, any type of camera system could be set up and ready for some sky watching and possible event capturing.

And there’s one added potential to stereo imaging. I’ve been saving this one, since it most directly applies to our special purposes. A brief digression back to “tech talk” first. I noted above that the ideal configuration of the distance between camera lens centers for the taking of natural/normal stereo images is the same as the normal distance between the human eyes. This averages around 65mm or 2.5” or so—not much wider. But this INTEROCULAR DISTANCE can be extended with cameras to produce what stereographers know as HYPERSTEREO or, as it’s called by some “Giant Vision.” By placing the twin cameras farther and farther apart, an artificially extended depth perception occurs which is most often used in



Twin-bar hyperstereo rig

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photographing very distant objects (like mountain ranges with intervening scenery in the foreground) to gain the necessary separation of distances and to achieve an enhanced 3D effect. The previous photo shows a double bar, twin camera stereo rig set for hyperstereo.

And the distance between the two cameras can be increased to many feet, many yards, even hundreds of feet, potentially more. If both cameras are aimed at points 90 degrees perpendicular to their common focal planes and if wide angle lenses are used, not only will the exaggerated hyperstereo 3D effect be viewable in the results, but an actual TRIANGULATION to assess DISTANCE, and thus SIZE of objects viewed could be achieved by comparison of the two simultaneous images. This is technically a possibility, not merely a theory. But, again, that would be the ideal situation where a hoped for repeat occurrence is ready to be “ambushed.”

Infrared Photography Basics

Moving on to the weird and wondrous world of Infrared Photography, the first topic to tackle is the fact that our VISIBLE SPECTRUM of that rainbow of colors you probably learned by memorizing the acronym ROY G. BIV (a mnemonic device for Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, and Violet—and of course not accounting for all the zillions of subtle colors in between those major gradations)...that visible spectrum does NOT include all the different aspects of light that some other creatures can detect (insects, for example). At either end of the visible spectrum are infrared and ultraviolet (IR and UV), each beyond the range we see with the naked eye.

But through the use of special lens filters and special film (in the “old days”) and IR (or UV) sensitive digital sensors with modern digital cameras, the ways that these extraspectral lights “paint” the world can be seen through photography.

The image below is an example of an infrared photo. Natural stuff like vegetation usually shows up as some variant of bright grey to white. The sky usually turns out very dark to black. But contrasts and shapes that are often not observable in a regular photo can become visible. There is also a weirdly beautiful and surrealistic look to IR images—so much so that many art photographers experiment with and even specialize in IR shooting. The first is taken with a black & white infrared camera; the second with a color infrared:



Black and white infrared



Color infrared

Infrared Uses in Ufology

Most useful for our purposes will be infrared, since it shows various gradations of heat rather than coloration. One problem with night sky sightings is the lack of available light and/or “fast” enough camera lenses to take a relatively focused image of any object that is not completely motionless. This is true of both film and digital regular photography. Another drawback with the thought of using old infrared film techniques and most digital cameras is the extended and relatively extremely long exposure time needed for the image.

But there are techniques now that allow the conversion of medium to higher end digital SLRs (remember: “Single Lens Reflex” cameras in which the image is actually viewed through the lens). This conversion consists of the removal of a screen that blocks infrared light and the substitution of special sensors that will take ONLY infrared images. The great benefit here is the “real time,”

(Continued on page 18)

PATTERNS & CONNECTIONS

by John B. Ringer, Historical Anomalist



DO ALIENS PROGRAM OUR BRAINS?

When I first started reading abduction stories, it seemed fairly clear that the beings who took people from their homes in the middle of the night were involved with some kind of genetic reproduction. As the years and the stories multiplied, this scenario became a near certainty.

Other aspects of these abductions, however, were far less clear. One puzzling feature, for me, were the strange attempts to communicate some kind of message. Often, the human involved felt he or she was being warned that the human race and/or the Earth was in grave danger. Some people felt this danger could be avoided if we would change our behavior, but others seemed to feel that destruction was inevitable.

As I read of these bizarre warnings, I wondered what the aliens thought one person was going to accomplish. Granted in certain situations one person can make a critical difference, but reducing pollution or otherwise protecting the environment (a common message point) is something that would take the cooperation and efforts of countries world-wide. What could, for example, one confused or troubled housewife from Iowa accomplish?

Then, there were the messages which abductees couldn't seem to consciously take in. Some told of information that came so rapidly they couldn't understand. Others describe data that made no sense at all, such as unknown symbols and markings. Since these encounters don't seem to yield a 'real time' payoff or change, I wondered if, perhaps, these attempts to communicate were designed to make a long-range impression. Indeed, many times the abductees were told that they would understand when the time was right. I also considered the possibility that the abductors were simply miscalculating the human capacity to absorb data.

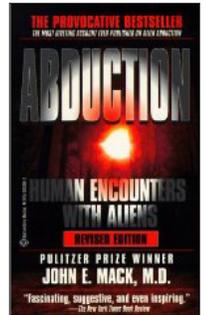
The bottom-line question then seems to be whether or not people are changed in some way by what they see or hear while aboard a UFO. (I didn't want to believe it was all part of an unknowable puzzle.)

To gain some insight into this question, I looked at what we know about the human brain and the way it processes information. What I found might surprise you, but first, let's get some detail on what it is that abductees report.

Typical Presentation of Images

John E. Mack, M.D., in his book *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens*, summarizes the stories he has heard from his many 'experiencer' patients. (Mack now considers the transmission of information to be a fundamental part of the abduction phenomenon.):

For some abductees, there is little trauma; the experiences seem primarily informational or transformational in character. Information during abductions appears to be transmitted in two forms—by direct, mind-to-mind conveyance, or through depiction of phenomena or events on television-like screens. The information received is concerned primarily with the fate of the earth in the wake of human destructiveness. Scenes are shown of the planet wasted by nuclear war and especially of the earth's environment devastated by pollution and toxic clouds. A number of abductees have been shown apocalyptic images of the earth itself literally cracked open or broken up. Although these visions may be viewed metaphorically by outsiders, for the abductees themselves they are experienced with conviction as literal and concrete. The visions cause great sadness.¹



Another experiencer describes being in something like a classroom with several alien 'instructors'. Her account has been modified from a question and answer format to narrative for ease of reading:

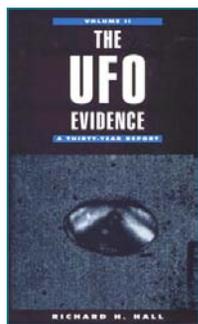
I'm in this egg-shaped room, and I'm reading a book. There is this tool in my left hand. It's light and long, but it's shaped like a triangle. You have to hold it at a certain angle as you're reading this book. They (the instructors) say it's a learning tool. It helps you to absorb the knowledge. The book isn't written in our alphabet—it's their alphabet, (kind of like Arabic or Hebrew) and it's in the form of a scroll. The content has to do with learning the truth and avoiding involvement in false beliefs. There's more about the misconception of time. Without the tool, it's hard—I can't make it out. There's something familiar about this page of writing—I may have studied it before.²

David M. Jacobs, Ph.D., has also worked with numerous abductees, however, his take on their stories is markedly less benign. He is quite suspicious of the alien's motives for showing their human captives scenes of earthly devastation. His summary includes the following:

Images of mass destruction are extremely common during abduction—much more so than environmental images. Virtually every abductee has had to watch scenes of destruction. Tidal waves, floods, earthquakes, atomic bombs, and wars and their aftermaths about. Devastated cities lie in rubble. Dead people are everywhere. Injured and dying men, women, and children cry out for help to the surviving abductee. Abductees are led to believe that this is going to happen, that it need not happen, and that humans have caused it.³

John Day, with his wife Elaine and three children were abducted from their vehicle while driving home at 9:50 p.m. in the UK. After a typical 'physical' exam, John was given a tour of the UFO and then watched pictures and star maps, flashing rapidly on a screen. When John complained that the pictures were moving too fast, the 'leader' assured him that he would remember them all. In another room, John was shown a hologram depicting the destruction of Earth through misuse. The leader communicated with John and Elaine telepathically, as he answered their questions. He gave them information about his species and also explained how their craft worked in the earth's atmosphere.⁴

There are, of course, hundreds of similar stories. While the details tend to vary over time and in different locations, many common themes emerge. Richard Hall does an excellent job of summarizing all this in his 2001 book, *The UFO Evidence, Volume II*. For our purposes, what matters is the way ideas and concepts are communicated, rather than the specific messages. And, perhaps the most important fact of all is that abductees tend to alter their beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors after such communication. This has been documented often enough that we must conclude, whether we understand it or not, that alien communication with humans does seem to



work; it can be transformative. So, how do we 'untangle' this puzzle?

If we start with the not unreasonable assumption that the aliens referenced above are attempting to 'program'

their abducted human visitors, then paying attention to what they do will be a good starting point. In the simplest scenario, humans are made to watch a series of images. The fact that these images come too quickly for normal comprehension or that they are often too strange to make sense is deemed unimportant by the aliens. So, the images flow into the human brain, and presumably, have some affect. So far, so good. But what is it that might be going on within those human brains?

Our Marvelous, Complex Brains

If we hope to understand this aspect of abductions, we have to know something about the brain, so let's start with a brief overview of how it's structured. It is organized laterally and hierarchically into four mental systems. The brainstem (reptilian brain) deals with the more rudimentary aspects of vegetative and motor functioning, including breathing, heart rate, the sleep-wake cycle, and arousal. The limbic system, which we share with all 'higher' animals, mediates the more unconscious aspects of social-emotional and personal awareness. Because of this system, the mammal is more consciously aware of itself in relation to the environment. The limbic also includes those aspects of psychic functioning associated with what Jung referred to as the collective unconscious.^{5,6}

The neocortex is what makes us human. It is the newest portion of the brain and amounts to about 85 per cent of its mass. This very large addition consists mostly of two hemispheres, which are covered by an outer layer and interconnected by a string of nerve fibers called the corpus callosum. Lots has been written in the past several decades about our right and left brains. Some have even described them as two, separate brains within one head, but this, increasingly, is proving not the case.⁷

While each hemisphere is specialized, the two halves share much of the workload. How effectively they do this depends, in part, on the size and efficiency of that connecting link, the corpus callosum. To understand how important that link is, we now know that one of the few genuine differences between male and female brains is in this area. Male testosterone 'shapes' the developing male brain by killing off some of the various connections within the brain. As a result, male brain function is more localized and focused in solving, say, a math problem, while women tend to use more parts to their brain (visual) to resolve the same problem.⁸

Recognizing that the brain works as a unit, it is still helpful to understand how the hemispheres specialize.

The left side of the brain is usually referred to as the logical or verbal half. It is systematic and concerned with matters as they are. The right side communicates by using images, has highly developed spatial abilities, is intuitive and imaginative, and is concerned with emotions and feelings. And, here is a key piece of information—the right side links to the primitive, older part of the brain, and it communicates with images when interacting with our primal, unconscious functions, which have no verbal skills.⁹ Thinking in pictures is fast, compared to describing that same scene.⁷ (I see the tiger in my path, and I picture him leaping on me. Quick message—run like hell!)

Language is both spoken and written, and therefore, both verbal and visual. The totality of our language skill appears to be located all over the brain, with considerable redundancy. (That is why some people can recover their speech after a stroke.) Cognition or understanding of meaning is high-level processing, which includes both semantic (choosing among meanings) and visual inputs.

Another key piece of information is that the brain functions by sending electrical signals from one place to another. Very small charges pass between nerve cells, and this can be measured and displayed as a wave form (brain wave). If these waves can be measured, they can, no doubt, be altered.⁹

Programming the Brain

The amount of information coming to us, every moment of our lives, is overwhelming. To cope with this flood of data, the brain sorts through its inputs and decides what is important enough to ‘save’ into short-term memory. And, since most of the incoming data is low-level ‘sensing’ of our environment, not much gets through. Over the course of a day, most of what’s stored ‘short-term’ is soon forgotten and fails to make it into our long-term memory. In short, it’s how we stay sane in a world filled with information.

Visual input, the kind provided by alien abductors, would be processed by the right hemisphere of the brain. This direct communication with our non-verbal side, in effect, bypasses the left-brain editor, and is probably ‘taken in’ fully. These images would have the ability to impact the more primitive parts of the brain, and, thereby, the bodily functions it regulates. In the end, at some time and in some way, all the information we have taken in affects and changes what we do and how we behave.⁹

Most abductions researchers have pointed out that abductees tend to be people with a creative or visual na-

ture—in other words, right-brained people. This seems too convenient to be an accident.

Whether or not the aliens ‘condition’ the minds of their involuntary visitors to be even more receptive to these visual displays is unknown, but they clearly have the ability to block or cloud memories. It’s also quite possible that the right hemisphere takes in and acts upon the alien’s visuals without the left hemisphere even being aware of it. As one brain researcher put it, the left side seems blissfully unaware of what the right is doing most of the time. It’s quite likely that fundamental changes in both the brains and bodies of these abductees are caused by the kind of visual displays they encounter. Some changes have been clearly noted by researchers, but what else is going on that we don’t know? Clearly, there are lessons here for our own medical profession, if they would only pay attention.

...there are lessons here for our own medical profession, if they would only pay attention.

The Sum of the Parts

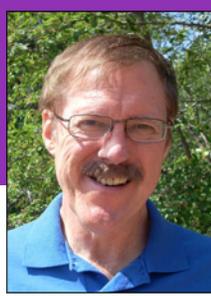
It’s humbling to think that the aliens zipping around in our skies know us so well that they can, apparently, reprogram our brains. Many abductees, and it seems some of the researchers who study them, believe the human race is being upgraded to function on a higher level. I haven’t seen enough evidence to accept or reject that hypothesis, but the methods used to indoctrinate abductees appear, to me at any rate, suitable for even this kind of dramatic and fundamental change. Where are we headed? ☞

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NORTHERN LIGHTS

by Bill Murphy, Staff Writer



THE BATTLEGROUND BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND UFOLOGISTS

Scientific and technological progress have or should have removed some of the screens scientists used to hide behind when it came to considering the possibility that UFOs are in fact extraterrestrial. Here are some of those arguments that I consider no longer justifiable, and which should be excluded from the dialogue.

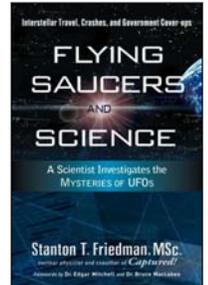
“There Ain’t Nobody Home”

I think we’re seeing the death-knell of statements that life cannot exist beyond earth. When I was growing up, I began learning of chinks in a publicly pervasive scientific bias against extra-terrestrial life. Improved understanding of the extremes under which life can exist upon this earth and of the true universality of physical and chemical processes in the universe have played critical roles in this erosion of disbelief. Instead of “there is no life beyond this earth”, it became “life as we know it cannot exist out there”, then “life as we know it cannot exist in our solar system, at least, and we don’t know whether there are any other planets in other solar systems”. Then, as we all became aware of anaerobic life living in the sulfurous volcanic vent areas on the floor of the Pacific Ocean, life “as we know it” suddenly became a wider concept, and there was wide discussion regarding the possibility of life within our solar system. Carl Sagan popularized the thought of living “floaters” and “sinkers” in the frigid and turbulent Jovian atmosphere, and the dramatic discoveries of what really is going on out there in the mini-solar systems of Jupiter and Saturn opened up fascinating new possibilities for life circling our sun. The discovery of one, then several, and now a geometrically-expanding array of extrasolar planets has blown away another major roadblock to the consideration of life beyond our sphere. And the Drake Equation has become a popular catchphrase for the inevitability of life elsewhere in the universe. But in real-

ity, as Steven Dick has shown in his remarkable book *The Biological Universe*, scientists, religious thinkers, and other scholars have been debating the possibility of life in the universe since the Greek natural philosophers 2500 years ago.

“You Can’t Get Here from There”

The field of 20th-century science and technology is littered with foolish statements about not being able to travel faster than sound, to travel at all in a heavier-than-air contraption, and to travel in space, and we’re seeing the end, I think at last, of the objections to interstellar space travel. Carl Sagan has said “There must be other star-folk...these non-human creatures of great learning have doubtlessly been sending explorative expeditions through interstellar space for countless millenniums,” and “There may be abundant groups of 10⁵ to 10⁶ worlds linked by a common colonial heritage. The radar and television announcement of an emerging technical society on Earth may induce a rapid response by nearby civilizations, thus newly motivated to reach our system directly rather than by diffusion.” Back in the ‘90s I read an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers journal paper proposing interstellar flight by about 2050, based upon a projected breakthrough in fusion propulsion. And Stanton Friedman notes in his new book *Flying Saucers and Science* that almost invariably, real technological progress comes from doing things differently, in an unpredictable fashion. The future, technologically speaking, is not an extrapolation of the past. Then there is the accepted fact that many of these solar systems are billions of years older than ours. Add the Drake Equation to all this and you have what seems to be an inevitability of visitation.



One of the interesting twists on the weakening “You Can’t Get Here from There” syndrome was Carl Sagan’s belief, if I have it right, that aliens might have indeed come here in the past, but they aren’t here now, because otherwise we, with our advanced awareness and scientific instrumentation, would have detected them. I think this opinion, if I have characterized it correctly, is wrong on several assumptions: that we have tools advanced enough infallibly to detect ETs, that there is no evidence at all, and that supposed visitation would have such starts and stops, to list just three. Then there are considerations of scientific arrogance (“they can’t be here because I would know

it”), and the role that stealth technology might play in cloaking UFOs. All these considerations strongly militate against this variant of the “can’t get here” point of view.

Who Would Want to Come Here, Anyway? The Question of “Purpose”

Having a bit more life to it than the first two objections, but I believe suffering from similar problems, is the notion that no one would want to come here. See, for instance, Sagan’s opinion that “the assumption that earth is visited daily by interstellar spacecraft is...anthropocentric—attaching as it does some overriding significance to our small planet.” Part of the popular support for this comes from the Fermi Paradox, which basically is “Where are the Aliens? You think they’d have been here by now”.

There are so many different UFO phenomena, and we cannot be certain that we at least at present are fully able to comprehend what’s going on. Therefore, any attempt at the explanation of why someone would come here—of the question of purpose behind UFOs—must currently take a back seat to the questions of “what” are UFOs and, possibly, “who” is responsible for them. In contradistinction to Sagan’s opinion, Dr. James McDonald remarked “To say that we could anticipate the values, motivations, and so on, of any such system that has the capability of getting here from somewhere else is fallacious. This is a homocentric fallacy of the most obvious nature, yet it is asked over and over again.” Stanton Friedman has written well on the subject of alien motivations, too—see his remark in *Flying Saucers and Science* that we only have a database of one planet.

I certainly cannot begin to imagine what an alien race’s thought processes might be like—I can’t imagine how the mind of a Hitler worked, for instance. I’ve never completely understood professional wrestling, for that matter, and I can’t even begin to figure out Britney Spears. But my two cents’ worth is that I see no problem in assuming supposed alien life might want to visit this place. In fact, I think the Earth is likely a great place to visit, although I’m beginning to think no one would actually want to live here. To most people, Papua New Guinea is not exactly a well-known vacation spot, either, but there is an active tourism industry there, and naturalists of all types—entomologists, botanists, zoologists—as well as anthropologists, sociologists, art historians and collectors, you name it—find some of the most spectacular natural and human activities going on there. I maintain that it is rather arro-

gant to assert that we know what might energize or interest other spacefaring races. Once I was asked in an interview, “Don’t you think they would be just like us?” To which question my answer was: “I hope not!”

These three positions should have been debunked long ago, or, more properly, their disproof should have become common knowledge. But we still hear such statements being made on TV, and published in print media and the internet. We need to bear the points I’ve listed in combating the continuance and spread of this type of ignorance. ☞

... it is rather arrogant to assert that we know what might energize or interest other spacefaring races.

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Please let us know what topics you’d like to see covered in “Investigator’s Insights.” And if you’re an FI, we welcome your ideas for possible future topics.

UFO CONNECTIONS?

by Guy Richards, MUFON Field Investigator
guy.richards@comcast.net



THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SELF-SUSTAINING NUCLEAR CHAIN REACTION

Stipulating for the sake of argument that flying saucers are real and here, the exploding of the first atomic bomb was the likely event that brought their attention to our shores.

An advanced civilization, the Greys for example, would have responsibility for their local star cluster and making sure the kids, us, don't hurt themselves and don't escape the nursery too soon. On December 2nd, 1942 was the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction in Chicago and the birth of the Nuclear Age. But the A-Bomb set off the baby alarm.

What kind of baby alarm your curious mind might ask would it be that could travel faster than light to them so that they could arrive so soon after the explosion? (Kenneth Arnold and Roswell).

Well if the A-bomb is the only really dangerous toy those frisky kids in the nursery could come up then the baby alarm would be something attuned just to that event.

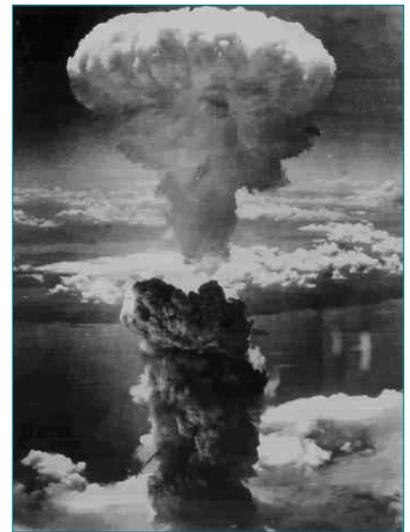
I would suggest a star directed entangled neutron pair type of alarm. Entanglement is a special property that two identical subatomic particles can have if they are treated or generated in the right way. It's actually called quantum entanglement because the entanglement part means that the two particles are related to each other by having one of their quantum properties opposite of the other. The baby-sitters would then generate a pair of neutrons, as in our example, with one having magnetic spin up and the other spin down. One they would send off toward the nursery and the other they would hold still in the alarm device.

Now before you ask the question, remembering your Einstein Special Relativity where nothing can travel faster than the speed of light-not even a neutron, the neutron headed toward the nursery is traveling at a near light speed, not exceeding. They are however sending out these pairs continuously and have been since they identified Earth as a nursery several million years ago. After all you

never know what those darn kids will do or when.

The way the alarm works depends on a peculiar property of entangled pairs. That property is that the direction of the neutron pair's individual spins is not known until something measures, observes or interacts with one of the neutrons. Once that is done the other neutron instantly reveals it's opposite spin—no matter how far away it is from the other neutron that was observed, measured or interacted with. Einstein hated this property of quantum theory and he called it “spooky action at a distance”. It's still not well understood but it is real and has been demonstrated repeatedly in the lab. Although I think the farthest we have demonstrated it is across the English Channel.

This how the alarm would work. Let's say the Grey's baby alarm station is about 20 light years away. The alarm neutron with unknown spin direction would be sent out in 1925 nursery (earth) time and arrive at the nursery in the summer of 1945 just in time to interact with the first A-bomb explosion revealing an up atomic spin. At the instant the nursery neutron interacts with the A-bomb explosion it's partner neutron held in the baby alarm device 20 light years away shows a down spin. Aha! says the baby sitter we have a birth.



Fat Man A-bomb dropped on Nagasaki

Of course this then starts the whole process of raising baby. You have to go and check on the kids to make sure they play nice with their new toy and that they make progress toward being responsible grownups. And you have to prepare them to be introduced to you the baby sitter but you don't want to frighten the little tike's so just a few fly overs and a mysterious landing or two for a few years. We might imagine the conversation of concerned “adults”:

“And they're just so darn cute you know. Why just the other day, only about twenty local years after the A-bomb they landed on their local moon. Quite a precocious achievement when you consider they did it with a chemical rocket. Can you imagine, a chemical rocket and not just once but ten or twelve times. You just wait till we get their neuronics software and organic ware upgrades in then we'll really see what they can do.” ☺

FROM THE FILES



SILVER SPHERE

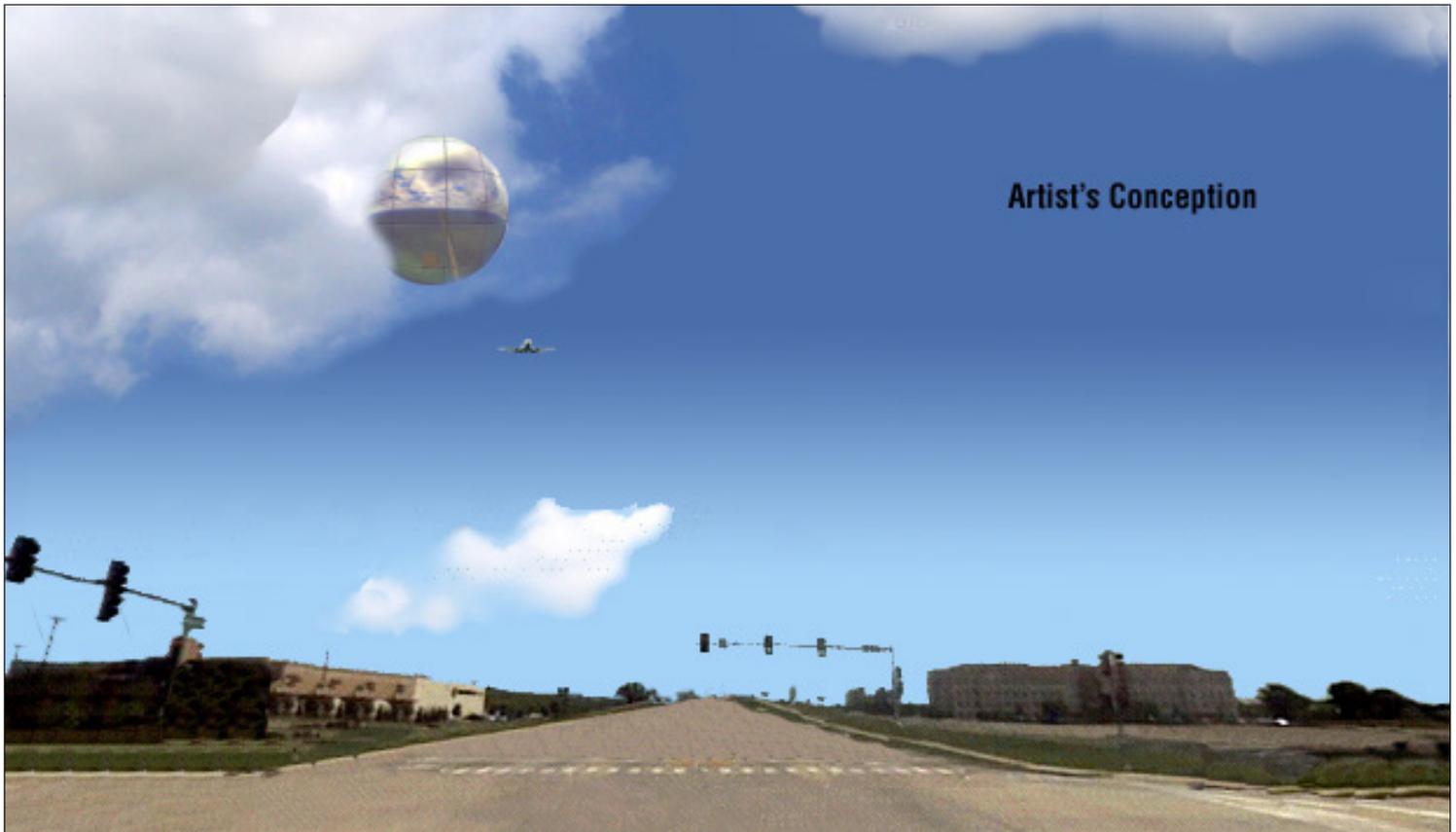
Case No. 11197

It was a Sunday in mid-September 1999, when the witness, a male, was driving on a main road traveling east near Glenview, a northern Chicago suburb. He stopped at an intersection for a red light and was the only person on the road since it was a weekend and he had just left an industrial park where no others were working that day.

It was a sunny day, with high, white clouds moving quickly through the sky, as the witness sat at the light, he noticed a large passenger plane flying towards his direction in the distance, preparing to land at O'Hare Airport, which was a few miles behind him. The clouds opened

behind the plane to reveal a huge, metallic/mirrored sphere. Although he could only see about what appeared to be about 75% of it because of the clouds, it looked spherical. The plane was flying right in front of the object, and comparing the sizes, the witness estimated that the object was at least fifteen times the size of the plane (that is to say, one could stack fifteen planes on top of each other in order to reach the height of the sphere). But it was a good distance behind the plane, and he estimated it was well out over the lake, so the witness stated that the object was probably much bigger than fifteen planes tall. At arms length, the sphere was about sixteen inches across.

He was able to view it for about fifteen seconds and actually began counting as he saw it. The mirrored surface, was in large panels and reflected the surrounding clouds and sun. Then quickly moving clouds slid in front of the object and blocked his view. The witness reported that he could no longer see it after the clouds covered it and that he was emotionally upset for hours after viewing the enormous sphere. ☺



Artist's Conception

Artist's rendition of the sighting showing the large metallic sphere and airliner for comparative purposes. The above rendition was approved by the witness as a close approximation of his sighting.

Field investigators are requested to submit interesting cases for "From The Files"

RECENT GATHERINGS

by Sam Maranto, Director

October and November were some action packed months. Between the press and radio interviews interested in the Tinley Park mass sighting. There were also three library and one university speaking engagements. Not to forget the November 9th UFO Symposium 4, the premiere party for the UFO Hunters seasons first episode “Invasion Illinois,” and the Starved Rock state meeting which included case presentations, a field investigators’ class, and a board meeting.



Sam Maranto presenting at the Crest Hill Public Library on October 30th.



Sam Maranto (middle) with radio hosts Mancow (left) and Pat Cassidy (right)



Starved Rock State Lodge hosts frequent MUFON meetings.

Invasion Illinois—UFO Hunters Season Premiere Episode

With a insurmountable amount of work already done on the case by Sam Maranto and other Illinois MUFON members it started out rather promising from the get go and resulted in a exceptional presentation. The work by the UFO Hunters team brought to light a possibility that we had already considered a probability. That was the fact that the illuminations seen and recorded were clearly not flares. The next other major deduction was that this may in fact be one very large object.



Head UFO HUNTERS investigator Bill Birnes and Illinois MUFON Assistant State Director Sue Murawski during the filming of *Invasion Illinois*.

There are some errors to point out. The wind speeds noted were more representative of maximum gusts on those dates. Also, there was no mass sighting on October 31st, 2005—it was 2004. The object that flew in front of the large object was a commercial jet not a helicopter. Putting the potential size of this object to 2,500 feet plus. The illustrations used to show how these figures were determined in addition to other cross comparisons on optics was rather good though.

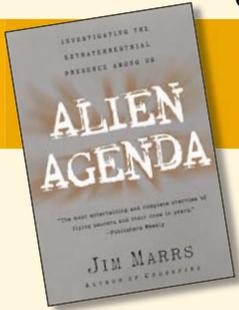
The season’s premiere episode was celebrated with a party at Gatto’s Restaurant in Tinley Park the night of the airing. (See page 2, *UFO Hunters Season Premiere Party*.)

MISSING OUT ON ALL THE FUN OF RESEARCH?

Become a field investigator and help solve the mystery!
Contact Mike Stack at michael.r.stack@sbcglobal.net

OFF THE SHELF

BOOK REVIEW



A Review of Jim Marrs' **ALIEN AGENDA**

by David Stockman, Illinois MUFON Deputy Director

Alien Agenda is not a new book. It was first published in 1997 and has been reprinted a number of times after receiving much acclaim. It's also been published in a number of languages and is one of the top-selling books on the subject. But before reviewing the book, it's important to look at the author. Jim Marrs is a journalist, news reporter, author, and expert on such controversial subjects as the JFK assassination and remote viewing.

Published in 1989, his first book, *Crossfire: The Plot That Killed Kennedy*, made it to the New York Times Best Seller List and was the basis for Oliver Stone's film *JFK*. In 1995, he completed a book on remote viewing that was cancelled before printing just months before news broke of the actuality of that CIA program. He also wrote *Rule by Secrecy* that was published in 2000 concerning the historical and documentary evidence of secret societies that have maintained political and economic control since ancient times. *The Terror Conspiracy*, released in 2006, investigates the possibility of conspiracy that resulted in 9/11. His understanding of the workings and black projects within governments makes him exceptionally adept for writing about UFOs. His skills, honed for forty years on controversial and conspiratorial content, are impressive in their depth of investigation and in the breadth of viewpoints.

Alien Agenda's subject matter is approached uniquely by Marrs without the usual FOI and old documentary evidence that many books often rely on to validate the subject. Uncharacteristically, Marrs simply states in his introduction that UFOs are real, a fact that can be derived if one is open to and researches the subject thoroughly. This premise might be hard for a novice to the subject to accept, but a veteran to ufology will find this a refreshing base on which to begin.



Author Jim Marrs

Immediately one notices that even the most implausible theories are encompassed in his book and that he allows the reader to decide their validity. He first delves into the mystery by reflecting on the statements of astronauts and on the speculation of a hollow-moon, alien base. Including how NASA, which means "Never A Straight Answer," attempts to conceal and cover up much of what has been experienced on the moon and in orbit. Then Marrs tackles the ancient astronaut theory and provides a good overview from Velikovsky and Van Däniken to the Hindu Vedas on the possibilities of a historical connection between aliens and humans. In this chapter he also describes the ancient artifacts; the Piri Reis map, ancient batteries and calculators, Stonehenge, and the pyramids.

Moving on to just about every important case and theory from the last sixty years involving the military, corporations, and government, he reviews MJ-12, foo-fighters, Nazi saucers, ghost rockets, and the technological and political connections between prominent Germans, government agencies, and public figures. Including that President Kennedy once stated, "I'd like to tell the public about the alien situation, but my hands are tied."—and this is from an author who's very familiar with the history of JFK! Marrs then continues on to alien abduction and provides a skillful, concise retelling of notable cases and evidence. Uncovering the similarities of experiences between the abductees, he follows the work of researchers John Mack, Bud Hopkins, and contactees and abductees in detail.

From cattle mutilations and crop circles to prophets and scientists, the book paints a picture of what has been discovered and conjectured about aliens up to this millennium. Marrs digs into every niche of ufology and weaves them into an enjoyable review. His meticulous research into the topics offers solid evidence and at the same time, shines a new light onto old and rejected theories to prompt a re-evaluation. He provides the reader with hours of insightful descriptions that come to a startling conclusion in his remote viewing chapters that leave you pondering if the real "alien agenda" has not actually been discovered.

Alien Agenda is a well written "nuts and bolts" book that covers almost the entire gamut of ufology and is worth the reading for anyone interested in the subject—or even a re-reading! ☺

COMING EVENTS

February
May
September

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- February 21, 2009 — Harper Community College**
 Presentation (Sam Maranto & Donald Schmidt): Topic to be announced
 Afternoon luncheon (included) and lecture — More info to come!
 Wojcik Conference Center, Harper Community College, Palatine, IL
 Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606
 Email: mufonsam@comcast.net
- May 29, 30, & 31, 2009 — Majestic Eagle Ridge Resort**
 Four Corners Conference in Galena, IL.
 More info to come! (See the article on this page.)
- September 2009 — Rend Lake**
 Rend Lake Regatta at Rend Lake, IL. More information to come online
 at www.illinoismufon.com

(INVESTIGATOR'S INSIGHTS continued from page 8)

fast shutter speed exposure of quality infrared images. Assuming that whatever might be up there has some temperature variation from the sky around it (always risky to assume, but it seems likely), a photo from an IR-capable camera could provide sharp images—at least sharper—of night-sighted events.

I would recommend the company [LifePixel](http://LifePixel.com) for this type of conversion (and no, I'm not on their payroll, in fact I just sent them one of my digital SLRs and \$325 smacklers for a conversion to standard color infrared).

Best of Both Worlds a Possibility

Of course Stereo Infrared is possible as are Stereo Video, Infrared Video, and, by extrapolation, Stereo Infrared Video. The full color, super heat sensing FLEER Infrared viewers are extremely pricey, but astounding in their heat sensitivity. I could go on, since, as they say, "The sky's the limit." But, wait a second! We in UFO studies know that that last statement isn't true. ☺

FOUR CORNERS CONFERENCE

Things are coming together for the Four Corners Conference to be held on May 29th, 30th, and 31st of 2009 at the Majestic Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena.



The proposed golf and fishing tournament are taking form and a great deal of enthusiasm for the project has been shown by the staff at the resort. Nationally known speakers Stanton Friedman and Richard Dolan will be presenting along with other speakers yet to be announced.

Be sure to set aside a fun weekend for this conference and be prepared to experience a historical and relaxing village. Whether you enjoy physical or intellectual pursuits, Galena has something for everyone.

You'll have the chance to venture off on ghost or wine tours, browse the many exquisite shops in this captivating historical hamlet, or chance your luck at a casino on Old Muddy. Whichever way the spirits may lead you there is bound to be adventure.

Relax after a day of lectures and intellectual interlude to a fine meal either at the resort or on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi in a legendary dinner club. There and in-between are a fine scope of eateries assuring your taste buds will never be let down. More news to come! ☺



For additional information on events within Illinois or to reach an Illinois MUFON representative for any other reason, call, email or write:



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