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**A PEEK AT OUR  
NEW INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR!!**

**In this —  
issue . . .**

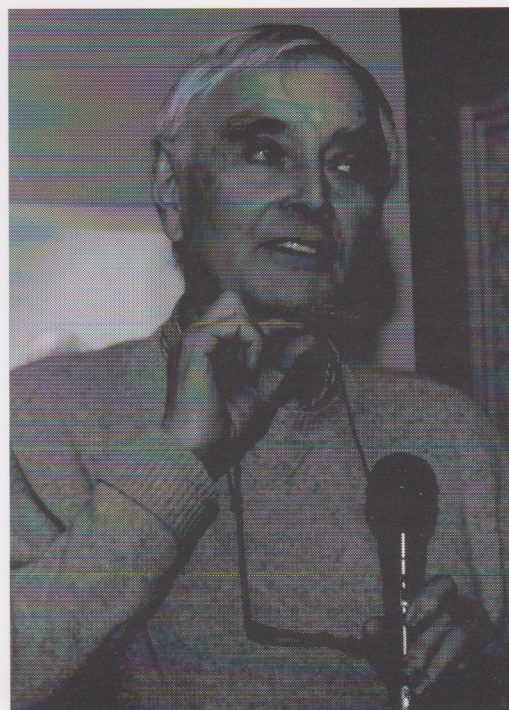
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**FEBRUARY 2010  
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**UFO JOURNAL**

**Budd HopkinS :**



**FOUR CLASSIC ATTITUDES  
TO THE  
UFO ABDUCTION PHENOMENON**

*A Field Investigators Primer To  
Abductions?*

# MUFON UFO JOURNAL

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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

JAMES CARRION

### Director's Message for February 2010

I am relinquishing my position as MUFON International Director to take on a different position within the organization. The reasons for my relinquishing the position are many but the overlying issue is that I simply no longer have the time to dedicate to the job. As a member of the "sandwich generation": a single parent of a young child who must also deal with aging parents, my time has become very limited. In addition, I still actively manage a separate for-profit company which further limits my time. Finally, I am also doing time-consuming independent UFO research that focuses on the role of Government in the UFO field - a gold mine of information yet to be adequately explored.

It may come as a surprise to you, but my transitioning out of the International Director role has been two years in the making. In 2006, I committed to a three year term as the International Director until 2009, but when no suitable candidate was found,



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MUFON'S MISSION IS THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF  
UFOs FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY THROUGH  
INVESTIGATION, RESEARCH, & EDUCATION.

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# EDITOR'S MESSAGE . . . BY LARRY RIMBERT JR.

A new transition of management is taking place! James Carrion is stepping down as International Director and Clifford Cliff is stepping up to the plate to take his place. For what is definitely not an easy position, over the past few years, James has taken his involvement with MUFON seriously and maintained it well. Dealing with the crisis over past few years, his record and stability as command of MUFON International speaks for itself. His replacement Clifford Cliff is a member of the Board of Directors and is well known in Northern Colorado. Other than his contributions to many MUFON projects including the yearly symposium, you may know little about Cliff. I was fortunate enough to obtain from Cliff, his resume which will serve as an introduction. A formal statement from Cliff will appear in the March issue to coincide with new position as International Director. Thank you James for your all your efforts and congratulations Cliff I'm sure the MUFON members wish you well and offer their support. We look forward to the future of MUFON, with anticipation, under your guidance!



terms, as a "Scientific Study", a "UFO" or definition of "Investigation, Research or Education." But the question remains what exactly do these terms mean, or encompass for MUFON?

While the MUFON Journal has had controversial content in the past, a series of recent articles has prompted a few letters to the editor. Let's keep this in perspective. Of the thousands of members of MUFON, only a handful, less than .48% (that is less than 1/2 of one percent) wrote about last month's articles – 2012, Geiger Counters and abductions. (By the way, I have to apologize to John for misspelling his last name on the January's cover, a product of spell check which I overlooked! Sorry John!) John Ventre's second part to this article will appear in March's issue. In two of the letters, (2 of 3,000 members) I have been asked to "stay focused" as the mission of MUFON which is stated on the inside front cover of each issue, i.e., "MUFON's mission is the Scientific Study of UFOs for the Benefit of Humanity through Investigation, Research, & Education" Scientific study? Two out of 3,000!! A case of the tail trying to wag the dog? Nowhere in the MUFON Journal, MUFON website, symposium documents or other documents have I uncovered a "MUFON" definition of what is acceptable, in MUFON

Is it the intent of the MUFON Mission Statement, to be strictly scientific? According to *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific\\_method](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_method)), scientific method refers to: . . . "a body of techniques for investigating phenomena, acquiring new knowledge, or correcting and integrating previous knowledge. To be termed scientific, a method of inquiry must be based on gathering observable, empirical and measurable evidence subject to specific principles of reasoning. {emphasis

supplied} In Ufology this is a daunting, if not impossible task. Further, Not many Ufologists are privy to empirical evidence of a UFO. To continue, *A scientific method consists of the collection of data through observation and experimentation, and the formulation and testing of hypotheses.* Does the MUFON mission suggest that every article in the journal adhere to the rules of using a scientific method? According to the definition of Scientific Study by *The Free Dictionary* by Farlex (<http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Scientific+study>) . . . i.e., *The basic approach is the statement of the problem followed by the statement of a hypothesis. An experimental method is established to help confirm or negate the hypothesis. The results of the experiment are observed, and conclusions are drawn from observed results. The conclusions may tend to uphold or to refute the hypothesis.* If the Journal were to adhere to the strict analysis and use of the MUFON mission statement, I suggest the readership of the Journal would change drastically as would membership. This would make a truly scientific journal in the true sense of the word and would, I suggest, make for a very boring journal. Such a journal would likely exclude the interest of many current members, authors and exclude younger potential members. MUFON needs to attract younger members desperately. Another thing I haven't found in MUFON is the demographics of the current MUFON member.

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# MUFON'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

BY LARRY RIMBERT JR.

**C**lifford Clift has taken over the helm of MUFON. Here is Mr. Clift's resume which the MUFON Journal obtained and in March we can expect Cliff to be giving MUFON members the monthly Directors Message. Congratulations Cliff!

## CLIFFORD CLIFT - RESUME

### FAMILY STATUS:

Married to my wonderful wife Sally for 44 years.

Two sons Norman and Paul, two daughters-in-law and three gorgeous granddaughters.

### EDUCATION:

University of Northern Colorado graduate 1995  
Speech Communication

Military, family, and work from 1961-1992

Northeastern Junior College 1957-1960  
Brush, CO High School, 1957 graduate

### MILITARY:

U.S. Army Security Agency 1962-1965.  
Communication Intelligence. Stationed in Massachusetts, Eritrea, and Texas.  
Honorable Discharge.

### WORK HISTORY:

1998 to present  
Own and operate a Choose and Cut Christmas Tree Farm in Greeley, CO  
1969-2005 Real Estate  
Owned real estate brokerage firm with four offices, 75 agents in Northern Colorado. First or second top producing real estate company in Greeley.  
Land developer. Developed 1000 residential lots in Northern Colorado  
Responsible for the building of 500 Affordable homes in Greeley, CO.  
Assisted in developing "Buy and Sell" and "Listing" contracts for Colorado.

2002-Present. President of the Greeley Irrigation Co. Irrigation Co with annual budget of \$500,000. Responsible for a \$2,000,000 redevelopment project of the No.3 irrigation ditch



Taught real estate classes for the University of Colorado, Continuing Education, and for Colorado Association of Realtors.

### .RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:

Member Trinity Episcopal Church, Greeley, CO  
Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Vestry Member, Chalice, Lector, and Hospital visitor.

### MUFON

Membership in MUFON since 1995  
Member of MUFON International Board since 2000.  
Trained Field Investigator  
Involved with all aspects of Symposiums since 2004.  
Lead a team in creation of Symposium Guidelines for all states to use.  
Developed "Life Time" membership program for MUFON.  
Assisted MUFON Board in development of a business plan.  
Trained Field Investigators in Northern Colorado.  
Started Northern Colorado MUFON Chapter. Currently 25 members.  
2010 MUFON Symposium Coordinator.

### MY INTEREST IN THE UFO PHENOMENON:

I have been interested in UFOs since I was 14 years old and had my first sighting while working with the Ground Observer Corp in Brush, Colorado. Since that time, I have had an active interest in the UFO phenomenon. My second sighting was five years ago at my current residence. These sightings and my continuing research into the UFO phenomenon have made me realize how

*Continued on Page31*

## FOUR CLASSIC ATTITUDES TO THE UFO ABDUCTION PHENOMENON

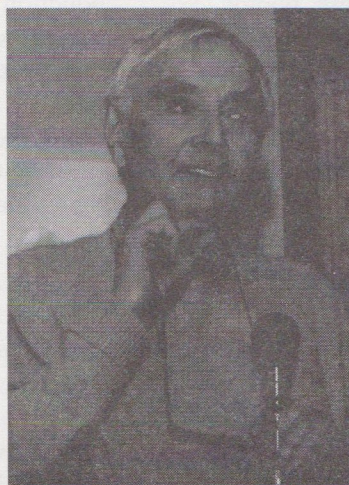
I've now been involved in UFO abduction research for thirty-three years. Though my active investigations began in 1975, I'd been reading about the phenomenon and studying its myriad ways ever since my original daylight disc sighting in 1964. After all those years of abduction research, after many hundreds of individual investigations, lectures, radio and TV broadcasts, after the successful recruitment of major abduction researchers like David Jacobs and John Mack, and after the publication of four serious books on the subject, I feel I've paid my dues. In the past I've tended to stay within the bounds of my own intellectual territory – UFO abductions – and to leave other specialties pretty much alone, but here I intend to take a retrospective view of the UFO field in general. Though much fine and signal work has been done by UFO researchers over the decades, we all know that an enormous

amount of disturbing static has also been generated by fringe groups -- almost enough to drown out our very real accomplishments. At times the UFO field has seemed to me to be nearly overrun by charlatans, would-be gurus and nut cases of every type, so perhaps it's necessary from time to time to take a deep breath and try to sort things out.

First, there are the inflexible ideologues – the ever-present debunkers - who numbingly claim that all UFO abductions are hoaxes or mental aberrations, and who, out of logical necessity, go on to insist that all UFO sightings themselves are either hoaxes or psychological or perceptual aberrations of some kind. In this paper I'll describe what I've found to be useful tactics to employ in confrontations with such stubbornly blinkered ideologues. But basically I'll attempt what is, for me, an unusual overview of the phenomenon: the taxonomy of various group attitudes to UFO abduction reports. To accomplish this I've isolated four basic factions: the Skeptics, the True Believers, the Enthusiasts and the Incurious. After defining the four I'll demonstrate the way each has responded to firsthand abduction narratives, either by helping, harming or ignoring those who have experienced such encounters. Obviously this is a large undertaking, and though some of my

conclusions may seem controversial, I've given the subject a great deal of careful thought.

The most important public event in our field in decades was the November, 2007, international press conference in Washington D.C. organized by filmmaker James Fox and journalist Leslie Kean. At the National Press Club, fourteen carefully vetted, high-level panelists from the military, scientific and aviation communities of eight countries described their personal UFO encounters and their government-supported UFO investigations before a major gathering of media representatives. I offer this conference as an ideal model for the way we should in the future present the case for UFO reality to the scientific community, the government and the media, and in contrast point out why the wildly assertive, confrontational approach of many fringe groups is so counter-productive.



Budd Hopkins giving a lecture

I

Several years ago I once again found myself a guest on the television show *Larry King Live* in the role that by now has become quite familiar: that of defending three decades of research into the UFO abduction phenomenon. The occasion for the broadcast was the publication of Susan Clancy's debunking and remarkably incompetent book on the phenomenon entitled *Abducted – How People Come to Believe They Were Kidnapped by Aliens*. When, at the outset of the program, Larry King asked me a question, I employed the tactic of answering a question of my own choosing. I said something to the effect that the attitudes toward the UFO phenomenon fell into two basic groups: that of the Interested Skeptics and that of the True Believers. I said that I was a Skeptic, in that I did not know whether a UFO event had actually happened as it was described by those reporting it until I had looked into it thoroughly and examined the evidence. True Believers, I went on, were people who knew that the UFO incident did not occur as described because they *knew in advance* that such an event was impossible. Their rigid belief systems did not allow for that possibility. Therefore Susan Clancy, I said, was a True Believer about the abduction phenomenon, while I was the exploring, enquiring

Skeptic who first had to critically examine the evidence before deciding on a case's possible validity. In a cutaway shot, Clancy made a surprised face, as if she had never thought of herself as a True Believer in the non-existence of abductions, despite the fact that this unshakeable position lay at the heart of her book. In fact one can think of her *Abducted* as a long, torturous attempt to rationalize and defend that very belief.

Later in the broadcast a third guest, my colleague Rob Swiatek, presented as evidence for the reality of UFOs the famous Trent UFO photographs which Clancy immediately dismissed as "looking like someone threw a hubcap or a Frisbee up in the air." Ironically, the optical physicist Dr. Bruce Maccabee, who had spent many months analyzing these photos, even making a trip to McMinneville, Oregon to visit the site where the pictures were taken, was also a guest on the program, but declined to attempt an extended technical explanation on such a sound-bite driven TV show. He undoubtedly saw that it would be a waste of time to delve into optical mechanics in order to rebut someone as fixed in her beliefs and as ill-informed about photo analysis as Susan Clancy. Later I mentioned to Rob Swiatek that had he merely shown the Trent photos and asked Clancy if she recognized them, she would undoubtedly have revealed her ignorance by admitting she did not, despite her claim of having "mastered the UFO literature." Also she would probably have had to admit that she knew nothing of Dr. Maccabee or his scientific validation of the most famous UFO photos in existence.

In yet another stunning example of Clancy's baseless True Believer stance she repeated in her book the debunkers' old red herring about the Hills' abduction case in which she asserted that despite their denials, Betty and Barney had watched the sci-fi program *Outer Limits* before they reported their UFO abduction experience, and that their description of the UFO occupants was formed by the "alien" figure depicted on that show. That fictional TV image, Clancy stated, was of "big-headed, big-eyed" alien who "looked remarkably similar to those of today: they had big, black, wraparound eyes, no noses or mouths, and delicate, waif-like bodies." Unfortunately for her, another intrepid Skeptical Investigator, my friend and colleague David Jacobs, located a tape of the original *Outer Limits* presentation that Clancy referred to (entitled the *Bellaro Shield*) and found that the alien depicted - there was only one - was of normal human height and bodily proportions, with deep set but quite typical human eyes. No "waif-like" body, no "big, black, wraparound eyes," in fact no resemblance at all to the figures the Hills' described. Thus Dr. Jacobs neatly proved that in her book Clancy had either deliberately lied or failed to do her homework on a subject about which she said she was

an expert. Even worse for her claim about the alleged effect on the Hills' account, the *Outer Limits* program she alluded to was aired three years *after* the Hills' abduction.

The problems objective UFO Skeptic/Investigators have with True Believers seem to be endless. Another illuminating encounter I had with a Clancy-type of set-in-concrete ideologue occurred on Canadian television a few years before the previously mentioned *Larry King Live* program. This time my supposed opponent was a nice young man, a professional astronomer, who during his segment explained why there was nothing to the UFO phenomenon in general and so, by extension, to any abduction reports. You can't get here from there, he averred, wherever there is, so *no one* has ever reported a genuine extraterrestrial UFO. And spacecraft would never be round, as UFOs are usually described, nor would their occupants be doing the things abductees report that they do. Therefore, he firmly concluded, the whole thing was unbelievable.

It was obvious that he was offering nothing more his own personal belief system to refute the data that have been painstakingly acquired and examined for over a half century. So, when it came time for me to have an on-air dialogue with this young man, I tried a new tactic. I began by asking him his opinion of the well-known scientific report by GEPAN, the UFO subcommittee of the French version of NASA, on the famous Trans-en-Provence UFO landing case. Shifting nervously, he admitted he was unfamiliar with it. I then asked his opinion of another well-known, well-investigated UFO report, and again he pleaded ignorance. After a couple of more tries I asked him his opinion about a very famous witnessed abduction incident which I said I was sure he knew about, the 1975 Travis Walton case. Again he backed off, admitting he had never heard of it, either. Exasperated, I asked what he *had* read about the subject.

"Very little," he answered sheepishly. "Practically nothing."

"Then why are we having this conversation?" I replied.

I intended this revealing exchange to demonstrate to anyone watching the program that this young astronomer's rigid True Belief system was a product of nothing more than hubris and an abysmal lack of information. There was no reason someone as ignorant of the UFO phenomenon as he should be discussing it on Canadian television.

By analogy I often think about the battle between many creationists' faith-based rejection of Darwinian evolution on one hand, and on the other the scientists' many decades of work on the fossil record. Thus the opposition is between the rote rigidity of the religious True Believers against the carefully accumulated scientific evidence of the paleontologists. When one relates this situation to the UFO phenomenon, most mainstream scientists - and they would scream with outrage at the very idea - are in the role of the nay-saying, knee-jerk religionists, while for decades serious UFO investigators - the true Skeptics - have performed like enquiring paleontologists. To put it bluntly, the majority of mainstream scientists passionately believe in the non-existence of UFOs in exactly the way the Pope believes in the Virgin Birth - as a matter of unexamined faith.

These thoughts - plus thirty two years of active abduction investigations - have led me to attempt the taxonomy of all those groups which are even vaguely connected with the UFO phenomenon, and it is here that the issue becomes more complicated. Because among those we should designate as True Believers, there is yet another, and quite opposite subgroup. This similar breed of True Believers is one which, rather than rejecting the UFO phenomenon, all too often accepts almost any wild and wooly UFO report that comes down the street, whether or not it's supported by any credible evidence. For the purposes of clarity I will designate this group "the UFO Enthusiasts." These are the credulous people who inadvertently bring ridicule down upon serious Skeptical Investigators, as they have done ever since the era of the notorious 'Contactees' in the Fifties and Sixties. For a time during those decades almost any con-man, publicity-seeker or mentally deranged individual could develop a cult following which accepted every bit of unsubstantiated trash he promoted. (Interestingly, there were, in this category, very few she's.) One infamous Contactee found a sellers' market for little glassine envelopes of dog hairs from the tail of a Venusian dog he said he'd befriended while on a round trip to Venus in the company of beautiful, blond, long-haired Venusian men and women who urged us humans to make love, not war.

Unfortunately this sort of nonsense continues to the present day. One ex-race car driver currently explains to adoring crowds that the Queen of England and George Bush, senior, are secrete, evil reptilians out to rule the world. He claims that one of his followers has described seeing the elder Bush momentarily morph into a scaly, snout-nosed, extraterrestrial reptilian before his very eyes.

Another would-be guru, a defrocked psychologist whose ethical lapses with female clients cost him his license, has published an account of the "capture," in 1972, of three huge alien "Space Beacons," each 30 miles long

(!) by members of an evil, earthly, anti-alien "cabal." He explains further how a group of good earthlings, working with their alien brothers, rescued these monstrous things from their resting places in Greenland, in Canada's Nunavut Territory, and near the Alaska-Yukon boundary, thus allowing "Zeta" to move the thirty-mile-long Space Beacons back to their rightful locations. It was not easy, he tells us. The aliens' good-cop human colleagues, a Counter-Insurgency team under the righteous "Colonel Shadow," engaged in a brutal firefight with the evil, bad-cop Cabal, and poor Mr. Shadow was wounded. Luckily, we are told, his life was saved by his bullet-proof vest. (Apparently the Cabal lacked up-to-date laser guns.)

Perhaps we should forgive anyone for thinking that this would-be cult leader either has a screw loose somewhere or is an undercover disinformation agent for those who wish to discredit serious UFO research, but sadly, he seems to actually believe such stuff. Apparently for him the despised, virtually Satanic 'Cabal' and its many 'fellow travelers' consists of anyone who doubts his appointment by Zeta as Ambassador to Earth, Official Spokesperson, or some such intergalactic title. In his case at least, even the most credulous Enthusiasts have begun to have their doubts.

I could go on and on with examples of other bizarre sects, but it is important to show how, by reinforcing the prejudices of the "UFOs-do-not-exist" True Believers discussed earlier, an uncritical fringe of gullible Enthusiasts effectively continues to damage serious UFO investigations. The problem can be seen in the wild and unsupported assertions made in Washington, D.C., in 2007, by members of a new sect claiming to practice something called "Exopolitics." At a sparsely attended press conference their members informed the two or three media people who showed up that, among other things, an advanced civilization was currently living underground on the planet Mars; that Governor Bill Richardson of Arizona had for years been a secret CIA operative dealing with UFO issues; and that members of their "Exopol" group had solid evidence that if elected, presidential candidate Hillary Clinton planned to announce to the world that UFOs were real. This, despite the well-known fact that Sen. Clinton had recently characterized someone's political proposal as being "just as crazy as believing in UFOs!"

During a recent European UFO conference at which I was a speaker, I had firsthand exposure to the beliefs of this fringe group when one of its central figures presented, as if it were fact, a list of all the many alien "races" that made up the Exopolitical scene. A number of these so-called groups were on his list because *one* individual somewhere, sometime, claimed to have seen and interacted with them.

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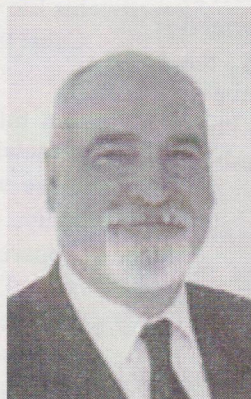
# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Ruben Uriarte Director, Northern California

Lester Velez, is the Senior Assistant State Director for Northern California MUFON and a graduate of the University of Vermont in business administration. Lester became interested in UFOs when he had his first UFO sighting in 1958. He joined MUFON in 1991 and became a field investigator. Seemingly all the cases that he investigated involved abductions. In 1994, both he and Dr. Gene Lipson, M.D., co-founded the establishment of OPUS, the Organization for Paranormal Understanding and Support (see [www.opus-net.org](http://www.opus-net.org))

Since then OPUS has established a relationship with MUFON to help people having paranormal experiences including abduction experiences. The great majority of the people are seeking hypnotherapist in order to be regressed and to find anything unusual beyond their conscious level. Other people request health care services from a medical and/or mental health professional or to be involved in a local support group of experiencers

Lester Velez is also the co-chairman for the AERC (Abduction Experiencer Research Committee) which is funded under the auspices of MUFON and tasked to research the abduction phenomenon and to seek a



better understanding of what the phenomenon entails.

Lester has been married to his lovely wife, Jane for over 40 years and has two wonderful daughters. His hobbies include metal work and various art projects. He is the Vice President of his company, Luscombe Engineering. Lester also served in the military as a Lieutenant and Artillery Officer for the US ARMY from 1970 -1976. Lester is also a great bartender and has created some interesting elixirs for medicinal purposes for his State Director.

Lester's role as Senior Assistant State Director has been to assist the State Director with his duties which include but not restricted to fund raising, organization of meetings, public relations and promotion of MUFON and membership drives. Lester played a very important role in the planning and coordination of MUFON's 39th Annual International UFO Symposium hosted in San Jose, California. He established the symposium's theme titled "UFOs – A World Wide Phenomenon".

Lester Velez's commitment to MUFON makes him deserving of the title "Volunteer of the Month

**CONGRATULATIONS LESTER VELEZ!**

## MUFON FIELD INVESTIGATORS MANUAL

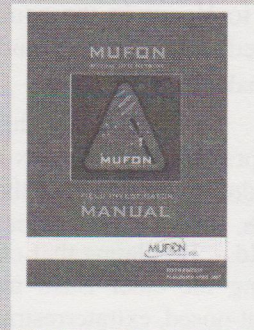
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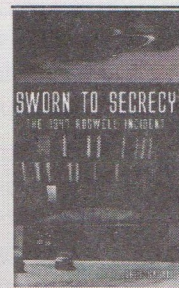
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*Editor Note: The DVD version of this movie is due out in March 2010.*

## THE FOURTH KIND

### MOVIE TO AVOID

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, as I sat in a theater being bombarded with soundtrack noise - screams – many screams – and melodramatic, over-the-top music, I was watching the new, self-described UFO abduction film, *The Fourth Kind*, and wondering how the screenwriters could get so many things wrong. Ostensibly set in Nome, Alaska – which, by the way, looks ravishingly pretty in the film’s many elaborate aerial views - the plot is focused on a therapist and her clients who have apparently suffered UFO abductions, and at least one of these “abductees,” the therapist’s little daughter, seems to have been taken for good. The film moves along, more or less propelled by fake hypnosis sessions in which virtually every subject screams bloody murder. One man, grotesquely unhinged by what he remembers during one such session, actually commits murder, blowing away his innocent wife, his two children and himself. And in this and every other case shown in the movie, apart from an owl at the window no one has previously remembered *anything* about his or her abduction experiences until hypnosis finally unlocks the ghastly, unbearable truth and the screaming starts.

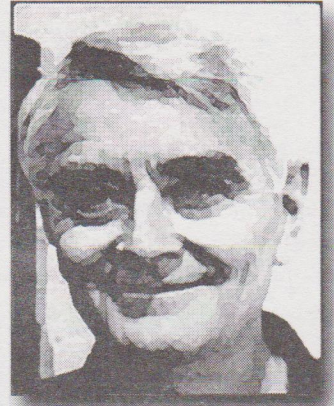
Underlying all of this fictional, never before reported malarkey, the film’s pseudo-documentary style strains to convince us that everything depicted is “supported by actual case material.” Well, after thirty-three years of working with hundreds upon hundreds of people reporting UFO abduction experiences, I can say, first, that in no case has anyone ever reported the permanent disappearance of a friend, a family member or anyone even vaguely connected with my huge pool of subjects. The sort of final, “taken-by-the-aliens disappearance” that the film suggests simply doesn’t happen - though, unfortunately, this tragic turn in the screenplay could disturb many uninformed people in a real-world audience.

Second, the hyper-emotional reactions mimed by the actors are almost non-existent in competently conducted hypnosis sessions. I’ve observed actual screams in perhaps six or seven of the nearly two thousand hypnosis sessions I’ve been present for, or carried out myself, over three decades, and have *never* seen the kind of mindless terror, vomiting and crashing about that the movie graphically, and shamelessly, forces upon the audience.

In a third bizarre invention, the screenwriters have entangled an ancient Sumerian language with the abduction phenomenon, so in this movie the aliens apparently speak Sumerian. Why is that, especially when communication in abduction experiences is almost inevitably telepathic? Is it because this tasty bit of fiction allows the camera to pan over a museum full of scary-looking ancient artifacts?

I could go on and on with the issues of fact, taste and simple plotting that I have with this movie, but I haven’t the heart or the patience to do so. The bottom line is this: save your \$12.50 or whatever a ticket costs at your local theater, and if you should suspect that you may have had an abduction experience, *absolutely* stay away. Such a viewer could be deeply unsettled by this noisy, fictional mishmash, which, as I’ve said, involves murder, gunfire and suicide, as well as seemingly endless minutes of blurred, fake video imagery which the filmmakers insist is “real.” (Mercifully, no special-effects aliens or UFOs are actually depicted.)

Despite the “unbearable terrors” of hypnotic recall that this movie claims to demonstrate, if a person should undergo hypnotic exploration of partially recalled abduction experiences, that individual will not pick up a pistol afterwards and shoot somebody, none of her family members will be permanently abducted, and he probably won’t do very much helpless screaming. Those things seem to happen only in certain kinds of lurid sci-fi or horror movies, of which *The Fourth Kind* is an extremely unfortunate mixture.



Budd Hopkins from his  
Intruders Foundation Website

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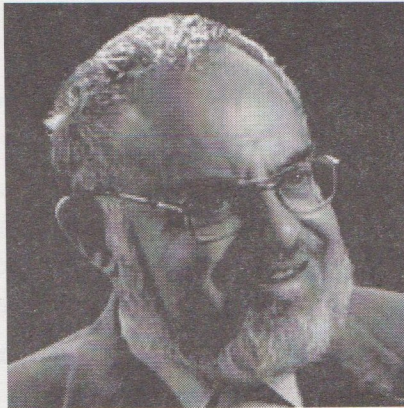
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*ABDUCTIONS PERCEPTIONS*

**B**ecause the Betty and Barney Hill case is the only abduction case I discuss at length in my normal lectures, I am often asked about abductions especially during radio shows and after lectures. The usual question is along the lines of "Where do you stand?". My normal response, like so many others to broad questions, is "It depends. Each case, as with all UFO sightings, must be taken on its own merits." I also try to insist that the proper question about UFOs, in general, is are any UFOs ET spacecraft, NOT are all. I use the analogy that because some people are 7' tall does NOT mean all people are. Because the great majority of isotopes are NOT fissionable doesn't mean none are. That is a good thing for a nuclear guy.

So my answer is usually that I believe some Earthlings have been abducted by some aliens. I have no reason to claim that all people who claim to have been abducted have been, or that because some aliens abduct Earthlings, all do. Not everybody in the US Air Force is a pilot. Not all professional baseball players are pitchers. SOME are.

My views on the Hill case are that they were indeed abducted and examined by aliens in New Hampshire in 1961 and amnesia induced and Dr. Simon did a splendid job of breaking through the mental barriers installed by the aliens, as described in "Captured! The Betty and Barney Hill UFO Experience" with Kathleen Marden, Betty's niece. These views are based on far more effort than I have put into any other abduction case. I met them both, have been in Betty's house many times, was the first to publish about the controversial star map work of Marjorie Fish, after meeting with her at least 4 times. I have met other abductees, and certainly have spent time with such serious abduction researchers as Budd Hopkins, Dr. David Jacobs, Dr. John Mack, John Carpenter, Ray Fowler, Yvonne Smith, Kathy Marden ( a certified hypnotherapist), and others. I would never say we all



STANTON FRIEDMAN

agree on everything. Dave Jacobs, for example, doesn't think Roswell happened because he thinks governments can't keep secrets and, if it were true, hundreds or thousands would have to know. I am well aware that there have been many development programs conducted in secrecy and involving many thousands of people. John Mack seemed quite surprised (we shared the stage at several conferences), when I talked about physical travel to nearby stars being feasible, if we wanted to spend the money and effort.. as opposed to an often heard view that one can't get here from there. The Hill case is also useful for focusing on particular nearby stars (a mere 39.3 light years away) rather than worrying about other galaxies such as Andromeda over 2 million light years away.

I have been impressed by the similarity of the abduction experiences that have been reported, by the fact that a significant number of cases did not involve hypnosis, by the facts that people have often been looking for the person while he or she was gone, and by some of the strange items that turn up such as children being found outside a house that was locked at night, by people sometimes turning up with clothes on backwards, or other peoples clothes on. Obviously aliens are not perfect. There are of course a number of cases when independent examination of people taken together provides consistent data. Kathleen's comparative analysis of what Betty and Barney said under hypnosis and a comparison with Betty's dream material was a very important piece of work.

I must say I was very much impressed when with Kathleen and a UK TV crew in New Hampshire at the location where Betty and Barney fled their abductors who had been close enough for them to be seen near windows, that the aliens must have controlled their movements. No way they would have gone off the main highway and then on to a secondary road and then on to a dirt road close to one of the few places a good sized

craft could land in an open area in the heavily wooded region. Being able to directly influence people at a distance without putting guns in their backs is a remarkable skill. Also impressive is the terror that shows clearly on the hypnosis tapes. Dr. Simon wrote that it was as intense as that of any of the myriad of military people he had helped break through the symptoms of PTSD caused by war activities.

The real problem for some people is that related to the why questions. Why would aliens from a close star system come here? Why would they abduct many earthlings? Why would they induce amnesia in many of the abductees? But not all? Why would they be interested in reproduction related activities such as extracting sperm or ova? Are they involved in hybridization? With them?

It might help to note that there have been abductions by earthlings of other species and of other humans. Many future slaves were abducted in Africa, sometimes with the assistance of other earthlings. We have abducted many kinds of animals for the purpose of installing sophisticated instruments for recording body conditions, location, whether sleeping or not, etc. These include whales, big elephant seals, polar bears. It was found, for example, that some elephant seals actually sleep for short periods of time while on their way down to great depths. I doubt if a polar bear can account to his buddies for his abduction by 2 legged earthlings and his being anesthetized for a while, while a technologically sophisticated device was attached that could send signals to a satellite and then back to an investigator. That would have sounded ridiculous to us 2 hundred years ago before miniature electronics and tiny transmitters and satellite receivers, etc , had even been invented. We do many census kinds of studies of the populations of humans and of animals. How can we explain the different colors and other characteristics of earthlings? Maybe on other planets all the inhabitants are much more similar to each other than here.

Another thing that has changed drastically over the years has been our awareness of all sorts of genetic differences amongst people. I am still shocked that the saliva left on a cigarette butt is enough to identify who had been smoking the cigarette. We have developed a variety of new and different reproduction techniques such as in vitro fertilization, embryo implantation, etc. We have also come to understand that many diseases have a genetic component. It is not unusual for some

genetic diseases to be found in less than 1 in 10 thousand of the population. We are also getting closer to being able to use stem cells to cure diseases, The aliens might want to know how resistant we would be to their diseases and how resistant they would be to ours, Native populations were often decimated by diseases (measles, small pox, etc)with which they heretofore had not been in touch. Perhaps the aliens know about some forthcoming disastrous events such as asteroid collisions, volcano eruptions, and they are checking us out to see how we will do.

Some object strenuously to the fact that people are usually abducted without their permission. However, normally they are returned not too bad off except for wear and tear.

There are a great many difficulties in trying to interpret the behavior of visiting aliens. We have no idea of what their civilizations are like. Are they as war-like as we are? Is there some sort of galactic federation? Are there rules for visitations, specimen gathering, etc?. How many times have we shot down a saucer, hardly an act of friendship? Surely nothing that aliens have done to us comes close to being as evil as what we earthlings have done to other earthlings. Think of the gas chambers of the holocaust, the single bombing raids during WW 2 in which 10s of thousands of civilians were killed.. in Dresden, Hamburg, Tokyo, Hiroshima, Nagasaki. We have done wholesale slaughtering. Ships have been sunk with hundreds of deaths occurring. We certainly don't know if there has been direct contact between alien leaders and earthling leaders. Have we given permission for abductions, but maybe insisting that the specimens be returned? What have we obtained in return?

An important reason for our difficulty in understanding is the local perspective we have. We know our past history back thousands of years on a planet that has been around more than 4 billion. We are out in the boondocks. Zeta 1 and Zeta 2 Reticuli are only an eighth of a light year apart and at least a billion (some say 2-3 billion) years older than the sun. Colonization and interaction seem much more likely under those circumstances rather than ours. We obviously have not been aware of most of the history of the neighborhood. It was less than 20 years ago that we discovered that there were planets outside our solar system. Now we know of more than 400 with many more to be noted as new space observatories come on line. We didn't know there was more than one galaxy

until less than 90 years ago. And yet instead of being well aware of our ignorance, we often display our arrogance about how much we know instead of being conscious of how much more there is to know that other thinking beings have known for a very long time.

There is another difficulty here. I have found, when asking at the end of my lectures, that about 10% of the people believe they have seen a UFO. However, typically only 10% of the 10% have reported what they observed, generally because of fear of ridicule. How much less likely it is that one would report an abduction

case. In other words I doubt if we have even a good sampling of the variety of cases and behaviors.

We have known for decades that the standard response by the Piled Higher and Deeper guys to new information about which they have had been unaware is DENIAL. Abductees need to be made aware that they are not crazy, that others have been through the same experience and that they may well have information that would benefit us all. Like it or not, man is not alone nor all powerful.

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## Help for Abductees . . . By Robert B. LeLievre, Michael Freeman & Lester Velez

### MUFON LAUNCHES ABDUCTION STUDY

#### OMEGA 3: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ABDUCTEES/EXPERIENCERS & COMMUNITY CONTROLS

**M**UFON Abduction/Experiencers Research Committee, 2009

For 40 years the Mutual UFO Network has undertaken the scientific study of unidentified flying objects. In the main, these investigations focused on sightings, physical traces, and other forms of observable events or effects.

In 2008 MUFON extended its mission into new avenues, one of which is the study of the abduction phenomenon. The MUFON Abduction/Experiencer Research Committee was established and asked to develop a research program. "Omega 3" is the first of four abduction studies the committee expects to conduct over the next several years.

The objective of the Omega 3 study is to discover what, if any, personality characteristics might be associated with reports of alien abduction, and also to discover what the long-term consequences of such contact may be.

The Abduction/Experiencer Research Committee consisting of 12 individuals from a variety of scientific and professional disciplines, is chaired by Lester Velez, who is also a MUFON assistant state director, northern California. PIX JAR 3

The committee as a whole is conducting the study, but two psychologists, Robert B. LeLievre, Ph.D., and Michael Freeman, Ph.D., are the principal investigators. MUFON has allocated \$2,000 for the

Omega 3 study, including preparation of materials and mailing of survey packets.

#### The 1990 Study

In 1990, Ring and Rosing conducted the first study of individuals who reported UFO encounters and compared them to a group of individuals who reported near death experiences.

In the Ring study, individuals reporting UFO experiences and NDEs were also compared with two control groups--individuals with an interest in UFO encounters, but no direct experiences, and individuals who had an interest in the near-death phenomenon, but no near-death crisis.

Ring and Rosing found a great degree of similarity between the UFOers and the NDErs. Both reported childhood experiences with alternate realities and psi phenomena, as well as histories of abuse and trauma. The combination of psi phenomena and trauma led, the researchers concluded, to a "dissociative" style in times of heightened stress.

The Ring study also found that the UFO and the NDE experiencers changed a great deal following their experiences. For example, both groups of experiencers reported greater physical sensitivities to environmental conditions, heightened awareness of their bodies, better and faster mental ability to process information, and a greater flexibility in their thinking. Both groups also reported a heightened altruism, including an increase in universal spirituality, a stronger concern for others, and a

greater commitment to ecological matters and planetary welfare.

### **The 2008 study**

A 2008 study by LeLievre, Larson, and Remington replicated some of the Ring and Rosing findings of 1990, but did not confirm the abuse-trauma-dissociation pathway. It was thought a possible problem with Ring and Rosing was that the subjects in the UFO abductee/experiencer group were too dissimilar to one another, and not enough alike.

The UFO abductee/experiencer group in that study consisted of individuals who reported a variety of anomalous experiences. These included sightings of strange lights or craft, contact and/or communication with an entity with or without a sighting of lights or a craft, one or more abductions, or a history of telepathic or sleep experiences involving some form of alien other.

By contrast, the abductee/experiencer group for the present study will include only individuals who report an abduction experience, defined as recall of an encounter with an alien other, being removed from their normal environment, taken to an alien environment and returned.

### **A 1991 Critique**

Rodeghier, Goodpaster, & Blatterbauer (1991) also argue in a critique that the lack of homogeneity among subjects might account for the different findings on a number of personality characteristics and personal style patterns which have been reported. For example, subjects, including abductees, are found to be fantasy prone in some studies and not fantasy prone in other studies.

Both sets of researchers (Ring and LeLievre) have called for a more comprehensive study of abductees--a study which will compare one group who report clear cut, defined abduction experiences with another group interested in UFOs but without any direct experience of the phenomena. This research design reduces the number of variables and should produce more definitive results.

### **The Current Omega 3 study**

This is the MUFON Omega 3 study now under way. It seeks to discover what, if any, psychological antecedents lead to sensitivity to and experience of alien contact; it also seeks to discover the long-term consequences of contact.

The research to date has suggested there are antecedents or precursors to contact that may well make certain individuals more likely than others to have anomalous, extraordinary, and/or paranormal experiences. Does this mean that aliens might use this

encounter-prone personality dimension as a means of selecting whom they contact or abduct? Quite possibly.

Ring and Rosing, and others, argue there are certain personal characteristics associated with reports of alien contact or abduction. The present study seeks to determine more fully what these may be.

### **How to join the study**

Participants are being recruited through an advertisement in the MUFON UFO Journal, as well as through OPUS ([www.opus-net.org](http://www.opus-net.org)).

All individuals who agree to participate sign an informed consent document, complete a demographic and experience qualification form designed to allow placement in the experiencer or the community control group, and complete a research survey packet, including the eight instruments used by Ring and Rosing, as well as the Persinger and Makarec (1991) Personal Philosophy Inventory.

Participants are being contacted by mail, receiving the informed consent document for signature and a set of paper-and-pencil inventories. A self-addressed and stamped return envelope is provided for return of the materials. No travel is involved either for the participants or the researchers. All data are coded alpha-numerically to preserve confidentiality and privacy.

Participation in the study is limited to persons residing in the United States. The plan is to recruit 100 abductees/experiencers and to compare them to 100 community control participants. Once the data are analyzed, a manuscript will be submitted to a UFO journal or to an applied psychology journal.

**Any person interested in participating can contact Lester Velez at [lesterv424@aol.com](mailto:lesterv424@aol.com).**

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## RESEARCHERS SEEK HELP WITH EXPERIMENTS TO PREVENT ABDUCTIONS

It's been thought nothing could be done to prevent abductions. That might not be true.

Roy Wells (pseudonym), an abductee in Colorado, has succeeded in preventing himself from being taken by using an arrangement of cotton ropes, knotted and sewed. And Michael Menkin has been making head gear lined with velostat which apparently interferes with alien transmissions to the brain and stops abductions. Now Roy Wells has started experimenting with velostat sheets and he reports, "Velostat works. I confirm it every night."

I began aware of the work of these two men a year ago when detailed articles by each of them were published in *JAR*, *The Journal of Abduction-Encounter Research* ([www.jarmag.com](http://www.jarmag.com)), of which I am an editor (in addition to my work with Mufon). Now, *JAR* is looking for an electronics scientist to join the effort. If there is a way to prevent abductions, UFO research needs to find out about it and that needs a scientific investigation.

Michael Menkin is a technical writer who lives in Washington state. He believes people should not be abducted if they don't want to be, and a few years ago he started looking for a physical material that could shield abductees and prevent abductions. Menkin believes the aliens use some variety of electromagnetic transmission beamed at the brains of abductees which renders them compliant and unable to resist being taken by the aliens. He reasoned if these transmissions could be blocked, that would prevent abduction.

Menkin began using an inexpensive industrial anti-static fabric-like plastic material called velostat as a lining for hats to see if that would shield the brains of abductees. On his website, [www.stopabductions.com](http://www.stopabductions.com), and in *JAR* 5, published last year, Menkin reported that abductees who consistently wear his hats, which he makes for free, were not being taken. He also reported signs of consternation from the aliens directed toward

the abductees wearing the hats; the aliens have tried to prevent abductees from wearing the hats.

In the meantime, Roy Wells, the abductee in Colorado, undertook a different approach to prevent himself from being abducted. He experimented with different arrangements of knotted cotton straps which he used to tie himself to his bed each night. He found that the aliens untied each arrangement he used and retied the strap each night when they returned him to his bed.

Finally, he picked up a needle and thread and sewed one end of the cotton strap to itself, and this method, he reports, prevents abductions. The aliens are evidently unwilling to restore the sewing and unwilling to break the sewing and leave it as evidence of the abduction. A detailed explanation of what Wells did can be found in an article in *JAR* 8.

After learning of the work of Michael Menkin, Wells began experimenting with velostat by using sheets of the material to shield his head during the night. Since he is aware of the arrival of beings in his home several nights a week, and since he is awake and in command of himself at this initial stage of an attempted abduction, Roy has been able to use the velostat material by moving it around his head at will.

At these times he reports he is able to observe the efforts of the aliens to circumvent the shielding velostat; he sees sparks emanating from the material and he is aware of the movement of the beings around his bed in an effort to find an angle of approach that will get around the velostat. He also says the headaches which begin when the beings apparently try to "get into his brain" cease when the velostat shielding is put up. Wells says he plans to try a variety of experiments with velostat to increasingly refine the testing he is doing.

Obviously, the efforts of Menkin and Wells to thwart abductions, if they are valid and true, are extremely important. The editors of *JAR* are interested in pursuing a line of research suggested by the above

*Continued on page 30*

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . . .

## 2012 Article

**Editor's note:** *I received 3 emails concerning Mr. Ventre's article and I understand he received 12 (4 good and 8 bad) which makes a total of 15 emails. Let's keep this in perspective and not over react i.e., don't let the tail wag the dog! This is .48% (less than 1/2 of 1%) in response to this article! John's second part to this article was to be published in this edition but due to space and the focus of this edition – abductions, it will appear in March. Please keep in mind, let's not kill the messenger and only letters which are civil, i.e, do not contain vulgarities, will be considered for printing! John's letter appears below.*

Dear Editor

How dare you print an article that suggests that our president, Barack Obama, could be the "anti-Christ." Who the \*\*\*\* is John Venture? A lifelong member of the NRA-is that supposed to give him credibility? A radical Christian? Only radical nut cases believe in the ludicrous concept of an "anit[sp]-Christ." He mentions several visions that the late Jeanne Dixon had, and suggests that because President Obama will be 50 in 2012, and that her vision beheld "Nefertiti" holding a "Muslim" baby, that makes HIM the "anti-Christ." What rubbish! And how inflammatory [sp]when we have morons on Fox news already proclaiming Obama will lead us on the path to oblivion. No vision ever tells the seer exact ages or nationality. No vision can ever accurately predict the future, as the future is entirely dependent on ever-changing events leading up to a paritcular [sp] time period. Dixon also predicted a meteor would fall in the ocean and wipe out L.A. I wish a meteorite would fall on Venture's [sp] head and knock some sense into him. You need to retract your article's published statement slandering Mr. Obama in the worse possible way. . . .  
Catherine O'Kelly

Dear Editor and MUFON Board Members

I consider this to be an extremely serious mis-step by MUFON. I realize there's a new editor, and that the days of a pro like Dwight Connelly are past. But next week I start my 4th series (within the last 15 months) of UFO classes in the Des Moines Adult Education program for the Des Moines School District. How can I recommend the MUFON JOURNAL in that class, or to anyone else, if what I've got in my hand is the January issue?

Frankly, I want to say, \*\*What the hell are we doing putting this kind of subject in the Journal?\*\* Politically slanted, at that! And I'd feel the same if the article

had insinuated that John McCain was the Anti-Christ instead of Barack Obama, so it's not a matter of any political leaning on my part.

Hopefully, this article would be considered a problem by the MUFON board; a problem which requires action. I'd appreciate hearing what can be done about this?

Beverly Trout

Iowa MUFON Chief Investigator

Dear Bev [cc to Editor]

Hmmm, but, politics has always played a part in Uology to one degree or another. generally, anti-government and anti-air force, anti-science and anti-mainstream society and anti-established psychology. from a sub-cultural point of view the interest in exo-politics is by definition, politically based and intended. UFO lobbyists and seekers of funding for special ufo research projects and releases of government files are a mainstay of UFO lore.

I think the January MUFON journal struck a nerve with Bev, because the editor allowed a political name and by doing so, a party affiliation to be linked and identified as a ufological/religious concern! but, Ufology is a 'belief system', which depends on a separation of the UFO believers from the rest of society...it is what makes saucer-believers unique and a bit fringy too to the rest of the world!

To Bev, i very respectfully say, lighten up and go with the flow of new ideas at MUFON. they are long overdue! they may be good, bad or totally absurd... so what else is new in "saucerdom"? The point is, judgment should be reserved and based on results, not knee-jerk reactions. regards,  
Matt

**Editor's Note:** *I received this letter as a "cc" from Matt, a person, in response, to Beverly Trout. She evidently sent this letter to Matt's attention and this was his response. I have taken the liberty to correct the spelling and capital, but everything else is intact!*

Dear Editor:

Well it's been over a month since the first part of my 2012 article appeared in the Journal. I received 8 negative emails and 4 positive. Since we have 3000 issues a month mailed I would have to think it was found to be interesting or entertaining although an article regarding a future date occurrence can't possibly be scientific in nature. It was based on years of research and the references are in my book. The main sticking point was the mention of our



Presidents name as being of high coincidence to Jean Dixons prophecy. Maybe I should've just said that the most powerful man in the world appears to meet Dixons vision. Unfortunately, politics and religion have always been a part of UFOlogy along with censorship and disinformation. I believe the truth regarding UFOlogy touches every aspect of our lives and past history.....if only the truth would be told. The main reason I joined MUFON was because I felt there was a part of our history that hadn't been told. Evolution and Creation just didn't add up. I believe the movie "Planet of the Apes" (original) has more to say about our covered up past than much of the disinformation that we are told. From 1968-1970 the USAF taught a Physics 370 class at the Academy in Colorado Springs where the course taught that "the UFO phenomenon appears to have been global in nature for 50,00[0] years" (pg 465). "Evidence suggests the existence of at least three and maybe four different groups of aliens" (pg 466). The FEMA approved Fire Officers Guide to Disaster Control also speaks of "UFO sightings all over the globe since ancient times." (pg 460). Our past, UFOs, religion, free speech and 2012 prophecy written many years ago and influenced by some outside force are all intertwined. I believe the future of MUFON is with young members who are clearly more open minded and versatile. It is these younger members that need to be drawn to MUFON by alternative ideas as opposed to rehashing Roswell theory. May I suggest that the Journal set aside a section entitled "Members Corner" where members can have published their papers and research based on experience that others may learn from. These may not be scientific or been through peer review or written by members with PHD's. These would simply be articles based on observation and years of experience.

John J Ventre

Pa & WV MUFON St Dir.

Board member of JDRF, Rotary, EGC.

FBI InFragard & NRA member.

Tocqueville Society member.

Security Dir for 3 states for a Fortune 40 Company.

Liaison to a Federal Congressman for his company.

Author of 12/21/2012 A Prophecy.

[www.johnventre.com](http://www.johnventre.com)

Dear Beverly, [cc Editor]

Thank you and I appreciate hearing your concerns and thank you for your service and dedication to MUFON.

*(Keep in mind that I am speaking freely my own opinions which may or may not be the opinion of the Board of Directors.)*

Your question of "what to be done about this?" has got me pondering. Though I do understand your concerns I also know the pressure that our Journal Editor is under to get content organized for a monthly issue of the journal that we all look forward to.

Tackling such an involving task is not an easy one. Have you personally edited and published a monthly printed Journal? I can see that our Journal Editor is working with

the material provided to him by MUFON members like ourselves. I recall our Journal Editor's request for all MUFON members to contribute articles to him so he can make the Journal the best it can be.

The ink is on the page, but is it necessary to remove the head of our Journal Editor? In my opinion, the best way to address this in a positive manner for FUTURE monthly journals would be for members like yourself to contribute articles for our Editor to publish that you personally feel our network of members would enjoy reading. I would like to see our journal editor overwhelmed with content provided monthly from interested and capable members of our network.

You say you've been teaching adult classes on the subject of UFOs for the past 15 months. I would love to read articles submitted by yourself that describes your curriculum and the format of your classes so others would be inspired to want to teach classes in Ufology as well. Would that be too much to ask for you to write some content for our journal?

It's good that you voice your opinion as we live in a country that stands by our rights to freedom of speech. And because we live in a free land it's also every individual's right to read an article and make their own judgements as to it's appropriateness. What if there are other Journal subscribers who feel differently than you do and enjoyed the read? Are you speaking for those MUFON members as well? Wouldn't they also have the same freedom to read and interpret the content to their satisfaction?

I personally love my idea of encouraging you to write some op-ed articles about yourself and your experiences educating the public about UFOs. And your experiences investigating UFOs. I am sure that there is much you can share with your fellow network of journal subscribers! John's article may contain a political note, but it also contains some important historical information that I appreciated. I read the article and took what I wanted from it and moved on. I would not want MUFON to stumble down a path of censorship. Let's all do our best in the future and project positively our contributions to our monthly journal and hope that we are able to please as many journal subscribers as possible.

Our Journal Editor is doing a fine job over-all for his beginning efforts to produce our monthly MUFON Journal. Again, he is relying on us to provide him with content to fill each issue. We all need to step up to the pump and contribute to the journal if we are able. I look forward to reading objectively an article(s) that you pen from your perspective. Is there anything positive you could write about? Do you have connections with other MUFON members that can be encouraged to write articles for the journal?

To me, that would be a positive conclusion in this matter of "what to be done about this?"

Faithfully,  
Mark Easter

# REPORTS FROM THE FIELD . . . BY RICHARD LANG

*Editors NOTE: This will be the final SIP report on the Journal, unless further notice is received. The following email was sent out by our new director Clifford Clift:*

January 30, 2010

To All MUFON Members,

On January 30, 2010, MUFON's SIP Project with BAASS will expire. As you know, the SIP Project with BAASS was for six months, with an additional four month extension. That ten month period is now over.


MUFON's successful efforts to provide BAASS information about UFO sightings of interest has been well received by BAASS scientists. At the present time MUFON and BAASS are evaluating the results of the pilot program and how and if it should continue. Our strong hope is that it will. As new information develops in regard to the SIP program, as trusted leaders of MUFON, you will be made aware.

Meanwhile, MUFON will continue to pursue its mission of the "Study of UFOs for the Benefit of Humanity", as we have for the past 40 years, by relying on our State Directors and Field Investigator base. Your continued support of our Mission and Goals, as always, is greatly appreciated.

All our Best,

Clifford Clift, ID

Board Members



## DECEMBER .2009 DEPLOYMENTS MUFON SIP

➤ **Case # 19222**

**CAT 3 Deployment in Winchester, OR**  
(County of Douglass)

**Investigator: Devlin Rugne**  
**State Coordinator: Tom Bowden**  
**Deployment date: 12-10-09**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

Car sized grey mass floating above trees grey/black object in the sky. It was the size of a mini van and it did not have any shape the edges feathered into nothing It was like a blotch in the sky. There were no lights and it blocked out the stars when it floated by.

**Case Disposition: Deployment was canceled**  
**Witness declined to be interviewed.**



➤ **Case # 20706**

**CAT 2 Deployment in Port Jervis NY ]**  
(county of Orange)

**Investigator: Chuck Modlin**

**State Coordinator: James Bouck**  
**Deployment date: 11-27-09**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- The object was approx 200 feet in length
- Witness reported it had 5 lights on it from end to end the lights went from blue-white-red-white-blue in that order
- it was turning clockwise slowly and the only sound Witness could hear was like a cat purring,
- Witness noticed the size it must of been around 200 feet in length,
- as it passed over the car the car turned off
- my cell phone had turned off too, by this time
- Witness didn't know weather to get out of the car and run or stay in car
- Suddenly the lights on the object went out and the car started up

**Case Disposition: Unknown - UAV**



➤ **Case # 20985**

**CAT 3 Deployment in in Thortonville Monahans  
TEXAS (county of Ward )**

**Investigator: Fletcher Gray  
State Coordinator: Fletcher Gray  
Deployment date: 12-14-09**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- Object hovering just off the ground, strange "men" scurrying about around the craft
- Witness reported noticing a sort of electrical charge to the very air around us. Almost like the kind you feel when you approach a large electrical substation or a charged and active radio antenna
- saw two strange looking "Men" appear from around the object.
- They looked to be about 4 feet tall, but they looked very skinny,
- Their heads were large and their arms were long, skinny and hung down around their knee's.

**Case Disposition: HOAX**



➤ **Case # 21000**

**CAT 3 Deployment in in Kileen TEXAS  
(county of Bell )**

**Investigator: Fletcher Gray  
State Coordinator: Fletcher Gray  
Deployment date: 12-16-0**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- Saw UFO land and occupants come out
- a silver disc with a glow (no other lights) landed.
- it did not touch the ground, it hovered just above the ground.
- A platform lowered beneath the UFO and 3 beings walked out.
- They walked like humans but were smaller.
- They were too far away to see any details, but it was obvious they were not your typical gray.

**Case Disposition: HOAX**



➤ **Case # 21156**

**CAT2 Deployment in Salinas CA  
(county of Monterey )**

**Investigator: Charles Fetterman  
State Coordinator: Steve Reichmuth  
Deployment date: 12-28-09  
Date of Event:**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- Triangular craft was above Witnesses at a distance of 20 feet.

- Described by witnesses "it was as big as a cruise liner".
- Witness stated that a beam of white light shown down from the craft on both of them and they could feel a mild energy pulse. They saw a red orb ascend up into the triangular craft.
- They both had migraine headaches for two days

**Case Disposition: Unknown - UAV**



## **JANUARY .2010 DEPLOYMENTS**

➤ **Case # 21363**

**CAT 2 Deployment in Raleigh NC (county of Johnston)**

**Investigator: John Kledis  
State Coordinator: Robert Coley  
Deployment date: 1-07-10  
Date of Event:**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- Dark, square shape, two dim lights (red/green), 50ft. off ground, 30mph due west.
- about 50-60ft off the ground and 40 yards to our left over a field at about 30mph. The craft had two dim lights, one was definitely red. I thought the other light was a dim green, but the other eyewitness remembered it as a dim white light.

**Case Disposition: Unknown - UAV**



➤ **Case # 21440**

**CAT 2 Deployment in Grand falls, TX (county of Ward)**

**Investigator: Fletcher Gray  
State Coordinator: Fletcher Gray  
Deployment date: 1-11-10  
Date of Event: 01-08-10**

**Short Description of UFO Event:**

- A bright light that descended to the ground and left a mark
- Witnesses watched as the light got lower and lower and eventually came to rest behind the old power substation.
- watched it land, the light eventually faded, but the sky around the power station got lit up like a spot light was being shown at the station.

➤ **Case Disposition: HOAX**



# CALENDAR . . .

**February 21-27, 2010** – 19<sup>th</sup> Annual IFO Congress, Laughlin, NV – Speakers, Wendell Stevens, Marc D’ Antonio, Barbara Lamb, Chuck Zukowski, and Richard Dolan. See ad page 10  
[www.ufocongress.com](http://www.ufocongress.com) or 620-889-3083

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**March 6, 2010** 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
UFO CLUB of Virginia Beach Meeting Free & Open to Public  
Meetings held on first Saturday of every Month.  
Contact: Cameron Pack "[cpackvb1122@yahoo.com](mailto:cpackvb1122@yahoo.com) or 757-217-8401 (Voice Mail)  
Location : Bayside Branch of the Virginia Beach Public Library, Meeting Room, located at 936 Independence Boulevard, Virginia Beach, VA 23455. Mapquest url: <http://tinyurl.com/VB-March>  
**March**  
Cameron Pack will discuss the earliest UFO reports in the US Air Force's Project Blue Book files, dating from June of 1947 and before.

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**April 3, 2010** 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM  
UFO CLUB of Virginia Beach Meeting Free & Open to Public  
Meetings held on first Saturday of every Month.  
Contact: Cameron Pack "[cpackvb1122@yahoo.com](mailto:cpackvb1122@yahoo.com) or 757-217-8401 (Voice Mail)  
Location : Bayside Branch of the Virginia Beach Public Library, Meeting Room, located at 936 Independence Boulevard, Virginia Beach, VA 23455. Mapquest url: <http://tinyurl.com/VB-March>  
**March**  
Carter Bulger will discuss the Eastern Virginia Extra Terrestrial Contact Group and the concepts and theories related to it.

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**April 10, 2010** – 11am 6pm Admission: \$10.00  
3rd Annual Butler Paranormal Conference  
Tanglewood Senior Center 10 Austin Ave Lyndora PA 16045  
Contact: Dan Hageman 724-284-9734 (BORU) or Brian Seech 724-777-4803 (CUE)

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**April 9-11, 2010** *Montauk Project Journey* For the first time ever, author and lecturer **Peter Moon** has agreed to unlock the mysteries of the *Montauk Investigation* and share the ancient history of this sacred land.  
<http://www.sacredspirittours.com/iframe/journey/montaukp.htm>

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**April 9 - 11, 2010.** *22nd Annual Ozark UFO Conference*, Inn of the Ozarks Conference Center, Eureka Springs, AR. Speakers to be announced. Check: [www.ozarkufo.com](http://www.ozarkufo.com)

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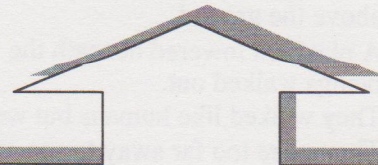
**May 15, 2010** Maryland MUFON presents " UFO AWARENESS CONFERENCE near Baltimore, Md. Speakers: TBA in subsequent Journal editions. contact Dr. S. Peter Resta @ [spr100@aol.com](mailto:spr100@aol.com).

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**July 22, 25 MUFON International 2010 Symposium**  
There will be Field Investigator training on 07/21/10 the day before the Symposium begins. [www.mufon.com](http://www.mufon.com)

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**September 10-12, 2010** – ASPE 2010 Paranormal Symposium at Angel Fire, NM. [www.aspefiles.org](http://www.aspefiles.org)



The *Calendar column* needs more events . . . send me your event for FREE listing to [editor@mufon.com](mailto:editor@mufon.com) and make sure to put "Calendar" in the subject line!

*Editors note: George has been doing a great job for many years reporting on raw data, largely CMS reports from MUFON. As an update to the pics provided, MUFON's photography expert, Marc D'Antonio, has offered to update the raw data and provide an expert opinion on photograph. His analysis follow in italics:*

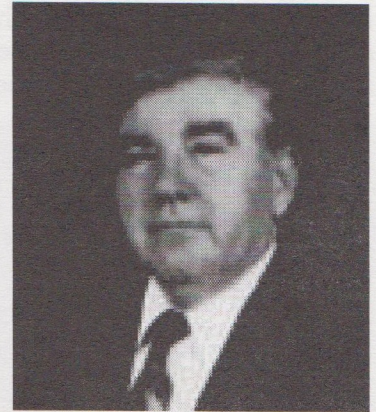
## Sightings in the United States

### Arizona UFO Follows Aircraft



#### TUCSON 1

-- The airplane was approaching Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson at approximately 4:15 PM MST on August 8th, 2009. We first witnessed the object hovering in a locked position. The witness saw the object drop a few thousand feet and got his video camera and rushed outside in time to catch the object approaching the airplane from behind. The object made no sound, completely silent and appears to merge with the aircraft. There was an attempt to take the video to the media, unfortunately, every affiliate rejected the video due to lack of



evidence. There was no report in the city of a missing airplane, nor did the Air Force Base report anything missing. Many of the news affiliates did confirm that they had received calls on August 8th from various sources, claiming they had seen a UFO. They refused to believe that the Air Force base would withhold information about a missing airplane. John E. Combest writes, I think you will find this video most interesting. The airplane that appears to be abducted by the UFO is a large, four-engine turboprop plane. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9cZ8F1KTTM&feature=fvw>

#### Summary Analysis: Computer Generated Hoax. Composited Video.

*Summary Detail: I had reviewed this video some months ago back when it was first reported. I had immediate concerns with the apparent motion of the UFO object. My first impression was that the UFO object was trailing the aircraft oddly and moving in a seemingly contrived, computer generated manner. As the plane is 'grabbed' you can see in closeup that the aircraft just seems to disappear. The UFO object is smaller than the aircraft so there is no way that the aircraft could have been brought 'inside' the UFO so we would have to assume it was made to disappear. As the UFO races upwards, it moves at a speed that, at the distance of the aircraft that I estimated to be at minimum one mile, would have put it easily past the speed of sound. So in addition to having to accept that the aircraft disappears, we would ALSO have to accept that there is no sonic boom NOR atmospheric effects [condensation fronts along the leading edges of the craft] as the it heads upwards. Another important issue is that of the sound on the video. You can clearly hear the plane through the entire encounter which is not in itself a problem in any way. But, at the moment it was taken, suddenly the sound gets louder as if it was dubbed in. If that was supposed to be the sound at the moment the plane was taken, there was no time delay from what appeared to be at least one mile directly away. I believe that this sound was dubbed into the video, perhaps to cover the fact that you could still hear the aircraft on the video after it had vanished. But therein lies the rub. Oddly the hoaxers didn't have to do that. At the distance the plane was from the camera, at least a mile, it would have taken approximately 4.6 seconds if at one mile and longer thereafter for sound to get to the camera. Their video ends abruptly just a second and a half after the plane vanishes so the loss of engine sound would not have reached the camera yet. Perhaps they did not realize that fact and tried to cover the plane engine sound needlessly. The witness stated that aircraft was a 4 engine turboprop. I did not find this to be the case. My analysis indicated it appears to be more like a single engine Cessna 172 and is not an Air Force aircraft but a simple civilian aircraft. In summary I believe that this video is a composite. Real video footage was taken and then a computer generated element added.*

*The most important information for this case however comes from the fact that NO Air Force or Civilian aircraft were reported missing at all anywhere in the area during this time. That is VERY telling as in addition to being asked to accept that a plane disappears, that no sonic boom is generated upon exit, and that no atmospheric effects of speed of sound or greater travel are generated, and that there is this unexplained dubbed sound at the end of the video, now we are asked to believe that no one anywhere else saw this event occur, and some type of cover-up is in place to prevent anyone from knowing a plane was kidnapped... Oh the tangled web we weave.*

#### **COLORADO PHOTO**

**FORT COLLINS** -- My wife and I were walking in the park on January 16, 2010, when we noticed a few folks pointing up at the sky at a large black slow moving triangle. It was not extremely high and was changing shape as it moved across the sky, but my husband suspected it was the light hitting it on the different sides to the craft. I called my father-in-law who has a telescope and he later reported back that it was indeed changing shape. His initial sighting was of a stealth shape triangle, but moving backwards! As he watched it shifted into a rectangular box before floating into a cloud. I snapped a cell phone picture. Thanks to MUFON CMS



#### **Summary Analysis: Not enough evidence**

**Summary Detail: This is just a comment about these types of sightings. In cases where the object is changing shape, we have found that in quite a number of cases, they are MULTIPLE objects close together moving amongst each other as they fly along in the sky. As they move around each other, they appear to change shape. TYPICALLY but NOT always, this means that they are likely balloons released either accidentally or on purpose. One of the key items to look for in witness testimony are comments such as "the craft was moving slowly through the sky", which could mean it was drifting with the**

**winds aloft. [NOTE: Winds Aloft do NOT have to be blowing in the same direction as the Surface Winds. They can be but do not have to be. So windspeed data in cases such as these are to be gathered from the weather service for that area. ]. Also of importance is the COLOR. By and large, Mylar balloons are most noticeable at great distances when released and these are usually a bright silver. I have seen Mylar balloons very high in the air, perhaps 6-7000 feet and they looked like bright reflective orbs. Very interesting looking!**

#### **DELAWARE BRIGHTEST LIGHT**

**LAUREL** -- On January 9, 2010, around 2:30 PM, I was driving and looked up and saw the brightest light I have ever seen during the day. It was as bright as the sun and the size of a truck. It was a few miles away and about 60 degrees up in the air the color was like an orange white. A few days before I saw this one of my friends had told me they had seen the same object when they were leaving their house. The light was no plane. I still don't know what to think of it and it may have been something from Dover Air Force Base.

**Note:** A check of weather conditions showed that skies were clear at the time of the sighting. The object likely was not a balloon given that it disappeared after a few seconds. The fact that additional witnesses saw the same thing strengthens the quality of the sighting report. Thanks to William Puckett UFOS Northwest <http://ufosnw.com>

#### **NEW YORK SIGHTING**

**COPIAGUE** -- I took several pictures of the sky on January 18, 2010, because I wanted to see if i could get a good image of the moon and its shadow. In the sky I did not see the image that appeared in the photos with my naked eye, neither did my daughter. I used a cannon rebel xsi digital camera. The reason all the images appear in double or

should I say smeared is because the lens was kept open approx. 4 seconds to allow enough light for exposure. The spherical object that appears in two completely different areas( one above right, the other below left) is the only thing that moved considerably. It also has the appearance of a bluish green reflection on its upper side .I would like to know if this is possibly an object in the sky or some sort of digital effect. THANKS TO MUFON CMS



**Summary Analysis:** *Lens Flare of Moon*

**Summary Detail:** *In many cases, photos of bright objects will generate a lens flare, especially in time exposures which is what this was. This greenish object in the upper right portion of the frame is a lens flare from the bright moon seen below. The camera moved and bounced a little during the exposure which accounts for the stars that are trailed [faint streaks seen in the image]. The Moon and its mirrored lens flare in the image were trailed as well. The Moon is actually two “moons” side by side which happens when you bump the camera during an exposure. I have many a ruined*

*moonshot from just such an “oops!”.* Note also that the lens flare is also elongated in the same way as the Moon as well, exactly mimicking the Moon’s trailed shape. When looking at images and trying to figure out what is what, take note of the color. Note in this case that the lens flare is a GREEN color. Typically, Lens Flares take the color of the source light causing them. But in many cases where the flare is not bright enough to saturate on the image [be as bright as it can get], the flares take on the color of the lens coatings which are in many cases, green, blue, or purple. Flares are fun!

## ***Worldwide Sightings***

### ***ITALY SIX RODS***

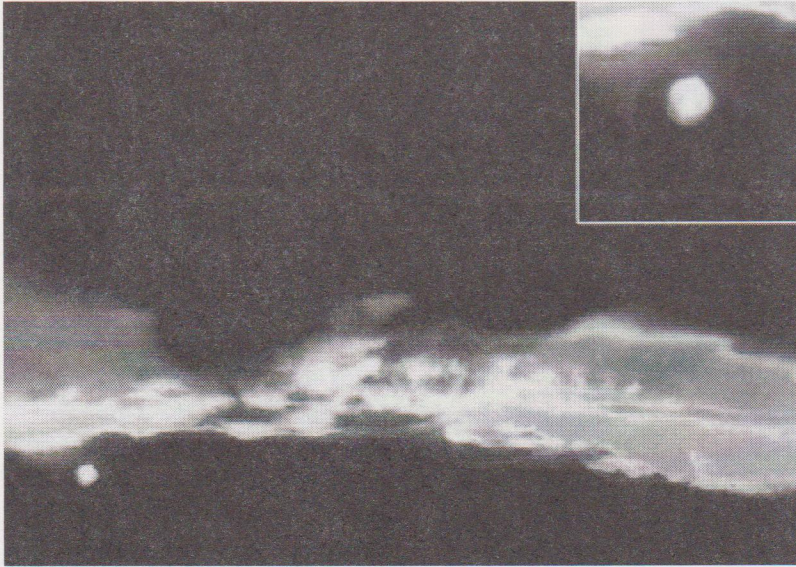
**BAGHERIA** -- On January 10, 2010, a series of rods or critters were videotaped by Francisco Porsio flying over Northern Sicily at 16:31:53 near the Mediterranean Sea. They appear to be intelligent objects flying in a formation of six. They make a sudden whining sound as they pass over at extremely high speed.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=csLnXiq96A>

**Summary Analysis:** *Hoax-Sensationalist Video*

**Summary Detail:** *The ‘six rods’ in this video zoom by as the camera is slowly panning. They are moving extremely fast. We will come back to them in a moment. The trouble with this video is that it is filled with what appear to be video camera artifacts, birds and insects. There are even dancing animated Geckos and a bouncy soundtrack ... This appears to be a video that simply tries to be sensationalist. The name of the video is “UFO Total Invasion” which is rather flamboyant. I have little use for videos like this because almost anything can be put together to look dramatic as was done here and in so doing, the evidence is tampered with, its veracity much reduced. The video data is actually rather unclear and out of focus in many cases. As such, sadly, this is data that cannot be trusted. In other sequences in the same video, you see what have been determined to be insects fly through the frame that are shown dramatically as if they are something else. The six “rods” could be insects or birds but whatever they are, they are very close to the camera. This can be gathered by watching the video and noting that they pass in front of all of the clouds, and are in the immediate foreground.. Rods, as in another image later in this section from Russia, are usually the result of insects or birds flying at high speed through a shot that is being taken at a relatively slow shutter speed. Video cameras take images at various speeds but lets assume a typical 30 frames per second. This means that the cameras are taking images effectively at 1/24*



or 1/30 of a second which is WELL into the "it will be blurred" range. In effect they can be considered lower quality still cameras, except they string together a bunch of 1/30 second exposures which seen TOGETHER add up to look sharp and clear. But the individual frames are not as clear looking as the aggregate video appears! Anything flying through the frame quickly will be lengthened in each frame proportionate to its speed of travel. The body of the bird or insect will be blurred and lengthened in each frame as it is moving faster than a 1/30 second exposure can sharply capture. The wings of an insect for instance will appear to be little extensions off of the rod that are actually the captured, blurred wingbeats of the insect. Based on the exposure time you can actually calculate the wingbeats per minute of that particular insect! Its great science!



HÓDMEZÖVÁSÁRHELY – Photo was taken at sunrise on May 1, 2009 and captured this orb UFO. "Thanks to MUFON CMS

***Summary Analysis: Lens Flare***

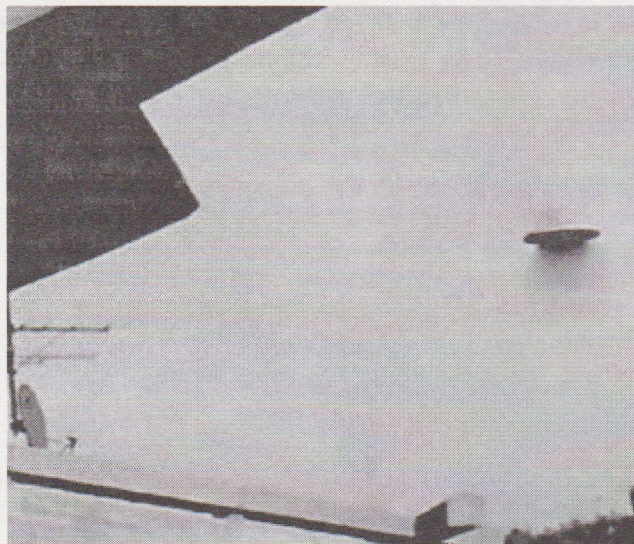
***Summary Detail:*** This image shows a classic lens flare. You can see in the inset provided, classic symmetry of the flare, and rings around the flare, which are artifacts that you see quite often in lens flares resulting from secondary reflections within lens elements in a camera lens. The issue at hand here is that the camera was pointing toward the Sun in the clouds. Although the image itself may not show the Sun clearly, the lens elements in the camera lens are still bouncing very bright Sunlight around inside the lens. It is difficult in fact to get a NON flared image when pointing at or near the Sun. And naturally....its a bad idea to point

cameras at the sun anyway... You will see spots for hours!

***Japan Disc***

**TOKYO** -- I was in line to enter the Nippon Budokan, to view a title boxing match, and decided to take out my 6.0 mega pixel digital Sony camera and take some pictures of the front of the building to keep as a souvenir on June 12, 2008. I took the picture and then took a quick look at the picture in my camera and noticed something on the top right corner of the photo. Suddenly a strange unpleasant feeling just jolted up my body. My body told me to look up, so I did. That is when I saw the hovering silver disk like shape emitting some sort of eerie black shade underneath. I began to sweat. The flying object was just hovering and I turned to tap the gentleman that was next to me to look. When I looked back, the disk was gone. Thanks to MUFON CMS and Ken Pfeifer MUFON N.J. <http://www.worldufophotos.org>

***Russia Critters***



**MOSCOW** –Michael Cohen reports, "Russian Ufologists and crypto zoology fans are excited by another UFO or possible cryptid that was photographed over the Kremlin in Moscow.

The event occurred on December 21 at around 7 pm just days after at least a hundred witnesses sighted a mammoth pyramid UFO over the Kremlin. A photojournalist had set up a camera for a timed shot. When the picture was developed the UFO or mystery creature was noticed.

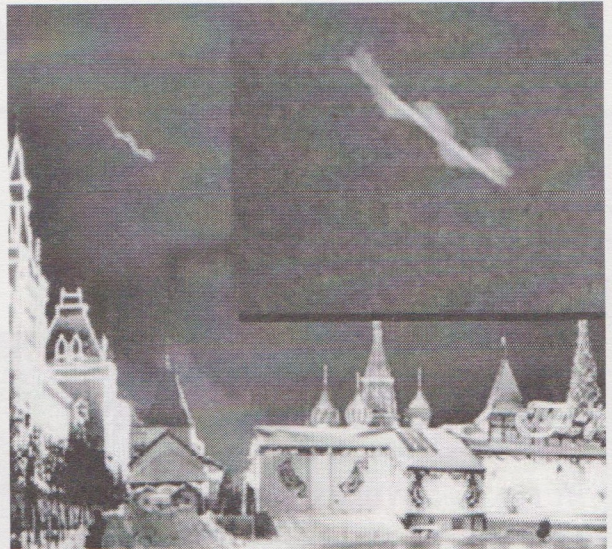
The question as to whether it is an alien UFO or an unknown life-form is now being debated. Some believe this is a six winged creature that cannot be picked up by human eyes



Noted too was the fact that the object appeared on December 21, the date of doomsday 2012. In China, where this particular anomaly is often photographed, these type of UFOs are called 'light sticks'. Some researchers believe they might be some sort of ghost-like dragon creature rather than extraterrestrial UFOs.  
[m.cohen@allnewsweb.com](mailto:m.cohen@allnewsweb.com) Source: [API News](#)

**Summary Analysis:** *Insect/Bird*

**Summary Detail:** *When "rods" first appeared on the scene, either in video or in still camera footage, many people thought that new beings were being discovered. What was actually being discovered was an effect generated by the image acquisition speed of the video cameras and an artifact created by still cameras when taking time exposures. Video cameras, which take still images and string them together, take each frame at perhaps 1/30 of a second each. Fast moving insects or birds moving through the frame will cause the body to be blurred and drawn out into a long streak. The wingbeats are captured as pretty curvy appendages as the insect/bird extends and then retracts the wings during a wingbeat. The apparently asymmetric extensions are due to the near camera wing being seen edge on in the downbeat and blending against the body and the far side wing being hidden on the upstroke in the next beat. You can actually see a bright pair of 'dashes' on the long body of the insect/bird where the edge on wings add to the brightness of the body during the wingbeats. This is the case in my view in this image here in this*




*Filers Files entry. Regular still cameras create rods too. If the exposure is long enough that the insect or bird can be blurred to some length, then you will see the long streak and the curved appendages. In this image you can see that the insect/bird beat its wings 5 times in this time exposure where one wing is hidden in each up and down beat. Since I don't have photo data to tell me the exposure settings of this image, I would say that based on the lights on the buildings, that it is a time exposure of some length, perhaps 2-4 seconds. At that exposure setting, this rod could more likely be a bird, perhaps a white goose, flying through the scene. The exact exposure settings would make this easier to determine. I have seen many many rods, lightsticks, cyptids, whatever they may be called and while I do not discount the possibility that such as yet undiscovered life exists, I DO believe that images like this are explainable as insects or birds in a time exposure. Careful analysis and understanding of how cameras operate can prevent such photos from being misinterpreted. Keep 'em coming!*

**Marc D'Antonio**, MUFON's Chief Photo/Video Analyst is president of FX Models, a model making company specializing in digital and physical models of all kinds. FX Models started in 1995 and has done work for all kinds of organizations within and outside of the US Government, including the United States Navy and the DOD, The Joint Chiefs and related agencies, and the White House. While Marc's degree is in Astronomy, he has spent decades capturing thousands of images of various sky phenomena using photographic gear ranging from small cameras and backyard telescopes to large multi-million dollar professional telescopes in large research observatories., initially developing his own film with his own techniques in the darkroom; he assisted in the creation of a powerful image processing software program tailored to the specific needs of his own image analysis requirements. Later he created his own imagery to augment and analyze existing imagery. , He can currently be found lecturing on Extrasolar Planets or utilizing observatories worldwide to obtain nightly photographic data for analysis from remote mountaintop telescopes.




Marc D'Antonio



**Need a present for your Valentine?**

**How about something from the MUFON Store??**

**Of courses a little chocolate with these items wouldn't hurt!**



**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

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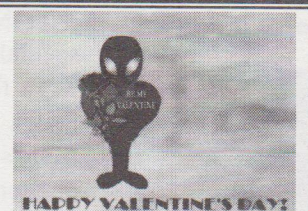
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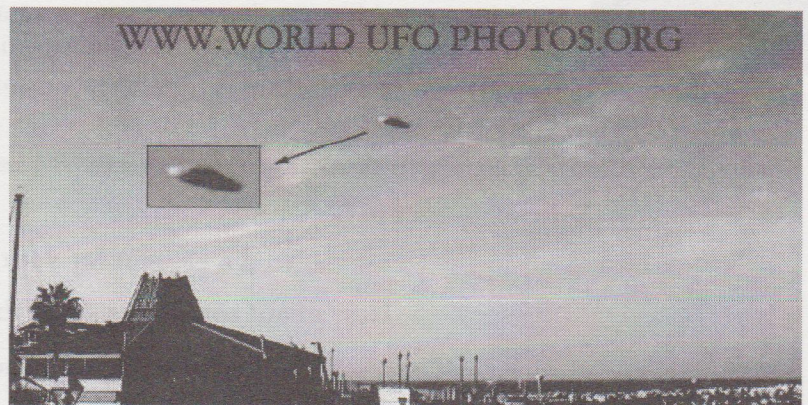
Need a present for your Valentine?

How about a Field investigator Manual?

Of courses a little chocolate with these items wouldn't hurt!



ADVERTISE in your MUFON  
JOURNAL – or suggest an  
advertiser – reach all the  
thousands of MUFON  
members. . . see inside back  
cover for more info!



#### **FOUR CLASSIC ATTITUDES** *(cont. from page 7)*

The list of alleged witnesses he displayed included several known hoaxers, but what was even more remarkable, this Exopol expert managed to misstate Betty and Barney Hills' last name on his Power Point presentation, calling them something like Betty and Barney Hyde. The audience was left with the impression that this exopol was ludicrously ill-informed; after all, even Susan Clancy correctly recalled the Hills' correct last name.

One of the ongoing problems within the field of abduction research has been the willingness of so many people to consciously overlook the psychological damage such encounters inevitably inflict on abduction experiencers, and to present this traumatic process as a rosy one. Using a term from pop psychology, it is as if these fringe Enthusiasts act as "enablers" for the UFO occupants, excusing the pain, confusion and post traumatic stress they cause in their temporary captives. None of us who work with abductees know how it will all end or whether the aliens' ultimate goal will be helpful or destructive to humankind, but no honest observer can avoid seeing the real, long term emotional toll of such encounters. I've worked with many hundreds of abductees over the past three decades and have been deeply moved by the courage and spiritual resourcefulness so many have exhibited in the face of their ongoing traumas. Yet I know far too many outsiders- Enthusiasts? - who prefer to minimize the abductees' emotional scarring and attribute their resilience to a *gift from the abductors themselves*.

The writer Joan Didion, in a piece about Doris Lessing, stated that Lessing wrote often about extraterrestrials, and asked us to "imagine an interplanetary conference, convened on Venus to discuss once again the problem of the self-destructive planet earth." Didion added, in a sly parenthesis, "The fancy that extraterrestrial life is by definition of a higher order than our own is one that soothes all children..."

In the fringe areas I've been discussing we can see once more the contrasting interpretations of the three groups I've posited. The True Believers, *knowing* that since UFOs don't exist, UFO abductions can't exist either, inevitably assume, in a basic shoot-the-victim philosophy, that anyone reporting such an experience is either a liar or is mentally disturbed. Debunker Philip Klass once said that people who reported abduction experiences were "just little nobodies trying to get on TV." Ironically, Klass not only failed to see how accurately he had just described himself, but he also seemed completely unaware of the fact that very few abductees ever agree to appear on TV. They know that when they do go public they are often ridiculed by bitter fanatics like Klass himself.

As I have said in considering the uncritical UFO Enthusiasts, this group seems willing to buy into any dramatic alien account regardless of how often it has been exposed as phony. I find it amazing, for example, that the claims of Billy Meier still find a degree of traction in the face of so many examples of his having manufactured evidence while making many unbelievable, off-the-wall assertions. To some Enthusiasts, it is perhaps more thrilling to believe Meier's claim that kindly aliens took him back in time so that he could meet and talk with Jesus and Moses and photograph shadowy dinosaurs (!) than it is to sympathize with the parents of a temporarily missing toddler who was apparently abducted, examined, and returned upside down in her crib with a scoop mark on her little thigh. Skeptical investigators have their work cut out for them in having to examine the claims and memories of each possible abductee they encounter. Though outright hoaxers are rare, over the years I've had to deal with many obviously mentally ill individuals, and to further complicate things, some of these emotionally disturbed people might have had genuine abduction experiences which contributed to their unfortunate condition. I virtually always decline to go further with people such as these, and routinely refer them to psychotherapists for conventional treatment.

To complete my taxonomy of group attitudes to the UFO phenomenon, I will include the fourth and by far the largest segment of the population: the "Incurious." Essentially the position of the Incurious is one of nearly total indifference to the UFO issue. Though upon occasion some in this group may find themselves either slightly intrigued by the subject or mildly condescending of it, it is their ongoing and collective lack of interest that defines them. They are neither contemptuous True Believers, uncritical Enthusiasts, nor committed Skeptical Investigators. The temperatures of the Incurious rarely, if ever, rise when UFOs are being discussed, despite the potential seriousness of the phenomenon. I find the situation analogous to that of another extraordinarily important field of research, one in which the Incurious are also in the majority: the troubling issue of global warming. Again, many individuals from among the vast numbers of the Incurious may, from time to time, pay a bit of attention to the potentially major problem of climate change, either by making half-hearted attempts at recycling - and here I include myself - or by dismissing global warming as a myth not worth considering. Unfortunately, in our world the majority of the population seems rarely to think long-term. So, like the UFO phenomenon, global warming looms portentously over our future while most Americans, calmly focused on the here and now, are Incurious about both.

## II

In November, 2007, a landmark event in the history of UFO research took place at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. An unprecedented meeting, organized by film maker James Fox and journalist Leslie Kean, brought together fourteen important international UFO witnesses and government investigators to discuss their experiences and answer reporters' questions at a major press conference. Among the speakers, most of whom had retired from active duty, were two generals – one from Belgium and another from Iran; two commercial airline pilots, one French and the other British, who described dramatic encounters between their aircraft and large UFOs; an official of the British Ministry of Defense charged with the investigation of UFO reports in the U.K.; the Chief of the Accidents and Investigations Division of the American FAA; officials from the Peruvian, Chilean and U.S. Air Forces; as well as scientists from the French equivalent of NASA. Within the UFO field no gathering of this scope and international importance had ever been held.

I was fortunate to attend this press conference as a guest observer, and was as thrilled by its tone of careful objectivity as I was by the statements of the individual speakers. In one incident before the conference began I had dinner with, among others, Iranian General Parviz Jafari who, in 1976, as a major in the Iranian Air Force, was ordered to intercept a large UFO over Teheran. He vividly described his frightening encounter, while at the other end of our table sat Commandante Oscar Santa Maria of the Peruvian Air Force, who as a military pilot had been ordered to shoot down a circular, metallic craft that was hovering in broad daylight over a military airfield. During dinner he and General Jafari compared notes, describing the objects they were asked to fire at and, using quick hand movements and sliding "UFO" water glasses about on the table, demonstrated both the difficult maneuvers each carried out to aim his plane at the target, and the astounding evasive acrobatics of the UFOs. Listening to the dialogue of two fighter pilots describing their nervous attempts to shoot down what both perceived at the time as disc-like enemy craft was a truly riveting experience.

However, the central point I would like to make in the context of problems with the uncritical Enthusiasts and the debunking True Believers is that this remarkably effective press conference took place with understated scientific Skepticism and caution. The panelists simply described what had they witnessed or what they had investigated and made no mention of alien beings, abductions, spaceships or extraterrestrial life. They made no outrageous claims and stayed within the parameters of their own personal encounters and their military or scientific experiences.

As a result, the press response was, so far as I have seen, completely favorable. No one seems to have attempted the kind of blanket dismissal one usually expects from the nay-saying True Believers. No Enthusiast has tried to embellish the presentations with lurid assertions. Press reports of the conference were printed by the media in Russia, Australia, Europe, the Americas and the Far East. CNN television did pieces on the conference, and even The New York Times displayed the Reuters News Service account on its prestigious website.

I mention the strategic success of the conference organizers' precisely stated aims and assertions because a few months before, and also in Washington, D.C., the so-called "exopol" group I've described earlier held its own out-of-control but tiny press conference. Dana Millbank, the Washington Post reporter who attended their meeting, subjected the presenters to utter contempt in a newspaper article by quoting, for example, one exopol who stated that "The truth amnesty disclosure project is reportedly recommended by the participating extraterrestrials themselves...the specific extraterrestrial civilization which approximately 60 years ago entered into a top-secret CIA-human-extraterrestrial liaison program." Evidence offered for such an earthshaking assertion? None.

Afterwards, by going directly to the political candidates' spokesmen, Millbank had great fun with other exopol claims that various 2008 presidential hopefuls "intended to announce," when elected, that UFOs were real. For example, when Millbank asked about Hillary Clinton's plans for disclosure, her spokesman said, "Let me check in with the mothership." Bill Burton, a spokesman for Barack Obama told him, "We're more focused on lifting the government-imposed truth embargo on the war in Iraq." According to the exopols, Bill Richardson was the "likeliest beneficiary," because he was "as a 25 year-old...an employee of a secret CIA extraterrestrial liaison program...He has inside knowledge." As one might have expected, the ridicule of Millbank's devastating Post article threatened to spill over onto the UFO phenomenon in general, though one exopol, a Washington based UFO Enthusiast and publicist, tried to put a good face on this negative publicity by pointing out that his own name, claims and organization had actually been mentioned in a major newspaper! It was as if a tone-deaf contestant on American Idol, after being virtually laughed off the stage for his horrible performance, exulted the next day that it had been a triumph after all because he had actually sung on national TV.

So, in the months before Fox and Kean's carefully orchestrated National Press Club conference I was concerned that the irresponsible assertions of the exopols might have already poisoned the climate for

such an important event. As it happened, I apparently overestimated their ability to damage serious UFO research because for the most part the media ignored their antics. However, the Post's satirically inclined Dana Millbank, having savaged the exopols, attended the later international conference, probably in search of more humorous grist for his anti-UFO mill. I sat near him and watched as he stared at the floor, apparently tape-recording the distinguished conferees' statements but rarely deigning to glance up to study their faces. He left during the Q and A period and ultimately the Washington Post, almost alone of the relevant major media, declined to publish anything about this unprecedented national event. To me, it was obvious that, unlike some of the exopols' crackpot assertions, the conference speakers said nothing that presented an easy target for Millbank's brand of malicious, True Believer satire. The lack of any Washington Post coverage of this extraordinarily important national event I feel was wholly due to the previous rantings of this finge group

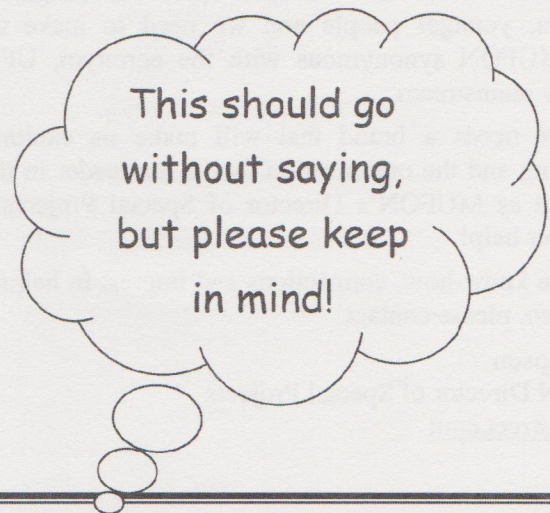
In 1987 I appeared along with Carl Sagan on a Boston TV program, and in the green room before the broadcast we had a relaxed, amicable and substantive conversation about the UFO phenomenon. Inevitably, at some point Sagan repeated the SCICOP mantra: "Extraordinary claims demand extraordinary evidence." I reminded him that the mass of detailed UFO reports by military and civilian pilots, the many radar-visual sightings logged by the Air Force, the hundreds of similar and otherwise inexplicable ground traces remaining after UFO landings, and the many virtually identical abduction accounts by credible people - all of these collectively constitute an extraordinary phenomenon, whatever one theorizes its causes may be.

He nodded his agreement (as who couldn't?) and then I said, "For this reason shouldn't we be saying instead that "an extraordinary phenomenon demands an extraordinary investigation? I'm not trying to prove to you that UFOs are extraterrestrial spacecraft," I added, "I'm merely saying that such a consistent, worldwide phenomenon as this demands a thorough investigation." He had nothing to reply to this simple, irrefutable proposition, although until the end of his life he declined to initiate or participate in such an investigation.

The *State Meeting Column* needs more events . . . send me your event for FREE listing to [editor@mufon.com](mailto:editor@mufon.com) and make sure to put "State Meetings" in the subject line!

This proposition that I made to Carl Sagan two decades ago was subtly echoed in the strategy that James Fox, Leslie Kean and their fourteen high-level panelists employed at their Washington press conference. There the speakers' eloquent presentations of powerful, firsthand experience were delivered with a tone of calm understatement and a complete absence of angry, confrontational claims. The program concluded with a formal demand that the United States, in cooperation with the ongoing official investigations of other nations, open a similar official investigation of the UFO phenomenon. A copy of this demand is currently being circulated among other members of the scientific, military and aviation communities, and so far the list of distinguished signatories includes citizens from eleven countries as well as six retired generals.

The stakes have become far too high to wait any longer. It is time now to end both the ridicule of the True Believers and the destructive hyperbole of many Enthusiasts, and to launch, in the United States, an official and truly objective investigation of the UFO phenomenon with full scientific and journalistic support.



The contents of the *MUFON UFO Journal* are determined by the editor, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the MUFON UFO Network. Opinions expressed are solely those of the individual authors and columnists, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor, staff or anyone affiliated with MUFON

**Editor's note:** *Keep those notices of information at state meetings coming! Good Job everyone! Don't be afraid to use this space to swap ideas . . . BUT KEEP IT BRIEF. Someone just sent me 5 pages of info – let's keep it to about 250 words or less till I get a handle for length and briefness. Thank you! Look to your emails for a survey on the journal! Thanks!*

## Colorado

### MUFON NEEDS YOU!

Do you think out-of-the-box, have creative ideas, are you a gaming software designer, do you have marketing skills, networking abilities and/or the experience and expertise to take MUFON to new levels? There's a new frontier out there and MUFON should be getting on board.

Many of you have great ideas to share and I'd love to hear them all but, more importantly, I'm looking for the experience, expertise and connections to make new and exciting things happen to market MUFON to new audiences. MUFON needs more investigators, members, younger people and we need to make the name MUFON synonymous with the acronym, UFO, and very mainstream.

MUFON needs a brand that will make us exciting, interesting and the organization that is the leader in this field and as MUFON's Director of Special Projects, I need your help!

Have the know-how, connections and interest in helping out? If so, please contact:

Lin Simpson  
MUFON Director of Special Projects  
[lulin@estreet.com](mailto:lulin@estreet.com)

### **PREVENTING ABDUCTIONS** *cont. from page 15*

findings which will confirm or deny the findings as well as determine the scientific principles which may be at work. To that end, we are looking for a trained individual, probably but not necessarily an electronics engineer, to participate in this work.

The element which could make this research successful is that Roy Wells is being abducted very often. Many other abductees are taken infrequently, and unpredictably, with long periods of time between events; this makes research on those cases difficult. But Roy is receiving visits several times a week in recent months.

## Missouri

Second Monday of every month- KC MUFON meets at Unity on the Plaza or Californos in Westport at 6:30 PM. Educational speakers and informal chats. All are welcome. A small fee may be charged.

[www.missourimufon.org](http://www.missourimufon.org).

Third Tuesday of every month- St. Louis MUFON meets at Culpeppers in St. Charles at 6:30 PM. for a dinner meeting. Educational speakers. All are welcome.

[www.missourimufon.org](http://www.missourimufon.org).

Fourth Tuesday of every month- KC Experiencers Group meets at Westport Coffee house at 7:00 PM.

Persons who have had contact with ETs are welcome to attend. [www.missourimufon.org](http://www.missourimufon.org).

This has created many opportunities to interact with the aliens, each time enabling Roy to adjust whatever method he may be trying. If this frequency persists, it will continue to create opportunities for repeatable experiments.

More information is needed to resolve the questions presented by the efforts of Michael Menkin and Roy Wells. What is the nature of the energies velostat blocks? Are there other materials which would work as well or better than velostat? What kind of experiment could demonstrate that an abduction had been thwarted? Answers to these and other questions are needed. Individuals with technical qualifications pertinent to this inquiry are urged to respond. Contact Elaine Douglass, *JAR* board editor at [edouglass@frontier.com](mailto:edouglass@frontier.com).

*Clifford Clift Resume* *cont. from page 4*

important to the world the discovery of the what,  
who, and where of UFOs is to mankind.

MUFON has been and is the vehicle which  
provides me, its members, and citizens of the  
world the newest research and investigative  
results, which will help us discover the answer to the  
UFO phenomenon. MUFON has been invaluable  
to me and its members in our quest for the truth  
about UFOs.

**HONORS:**

Past President Greeley Realtors  
Past Vice President Colorado Association of  
Realtors  
Realtor of the Year  
Vice Chairman Greeley Independence  
Stampede (Largest 4th of July Rodeo in the  
World.)  
Master Gardener

*Editorial cont. from page 3*

As an aside, I am working on an online survey,  
which will be available later this year, to accumulate  
information about MUFON members and readership. A  
strict adherence to scientific study counterproductive in  
decreasing MUFON membership! Is the mission statement  
so narrow as to limit us to *only* UFOs? If so does this  
exclude the occupants of the UFOS, i.e., aliens, alien  
activities?

What is the parameter of the use of the word  
"UFOs in this context?" Does this mean the UFO crafts,  
their mode of transportation, use of energy etc. Would this  
limit exclude encounters with Earth inhabitants,  
government and military, or government conspiracies?  
What about the study of various species of Aliens,  
implants, abductions etc.? Let's face it, a UFO  
(Unidentified Flying Object) is a machine, a flying object.  
Aliens can or cannot be separate from the inclusion of the  
definition of UFOs as they a necessary proponent in the  
guidance of the craft. Aliens have been around since  
before prehistoric man and have many mentions in the  
bible. Without investigation, research and education into  
the many disciplines and cross training in fields associated  
with UFOs such as safety, alternate theories, and many  
others, our Field investigators endanger themselves

Texas Field Investigator Teresa Turner writes  
to remind everyone the check out the MUFON  
message board – Good advice for all members!

[www. Mufon.com](http://www.Mufon.com) go to the left side bar and  
click on "Talk about UFOs"

She states: "There is some tremendous  
information on that board and very little use of  
the board."

physically. They also risk becoming close minded,  
stoic and possibly distant from the general public. A good  
Field Investigator, I believe, would be well rounded and  
versed in the many aspects related to UFOs. Just as  
International companies brief themselves on the habits,  
beliefs, history, and customs of foreign markets, UFO's and  
associated disciplines should be the focus of MUFON.  
MUFON members be so closed minded as to focus only on  
one aspect of UFOs? Knowledge is power! Who among  
us would risk going to a potential UFO sighting, facing  
possible risk of radiation without first considering the use  
of a Geiger for our own safety?

Are associated UFO study topics the use of  
research equipment, UFO propulsion, alien activities,  
abductions, government conspiracy and the like? Alien  
activity? Would that include sightings, landings, close  
encounter or the influence of aliens on different cultures?  
Would you be surprised that UFOs or aliens are mentioned  
in many of the theories of "end of times" or 2012. How  
many MUFON members are totally unfamiliar with any  
2010 theory?

After conferring with past ID, James Carrion and  
many others, it seems fair to publish in the MUFON  
Journal, any topic which has been featured in past MUFON  
Journal articles, published in past Symposiums, speaker  
topics of MUFON events, mentioned in the Field  
Investigators Manual, and/or published in State  
newsletters. This seems fair and should suffice, until  
MUFON gives a definition of the mission statement and  
its terms or gives me further direction I will consider this  
to be a fair manner in which to proceed without letting  
the tail wag the dog! Let me hear what you think!

Seen any good flicks lately?

Online search suggestions for abduction/UFO movies. these are just some of the movies available and are not a MUFON recommendation . . . Some of these movies are Documentaries, some are Sci-Fi and others are fiction some are just for viewing pleasure(?) . . . please review them to see if they interest you prior to viewing them. –

- 1) **Alien Abductions(2000)** NR Genre: Alien Sci-Fi, Miscellaneous Documentaries
- 2) **Alien Abduction(2004)** NR Genre: Alien Sci-Fi, Miscellaneous Documentaries
- 3) **Alien Abduction(2005)** R 1
- 4) : Alien Sci-Fi, Sci-Fi Horror
- 5) **Altered(2006)** R Genre Psychological Thrillers, Alien Sci-Fi This movie is: Scary, Suspenseful, Violent
- 6) **Ancient Aliens**
- 7) **Area 51: Beyond Top Secret**
- 8) **Close Encounters Of The Third Kind** – A classic
- 9) **Fire in the Sky**
- 10) **Forbidden Zone: Alien Abduction(1996)** R Genre: Alien Sci-Fi, Erotic Thrillers, Steamy Romance
- 11) **Invasion Of The Body Snatchers**
- 12) **Paranormal Activities**
- 13) **Signs**
- 14) **Taken(2002)** NR Sci-Fi Channel miniseries – Steven Spielberg Genre: TV Miniseries, TV Sci-Fi & Fantasy, Alien Sci-Fi
- 15) **The 4<sup>th</sup> Kind** – See review, this issue!
- 16) **The Arrival** – Much better than “The Arrival II” which is not worth seeing.
- 17) **The Astronaut's Wife**
- 18) **The History Channel – Ancient Aliens**
- 19) **UFO Abductions: A Global Phenomenon (2000)** NR Genre: Miscellaneous Documentaries, Alien Sci-Fi
- 20) **UFOs : Above and beyond**

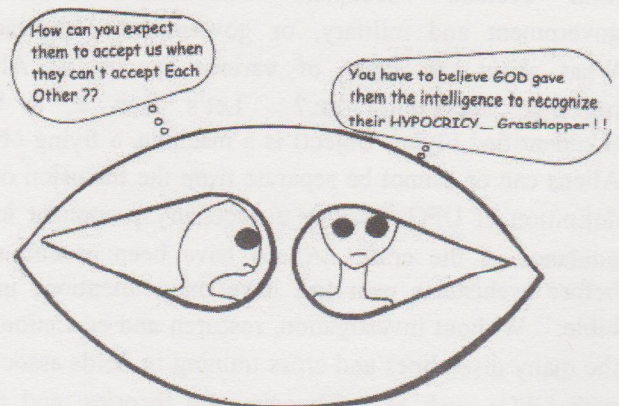
- 21) As an aside . . . If you get NetFlix – watch **Amazing Stories - One for the Books** – Interesting UFO story!

## INTERESTING UFO LINKS

- **FIREFIIGHTERS GUIDE TO DISASTER CONTROL** – The UFO Chapter  
<http://www.v-j-enterprises.com/firefigh.html>
- **COLORADO** Cattle Mutilation & Bigfoot sighting-investigation by MUFONs own Chuck Zukowski  
[www.ufonut.com](http://www.ufonut.com)
- **UFO SEEK – WEBSITE UFO DICTIONARY**  
<http://www.ufoseek.com>
- **ICAR** – International Center for Abduction Research – David Jacobs  
<http://www.ufoabduction.com/>
- **UFO Casebook** – Alien Abduction Casebook files  
<http://ufocasebook.com/alienabductions.html>
- **OPUS –ORGANIZATION FOR PARANORMAL UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT** – Lester Valez  
<http://www.opus-net.org>

Recommend a good UFO flick! Send to [editor@mufon.com](mailto:editor@mufon.com) Subject= Flicks

Send an interesting link to [editor@mufon.com](mailto:editor@mufon.com) Subject= Links



GRASSHOPPER

by HALPH DUNN



# CMS RANKINGS . . .

By Chuck Reeve, MUFON Director of Investigations & Assisted by Tomas Klasson

Here is January's CMS Ranking Report for all State Directors. Congratulations to David MacDonald (Kentucky), Eddie Middleton (Tennessee), Steve Winans (Kansas), Donald R. Burleson (New Mexico), Bland Pugh (Florida), Lorna Hunter (South Dakota), Marie C. Malzahn (Montana) for being at 100%!!! The top 10 State Directors are highlighted in yellow.

The report is based on our two measures of UFO Investigation effectiveness. Assigning reports within 72 hours of receipt, and completing all investigations within 90 days of being assigned. The "Assigned" column is a six month running average of the number of cases assigned within 72 hours divided by the total number of cases received in that six month period. The "Completed" column is the number of cases completed beginning sixtytwo (62) days back and going back six months from there (for a total of eight months back) divided by the total number of cases reported in the same period. The "Weighted Rank" is just the average of the two columns expressed as a percent.

To improve your score be sure to assign all cases within 72 hours, and follow-up with your Field Investigators to ensure all reports are completed within 90 days. To be considered complete a report must have been investigated and placed in one of the three completed status codes (Unknown, Hoax or IFO) by you the State Director.

If you have any questions or need help with your investigations please contact me at 530-414-4341 or 530-582-8339 or via e-mail at wizard@telis.org

Chuck Reeve  
Director of Investigations  
MUFON International

Rank	State	Director	Weighted Rank (50/50)	Assigned	Completed
1	Kentucky	David MacDonald	100 %	28/28	30/30
2	Tennessee	Eddie Middleton	100 %	53/53	51/51
3	Kansas	Steve Winans	100 %	23/23	26/26
4	New Mexico	Donald R. Burleson	100 %	40/40	57/57
5	Florida	Bland Pugh	100 %	160/160	157/157
6	South Dakota	Lorna Hunter	100 %	4/4	5/5
7	Montana	Marie C. Malzahn	100 %	10/10	12/12
8	Missouri	Debbie A. Ziegelmeier	99 %	67/68	84/84
9	Pennsylvania	John Ventre	99 %	185/186	213/215
10	North Carolina	Richard Lang	98 %	40/41	49/49
11	South Carolina	Cheryl Ann Gilmore	98 %	25/26	22/22
12	California	Ruben J. Uriarte	98 %	130/133	139/139
13	Ohio	William Jones	98 %	101/104	112/113
14	Minnesota	Richard D. Moss	98 %	34/35	43/43
15	Iowa	Jim King	98 %	26/26	24/25
16	Idaho	Marie C. Malzahn	97 %	21/22	28/28
17	Texas	Kenneth E. Cherry	96 %	181/188	181/187
18	Georgia	Ralph O. Howard, Jr.	95 %	39/41	54/56
19	Maryland	Ron Fink	95 %	42/42	43/47
20	West Virginia	John Ventre	95 %	26/26	22/24
21	Washington	Marilyn Childs	94 %	62/70	100/100
22	New Jersey	George A. Filer, III	94 %	68/69	63/69
23	Louisiana	Karen Bravata	93 %	26/28	29/31
24	Arizona	Christine Dickey	92 %	101/117	161/162
25	Michigan	William J. Konkolesky	91 %	126/153	171/171
26	Utah	Elaine Douglass	90 %	8/9	13/14
27	Indiana	Jerry L. Sievers	88 %	71/72	87/110
28	California	Georgianne Cifarelli	88 %	187/187	154/198
29	Oklahoma	Marilyn K. Carlson	87 %	24/32	38/38
30	Colorado	Leslie H. Varnicle	84 %	111/111	92/132
31	Alabama	Roy E. Patterson, Jr.	73 %	15/25	28/32
32	Wyoming	Richard Beckwith	72 %	6/7	3/5
33	New Hampshire	Steve Firmani	72 %	12/19	13/16
34	Nebraska	John C. Kasher	72 %	11/23	29/30
35	Maine	Steve Firmani	68 %	18/22	12/22
36	Massachusetts	Steve Firmani	67 %	29/51	45/58
37	Connecticut	Steve Firmani	67 %	24/30	23/42
38	Alaska	Brent Mitchel	66 %	4/8	5/6
39	Rhode Island	Steve Firmani	65 %	6/11	13/17
40	Vermont	Steve Firmani	65 %	5/14	18/19
41	Oregon	Thomas Bowden	63 %	39/74	64/87
42	Arkansas	Norman D. Walker	48 %	12/22	12/28
43	Delaware	Carl W. Feindt	46 %	1/5	8/11
44	Mississippi	Norman D Walker	45 %	4/8	4/10
45	New York	James G. Bouck, Jr.	37 %	74/157	44/159
46	Illinois	Samuel Maranto	35 %	15/81	48/93
47	Virginia	Susan L. Swiatek	29 %	5/36	22/49
48	Wisconsin	Nathan Tomisich	26 %	3/42	23/51
49	North Dakota	Kurt Pflieger	22 %	0/4	4/9
50	Nevada	Mark Easter	10 %	4/51	8/58

# MARCH NIGHT SKY

*Continued from Back Cover*

For southern hemisphere observers Mercury will begin the month rising above the east-southeast horizon about 1 hour before sunrise and will stand low over the eastern horizon at sunrise; after midmonth Mercury will disappear into the glare of the rising Sun to reappear in the evening sky.

**Jupiter** (magnitude -2.0): In Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Jupiter will begin the month lost in the glare of the Sun but will emerge in the morning twilight, above the eastern horizon, by the second week of the month; at month's end Jupiter will rise above the eastern horizon about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour before sunrise and will stand very low above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise.

For southern hemisphere observers Jupiter will begin the month lost in the glare of the Sun but will emerge in the morning twilight, above the eastern horizon, by the second week of the month; at month's end Jupiter will rise above the eastern horizon about 2 hours before sunrise and will stand above the east-northeast horizon at sunrise.

**Saturn** (magnitude 0.6 to 0.5): In Virgo. For northern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon about 1 1/2 hours after sunset and will be found above the western horizon at sunrise; by month's end Saturn will be standing low over the eastern horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon just before sunrise.

For southern hemisphere observers Saturn will begin the month rising above the eastern horizon about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours after sunset and will be found above the west-northwest horizon at sunrise; by month's end Saturn will be standing very low over the eastern horizon at sunset and will set below the western horizon about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour before sunrise.

## Other Celestial Phenomena

**Zodiacal Light:** Zodiacal light will be visible in northern latitudes in the west after evening twilight beginning Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and lasting two weeks. The phenomenon is visible only from very dark locations. Zodiacal light is the result of sunlight bouncing off dust grains in our solar system. These grains lie mostly in the plane of the solar system. Look for a pyramid of light in the evening sky somewhat similar in appearance to the light from a city or town just over the horizon.

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

*Continued from Page 2*

Fortunately, a candidate search was not necessary as one of the existing MUFON Board members offered to become the new International Director and was unanimously voted into office. I will be occupying the role of MUFON Business Manager which will be far less demanding of my time.

I am proud to announce that the new MUFON International Director is my long term good friend and colleague, **Clifford Clift**. Clifford is featured in this month's MUFON Journal so that the MUFON membership can become acquainted with him and his professional background and will deliver next month's Director's Message. I am completely confident that Clifford is the best man for the job and I know that MUFON could not be in better hands. It has been my pleasure to serve MUFON as the International Director these last three years and I know that going forward, MUFON will still be on the cutting edge of UFO investigation.

## **Position Announcements**

New International Director: Clifford Clift, Greeley, Colorado

State Directors:

Tom Sheets has resigned his position as State Director for Georgia but will be staying on as the MUFON Administrator of Professional Standards. Ralph O. Howard Jr. of Chamblee, Georgia is the new Georgia State Director. James Clarkson is the new State Director for Washington State and Mike Boss is the new Assistant State Director.

Chuck Pine has resigned his position as State Director for Oklahoma. Marilyn Carlson is the new Oklahoma State Director.

I thank Tom and Chuck for their many years of service to MUFON and wish them much success in their new endeavors. Congratulations to Ralph and Marilyn for taking on leadership roles in MUFON



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## MARCH 2010

### Moon Phases:

Last Quarter March 7<sup>th</sup> New Moon March 15<sup>th</sup>  
First Quarter March 23<sup>rd</sup> Full Moon March 30<sup>th</sup>

### Bright Planets (Evening Sky)

Mercury (magnitude -0.7 to -1.6): Moving from Aquarius into Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Mercury will enter the evening sky after midmonth climbing above the western horizon; by the end of the month Mercury will be found standing above the western horizon at sunset and will set below the west-northwest

horizon about 1 ½ hour after sunset.

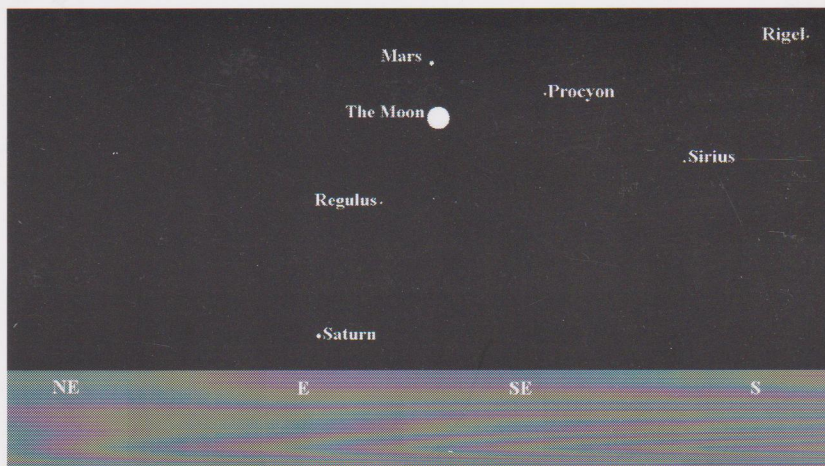
For southern hemisphere observers Mercury will enter the evening sky after midmonth climbing above the western horizon; by the end of the month Mercury will be found standing low over the western horizon at sunset and will set below the west-northwest horizon shortly after sunset.

Venus (magnitude -3.9): In Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Venus will begin the month standing low above the western horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 1 hour later; by months end Venus will stand above the western horizon at sunset and follow the Sun about 1 ½ hours later.

For southern hemisphere observers Venus will begin the month standing very low above the western horizon at sunset and will follow the Sun below the horizon about 1/2 hour later; by months end Venus will stand above the west-northwest horizon at sunset and follow the Sun about ½ hour later.

Mars (magnitude -0.6 to -0.1): In Cancer. For northern hemisphere observers Mars will begin the month standing high above the east-northeast horizon at sunset and will set below the northwest horizon about 1 ½ hours before sunrise; by the end of the month Mars will stand very high above the southeast horizon at sunset and will set below the west-northwest horizon about 2 ¾ hours before sunrise.

For southern hemisphere observers Mars will begin the month standing low above the northeast horizon at sunset and will set below the northwest horizon about 3 ½ hours before sunrise; by the end of the month Mars will stand above the north-northeast horizon at sunset



A Grouping of the Moon Saturn and Mars

and will set below the west-northwest horizon about 6 hours before sunrise.

### Bright Planets (Morning Sky)

Mercury (magnitude -0.7 to -1.6): Moving from Aquarius into Pisces. For northern hemisphere observers Mercury will begin the month rising above the east-southeast horizon about ½ hour before sunrise and will stand very low above the east-southeast horizon at sunrise; by midmonth Mercury will disappear into the glare of the rising Sun to reappear in the evening sky.

*Continued on page 34*

