

# How To Fingerprint An UFO And 'Hear' Its Light

A commercially available electronic device, a photomultiplier, could take us a lot further down the UFO road by identifying the origination of its light. For example, when focused on a glowing light bulb, the photomultiplier not only correctly identifies the source of excitation wavelength as tungsten on its meter, but also draws the individual tungsten "fingerprint" on its pen drop contour plotter-recorder (Fig.2).\* I should like to know that 24 hour ground bases (and airborne) equipped with this be operational where so many UFOs are sighted.

The photomultiplier is waiting to contribute to the solution of a baffling enigma.

As you know tungsten and the hundreds of other light sources each have set wavelengths of light emission (Angstroms). They are easily detected and fingerprinted by this equipment. Even holograms. Thus when pointed at a UFO, the source chemical element (or whatever) causing UFO red, blue, orange, white, or green light, would be identified, contour mapped, and heard.

Heard? Yes! A photomultiplier can be hooked up to an audioamplifier which converts light vibrations per-second into sound. And each light source has its own individual tone or hum on the musical scale. So as a UFO changed colors, it would literally write its own song! And since we could then 'hear the light', it might help us see the light, if you get my drift? I expect a photomultiplier with its moving finger to paint out a lot of the mystery behind those unknown lights. Why it would almost amount to Physical Evidence wouldn't it? The only trick would be to 'be there' with this equipment.

Regardless, the photomultiplier is available in the USA from EMR Photoelectric, Princeton, NJ., 80540 (image dissector detector system Model 658A). Or from Nye Optical Co., Spring Valley, CA. 92077 (spectral range from below 2000 to above 7700A). The photomultiplier with the pen drop plotter (Fig. 1)\* is an Amino-Bowman Spectrophotofluorometer Catalogue No. 4-8106.\*\* Audioamplifiers are available from the "Fisher" or the "Edmund's" electronics supply catalogues.

These assemblies with their proven fact-finding potential should be added to our arsenal of motion pictures, Videotapes, still photos, radar scans, computer enhancements, etc., of UFOs. I've described the state of the art of identifying the sources of light. Whereas, the present state of the art of identifying unknown flying objects is dark: let it be resolved that it won't be too long before one among us armed with this equipment will show us the right insight in sound and fingerprints of UFO light, right here on these pages.

\*\* (Both the increment of the excitation wavelength and the scanning speed of the fluorescence are manually adjustable. In this way, the entire excitation vs. fluorescence wavelength domain will be scanned within 10-15 minutes. The photomultiplier will sense the emission intensity level at every point in the scanned wavelength domain.)

Russ Reardon

## Bibliography

*Analytical Chemistry*, Vol 50, No. 4, April 1978

\*(Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 on back cover)

## ERROR CORRECTION

Those of you who attempted to make telephoned reservations for the San Diego Symposium no doubt learned that the "800" numbers listed were incorrect. Hal learned too late that the numbers listed on the Hotel stationery were out of date. At any rate, the correct numbers are:

For Nebraska: (800) 642-8700, and for the rest of the country: (800) 228-5151.

You are invited to try again.

## QUARTERLY REPORT FROM FINLAND

(Courtesy Suomen Ufotutkijat ry)

During the second quarter of 1979 the UFO Research of Finland received 12 UFO-related reports, of which 2 referred to the reporting period. Four cases were classified as UFOs, but all referred to cases that had taken place prior to the period. In the news media there were only 22 articles or transmissions dealing with UFO-related items. During the preceding period the number was five times higher. The UFO front continues to be exceptionally quiet in Finland. After spring 1975 there have been no major UFO waves in Finland.

According to overenthusiastic critics the UFO phenomenon is simply mass hysteria created by the news media. However, the material that we have accumulated does not support this hypothesis. As evidence we can present the January news flood from Australia and New Zealand which caused no increase in the amount of UFO reports in Finland.

On June 15 through 17, 1979 the UFO Research of Finland organized the traditional summer happening for members at Kuhmoinen in Central Finland. The program contained lectures on the laboratory studies of the Finnish UFO fragments, on the U.N. UFO debate, on the development of international co-operation, on field investigations, on the parapsychic aspects of UFO research, and on the first Finnish UFO movie.

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# the apro bulletin

VOL. 27, NO. 11

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

May 1979

## UFOs ABOUND IN HAWAII

### "LIGHTS" REPORTED IN MIDWEST

STRANGE LIGHTS IN THE MIDWEST SKY IN JUNE are still being investigated by authorities who received 20 reports of brightly lighted UFOs near Lake Michigan, southwestern Michigan and northern Indiana.

"We saw one close up," said Mara Vilcins, "we were taken by its brilliance. The lights were different, hard to describe. It was almost like putting rubies and diamonds up to a very bright light. It was oblong, with a rounded back. It seemed much larger than a jumbo jet. It had windows all around it, and the red and white lights seemed to appear from inside."

Mrs. Vilcins, her husband, Ivar, a Chicago City Planner, and their two children were returning home from a weekend of camping when they saw the object coming toward them shortly after midnight Monday, near Sawyer, Michigan.

They reported their sightings to Michigan State Police at Benton Harbor, who said several other reports of the mysterious lighted objects had been received in recent weeks.

"We were so excited we never thought to be afraid," said Mrs. Vilcins, "my husband kept saying, 'do you think this could be some sort of an air show?'"

Police said it was unlikely. No air or fireworks shows were taking place in that area.

On June 27th a Lincoln Park, Michigan family was driving home from a movie, when the father spotted a light in the sky and thought it was a plane.

At that point, the plane which Charles Kneshtel was watching began to approach his van, losing altitude as it moved, leading him to think it was a jumbo jet.

"I began to think," he said, "this plane has no business here, especially such a big one."

Fearing the 'jet' was going to crash, Kneshtel said he slammed on the brakes waking his sleeping wife and daughters, and pulled the van off to the side of the road.

But the craft didn't crash. It didn't even land. It hovered, according to an adamant Kneshtel, his wife, and three children. "At about tree level," he said, "this thing just stopped in mid-air and waited."

(See Lights - Page Three)

*By Iris Maack*

HAWAII, THE 50TH STATE, experienced a flurry of UFO activity this spring creating speculation and conflict between residents and government officials.

In Honolulu, a couple, who wish to remain anonymous, reported sighting a UFO April 29th at 10:45 p.m.

"I saw something coming in the air from Makapuu, and it wasn't a plane or a helicopter. I'm a stewardess; I know my planes," reported the wife.

"We pulled off the road and watched. It was coming towards us very slowly. Less than 100 miles an hour. My husband said it was about 2,000 feet up. That's a rough guess."

"It was huge and had an awful lot of lights all over. It was shaped like a triangle and there were no wings. It made an on-again-off-again humming noise. It had two big headlights underneath and it was filled with lights, maybe two dozen or more. They were kind of glowing white, red, and green lights - all of them blinking on and off.

"The object flew over the residential section and then headed toward Koko Head. It went around that and headed toward Sandy Beach and the water, going much faster. We noticed as it was going faster that it would move funny, sort of up and down. Then it headed out to sea and we lost it."

The FAA responded that the radar at Honolulu International Airport reported nothing unusual that night. A spokesman at the Marine Corps Air Station suggested that the couple "probably saw one of our helicopters. They look pretty strange when they're all lit up."

"But," he continued, "the Marines had nothing in the air after 9 p.m. that night."

On Maui, one of Honolulu's neighboring islands, 15 persons telephoned the Maui News reporting they had seen mysterious objects in the sky which had either frightened them or held some in awe.

The May 26th issue of the Maui News reported sightings of UFO's between 1:45 and 2:00 a.m., and asked if other Mauians had seen anything. Affirmative answers came from a representative group of solid citizens, stating that whatever they saw had been green and its behavior puzzling. The random reports matched to a great degree.

The object was reported as round and large, and if seen high in the sky appeared to be brilliant white, changing to turquoise green at lower alti-

(See Hawaii - Page Two)

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## HAWAII

*(Continued from Page One)*

tudes. It appeared to have greenish-bluish vapor trail behind it.

The theory advanced was that what folks were seeing were meteorites. The Maui News contacted State Civil Defense, scientists at the University of Hawaii, National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration, and the Bishop Museum Planetarium.

Dr. George Bunton of the Bishop Museum said that to his knowledge there had been no unusual meteor activity during the past few days.

"There's no way it could have been a meteorite. Meteorites don't cruise at a slow pace down low enough to light up your car and make it turn

green," said one young police officer, whose description was the most specific of all.

The police officer, who wished to remain anonymous, said that he and his girl friend were driving near the Kahului Airport when he stopped to make a change on the tape deck and his girl friend said, "look."

"I looked up and the whole hood of my vehicle was reflecting a bright green light. I looked at the sky and saw this object going slow, flying horizontally. It didn't whisk away or burn out. It was going too slow to leave a vapor trail. It passed over the right side of my vehicle."

In Wailuku, Debra Honda and her friend Lisa Fujishiro were stopped on Main Street waiting for a traffic signal to change between 9:20 and 9:30 May 26th, when Debra sighted an object "bright and yellowish and as big as a basketball."

"As it came closer, it turned a turquoise greenish blue. It went behind a cloud and emerged real blue. It was headed toward the Kahoolawe side, going across the sky but not too fast."

Earlier that evening, about 8:30 to 8:45 p.m., Floanne Morgan and her husband were looking toward the West Maui mountains when, "I saw a huge white thing. At first, I thought it was a meteorite, but it was too big. It was way high up and went down behind the mountains."

At about the same time of the Morgan sighting, Lynda Burbridge, her husband and Mr. and Mrs. Art Glimpse were camping at Naha on Lanai. "We were sitting by the campfire looking toward the West Maui mountains," said Howard Burbridge, "when all of a sudden Art hollered and pointed, and here come this bright light, a sort of bluish thing coming down, but on a trajectory toward the Big Island. Then it just went out like somebody turned it out."

Mrs. Burbridge said they all went to bed about 9:00 p.m., and about 1:30 a.m. she went out of her tent to smoke a cigarette. "I was just sitting there and then I saw this huge red fireball in the direction of Kihei or Haleakala. Then there was something like an explosion way out towards the Makena area. I kept sitting there and after about two or three minutes, there was this great big green phosphorescent stream traveling past Kahoolawe and that was the end of that."

At the Seventh-day Adventist Maui Mission School playing volleyball, Jeanne Twedell reported "a large ball of yellow light coming down at a slight angle around 8:40 p.m. It was so large I waited for an explosion. It came down fairly slow, not like a falling star, and it was three or four times larger than any of the closest planets you can see on a clear night."

Still on May 26th, around 1:30 a.m., Jim Fowler who lives in Kihei, was returning home from Wailea Beach "when I saw this big thing. It was kind of round, greenish-turquoise in color. It seemed to be going toward Jula. It was very high. It was really bright. I've never seen anything like



this."

On May 30th, Dorothea Burnside of Wailuku Heights and her husband were watching the late TV news about 10:30 p.m. The windows of her home "are wide and look out over the ocean. I saw this moving light. It was traveling at an angle and seemed to be about the size of small balls children play with. It was bright green, dropping closer to earth but not straight down and had a stream of light behind it. It seemed to be coming at an angle as if from the Haleakala area and either dropped in the ocean or disappeared below the horizon."

"Maybe it, or they, were meteorites," the young police officer said, "but I don't buy that theory."

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## "LIGHTS"

*(Continued from Page One)*

Two lights, described by Kneshtel as extremely bright, white headlights, were about 10 feet in diameter, and were beamed on the van nearly blinding him.

"I couldn't see the actual shape of it, whether it was round or square or hexagon, or what until my vision cleared and I could see the outline in the sky," he said.

The craft was approximately 100 yards from the Kneshtel van and about 200 feet in the air, according to the family.

"We couldn't hear anything except like a silent whirring noise like a little kid's spinning top."

As the Kneshtels watched, the two bright lights turned a deep blue, the craft pivoted to the left and started to leave.

Kneshtel said he doesn't really care if other people are skeptical, he knows what he saw.

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## PORTUGUESE ANGEL HAIR

*Letter from CEAFI [with enclosures]*  
TRANSLATED BY RICHARD HEIDEN

Oporto (Portugal), January 15, 1979

Dear Sirs:

During the "1st Iberian Congress of Ufology," undertaken by the CEAFI in the city of Oporto on October 7 and 8, 1978, one of the speakers, Senhor Raul Berenguel, presented an account relative to the analysis made in Portugal by a scientific agency that requested anonymity, of an organism detected in a sample of "angel hair" (fibravina [I can find no translation of this word; however, if it is a combination of "fibra" and "alvina," it would

mean "stomach or intestinal fiber"--trans.]), gathered in the city of Evora [province of Alto Alentejo, 70-75 miles east of Lisbon--trans.] when Unidentified Flying Objects passed by.

That microscopic preparation was the subject of study by several scientific authorities with different specialties.

It later being questioned by some Spanish investigators, namely Antonio Ribera, and by foreign and national groups, whether for the veracity of the cited study or for the spirit that reigned over the presentation of it by the CEAFI, it is our pleasure to send you, attached, the following documents:

- 1 - A statement signed by the Headquarters of the General Staff of the Portuguese Air Force that verified the original account, confirming the veracity of the events and the ability of the author of the cited account and of the CEAFI itself. Besides, the Portuguese Air Force itself was in the possession of a copy of the already-cited document containing all the names and institutions in the case.
- 2 - A commentary attached to the account of the "unknown organism" written up by an Air Force general, son of the author of the spectrographic analysis of the "organism," affirming the credibility of the document and of its author, as well as claiming to have been witness to several key events in the matter in question.

Finally, a copy of the account, in its complete version, containing the names of the scientists involved, will soon be sent to the Secretary-General of the UN, Kurt Waldheim, to respond to the request approved by the General Assembly of that organization, in the sense that all member countries make available to the UN and its Special Committee for Outer Space [the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space--trans.] all information and discoveries relative to UFOs.

With our greetings,

For the CEAFI  
(s) [illegible]  
MEMBER OF THE U.G.E.P.I.

GENERAL STAFF OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE HEADQUARTERS

### S T A T E M E N T

Having studied the account presented by the CEAFI about the report of an unusual phenomenon that occurred in the city of Evora on November 2, 1959, it is stated, for the effects felt to be appropriate, that the Air Force has no knowledge

of any facts to cast doubt on it, whether on the veracity of the related events or on the ability of the author of the account and of the CEAFF, the entity presenting the same.

As to the considerations of a philosophical and scientific nature presented by the author in the sense of obtaining an explanation for the phenomenon, it is not possible for the Air Force to pronounce on their validity.

Alfragide, December 20, 1978  
CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE  
[Portuguese] Air Force

(s)

Jose Lemos Ferreira  
General

GENERAL STAFF OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE HEADQUARTERS

-Commentary on the account about the O.D.[Unknown Object?--trans.]-

1. Dr Xxxxxx<sup>1</sup> often visited my father. He was curious about astronomical matters and as an astronomer my father served for him as a type of advisor in those matters (including the construction and use of telescopes that I think Dr. Xxxxxx also managed to construct.) [sic]

2. The phenomenon of the filaments was observed at the same time in Sintra<sup>2</sup> (Support no. 1). I myself remember that, on a clear sunny morning with a totally empty sky, our having found strange the appearance of fine filaments like spider webs that ended up dissolving on contact with the hands. The event was not associated with the appearance of any objects because they were not seen (at least not in Sintra). I tried to find out (recently) if some comrades remembered the event, but I got no results. It is to be expected, because for me the event was subsequently associated with the subject of the report in question that I kept in my memory.

3. Part of this memory is the recollection of seeing my father interested in the matter and of the spectroscopic analysis being made there at home. The spectroscope used was constructed by my father and today is in the museum of the Xxxxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx of which he was director and whose construction was also planned and directed by him.

4. The processing of the microscopic observation described (Polaroid plates, balsam from Canada-etc.) reminds me of the work of my father and the terms used remind me of that same activity given the familiarity I had with them.

5. I do not remember the details of the discovery of the "strange being." I just vaguely remember the interest caused by the event and my father with his positivist spirit limiting himself to stating that it was a phenomenon for which he had no explanation.

6. From my recollections about the visits of Dr.

Xxxxxx to my father's house, of his interest in astronomical matters, of his seriousness as a person, I am led to conclude that the document in question is completely worthy of credit. It relates facts that I remember without details, and that I associate with others that I myself had the opportunity to observe on the same occasion (filaments in Sintra).

7. About the philosophical considerations presented, attempting to shed some light on the event, they are, evidently, of the authorship of Dr. Xxxxxx himself and just reveal a determined attitude of spirit in the presence of an out-of-the-ordinary and inexplicable phenomenon. It is, so to speak, the inconclusive part of the account but that, in any event, it does not take away from the value and the veracity of the observation and the description of the events described.

12/12/1978

(s) [signature blacked out--trans.]

Notes by translator:

1. In this translation, the blacked-out letters are represented by the same number of x's.

2. Sintra is in Estremadura province, west of Lisbon and 81 miles (130 km.) WNW of Evora.

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## What Are The Implications of UFO Experiences?\*

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph. D.  
University of Wyoming

### INTRODUCTION

Several years ago, when the "rash" of television programs on medical emergencies was only an "itch," one fearless physician was portrayed as a righteous critic of two colleagues: the other two physicians were discussing their plans to talk to a patient who, according to their diagnosis, was suffering from a terminal illness. The consultant pointed out to his colleagues that the symptoms displayed by the patient could also be diagnosed as those of an ailment from which the patient could recover--if appropriate medical procedures were followed. In dramatic tones, he asked (in effect): "Since the symptoms of both diseases are the same, why not assume that the patient is suffering from the curable disease and do what you can to assist the patient, in the event that the patient is able to recuperate?"

In my opinion, a similar dilemma faces the investigators of UFO witnesses. Shall we assume that UFO experiences are "nonsense" or shall we assume that significant knowledge may be obtained by investigating these experiences? Shall we assume that UFO witnesses are lying and mistaken, or shall we assume that UFO witnesses



are sincere and describing a "real" experience? Which hypothesis should be accepted as the research hypothesis?

I believe that we should be tentative or "half-sure" in our conclusions, but committed or "whole-hearted" in our search (Allport, 1962). I believe that the better hypothesis to explore is the hypothesis that UFO witnesses are sincere and, thus, they are describing "truth" as they perceive it to be.

### THE PROBLEM

The problem, of course, is that UFO experiences are an affront to our sense of decency, our notion of "common sense reality." Some investigators (Klass, 1974; Menzel & Taves, 1977) prefer to view the evidence of UFO experiences from the hypothesis that the UFO witness is lying, or is mistaken, and the UFO investigator is misguided. Certainly, the hypothesis of hoax is appropriate for some UFO reports. However, I have talked with only one UFO witness who seemed to be involved in a hoax. Ruppelt (1956, p. 211) reported 1.66% hoaxes in the USAF Project Bluebook investigations, with 26.94% "unknowns." If the majority of UFO witnesses are neither lying nor engaged in hoaxes, then we are faced with strange and complex observations (Hynek, 1972, 1977; McCampbell, 1976; Salisbury, 1979; Vallee, 1985) which lead to controversy and contradiction (Condon & Gillmor, 1969; Fisher, 1978; Jacobs, 1976; Sagan & Page, 1972; Saunders & Harkins, 1968; Willcox, 1976).

What are the implications of UFO experiences? The implications of UFO experiences are varied, depending upon the viewpoint of the investigator (Sprinkle, 1967). Some investigators view the controversy of UFO reports as a "nonsense" problem; some view the controversy as a problem for physical scientists; some, as a problem for behavioral scientists; some, as a problem for social scientists; some, as a problem for parapsychologists and spiritualists. There are economic, military, political, and religious implications, as well as scientific implications in the evidence on UFO experiences.

For the purposes of this paper, I shall summarize my comments under the headings of personal implications, professional implications, implications for the use of hypnotic time regression procedures, speculations, and tentative conclusions. For other comments, the interested reader is referred to various articles and chapters as listed in the *Appendix*.

### PERSONAL IMPLICATIONS

In the autumn of 1950, a fellow student (Joe Waggoner) and I were leaving Hellums Hall, the Arts & Sciences Building of the University of Colorado, Boulder; we were coming from a lecture

on General Semantics, and we were practicing what we had learned about the observation of "reality." We asked ourselves questions, similar to the following: "What do you see over there?" "I see what I call a tree." "How do you describe it?" "I see what I call branches, leaves, trunk." "At what level of reality or level of observation are those descriptions?" Etc. Then, we asked ourselves, "What's that?" Above us, we observed what seemed to be an object which was round in shape and metallic of surface; the apparent object covered the area of a finger nail at arm's length; no sound was associated with the object; the object was moving from south to north; we could not estimate its speed because we could not estimate its size; if the object were the size of a jet airplane, then it would be moving faster than jet airplanes flew in those days. We watched the object for several seconds, and I observed a flash of light (reflection?) on the edge of the object which faced the setting sun. Later, as we discussed our observations, we puzzled about our interpretations, of the event: it didn't look like an airplane, or balloon; what was it? A Flying Saucer? No, it couldn't be; only kooks see Flying Saucers! Perhaps it was a "secret" military device, or something equally unusual and unknown to the public. I hardly desired to think about it—certainly I did not desire to talk about it to anyone. I had been a "scoffer" in regard to UFO reports, but now I found myself becoming a "skeptic." I was puzzled, and I had doubts about the significance of UFO reports.

In the summer of 1956, my wife, Marilyn, and I observed a strange aerial phenomenon over Boulder, Colorado, as we were driving back from Denver. Shortly after sunset, as we topped a hill overlooking Boulder, we saw what we assumed was a planet, an "evening star." We both remarked about the brilliance of the red glow; suddenly, the "star" began to move (back and forth, as Marilyn described it; with a "rocking" or "falling leaf" motion, as I perceived it). I stopped our car; we got out; we watched the "object" or "light," as it moved and hovered, moved and hovered, etc. Apparently, the "light" had descended, because it was between us and the Flat Irons (Rocky Mountain Foothills). We could see no lines or ropes; we could hear no sound which we could associate with the phenomenon; I could not identify or understand the event which we were experiencing. After that observation, I became an "unwilling believer." I know that UFO observations were "real," but I was puzzled about the level of "reality" or the significance of these observations. I began to read books and articles about UFO reports (as my wife, previously and unsuccessfully, had encouraged me to do). Upon completing doctoral studies in 1961, I decided to join investigative organizations and to conduct studies on the characteristics of UFO observers. My personal question was: "What kind of

characters am I associating with when I think of myself as an UFO observer?" My professional question was: "Is there evidence to support the 'psychosis hypothesis': the hypothesis that only kooks see Flying Saucers?"

### PROFESSIONAL IMPLICATIONS

In 1962-63, I conducted a survey of persons interested in UFO reports (Sprinkle, 1969); I came to the tentative conclusion that the responses of participants were similar to the responses of norm groups on the Rokeach *Domatism Scale*. I decided to learn more about the characteristics of UFO observers themselves, and I became a Consultant to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (co-founded by Jim and Coral Lorenzen).

In 1964, one of my colleagues was concerned about my professional stance: "Leo!" he asked, "What are you trying to do? Lose any reputation you may gain? How can you study such topics as ESP, hypnosis, and UFO reports?" Jokingly, I replied, "Well, what we can do is to locate a person with psychic abilities; have him or her sit in front of a map; with hypnotic procedures, we will suggest that the person gain impressions of the area where there will be a UFO 'flap.' Then, we'll go to that area and record our observations!" My friend groaned and turned away; however, I thought to myself, "Hey! That's a good idea!"

I wrote to several noted professors, asking if they saw any connection between UFO research and psychical research. Their responses were not encouraging. So, I began a five-year research study: during the first year, I planned to locate a group of 100 persons who claim to experience psychic impressions of UFO phenomena; next, I planned to identify those persons who seem to exhibit a combination of reliable psychological characteristics, strange claims of UFO experiences, and unusual psychic abilities; then, I would work closely with those persons, using hypnotic procedures, to assist them in exploring and understanding the significance of their psychic impressions.

With the assistance of several UFO and parapsychological research organizations who published the notice about the research study, I received replies from 63 persons who were willing to participate in the survey: Questionnaire on UFO Sightings and ESP Experiences; *Adjective Check List*; *Strong Vocational Interest Blank*. Later, another group of 19 persons, who had been referred by other UFO investigators, participated in the survey: Questionnaire, *Adjective Check List*, *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory*, *16 Personality Factors Test*, and *Strong Vocational Interest Blank*. Now, ten years later, approximately 150 persons have participated in the survey, including men, women, adolescents; well-educated and poorly educated; persons from a variety of vocational and cultural backgrounds.

From the viewpoint of definitive conclusions, the results are not impressive; after all, what can one expect from a questionnaire study? However, from the viewpoint of professional curiosity, the results are most interesting (Sprinkle, 1976).

In general, the participants "look good" on paper. Their profiles of measured vocational interests are more similar to the varied patterns of professional persons, rather than the patterns of persons who are limited to technical or outdoor interests. The profiles of personality inventories indicate "normal" patterns of scores, rather than neurotic or psychotic reactions. Some of the participants score like "creative" persons, with wide ranging interests, and above average scores on scales such as "Ego Strength," "Intracception," etc. I have concluded, tentatively, that there is little evidence to support the "psychosis hypothesis" that only kooks see Flying Saucers. I have had the opportunity to interview some of the participants; in general, I am impressed with their intelligence, sincerity, and courage.

In addition to the thousands of UFO reports I have read, and the hundreds of UFO witnesses with whom I have shared information, I have interviewed approximately 50 persons in hypnotic sessions; we used hypnotic time regression procedures in the attempt to gain more information about the UFO experience itself, as well as to reduce any anxiety and tension associated with the UFO experience and/or the reactions of other persons to the claims about the UFO experience.

Approximately twenty-five of these persons have obtained information during the hypnosis sessions which supports their claims of "abduction" experiences: the claim that, during a UFO sighting, there is an amnesic or "loss of time" period; later, during dream states, meditation, or hypnotic procedures, the UFO witness recalls that during the "loss of time" experience, he or she was taken on board a landed craft, examined by humanoids or alien beings, and released with the suggestion that he or she would remember nothing of the experience.

Table 1 summarizes the investigation and rating of the "character" of the UFO witnesses who described "abduction" experiences during hypnosis sessions.

### IMPLICATIONS OF HYPNOTIC PROCEDURES

The implications of UFO experiences as possible observations of "spacecraft" are exciting; however, the possibility that alien beings are piloting or controlling these craft, and abducting and examining human specimens, is thrilling to some persons and terrifying to other persons.

My personal and professional bias is to accept, tentatively, the claims of UFO abductions as "real;" however, I do not know if these "abductees" have experienced physical abduction, or whether they have experienced "out of the body" events. In either case, the experiences seem



"real" to the "abductee."

Hypnotic procedures appear to be appropriate techniques for exploring the memories of these experiences, as well as helpful procedures for releasing emotional reactions which are associated with the UFO experiences. The classic case of Betty and Barney Hill has been described by Fuller (1966). A recent review of the literature has been presented by Sprinkle (1976). However, some UFO investigators are skeptical about the accuracy of recall during hypnotic regression procedures. For example, Allan Hendry, of the Center for UFO Studies, conducted a survey among UFO investigators about their views on the usefulness of hypnotic procedures; he concluded (Hendry, 1978, p. 5): "...Hypnosis is not a well-understood phenomenon and, at this point, it cannot be stated definitively whether or not the accounts provided by UFO witnesses under hypnosis are entirely accurate. Certainly, hypnosis is a useful tool but one whose limitations and capabilities have not yet been calibrated."

Table 1

Summary: Investigation of UFO "Abduction" Cases

## Interviews and Hypnosis Sessions

Case	Year	Polygraph Examina- tion	Psychol. Inven- tories	Psych- iatric Exam	Estimate <sup>b</sup> of Character	UFO Experience? <sup>c</sup>
1	1967				Poor	Physical?
2	1968				Fair	Physical?
3	1968		x <sup>a</sup>		Good	Physical?
4	1974	x	x	x	Excellent	Physical?
5	1975				Fair	Physical?
6	1975				Fair	Physical?
7	1975				Fair	Physical?
8	1976				Good	OBE?
9	1976				Good	OBE?
10	1976	x	x		Excellent	Physical?
11	1976	x	x <sup>a</sup>		Excellent	Physical?
12	1976	x	x <sup>a</sup>		Excellent	Physical?
13	1976				Good	Physical?
14	1977		x		Excellent	Physical?
15	1977		x		Excellent	Physical?
16	1977	x	x		Good	OBE?
17	1978		x		Good	Physical?
18	1978		x		Good	Physical?
19	1978		x		Good	Physical?
20	1978				Excellent	Physical?
21	1978				Excellent	Physical?
22	1978				Excellent	Physical?
23	1978		x		Excellent	Physical?
24	1978				Excellent	Physical?
25	1978				Fair	Physical?
26	1978				Excellent	Physical?

<sup>a</sup>Psychological Inventories: Results of these inventories have not been received.

<sup>b</sup>Character: Subjective ratings of participants' self-awareness, integrity, and willingness to assist investigators.

<sup>c</sup>UFO Experience: Physical reality? Paranormal (Out of Body Experience) reality?

Despite the difficulties of obtaining valid information from UFO witnesses, hypnotic procedures offer a method by which these experiences can be explored. Of course, there are ethical, as well as scientific, questions which are posed by the use of hypnotic procedures in UFO research. Interested investigators, witnesses, and hypnosis practitioners are referred to a paper (Sprinkle, 1977) entitled, "Hypnotic time regression procedures in the investigation of UFO experiences." The paper appears as an appendix in the book by Lorenzen, Coral E., & Lorenzen, L.J. *Abducted!* NY: Berkely Press, 1977. Pp. 191-222. Interested

APA members can obtain a copy by writing to this address:

R. Leo Sprinkle, Ph.D.  
Division of Counseling & Testing  
Box 3708, University Station  
Laramie, WY 82071

For further information about UFO organizations, UFO literature, and questionnaires for the investigation of "unusual" UFO observations, the reader is referred to the *Appendix* of this paper.

Any interested psychologist is encouraged to conduct his or her investigations of UFO experiences. Perhaps those of us who have delved into the mass of UFO reports are beginning to perceive an outline of the pattern of reports; if so, we need support from other investigators. Perhaps we have made important errors in our observations and procedures; if so, we need criticisms and suggestions from other investigators.

A word of caution to any interested psychologist: If you seek certainty, be careful! UFO research seems to be characterized by controversy and absurdity. If you are curious and like to explore a good mystery, come on in! The water is fine! And if you do decide to investigate UFO experiences, what can you expect to learn?

## SPECULATIONS

Here are the speculations of one investigator (Personal Communication, 1978) about the significance of "contact" experiences between UFO percipients and the intelligence behind the UFO phenomenon:

**Purpose of Contacts:** Filtering of knowledge to people of earth.

**Method of Operation:** A certain type of person is being abducted and implanted with information which is to serve as a bridge to understanding and extra-terrestrial perspective on earth. Implantation involves an area of the mind which cannot be tapped by hypnosis unless so permitted by "extra-terrestrials." The knowledge is designed to be doled out in a step by step fashion, to the proper people of earth and at the proper times. This is all controlled by "keys" and "cues" implanted along with the knowledge.

Long term contact is maintained with the contactees thru sensor beam communication, telepathy, trances, repeated abductions and face to face encounters with "extra-terrestrials" living on earth.

**Motivation of the Method:** To filter information on a grass roots level to the common people of earth. Exploitation, sensationalism and misuse of the information are controlled by selecting contactees who have little use or understanding for the knowledge. Also, each contactee is given a "bit" of knowledge, "or piece of the great puzzle" requiring that he/she unite with other contactees and combine the knowledge with facts already established by earth scientists.



A primary concern is to let "earthlings" do the hard work of reasearch, analysis and application of the knowledge so that we do not become "lazy" and sycophantic with relation to the "extra-terrestrials."

### Relationship Dynamics Between Extra-Terrestrials and Earthlings:

The dynamics of the relationship are similar to a counseling and guidance paradigm. The guidance involves psychological guidance leading to self-determinism and spiritual-metaphysical experiences, along with scientific knowledge and technical application of knowledge.

**The Body of Knowledge:** The information can be classified into four or five basic areas:

1. Archaeological, involving clues to re-study of pre-history events and patterns of society.
2. Geological, involving earthquakes and land mass shifts.
3. Meteorological, involving current weather conditions as they are affected by magnetic forces.
4. Genetic, involving cloning.
5. Biological, involving extension of life-span, regeneration of tissue and general "body-building" of man.
6. Scientific, involving space travel--*Their Way--electro-magnetic fields of earth* and their relationship to *bio-magnetic fields* and their combined relationship to electromagnetic properties of *matter, energy and thought*.
7. Spiritual knowledge involving *experience of consciousness beyond the body: telepathy and other paranormal phenomena*.

**Each Contactee** is given his or her own piece of this vast body of knowledge; she/he is insructed to research the past civilizations of earth and discover indications that this *knowledge* did, in fact, exist on earth at one time.

Then, she/he is challenged with presenting the knowledge again to mankind, in a way that proves beneficial to *all mankind*, without causing division or exploitation with the people and societies and governments of the world.

If true, this is a brilliant plan and leads us, by logic, to shift study from UFO sightings and contactees--to the *knowledge presented thru contactees*.

### TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS

If UFO investigators have not perceived correctly the general outline of the UFO phenomenon, then we are wrong and wasting our time. But if this general outline is correct, then we have guidelines by which we can analyze and compare the significance and meaning of UFO reports. Hypnotic procedures offer us a method by which we can explore the memories of UFO contactees and evaluate the meaning of their UFO experiences.

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# PEN DROP CONTOUR PLOTTER DIAGRAM

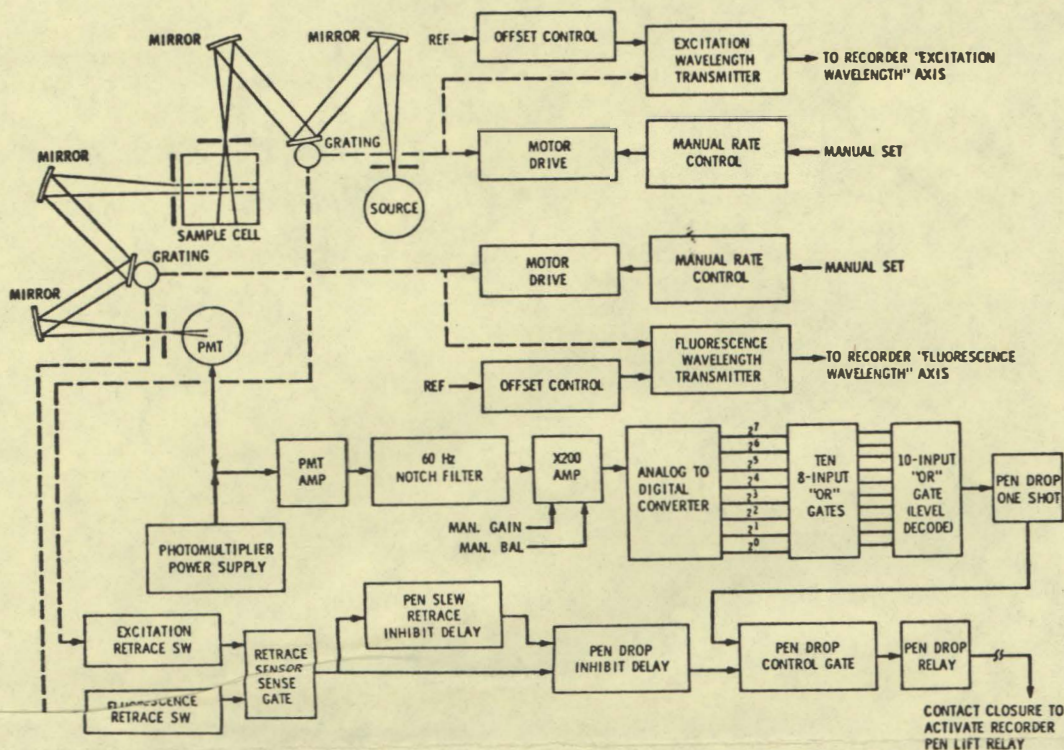


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the electronics circuit designed to generate the isointensity contour plot. PMT: photomultiplier; Source: excitation light source

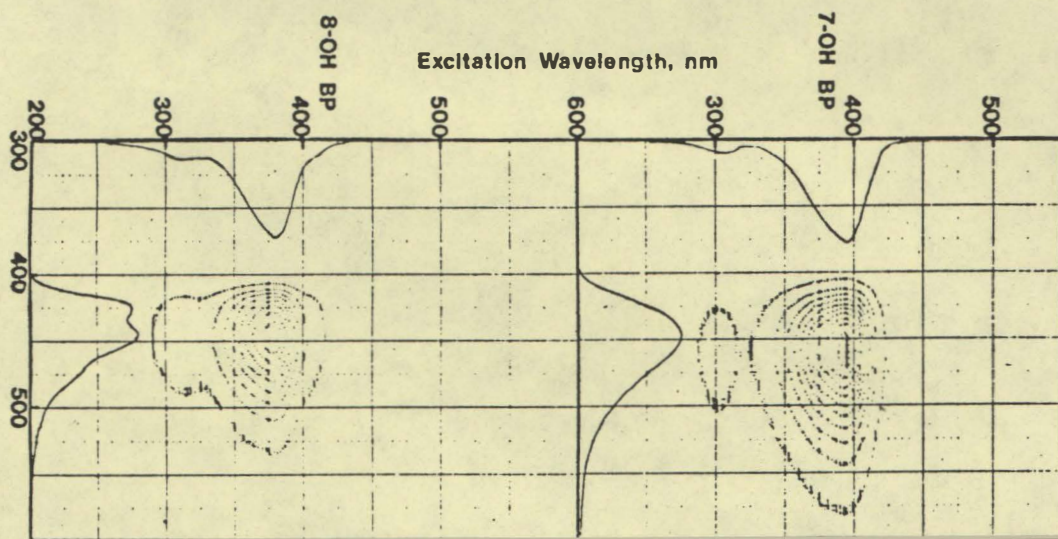


Figure 2. A UFO light "fingerprint" would be printed out like this by the photomultiplier's pen contour plotter.