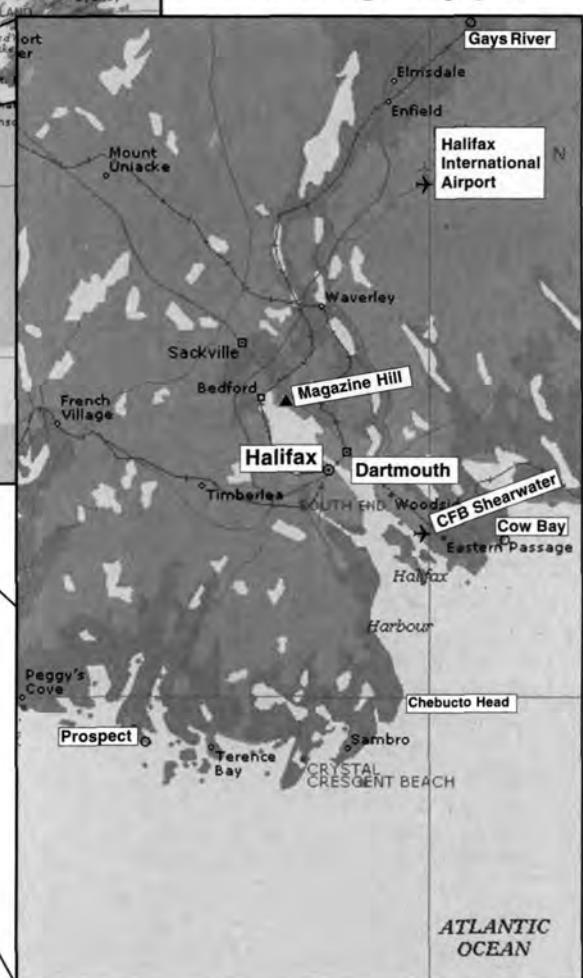


Map of Nova Scotia, Canada,  
showing place names mentioned in  
the article that begins on page 3.



### UFO over Magazine Hill



Witness Lisa Stone's drawing of a flying triangle she saw March 15, 2002, near Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

## FLYING TRIANGLES OF NOVA SCOTIA

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# INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER

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# THE FLYING TRIANGLE PHENOMENON

BY DON LEDGER

**W**hen Helen M. took her arthritic Labrador retriever outside with her and settled into a comfortable lawn chair to watch the Perseid meteor shower in the early morning hours of Tuesday, August 13, 2002, the last thing she expected to do was to see a UFO.

I received an excited e-mail from her that same evening, first via the AUFORN in Alberta, and then directly from her when she discovered my name and Web site. Helen is an amateur astronomer and an experienced yachtswoman who runs her own Internet business from her home in an area called Cow Bay, about five miles (8.2 kilometers) southeast of the center of the cities of Halifax and Dartmouth in Nova Scotia (see maps on cover).

Because of the detail and subject matter of the report, I immediately made contact with Helen and set up an interview with her. Initially, however, I sent her my online UFO report form and had her provide as much detail as possible so that I wouldn't be going into the interview blind.

The Perseid meteor shower was to peak in North America sometime in the afternoon on August 12, but viewing conditions were predicted to be excellent right up until dawn of the morning of August 13. The Perseid meteors come from comet Swift-Tuttle. The comet swoops in from deep space every 134 years from the Oort Cloud, well beyond Pluto, penetrating the plane of the solar system not far from Earth's orbit.

Helen was fully aware, as an ardent sailor, that on the coast her best bet was to wait until early on the morning of the 13th for optimum viewing conditions. Experience told her that the possibility of coastal fog and cloud at that time of the year was then at a minimum. The local forecast was for a perfect evening, in any event.

The night sky was indeed clear, the stars distinct, and the Milky Way was, according to Helen, extremely clear.

*Don Ledger is a writer, pilot and UFO researcher living in Bedford, Nova Scotia. His 2001 book Dark Object, coauthored with Chris Styles, deals with the Shag Harbour UFO incident. Most recently he took on the post of National Aviation Reporting Center for Anomalous Phenomena (NARCAP) affiliate for Canada. He may be contacted at dledger@ns.sympatico.ca.*

The moon had set and a very hot day of 32°C. (about 90°F.) was cooling off. By 2:15 a.m. the temperature had dropped to 27°C. (or 81°F.). Her house is located about 100 meters from the coast of Cow Bay in a relatively secluded area.

Helen was rewarded immediately by the appearance of several meteors streaking down through the atmosphere. The sky was clear and steady, and viewing conditions were excellent. She had been watching for only a couple of minutes when one meteor, several times larger than most, appeared out of the constellation Ursa Major. It had a long tail and rather than winking out immediately, it arched across the sky and over her head to the southeast. Helen watched it, waiting for it to fade as most meteors do. However, in this case its progress across the sky was suddenly terminated, as if it had passed behind something.

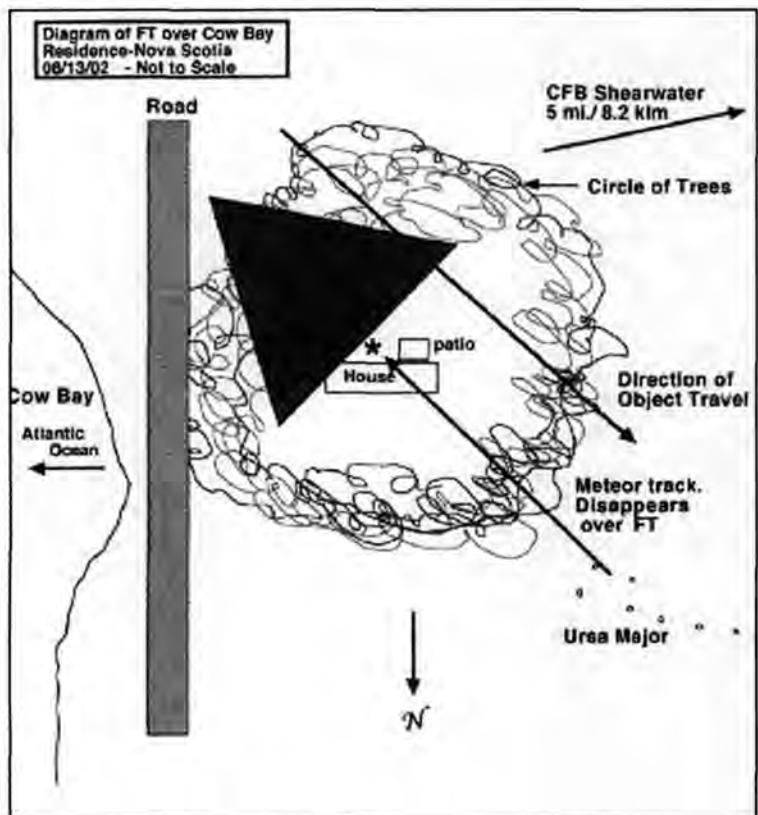
Helen thought this odd. She examined the sky and noticed that there seemed to be a black curtain drawn across it from slightly behind her, from the southeast. She shifted in her chair and was surprised to discover a straight black line was crossing the sky and blanking out the stars.

Quickly trying to find a cause, she thought at first it could be a cloud or fog of some description. However, she discounted these as unlikely based upon her own experience with the sky and weather conditions.

Besides, she could now make out a straight, black line advancing very slowly across the sky. Intermittently, she could see what she described as ludicrous, tiny white lights at the outer extremities of this black line as they passed over the canopy of trees surrounding her property.

Shifting completely around in her chair, Helen noticed that one light was trailing the other two and she realized that she was seeing "a perfect black triangle of gargantuan proportions." It was in the process of crossing directly over the clearing around her house.

Helen stated, "If there had of been a full moon I wouldn't have been able to see it. This thing blocked out the entire area of sky above me—we're talking football fields in length and breadth. This thing was enormous! Too big to be in the air, you would think. It was pitch black, very black. It moved very slowly—10 mph? There was absolutely no sound at all." It took the object about 5 minutes to pass from the southeast, move over her house, and then disappear over the trees to the northwest. Figure 1 shows a view from above



*Fig. 1. Ground plan, Cow Bay, showing UFO flying above house.*

Helen's yard of the triangle passing overhead.

Seeming to soak up light, it blanketed out the sky, the stars, and the backscatter from the capital city's lights.

"Everything became very still," Helen remembered. "And I felt... tingly... like when you get pins and needles. I know 'tingly' isn't much of a word, but it's the best word to describe it—the feeling left when the triangle was out of sight."

Her neighbor next door keeps pheasants in a cage, and they would normally be making "the usual bird noises." However, she noticed that they too were quite still. Her Labrador walked inside the house through the open patio door leaving her alone, which in itself, she informed me, was strange.

During one of our three interviews, I asked her if she noticed any physical effects after the event. She related, "When I got up the next morning [actually August 13], I had a headache which remained with me all day and I felt nauseous and dizzy once in the afternoon. I laid down for a couple of hours and it passed, but I still had the headache. I still had it this morning, but by this afternoon [August 14], it's gone. I feel great, except for the heat!"

The sighting deeply affected Helen. She had never seen a UFO before and had overcome a strong, natural reticence to report it. She was really so overwhelmed that it was there above her and wondered, "What the hell is it?... and the sheer enormous size of it.... I have to tell you I still feel a little weird about it: it's hard to wrap my mind around the

reality of what I saw. But see it I did, whatever it was. That's all there is to tell about it, except of course the obvious."

Helen was trying at the time to quit smoking and had cut down to a small pack a week. But after the sighting, she sat down in her living room and smoked five cigarettes in an hour. She remarked to me that her everyday terms of reference had been thrown completely out of whack and that now she could not trust the skies to be a familiar place anymore.

I took some measurements in her yard because it had occurred to me that knowing the size of the open area above the house and the height of the trees might give me an indication of the object's size. At one point the whole object had been in sight, but only for a few seconds as the ring of the trees around the clearing obscured the two forward lights and corners of the triangle, while the trailing "point" made its way further across the opening.

I measured the clearing at 80 feet across and almost perfectly circular. As for the height, the trees in Atlantic Canada, hardwoods particularly, usually mature at 40–50 feet in height. But I caught a break. A power pole was situated on one side of the property, feeding a house behind it.

As an ex-lineman who had planted his fair share of power poles in the mid-1960s, I knew for a fact that the poles were 45 feet in length and usually buried five feet in the ground. I found the datum spike on the pole and determined that this pole's top was 41 feet above ground level and at the same height as the trees surrounding the lot. Therefore, I used 40 feet as the height for the trees. The patio is centered in the middle of the clearing, fortunately, so that gave me a distance of 40 feet from the center to the edge of the circle. And that, in turn, gives an angle of 45° from the patio to the tree tops.

The patio is only one foot above ground. Helen assumed a height of about 2,000 feet for the object. Because Helen is in the flight pattern for CFB (Canadian Forces Base) Shearwater and the approaches to Halifax International Airport, she was accustomed to seeing aircraft flying over her house on a regular basis. This could be as frequently as every five minutes for Halifax International during peak traffic times.

Using Helen's impression of 2,000 feet as the approximate height of aircraft setting up for the approach pattern for Shearwater, I calculated that one side of the triangle was about 4,000 feet in length!

## FURTHER INVESTIGATION

When Helen initially contacted me, my first impulse was to check with tower/radar personnel at the two airports in the greater metropolitan area. These are Halifax International

(identifier YHZ) and CFB Shearwater (identifier YAW).

I asked Halifax the following questions on the evening of August 13:

1. Were there other reports of an object in that area or elsewhere?
2. Were any visual anomalies reported that night by the staff?
3. Did they have radar returns of anything unusual that night?

In each case the answer was no. As it turns out, the negative answer to question 3 was false.

I wasn't able to ask Shearwater these questions because the tower was closed and radar was shut down that evening, as it is most evenings, since it has been drastically downgraded as a military airfield.

CFB Shearwater is situated in the center of an urban area and is overlooked by hundreds of residential dwellings located on a hill about 300 yards distant on the north side of the field. The same holds true of the northeast, northwest, south, and southeast sides of the field.

I want to make it clear that any top-secret or experimental military aircraft landing at Shearwater would enjoy as much privacy or secrecy, even at 2:15 a.m., as a couple having sex on the 10-yard line at the Rose Bowl game at halftime. Any suggestion that this object was landing at or departing from Shearwater is dead wrong. If the calculations of size are accurate, there would be no physical room for this thing to land in any event.

In an attempt to discover if there were other reports of the object, I contacted several newspapers and TV stations. None had received any UFO reports. A check with the Halifax Regional Municipality Police and the RCMP met with the same response. However, one of the reporters at the *Halifax Daily News* contacted me and asked for details. I gave them what I had except for those I reserved to eliminate copycats, and I didn't reveal Helen's name since she wanted to remain anonymous. I was hoping to jar loose other witnesses. It ran as a Sunday report in that paper with my phone number and e-mail address attached.

Unfortunately, that Sunday I left for Ottawa and learned subsequently that it was carried as a wire-service story that went across the country in newspapers and on television. It even appeared in a French newspaper.

I returned 10 days later to 40 odd e-mails and 16 phone messages about this case. Some bore fruit, though not specifically to the Cow Bay sighting. One e-mail offered to help me look into the case but it was not from anyone I recognized and so it went to the bottom of the pile. This was to prove the most important contact I had, but I didn't realize it at the time.

Many of the UFO reports stacked up in my e-mail inbox and several on my answering machine were unrelated to the Cow Bay sighting. There were reports that were years old—nocturnal lights, or reports from other locales in the United States or western Canada. There was one report of a

triangle over the Halifax area the same night and time as the Cow Bay report, but I was never able to reach anyone on the number left on my answering machine despite calling about 10 times.

There was another UFO report from August 13, but this event occurred two hours earlier and was witnessed by twelve people in an RV park near Waterville, 60 miles northwest of Cow Bay. In this sighting, the 12 witnesses were a mix of professional people and the regional general manager for a large chainstore—the person who contacted me. The witnesses reported two silvery, oval objects, each the size of a half moon, crossing the sky to the west-northwest. They sped overhead approximately to the zenith before one angled sharply away from the other and disappeared over the horizon to the southwest.

In this instance, I asked the regional manager detailed questions in order to eliminate satellites, in particular the Naval Ocean Surveillance System group and the Iridium telecom types. Their crossing over in the space of 8–10 seconds and their divergent paths pretty much ruled out satellites as a cause. Though this report was interesting, it seemed far removed from the description of the object over Cow Bay, although the circumstances surrounding its presence might have some role in the overall context of events that evening.

The weekend after August 13 there was another report from three people in Barss Corner, a tiny community 100 miles west of Halifax in the center of the province. The sighting took place at 2:00 on the morning of August 18, on the edge of a small lake. Approximately 20 digital photos were taken of the event. Only one of the three witnesses connected the dots of the lights and came up with a triangle though there is partial evidence of this in the photos. The witnesses also reported a reduction in sound during the sighting, which Helen noted during her sighting.

I've done extensive work on the photos in this case, some of which were saved from the video function of the Olympus Camera, beginning with increasing the pixel size and playing with contrast and saturation. However, my best results are from just pushing the size. In most attempts I ended up with a curved, one-third ring effect made up of the colors blue, red, green, and yellow—much like beads on a string. They are tantalizing but still elusive as to their shape and function.

Meanwhile, I had exhausted all of my usual contacts and resources within a couple of weeks. Even a check of Transport Canada's database of incidents turned up nothing unusual in the way of pilot reports for August 13 or the weekend following.

## RADAR DATA

Then 27 days after the sighting, I received an e-mail from the person who had mentioned helping out some time earlier. However, this time he was more specific and advised that if I didn't forward details, such as an exact position and exact

time, then the radar tape which might contain valuable radar information for that evening would be erased at the 30-day mark. This is a standard practice with Canadian radar data when there is nothing on the tape to warrant retaining the information.

Radar tapes! Could he be an air traffic controller or radar operator, or at least someone with access to the radar tapes? A brief e-mail flurry ensued which established that he was, indeed, a controller who was offering to review the radar tapes from that evening. I told him that I had been advised that there had been nothing unusual that evening. He insisted on taking a look anyway.

Later that day, he e-mailed and informed me that there was an unknown target with a strong return at the specified time and in the specified area moving very slowly in the indicated direction. He also advised that even though Helen lost sight of it in the treetops, the object moved very slowly about that area before moving in over the city. He watched the object for 10 minutes. From time to time while over the Cow Bay area, it disappeared then reappeared in and out of the clutter at 1,800 feet, a known floor for radar reception in that area. The tapes were recorded off primary radar returns at Moncton Center in New Brunswick some 80 nautical miles from Halifax. The computer sensor had applied a "chicken's foot" to the return. A chicken's foot is a Y-shaped symbol that denotes an unknown. There was no transponder code attached to the return, making it a pure primary return.

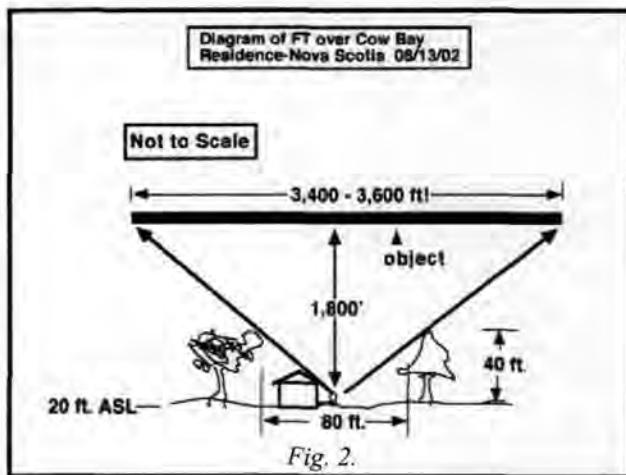
Moncton radar's known altitude floor gave me a better altitude fix for the object (though notice how close this altitude was to Helen's estimate). I asked why there wouldn't have been some concern by the Halifax tower operators about this object, which surely would have shown up on their primary and been a real presence in an approach area, but he had no answer for that.

I was, quite frankly, floored by this radar identification. This was the first case I had investigated where I had electronic evidence (now destroyed) of a UFO event. I wonder now, however, how many times tower operators at Halifax dealt with me in less than an honest manner when I had checked for anomalies on their end. Forewarned is forearmed.

I should note that the radar tapes are routinely erased after 30 days and used over again. In this instance (day 27 after the event), it was too late to file a request. Any letter of request probably would not have reached Nav Canada (the corporation that coordinates Canadian air traffic) in time.

With the very real possibility that this object was at 1,800 feet, I redid the math, coming up with a per-side length of 3,600 feet which is still a staggering dimension (see Figure 2). And it's one I have difficulty coming to terms with. However, I'm sure the Wright brothers would have had difficulty in coming to terms with the dimensions, weight and speed of a Galaxy C-5A back in 1903, had one appeared over the horizon at Kitty Hawk.

If indeed this thing really was on the order of 3,600 feet



on a side, what are we to make of the other dimensions? The underside would have been 6.48 million square feet. How thick was it? Even one foot of thickness gives us 6.48 million cubic feet. That's twice the volume of most scientific balloons launched today. For every extra foot of thickness you add an extra 6.48 million cubic feet. At a ratio of length to height of 20:1, the object would be 180 feet high and contain more than 1.6 billion cubic feet of volume. What would something like this be constructed of and what would be its power source?

The controller advised me that even though this primary return was observed to be at 1,800 feet, I should check with Canadian Coast Guard's Halifax Harbour Traffic Control (HHTC) for some possible supertanker off shore that might have been the cause of the radar return, possibly due to a temperature inversion reflecting a return back from an oceangoing vessel. The weather conditions that evening precluded a temperature inversion. I reminded him that it was unlikely, as well, that a supertanker would be crossing over the Halifax/Dartmouth metropolitan area.

However, since I had that resource to draw on I called a pilot friend of mine who works at HHTC and had him check out the logs for that evening. Halifax Harbour is the busiest Canadian port on the Atlantic coast, rivaling and competing with New York for the heaviest traffic on the east coast of North America. As a result, its approaches and the harbor itself are covered by radar, and traffic is controlled in much the same manner as air traffic.

There are several in-harbor radar sites and also two powerful antennae overlooking the harbor entrance and well to seaward. One of them is located at Lands End at the mouth of Halifax Harbour, only 2 miles from Cow Bay and looking right down upon it, with coverage from the water's surface to about 300 feet above sea level. The logs were checked for that evening and the only vessel leaving/approaching was in this case departing (a Maersk Container vessel), and did so at 10:00 local time. One hour later it was off Chebucto Head and clear of the harbor. The sea that evening was excellent so the container vessel would have increased its speed to between 23 and 25 knots, which would place it between 66

and 75 nautical miles offshore at the time of the sighting and much further to the east-southeast than Cow Bay would be from the radar at Moncton.

I now include this radar resource in any of my investigations in or about the city and offshore even though its height-finding capabilities don't usually exceed several hundred feet. I advise other investigators to consider this resource—a valuable tool, depending on where they are located.

One of the reasons I did get serious about the UFO phenomenon was due to a report by the son of a friend of mine, who also saw a large, silent object. He was with his father at a campground area on the Northumberland coast of Nova Scotia in 1989. This coast faces Prince Edward Island across the Northumberland Strait. The whole coast is lined with summer cottages, usually quite close together and right on the shore. On this particular beautiful, clear, and starry night in July there were the usual campfires and people out enjoying the evening air at approximately 10:30 p.m. The 11-year-old witness related how quite suddenly it got very quiet and there was a prickly sensation in the air. Then in the sky appeared a huge, black, domino-shaped object passing silently overhead, from inland to out over the strait. The witness went by his father's estimates of size of 1,000 feet or more in length and a couple of hundred feet high, though there was nothing to measure it against. There were apparently many witnesses to this object, but the sighting never made the press.

There were some electrical effects observed as well. When they went back into their cabin, a battery-operated clock that had not been working since the previous summer was working. And a WWII, army-issue, single D-celled flashlight, sitting on one end on a windowsill, that hadn't worked since that war was shining upward on the ceiling. The witness remembered this point quite clearly. Another piece in the puzzle?

## OTHER REPORTS

The Cow Bay UFO trail goes cold after the harbor radar information. I can only relate some history at this point about flying triangles (FT) reported in the vicinity of Halifax and in this province.

The first evidence I have of an FT is an RCMP report, made by James Yorke and his family, of a triangular-shaped UFO on December 3, 1973, about two miles north of Parrsboro, Nova Scotia. It was out Minas Basin (the northeastern portion of the Bay of Fundy) and crossing the water quite slowly. It had numerous colored lights along the bottom. He and his family watched it for 15 minutes.

At 9:00 p.m. on the night of April 18, 1995, a mother was drying her 5-year-old son's hair in the kitchen. Their house was large with an upper level and deck occupied by the owner's mother and father, and it was located in a secluded area on the edge of a still water. That end of the house is round with 12 large windows overlooking the still

water. It's located in Prospect, about 12 miles from the center of Halifax. The mother saw a large, brilliant, white light hanging in the sky to the northwest. It was unmoving, suspended, and reflected in the smooth surface of the stillwater. She called her husband who upon seeing the large light got his binoculars and determined that there were two lights side-by-side rather than one. He watched this for several minutes when his mother's voice came from above and asked him if he saw the peculiar light out past the still water. They discussed it for a minute or so, then the son told his mother to switch off her deck lights and he would do the same to enhance the viewing conditions.

As soon as he flicked his deck lights off, the anomalous lights immediately went into motion and moved smoothly toward their house. Terrified, the mother grabbed her son's arm and dragged him to the back of the house, screaming as she went. The father, however, was fascinated and stayed to watch the object fly low and slow over his house. With a hand over his eyes to block the glare of the lights, he watched as a rectangular or triangular object approximately 200 feet long by 100 feet wide flew directly over his house at an altitude of about 100 feet, blocking out the stars. It then disappeared behind his house and over the tree line.

The family was shaken up. I was called in and I did my usual tower checks to no avail. I used my own aircraft in this instance to fly over the area looking for something that might account for this sighting. Other than low hills, a couple of small lakes, and 20 miles of forest between their house and the next populated area (an intersection with a gas station and a store) to the northwest, I could find nothing.

In August 2000, a police officer in Nova Scotia emailed Art Bell describing a huge, triangular-shaped object he and his partner had seen, hanging just above the trees. Bell called the number provided, only to discover that the officer was again on duty. His wife, however, provided some detail left by her husband. The object was about an eighth of a mile on a side (660 feet) and was spotted in an area where there are military bases. Since Halifax is the only place in Nova Scotia blessed with more than one (in fact two) bases, I can only assume that it occurred in this area. I made the rounds of the RCMP and Halifax police stations, leaving circulars and my phone number in hopes of discovering the officers in question; however, I came up empty.

As a result of the newspaper article about Cow Bay I received a call from Lisa Stone, age 35, in Lower Sackville, an area where I used to live, and a couple of miles from my present location in Bedford, a part of greater Halifax.

At 9:30 p.m. on March 15, 2002, she was returning to Sackville from Dartmouth accompanied by her 16-year-old son. While sitting at the traffic light on Burnside Drive at the bottom of Magazine Hill she noticed what she thought was an airplane in distress. It was showing white lights and was diving and climbing to the west side of the road she was on and about one mile ahead. It did this maneuver twice then proceeded eastward on a course that would take it over the

(continued on page 23)

# FRANK KAUFMANN RECONSIDERED

TWO SCENARIOS, BY KEVIN D. RANDLE AND MARK RODEGHIER

## Frank Kaufmann, Roswell Witness

by Kevin D. Randle

We (my former partner Don Schmitt and I) had no inkling Frank Kaufmann was a potential Roswell witness. He was a former executive vice president of the Roswell Chamber of Commerce and was well-known in the community. He had been involved in many other business and industrial-development activities throughout his career. Nor was he listed as a member of the military in the Roswell Army Air Field yearbook for 1947, our first source to identify prospective witnesses.

Relatively early in our investigation, however, Kaufmann was pointed out to us by Walter Haut (author of the famed Roswell press release), who told us that Frank was someone we needed to interview. Later, Haut suggested that anything Frank told us could be believed.

And Frank told us quite a bit,

### KAUFMANN'S STORY

Frank claimed to have been involved from the very beginning, when the Roswell case was just a matter of a UFO seen flitting through the skies of New Mexico. He established a radar watch at White Sands Proving Ground, on the orders of an Army general that he never identified, but hinted might have been Martin F. Scanlon, or maybe the mysterious Robert Thomas. Twenty-four hours later, the watch was canceled and Kaufmann returned to Roswell.

Then, Kaufmann told us, late in the evening of July 4, 1947, the radar return seemed to explode and showed debris falling to the ground. He suggested at the time that the scope had blossomed into a light that slowly faded, meaning that the object had exploded. This implied that Kaufmann's radar watch had continued at the Roswell base and that he had seen it happen.

In fact, early on, after I challenged one point of his story, Kaufmann gave me a document, part of a log that he claimed had been kept during the beginning of the event in July 1947. It seemed to confirm that the object had crashed.

*Kevin D. Randle is a longtime Roswell researcher whose most recent book is Case MJ-12: The True Story Behind the Government's UFO Conspiracies (Avon, December 2002).*

It was a thin log, not exactly like those I had kept during Air Force exercises, but then, what's done during an exercise is not necessarily what happens during an actual operation.

Key to that log was an entry from July 2 that read:

WH SANDS - BLIP ALERT WH SANDS - ROW [Roswell] - ABQ [Albuquerque] - SANDIA TO ROW - THOMAS - FLETCH - SMITH. BLANCHARD - RAMEY - SCANLON - PROCEED TO AREA 24 - NDE 88 COMD 248A9 ANO PROCEED, FULL ALERT.

And on July 4, 1947:

OBJECT DOWN - 2317 [meaning at 11:17 p.m.] RADAR TARGET GONE.

The log was handwritten and covered only one side of a piece of paper, but if we could confirm any of it, this was an important bit of documentation. Furthermore, it provided additional names of those who were part of what he would later call his "Group of Nine."

Kaufmann went on to relate details of the recovery operation of the Roswell object. He, along with a limited number of others, was ordered to the scene. He said that they had gone north from Roswell, then turned to the west, crossing the open desert until they came to a fence line. They broke through the fence and continued until they arrived at the spot where they eventually found the nearly intact spacecraft and the bodies of the alien flight crew.

Here was evidence that the Roswell wreckage was of interstellar origin. Tales of weather balloons and secret terrestrial research projects were eliminated, if Kaufmann's tale could be validated.

He said that he joined a central core of nine men, highly trained experts in various fields who were brought together to investigate the crash and clean up the mess. Among these experts was Warrant Officer Robert Thomas—or maybe he was really Brigadier General Robert Thomas, or maybe he became a general later—but in 1947 he was just Major Robert Thomas. It didn't really matter, because Thomas had the authority to assume any guise needed for the security of the mission. Thomas was even mentioned in the limited log that Kaufmann had given me.

With Kaufmann's expert help, Thomas and his team recovered the craft, picked up the bodies, and took every-

(continued on page 17)

## Frank Kaufmann Exposed

by Mark Rodeghier

Given the uncertainty about Kaufmann's testimony, I was anxious to attempt to resolve the matter. I was able to visit Roswell along with two other Roswell investigators (one of whom was Don Schmitt—the other prefers for personal reasons not to be identified) and meet with Juanita Kaufmann, Frank's widow. Because of her long acquaintance with Schmitt, she allowed us access to her husband's office and papers, for which we are very grateful. That she did so, given the results of our investigation, demonstrates that she was as much in the dark about the truth of her husband's story as were Roswell investigators.

### KAUFMANN'S MILITARY RECORD

Kaufmann had shown his military record to several investigators over the years and had claimed that he was involved in some type of intelligence work, which explained his knowledge of the military's Roswell cover-up. The document he had shown investigators was a copy of his Separation Qualification Record (hereafter the SQR), the standard discharge document from military service in that era.

As Kaufmann had said, the SQR listed his date of discharge as October 30, 1945. Like so many soldiers, he soon left the service after World War II ended. His ranks (grade) are shown as rising from private, to sergeant, to master sergeant, and finally to non-commissioned officer (NCO/IC).

This last point is odd, since NCO/IC is not a grade, but a position, and is an inappropriate designation in the grade boxes. It is a mistake that anyone with a military background should recognize immediately.

For those who know the format of this document, there is a second peculiarity in the last column, which lists his Military Occupational Specialty, or MOS. Each MOS has a number associated with it, but Kaufmann's have no numbers. Instead, what is listed in each slot is what seems to be a command or headquarters at which he was located. The acronym AIRD appears twice (and in a note below), and could refer to the Air Intelligence Requirements Division in the Army Air Forces. If so, this could confirm Kaufmann's claimed work in intelligence duties. The abbreviation "Spec" appears three times and would seem to indicate "special."

The bottom of an SQR lists a summary of a soldier's military occupations. Here again, the word "special" appears, with Kaufmann having both a Special Assignment and a Special Order. The strikeout marks through the words "Special Assignment" are puzzling. Further, the typical

summary of military occupations repeats some of the MOS numbers, but Kaufmann's lists none.

These lacunae in the SQR are indeed perplexing, but we don't need to probe deeper to explain them. Instead, we can turn to Kaufmann's *original* SQR, reproduced in Figure 1. This document is radically different from the SQR he had shown to researchers.

His ranks are not the same, as he went from private to corporal to staff sergeant, but never became a master sergeant. His MOS listings are completely different, and they correctly include an MOS number with each specialty. He entered the service as a basic trainee, like almost everyone. But he then became, in turn, a clerk-typist, a classification specialist, and an administrative specialist. No job is listed in intelligence or with AIRD.

SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD			
SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST			
This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. To list previous experience is based on available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and representation of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.			
1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL		MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS	
KAUFMANN FRANK JOSEPH		1 Pvt Basic trainee (521)	
2. ARMY SERIAL NO.	GRADE	A. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	B. GRADE
32 421 439	S/Sgt	090-01-1103	13 Cpl Clerk-Typist (405)
3. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Home City, County, State)			
115 B 3rd New York City, New York			
4. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE	5. DATE OF SEPARATION	6. DATE OF BIRTH	7. GRADE
5 Aug 1942	30 Oct 1945	1 Mar 1916	12 S/Sgt Classification Specialist (275)
8. PLACE OF SEPARATION			
AAF Separation Base RAAF Roswell New Mexico			
SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS			
14. TITLE—DESCRIPTION—RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION			
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST: Performed duties in continental United States at RAAF, Roswell, New Mexico. Made out morning reports, classified and placed enlisted personnel in various departments by interviewing to determine qualifications. Supervised work of personnel. (M.O.S. 502)			
CLASSIFICATION SPECIALIST: Work concurrent with above. (M.O.S. 275)			
CLERK-TYPIST: Typed out morning reports, sick book, general correspondence and official notices. Worked in orderly room at RAAF, Roswell, New Mexico. (M.O.S. 405)			

Fig. 1. Kaufmann's real Separation Qualification Record.

Given the job title, it might appear that a classification specialist could be involved with intelligence matters, perhaps in classifying various military documents. However, in the summary section at the bottom of the page, we see that this work involved classifying and placing enlisted personnel in various departments. In other words, Kaufmann functioned in personnel at the Roswell base. The notations about "Special Assignment" and "Special Order" do not appear in the summary section.

If you look closely at the SQR in Figure 1, you can observe mottling or discoloration in the document, as in the box for grade. There is also extensive mottling in the MOS column. A close examination of the original indicates that

Mark Rodeghier is scientific director of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies.

the discoloration has probably been caused by rubber cement or some other adhesive, used to attach another document on top of this one to create the fake SQR Kaufmann showed to investigators.

To put it quite plainly, Frank Kaufmann created an altered version of an official document to present a false version of his military career consistent with his claims about his involvement with the events at Roswell. His supposed work in intelligence was used to explain how he came to be so knowledgeable about what crashed at Roswell and the subsequent military cover-up.

## THE ROSWELL DOCUMENTS

As explained by Kevin Randle in the first section of this article, Kaufmann has shown investigators other documents that purportedly were actual military records about the recovery of the Roswell object. He never allowed anyone to make copies of these documents, and they were shown fleetingly to investigators, which never provided enough time to copy or memorize their contents.

The most sensational of the documents was a memo from Edwin D. Easley, the provost marshal at the base, reporting on the security related to the recovery and about two diversionary sites created as part of the cover-up.

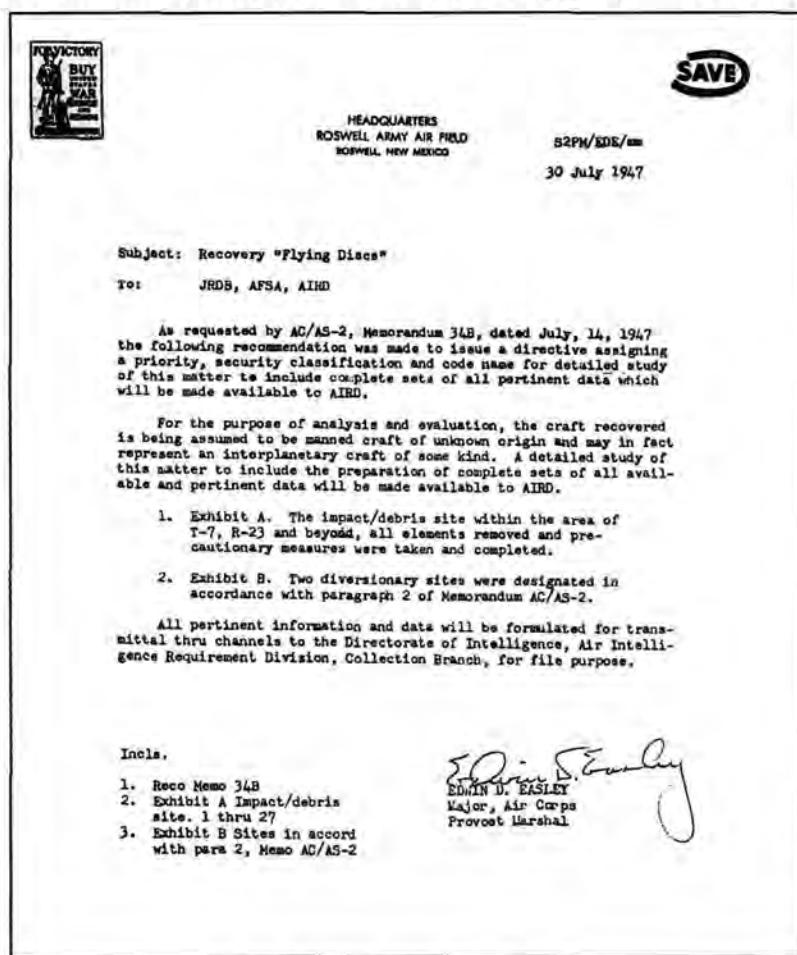


Fig. 2. Memo from Edwin Easley.

Although we did not find an original copy of this document, which was on older paper from the postwar era, we did find a copy, which is reproduced as Figure 2. Its contents, if true, are verification of the fact that a craft was recovered at Roswell. Note the graphic in the left-hand corner that asks people to buy war bonds. This type of graphic was used on stationery during the war and afterwards. The document contains no classification markings, which would violate standard document creation regulations.

Kaufmann had alluded to other documents about the recovery that he had in his possession. Figures 3 and 4 present two other documents (also photocopies) that we found in his records.

Figure 3 shows a memo, dated September 25, 1947, signed by the mysterious Robert Thomas, said to have been heavily involved in the recovery and cover-up. Thomas headed the "Group of Nine" who was in charge of events in the aftermath of the recovery. The names of these men are listed in this document, including that of Frank Kaufmann.

Figure 4 is a document dated two months earlier, even before the Easley document, which also lists the nine men and refers to some of the same identifiers (such as "723") as did the Thomas document. This document, signed by Major Lester Garrigues, states that, by order of Colonel Blanchard, the nine men are relieved from duty on the Project AIRD

723, which is the recovery of the craft at Roswell.

Only photocopies were located of these three documents, making it more difficult to check the authenticity directly. Major Edwin Easley is long dead, so he cannot be asked about the document bearing his signature. Major Robert Thomas has never been located, and Kaufmann did not cooperate in helping to find him, although he claimed to still be in touch.

The Roswell yearbook from 1947 lists no Lester Garrigues at the base, and no one by that name had been interviewed or mentioned in connection with Roswell. But Frank Kaufmann had other documents in his possession, at least one of which was signed by a Lester Garrigues. That document, dated March 7, 1947, concerned an efficiency-rating training conference that Kaufmann was to attend.

Since Lester Garrigues seemed to be a real person, I instituted a search for him via the usual resources on the Internet. Given his somewhat unusual last name, it took little time for me to find him living in a western state, happily retired with his wife. I called him, and despite his age, he has a lively manner, still travels extensively, and has even visited the museum in Roswell!

After I explained our investigation, he agreed to review the documents we had and to

HEADQUARTERS  
HQS 4TH ARMY AIR FIELD  
LODGEVILLE, NEW MEXICO

230.815

25 September 1947

SUBJECT: Purpose and Scope of Manual E723

1. In accordance with directive from the Directorate of Intelligence, Air Intelligence Division, Memorandum 33c dated 20 September 1947, the following military/civilian personnel will adhere to the duties and responsibilities as outlined in AIRD Manual E723.

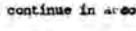
Frank J. Kauffman  
Dwight Fletcher  
Kenneth G. Wilbanks  
Robert Smith  
Donald D. Adair  
Richard J. Harris  
William Blankenship  
George Curson  
Austin Cary

2. Manual E723 is for your guidance. It contains information on procedures and documentation as defined in paragraph 3-27 in section E-11 of the manual.

- a. Clear up any misconceptions concerning E723.
- b. Importance of operation.
- c. E723 is assigned the highest security classification.
- d. It is recommended that paragraph 14-4 be initiated whenever possible to include:

- (1) Official denial
- (2) Discredit/discourage witnesses
- (3) Issue false statements to preserve the security of E723

3. Briefing sessions concerning E723 will continue in accordance with Memorandum 33c.

  
Robert J. Thomas  
Major, Air Corps

*Fig. 3. Memo from Robert Thomas.*

HEADQUARTERS  
ROSELL ALY AIR FIELD  
ROSELL NEW MEXICO

*Fig. 4. Memo from Lester Garrigues.*

Appointments and dates	Type and number of organization and location	Position and description of duties (Ind. type equipment and supplies. Supply houses where applicable)	Performance rating	Occupational code and title (AFR 405-12)
9 May 46-	427th AAF BU RAAF Roswell NM	By Pending		0001-Unclassified
19 Jun 46	Same	OIC Personnel Management (K.R.Baile Maj AC)	(67)	KRB 2120-Adm O
20 Jun 46	Same	Same		5.7
1 Jul 46	Same	(F.L.Andry Lt. Col.)		5.85 FLA 2120-Adm O
30 Sep 46	Same	Civilian Personnel O. (F.L.Andry Lt.Col.AC)	(67)	5.8 FLA 2202-Civ Pers O
1 Oct 46-	Same			
31 Dec 46				
1 Jan 47-	Same	Adjutant(Base) (P.Jennings Jr. Lt. Col. AC)	(67)	5.7 PJ 2110-Adj
22 Jun 47				
23 Jun 47-	467th AAF BU ORD, Sqd T-1 Hamilton Field, California	Awaiting assignment o/s		UNK WCB 0001-Unclassified
10 July 47				

*Fig. 5. Lester Garriques's military record.*

search his own military records. Not surprisingly, he has been intrigued by the Roswell story since he was once stationed at the base, so was completely cooperative.

Garrigues examined the documents I sent him, and then wrote a letter summarizing his evaluation. He mentioned that he did not recognize the picture I sent him of Frank Kaufmann from 1947, nor he did remember him, but was quick to add that he had forgotten many personnel with whom he served at Roswell from that time. Garrigues had this specifically to say about the document in question:

While there is no doubt that the signature appearing on your document is actually my signature, it is the validity of the document itself that is of concern to me.

As I had mentioned to you before, I was transferred from Roswell with my last duty day being June 2, 1947, and was then on leave and enroute to China where I was assigned as Personnel Advisor to the Chinese Air Force beginning July 11, 1947.

To bolster this claim, he sent copies of two documents, one of which is shown as Figure 5, proving that he was sent to Hamilton Field in California on June 23, 1947, for assignment, and that on July 11 he assumed his new duties in China. Garrigues was not in Roswell on July 25 and thus could not have signed the document that Kaufmann had in his files.

We are left with no conclusion but that Kaufmann fabricated the Garrigues document.

Did Kaufmann have the means to create false documents? He certainly had an original Garrigues signature, and he also had blank World War II-era stationery, like that used for the Easley document. In addition, my colleagues and I discovered that Kaufman owned two old typewriters, including an Underwood typewriter, which wasn't electric and appeared to be of World War II vintage. We typed a few characters with this machine and compared them to the text

*(continued on page 26)*

# THE 1946 GHOST ROCKET PHOTO

BY CLAS SVAHN

The summer of 1946 was to be an unusual summer in Sweden. All around the country, thousands of people reported sightings of unknown rocket-like objects that crossed the sky or fell into lakes. The reports had started to come in during the winter, but peaked during the summer. During four days in July, the Swedish Defense Ministry received 300 reports. On August 9 and 11, intense light phenomena were seen over Sweden by many people, and the wave reached its climax on these days. At the end of the summer, 997 reports had been registered by the military, but it is probable that the actual number of observations far exceeded that figure. Reports also occurred in Norway and Finland; by the end of the year, the Scandinavian countries had been hit by one of the largest UFO waves in history. The unknown objects were named "ghost rockets."

Despite being witnessed by thousands of people, the phenomenon was only captured on film once, by Erik Reuterswärd and his wife, who were on vacation at the time. Given the potential importance of this photograph, I decided to interview the Reuterswärs—the first interview by a UFO investigator—several years ago. (In 1946 there were no civilian UFO investigators or groups.) So in August 1986 I met Erik and Åsa Reuterswärd in their home in Uppsala, Sweden. The interview took place 40 years after the event, and is now published for the first time outside Sweden.

Tuesday, July 9, 1946, was a hot and pleasant summer day, and Erik and Åsa Reuterswärd were on vacation at Guldmedshyttan, in Örebro county west-northwest of Lindesberg, 200 kilometers (124 miles) west of Stockholm. At 2:30 p.m., right after having taken a swim in a nearby lake, the two of them climbed a forest watchtower, located near an old abandoned silver mine, to admire the view. The tower, which during World War II had been used for aerial reconnaissance, offered them a breathtaking view of the landscape. They could see for miles and miles.

"I remember the event very well," Reuterswärd said when we met 17 years ago. "We were out hiking peacefully and didn't think of any ghost rockets. We climbed the tower in order to photograph the view, and we were completely alone except for our one-year-old son. At the exact same moment as I pushed the shutter button, then right there it was, something mysterious in the sky which we both ob-

*Clas Svahn is a longtime UFO investigator and the chairman of UFO-Sweden.*



Erik and Åsa Reuterswärd. Photo by Clas Svahn.

served. I'm not able to remember exactly how it looked, but I know that it was a light which passed us. It looked rather special. We were both startled, and for a long time discussed what it could have been."

In his report to the Ministry of Defense's Air Defense department, dated July 11 and written at the vicarage at Guldmedshyttan, Erik Reuterswärd tells the story the following way: "We observed a sharp, greenish-white (neon-colored) gleam of light in [a] northwestern direction and in a 45-degree angle, which emerged suddenly and swiftly moved downwards perhaps five moon diameters; after which it disappeared. The disappearance occurred—in my opinion—with an explosion like a burst of flames, and I also thought I heard a hissing sound. We got the impression that it was a meteorite, though we've never seen one in daylight. The whole incident was over in a moment."

"We then went home," said Erik Reuterswärd later, "the vacation ended, and we sent the roll of film to be developed, and it then became clear that there was something on it. We had no idea that it had been caught on film until we got to see the copy." (In the interview that follows, "CS" is Clas Svahn and "ER" is Erik Reuterswärd.)

**CS:** How much time do you believe elapsed until you sent the film to be developed?

**ER:** It probably wasn't that long. After all, we were at Guldmedshyttan visiting relatives, and after that visit we probably went home to Stockholm and then we got the film developed. Later that summer we made another trip and I didn't have many vacation days in those days, so I guess it wasn't long. Yes indeed, I did have it developed before we



*Photo of "ghost rocket" taken July 9, 1946, near Guldsmedshyttan, Sweden, by Erik Reuterswärd. Enlargement shown at right. From UFO-Sweden's picture archive.*



went on that second trip. We sent the film away.

**CS:** So it was sheer accident that the light phenomenon ended up on your photograph?

**ER:** Sheer accident. At that time the newspapers had been saying that the Ministry of Defense was interested in hearing from people who had made observations. So I gave the film to the Ministry of Defense.

**CS:** What did they tell you when you handed in the film?

**ER:** They investigated the film and made copies of the picture. But they told me they were unable to locate any nucleus in it. Apparently, only the burst of light has been caught on it, as if there was an explosion at the same time. They discovered nothing and drew no real conclusions as far as I understand. It might have been a meteorite, it might have been a bomb. But I don't think they ever came to terms with what it really was.

After we handed in the picture we went on another trip, and that's when this whole thing was picked up by the newspapers. The Ministry of Defense was swarmed by the press and felt obligated to hand out the picture. At the time of my return, the picture had been published in numerous newspapers.

*The fact that the photography came to interest the Ministry of Defense isn't surprising. Despite numerous reports, interviews, and analysis of traces, the Ministry of Defense's secret group of investigators under Colonel Bengt Jacobsson had been unable to find any sort of evidence that could point to the identity of a possible intruder. The prime suspect was the Soviet Union, but definitive evidence didn't exist. The picture taken by Eric*

*Reuterswärd seemed to be the best piece so far in this mysterious jigsaw puzzle.*

**ER:** I had a very simple camera in those days. It was a small, old-fashioned model. There were no exquisite lenses on it at all. It had just one lens [and] I bought it as a schoolboy using my savings.

*It wasn't easy remembering all the details surrounding the instant of taking the picture when we met four decades after the event, but Reuterswärd believed the time of exposure was 1/50 of a second, a setting he normally used on that camera. And there was only one picture from the incident. After all, it traveled with an enormous speed. First there was that light, and after that there was nothing to see.*

**CS:** What did you think afterwards, after this had taken place?

**ER:** Well, there had been much writing in the newspapers about ghost rockets. So of course we discussed it. But it wasn't until we got the photograph that we had something to show. The Ministry of Defense inquired into sightings from a certain day and a certain time. And that coincided with what we had seen. And, as I said, we had something concrete to show. So we let them hear from us.

*What Erik Reuterswärd didn't know was that the Ministry literally had been swamped by reports of strange light phenomena in the sky at 2:30 p.m. on July 9. The reports came from all over central Sweden where the weather was nice and the visibility good. The many reports coming in from a very large area indicate that the object must have been rather high in the atmosphere.*

**ER:** I lived in Stockholm at that time, and I was at the Ministry of Defense talking to them. I met a very pleasant

officer who apologized, on behalf of the Ministry of Defense, for the extreme publicity the incident had resulted in, and furthermore informed me of my possibilities of receiving some sort of financial compensation from the newspapers.

*The officer was Major Nils Ahlgren, who in a letter to Erik Reuterswärd dated August 9 informed him that he had given the picture to the newspaper Morgontidningen, but without mentioning Reuterswärd's name. It's also likely to have been Ahlgren who conducted the interview with Mr. Reuterswärd when he arrived to hand in the photo.*

**ER:** There was never such a thing as a cross-examination. It was just plain talking. It was I who contacted them, and after I'd done that I did go over to them, I think. Then my wife and I went away, as I said, and when we returned we saw that we've received a letter from them telling us they'd made it all public. And after that, then we [Reuterswärd and Ahlgren] had that conversation.

*The picture was a great mystery for the military. In a few attempts to find an explanation, Major Dahlgren wrote to the head of the shooting range at AB Bofors, a major Swedish exporter of weapons. Could it have been a rocket launch by Bofors? The answer was no: No launches had been made at the time of the sighting. But the affair was of a sensitive nature, and Major Ahlgren, who in his letter to Bofors had requested that the matter be considered classified, had later turned to professor Bertil Lindblad at Stockholm Observatory. But his answer was ambiguous: "However, judging from the photograph and the visual sightings, one cannot definitely rule out the possibility that what we have here is a meteor." In an attachment to the letter, professor Lindblad presented an idea for a "V-bomb spectrograph," a surveillance camera that could differentiate meteors and rocket bombs by analyzing their spectra.*

Erik's wife Åsa also remembers the incident well. This is what she said during our meeting:

**AR:** We were out hiking in the forest when we reached that forest watchtower and climbed it to watch the view, as simple as that. And then it's tradition to take a picture of a beautiful view. We're not professional photographers or anything, it was very amateurish. There we stood at a wooden rail which went all around the edges, aiming the camera northwest, I believe. It must have been pretty early in the day. Anyway, we stood there watching, my husband snaps a picture, and we say, "Wow, what was that?" There was a light of some sorts. I can still see it. Obviously, I might be influenced by the picture and what I saw in the newspaper, but it was like a comet with a small tail which came and went very quickly.

**CS:** What happened when you came back home?

**AR:** It was around the same time as when the newspapers said that something had happened that day and that they wanted to get in touch with people who had witnessed something. We realized that not only had we seen something, we had also been able to photograph it.

**CS:** You're not mentioning anything about the fact that

you had taken a picture in the letter your husband wrote to the Ministry of Defense.

**AR:** Does he only mention that we've just seen something and not the picture in that letter? Oh well, in that case I guess that the request to the public to report strange sightings hadn't been made yet, and when it did we didn't know whether or not anything had been caught on film since we hadn't had it developed yet. Thanks to the request, our attention was caught. Otherwise we'd never have bothered looking at the photograph. It wasn't very noticeable.

**CS:** And then the picture was sent to Swedish newspapers.

**AR:** Yes, and that's pretty stupid. We weren't that great photographers. But of course we thought it was pretty funny. The picture even made the cover on one newspaper. We were happy for the packet [money] we pulled in. It wasn't very much, 50 kronor (\$5 U.S.) or so. But it was a lot of money in those days.

## ANALYSIS

Erik Reuterswärd has passed on, and his suspicion that the object was in fact a meteor and no ghost rocket—a hypothesis he put forward during our conversation—is very likely to be true. For example, we have this statement from Bertil Lindblad, associate professor at Lunds University and one of the world's leading experts on meteors and bolides/fireballs: "There is no doubt whatsoever that Mr. Reuterswärd's picture shows a daylight fireball. What is remarkable, however, is that the trajectory is vertical and not horizontal as most fireballs show. Just a few hit the Earth's atmosphere at this steep angle. Since video cameras have become more and more common, there are a few videos [of] fireballs but actual pictures, such as Mr. Reuterswärd's, are very uncommon. As far as I know there are only 20–25 such photographs [from] all over the world."

Reuterswärd's picture lives on as a memorial of a year when the people of Sweden, Norway, and Finland looked to the skies hoping to catch a glimpse of the strange ghost rockets. It is also the only picture taken during the wave.

The military archives show that the main part of the reports filed were of meteors spotted at night or evenings. But that also leaves us with reports of cigar-shaped and missile-like objects, presumably made of metal, which cruised through the skies in the summer of 1946. Even if the ghost rockets were never identified, the Ministry of Defense never doubted that there really had been intrusions over the Swedish border. Late in 1946, in a report to the supreme military commander, a special ghost-rocket committee drew the following conclusion: "There is no doubt that foreign experiments with jet-propelled or rocket weapons have been going on over Sweden."

It was suspected that these weapons belonged to a new generation of military systems: "The projectiles are steerable, either by autopilot, and then with a preset trajectory, or

(continued on page 23)

# HARVARD'S REVENGE?

## ABDUCTION REPORTS AND FALSE MEMORY

BY STUART APPELLE

**U**fologists have had a hard time convincing the general academic community to take seriously the subject of UFOs. The alien abduction phenomenon has met even greater resistance. Therefore, when Harvard Medical School psychiatrist John Mack wrote a book on the subject,<sup>1</sup> its publication was welcomed by ufologists with guarded optimism. Coming from a faculty member at one of the most prestigious bastions of higher education, the book was seen as a potential watershed event in the effort to earn academia's approbation.

Instead, academics were generally indifferent to or bemused by the energy and passion with which this esteemed Harvard professor approached his study of abduction experiencers and their stories. But nowhere were Mack's efforts less welcomed than at his own institution. His conclusion that the phenomenon is of great significance to mankind did not sit well with his colleagues, who formed a committee to (ostensibly) examine the appropriateness of his research methods and his treatment of the experiencers with whom he worked.<sup>2</sup>

Now, another group of Harvard faculty (from the Medical School and Psychology Department) has weighed in on the topic of abductions, concluding that abduction reports are the product of experiencers' confabulations.<sup>3</sup> This time around, Harvard seems much happier with the result, highlighting the research in the *Harvard University Gazette* and featuring it on the university's Web page ([www.harvard.edu](http://www.harvard.edu)).<sup>4</sup>

The study stems from its authors' interest in the debate over recovered memory. Advocates for recovered memory claim that traumatic experiences can be repressed (or otherwise dissociated from conscious awareness), only to be accurately retrieved at a later date—especially through therapies or other interventions specifically designed for that purpose. Alternatively, its detractors ascribe such recall to "false memory," a process by which imaginative productions are created through the very retrieval practices designed to recover accurate memory, and then falsely attributed to recollection of actual historical events.

*Stuart Appelle is professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Brockport. He is a member of the CUFOS board and edits the Journal of UFO Studies.*

One laboratory procedure for testing accuracy of memory is the False Recognition Test (FRT). In this measurement, subjects are asked to study a list of semantically associated words, then presented with another list containing both words from the first list and similar theme words (semantic associates) not used in the original presentation. Subjects are asked to report which words they recognize (remember) from the original list. Although error (false recognition) is common, individuals vary in their susceptibility.

In a previous experiment,<sup>5</sup> the Harvard group showed that FRT performance for women reporting recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse was more error prone than that for women who believed they had been abused but had no memories of the abuse, sexually abused women who had always remembered the abuse, and women with no history of abuse. The researchers were careful to acknowledge that their finding is correlational—and cannot be used to conclude that recovered memories of childhood sexual abuse are actually false. But they suggest that their results "are consistent with [this] hypothesis."

A better test for associating false word recognition in the laboratory with real-world false memory of trauma is to measure FRT for individuals whose recovered memories are *known* to be false. This, however, is a difficult proposition, for in most cases the falseness of a recovered memory cannot be conclusively documented. Accordingly, the Harvard research team did what they regarded as the next best thing. They studied alien abduction experiencers (volunteers who responded to newspaper notices soliciting such individuals for participation in a memory study) as representative of "people . . . who report recovered memories of traumatic events that seem unlikely to have occurred."

Writing in the highly refereed *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, the investigators report that this experiencer group, as well as a second group of individuals who only suspected that they had been abducted (i.e., who had no actual memory of such an event) were indeed more error prone on the FRT than a group of controls. The experiencer group also scored higher on some personality measures associated with imagination and suggestibility. The researchers argue that these outcomes are consistent with the position that alien abduction experiences are false memories (stemming, they suggest, from exposure to abduction

materials that experiencers read about or see in everyday life, and/or the dynamics of the memory recovery procedures in which they engage).

The authors acknowledge that their study has limitations, specifically a small sample size and no screening for additional traumatic histories (beyond the reported abductions). However, there exist more troublesome limitations. Most critically, it is not known that false recognition of semantically associated words is a valid predictor of false traumatic memory. Indeed, acknowledgment of this fact was the research teams' motivation for doing the abduction study. As they point out, a relationship between FRT and recovered traumatic memory can be the result of either experiencers' "[1] susceptibility to memory distortion [as] a function of cognitive impairments related to [actual] abuse or [2] a function of cognitive characteristics rendering them susceptible to developing false memories [of abuse]."

The researchers argue that by assuming abduction memories as false, they can distinguish between these two explanations. But if the veridicality of abduction reports is considered an open question—as a more conservative approach to scientific methodology would dictate—then the study cannot in fact distinguish between these alternatives. As such, the validity of FRT as a measure of false traumatic memory (for abduction accounts or otherwise) is the authors' speculation, not a finding inherent in the data they report.

Another major limitation is that the tested subject population is representative of only a subgroup of those whose stories make up the abduction literature. As described in the article, "all participants [my emphasis] . . . began to suspect they had been abducted after a sleep episode characterized by awakening, full body paralysis, intense fear, and a feeling of a presence." The authors refer to this pattern as "an apparent episode of sleep paralysis," which they further characterize as the modal pattern found in abduction accounts.

However, those familiar with the abduction literature know that abductions are reported to take place in a variety of contexts. For example, the extensive analyses of Bullard<sup>6</sup> indicate that abduction reports from the period prior to 1987 involve twice as many vehicular abductions as those from the bedroom (in total, only one-fourth of all reported experiences took place in the bedroom) and more recent accounts show about an equal split between bedroom and outdoor abduction settings. So while the sleep-paralysis descriptions associated with bedroom encounters are common, they fail to represent a large proportion of (if not most) existing accounts.

The authors further indicate that "none of the participants . . . reported continuous memories of alien abduction"; their memories arose only through hypnosis, or through exposure to books, media, etc. Yet many experiencers report memory for aspects of an abduction without any period of "missing time," or spontaneously following such a period.<sup>7</sup> Again, the subject population in the study repre-

sents only a subset of all those reporting alien abduction.

Students of the phenomenon will have other objections to the study's conclusions, most of which will reflect its failure to consider the broad literature that addresses the numerous theories for abduction reports.<sup>8</sup> Out of the 50 publications cited in the article, only five allude to works specifically focused on abduction, and three of these are the popularized accounts by Hopkins, Mack, and Strieber. As a consequence, the variety of abduction settings, their extreme consistency in content and event sequence, the similarity across investigators and modes of memory recovery (both with and without hypnosis), the dissimilarities between sleep paralysis experiences and abduction experiences, and other aspects of the research literature germane to the assumption that bedroom encounters are false memories, were not discussed. It is unclear whether the authors were not aware of the extant literature, did not consider it relevant to their research, or chose not to cite it for other reasons. In any case, even if their hypothesized connection between sleep paralysis and imagined abduction is true, it is difficult to see how this can provide a complete explanation for the phenomenon. It is regrettable that consideration of the broader problems associated with understanding abduction reports was ignored.

These reservations notwithstanding, the study demonstrates a correlation between scores on a standard measure of false memory, and at least one type of reported abduction. Whatever interpretation ultimately explains this finding, the result must be considered along with all other findings about abduction reports.

Moreover, the study should be appreciated as one of the rare occasions when researchers from a major university have given the phenomenon the attention many ufologists endorse. Unfortunately, it may have for them an unwanted effect. As one newspaper columnist has noted, the most sure-fire way for someone "to rattle established authority and intellectual complacency" is to "be very well-educated, professionally accomplished and a . . . professor at some prestigious university with an international reputation for excellence in research."<sup>9</sup> That characterization was in reference to John Mack, but it describes Harvard's new investigators as well. By design or by accident, has Harvard thus extracted its revenge, and helped reconfirm the roles of "established authority and intellectual complacency" in setting the standards by which abduction reports are to be judged?

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(continued on page 26)

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## **KAUFMANN, WITNESS—*continued from page 8***

thing to the Roswell Army Air Field for transport to various locations for study. Experts in camouflage were brought in to put the ground back to the way it was before the ship crashed.

He said that the bodies had been taken to one of the hangars at the base. They were put into large boxes and flown out of Roswell. According to Kaufmann, the bodies were on two separate flights in case of an aircraft accident. One plane flew directly to Wright Field, but the other was diverted to Washington, D.C., so that high-ranking members of the administration and the military would have a chance to see the creatures. Then those bodies were sent on to Wright Field. There was nothing in this scenario that seemed unlikely or could be disproved.

Kaufmann said that he and the other eight members of this exclusive team were kept informed about the status of the investigation, even after they had left military service. There were periodic meetings and briefings. Kaufmann suggested that it was to keep them informed (though rarely, in my experience, is it deemed necessary to keep a person briefed after he has left the service).

This was a wonderful tale because it provided an eyewitness not only to the craft, but to the bodies and the effort in hiding the information from the public. It provided some clues about the cover-up that was put into place, and it was not such a wild tale—considering what we were investigating—that we could reject it out of hand.

We did determine that Kaufmann had been a member of the military and stationed at Walker Army Air Field (the base at Roswell) until 1945. He was discharged in that year, but continued on at the base in a civilian capacity (then continued to live there after leaving government service). So he was certainly at Roswell in 1947 when the crash occurred, and thus could have been involved as he claimed.

### **MEETING WITH KAUFMANN**

Kaufmann was always happy to hear from us whenever we managed to get into Roswell. We'd all go to breakfast, usually at the Roswell Inn, where Frank would order ham and eggs and then spice them up with Tabasco sauce. During those meetings he would fill in details, telling us of his military career, which, according to him, had not followed normal paths. Those sessions sometimes lasted two or three hours while Frank spun his tales and we tried to remember everything that he said. He always picked up the check, claiming that someone else paid for it. The implication was that the government was watching and Frank was just doing his job. He'd be reimbursed for anything he spent.

He talked as if he had been friends with Colonel Blanchard (the commander of the 509th), had known Werner von Braun and Charles Lindbergh personally, and had been a friend to some of New Mexico's more famous residents. He didn't like the Barney Barnett story and asked questions

about how something could have gotten over to the Plains of San Agustin. He didn't like aspects of the Jesse Marcel story, complaining that the military wouldn't have left the intelligence officer out of the investigation at the impact site, and that Marcel would not have taken classified materials (bits of debris) home. He argued that Marcel knew better than that.

Frank seemed to speak from a position of personal knowledge. He didn't retreat into weasel words or hedge an answer. He was bold and confident in what he said and looked you right in the eye as he told his story.

He also said they had created fake crash sites far from the real crash sites to mislead anyone who got near to the real ones or the real story. Haut's press release, according to Kaufmann, was created to tell the story of a flying saucer crash and then sink it as General Ramey displayed the balloon supposedly responsible. Frank grinned as he told us how clever he and those with him had been.

Although Frank never said it directly to me, Kaufmann indicated once to Don Schmitt that he had been a colonel. To me, Frank always said that he had been a master sergeant. He was very careful to make it clear that he had never had a higher rank than master sergeant, maybe because of my military background.

Although he sometimes hinted that he might have been an officer, Kaufmann was careful about what he said along those lines. He said that he had been assigned to personnel, but that his role went far beyond that. He suggested that he operated under special orders and that while he did some nominal administrative duties to keep up appearances, he had been involved in some kind of counterintelligence mission. He talked of Soviet spies in southern New Mexico and the importance of the Norden bombsight that helped win the Second World War. He'd had a role in guarding that from spies too.

And, when we pressed into an area that Frank wanted to avoid, he often answered with, "Well, I don't know." Usually, as the conversation continued, he would drop an answer to that question into the discussion. I only saw him angry once, and that was when I pointed out a discrepancy in what he was telling us, and what he had said earlier. It really wasn't much of an inconsistency and had to do with an estimate of the distance to the impact site. Once he finally agreed to take us out there, the discrepancy seemed irrelevant.

Kaufmann also supplied a date and time for the crash. He said that the thing fell at 11:17 p.m. on July 4. The military, aware that the object was down, found it quickly and established a cordon. This appeared to be corroborated by William Woody, who told us that he had seen it fall and that he and his father had tried to find the crash site around that same date. Kaufmann's story provided a time line that seemed to closely fit the events as outlined by Woody.

Kaufmann told us that both Werner von Braun and Charles Lindbergh had been told about Roswell. The story of Kaufmann talking to von Braun about Roswell seemed to

be pushing the envelope too much, but Kaufmann did present documentation that von Braun had been in Roswell during the dedication of the Goddard Rocket and Space Museum in 1975. Kaufmann, by that time an executive of the Chamber of Commerce, had the opportunity to meet von Braun, so the story of him discussing the crash with von Braun could have been true. It seemed unlikely, but it was possible because the documentation put the two in the same building at the same time.

And Lindbergh, because of who he was, had been in Roswell on a number of occasions, so it was also possible that he had been told. In fact, in 1947 Lindbergh had been given the task of inspecting the Air Force's strategic bombing capability, which would have taken him into Roswell with a security clearance. There were a number of documents to prove that Lindbergh had been to Roswell more than once. Kaufmann always had just enough truth in his details to make them sound plausible.

## INVESTIGATING KAUFMANN

Kaufmann's testimony was challenged almost from the moment it was first reported. Politics inside the UFO field seemed to demand that Kaufmann be rejected. If what he said was true, then certain other events could not be. Little things in his story were magnified with the suggestion that his testimony could not be trusted. He had said, for example, that radars at Roswell had tracked the object, but no one could confirm any radar capability at Roswell in July 1947. Yes, in August, a ground-control-approach radar was put in, and there are hints of a mobile SCR-584 radar, but nothing definitive. If there was no radar, then where did Kaufmann's tale of watching the thing explode on radar originate? Of course, Kaufmann never really said that he had watched all this from Roswell; it was just assumed. And, given the nature of some of the mobile radar sets, it was not impossible that one had been sent to Roswell to monitor the object. It's just that no documentation has surfaced to prove it.

Our investigation revealed few flaws but provided some interesting corroboration to Kaufmann's tales. He had mentioned that Martin Scanlon had a role in running the retrieval operation. Scanlon was a real general, who in 1947 was a colonel in public affairs on Long Island, New York. It seemed unlikely that such a man would have had a role in the Roswell case.

But, as has happened in similar circumstances, Scanlon wasn't quite who he seemed. Research showed that he had been air attaché to London in the late 1930s, with the assignment of learning all he could about Hitler's attempts to rebuild the German Air Force. Scanlon was eventually recalled by Hap Arnold, who was in the process of creating the U.S. Air Force. Arnold wanted Scanlon to build Air Force intelligence. In other words, Scanlon seemed like the man with the experience who would be called in to handle this strange circumstance in Roswell. Of all the generals Kaufmann could have named, he picked the one who had a

long and little-known history in Air Force intelligence.

Kaufmann had always said that when the time came, he had the documentation to prove what he said. Over the years he had shown us some of these documents, such as his "left-handed" sketchbook that had drawings of the craft and the alien creatures. To my admittedly unskilled eyes, it seemed that the sketches were old, something that had been done long ago, rather than something created days earlier to fool us. Don Schmitt suggested that he, as a commercial artist, could tell that the pencil sketches were old. He said that he could tell because of the way the lines were drawn on the paper, and that over a period of years, those lines would soften slightly. I had no reason to disbelieve Schmitt or Kaufmann.

It seemed that every time we began to doubt, or ask difficult questions, Kaufmann would provide another little bit of documentation along with broad hints that he had much more. He said, repeatedly, that when the time came he had the documents to prove what he said.

There were other good reasons to accept Kaufmann's stories as authentic. He provided details that seemed to dovetail nicely with other testimony. Brigadier General Arthur Exxon, who in the 1960s would be the base commander at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, told us in separate interviews that he had flown over two distinct sites. Exxon provided a geographic orientation for them that matched, generally, the one provided by Kaufmann.

Kaufmann suggested the date of the crash was July 4, moving it from the generally accepted July 2. But that change made sense when the testimony of William Woody and one of the Roswell military policemen was considered. Woody had said that he and his father had seen the craft (actually a flaming object) falling. Later, they had gone out in search of it, only to be turned back by the military cordon. If we accepted the conventional wisdom, it meant they saw the object on a Wednesday and waited until the following Tuesday to look for it. If we used Kaufmann's tales, then they saw the object on a Friday and went in search of it either the next morning, a Saturday, or the day following, a Sunday. Frankly, that made more sense.

And with the cordon going up on Saturday, July 5, rather than Tuesday, July 8, the story told by the MP fit better. He told me that he had seen nothing himself, but that his fellows had returned, talking quietly about a flying saucer. He didn't believe them until he read about it in the newspaper. This timing suggested that Kaufmann's story had the ring of authenticity to it.

These little things, which Kaufmann could not have known that we learned, suggested he was telling us the truth. It wasn't as if his story was out there by itself.

He also showed, and eventually gave us, copies of some documents. These included a brief report containing drawings of the craft, the aliens, and a few sections that had been blacked out. The paper, or rather the letterhead, was from the proper era. It included sections to promote the buying of war bonds. Interestingly, a letter written by then Lieutenant

General Nathan F. Twining dated September 23, 1947, included these same little markings. This suggested that if Kaufmann was inventing his tale, he was going to some trouble to find the proper stationery.

Kaufmann also had a letter from Major Edwin Easley that, if authenticated, would end the debate. It, and a few others he claimed to have, comprised the "smoking gun" documentation for which everyone searched. Dated July 30, 1947, the Easley letter has the subject line, "Recovery, 'Flying Discs'." The text read, in part, ". . . the craft recovered is being assumed to be manned craft of unknown origin and may in fact represent an interplanetary craft . . ." That answered all the questions and would effectively end the debate. The problem, of course, was that Kaufmann would show the letter, but he would not allow anyone a copy so that it could not be authenticated.

That sums up the Kaufmann enigma. There are aspects of his story that seem to prove his veracity. There are intimations he was telling the overall truth but that he might have placed himself into the story in a role of greater importance than he actually had in 1947. There was no one

to contradict him or who could claim inside knowledge. Challenges from the outside seemed born more of politics inside the UFO field than investigative analysis.

In the December 2001 issue of *Fate* magazine I wrote an article on the testimony of Frank Kaufmann. I suggested at that time that questions had arisen about him, but there seemed no definitive answers. There was some corroboration for his testimony, but nothing that would prove him accurate. There were also many attacks against his testimony suggesting that it should be rejected, but the final answer didn't exist.

Or so it seemed. Kaufmann died in February 2001 without ever having been proved a liar and a fraud. He left unanswered questions for everyone interested in the Roswell case. But these sorts of investigations are never really ended. There is always something else to be learned and other directions to be taken. Sometimes opportunities to learn more are provided, so that our questions can be answered, and such is the case with the Frank Kaufmann story. ♦

## The Roswell Debris Field: An Engineer's Perspective

Robert Galganski has written several articles in *IUR* about his investigation of and research into the Roswell debris field. His investigations have been conducted from his unique viewpoint as an engineer (few engineers have been seriously involved in UFO research).

Galganski's main contribution to the debris field controversy has been to study the matter quantitatively. Thus, he has calculated the amount of debris from Mogul Flight 4, the purported source of the Roswell debris, and determined whether the material from the flight would have been sufficient to cover the debris field as described by eyewitnesses, including those supported by skeptics. He has created a mathematical model of the debris field, based on Jesse Marcel's testimony, to conduct "what-if" analyses.

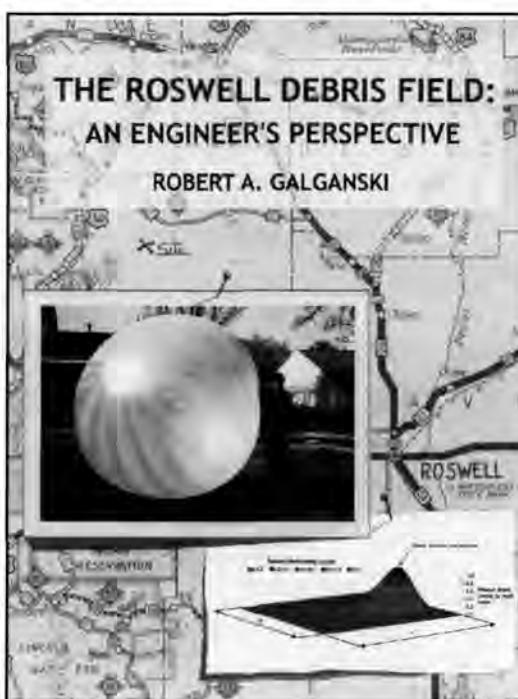
All of these investigations demonstrated that, as he writes, "my analysis provided compelling support to existing arguments that dismissed the Flight 4 explanation for the Marcel debris field." As an example of how much the Flight 4 explanation misses the mark, Galganski calculated that 40 Flight 4 balloon trains would

have been required to provide enough material to lightly litter the area as described by Marcel.

Galganski has now placed all his work in one 79-page monograph, published by the Fund for UFO Research.

Entitled *The Roswell Debris Field: An Engineer's Perspective*, it contains the complete account and details of this work on the debris field. As a bonus, included are appendices recounting his investigation of the strength of balsa wood sticks that had been coated with glue, thus allegedly, according to Mogul proponents, making them quite strong (they aren't); and Robert Pratt's interview from 1979 with Jesse Marcel, the most complete interview on record with this primary military witness.

If you want your library on Roswell to be complete, we recommend purchasing this book, which is a wonderful example of how science and engineering can be applied to the UFO phenomenon, even an old case such as Roswell that has been extensively investigated. The report costs



\$18.00 and is available from either the Fund at P.O. Box 277, Mount Rainier, MD 20712, or from Arcturus Books, 1443 S.E. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952.

# THE U-2 SPY PLANE AND BLUE BOOK: ANOTHER LOOK

BY MARK RODEGHIER

In 1997 a report on the CIA's role in the study of UFOs gained unusual press attention for the UFO subject. The study was commissioned by then CIA Director R. James Woolsey, who ordered a review of all CIA files on UFOs. Gerald K. Haines, a government historian (now the CIA's chief historian), reviewed the documents and other information, then wrote the report. Although originally classified, it was soon published in the quarterly journal *Studies in Intelligence* (available at [www.fas.org/sgp/library/ciaufo.html](http://www.fas.org/sgp/library/ciaufo.html)). I dissected the claims of the report in an article in *IUR* that year ("The CIA's UFO History," Fall 1997, pp. 3-6, 36; it's also available on the CUFOS Web site at [www.cufos.org/IUR\\_article3.html](http://www.cufos.org/IUR_article3.html)).

The media focused on two topics in their coverage of the report. For our purposes, the key one is Haines's claim that many UFO sightings in the late 1950s and 1960s reported to Project Blue Book were actually misidentified secret American spy planes (first the U-2 and then the SR-71 Blackbird). This assertion was outrageous enough, but he went on to allege that the Air Force's Project Blue Book covered up these sightings and purposely misled the public, making up phony explanations for sightings of these spy planes. Haines wrote, "According to later estimates from CIA officials who worked on the U-2 project and the OXCART (SR-71, or Blackbird) project, over half of all UFO reports . . . were accounted for by manned reconnaissance flights." Further he notes, "They [the Blue Book investigators] were careful, however, not to reveal the true cause of the sighting to the public."

The media swallowed these claims whole, as they have typically done with previous U.S. government statements about UFOs. No one bothered to think about the absurdity of attributing *half* of all UFO reports to misidentified spy planes. A moment's reflection (why do I believe that few in the press take that moment?) would remind anyone that there are many sources of identified UFO reports (IFOs), including stars, planes, normal aircraft, balloons, and odd weather phenomena, to name just the most common. Given all these, spy planes could never account for half of the IFOs.

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I was satisfied by simple logic, but to nail the coffin shut, I decided to contact Lt. Col. (Ret.) Robert Friend, who was the head of Blue Book from about 1958 to early 1963. This was exactly in the period that Haines was asserting the Blue Book staff covered-up the U-2 sightings. As I expected, Friend disavowed any such policy during his tenure at Blue Book. He said it was "absolutely not true" that he or his Blue Book team were covering up spy flights. Since Friend did admit to me, upon questioning, that he had on a few occasions concealed classified activities that were reported as UFOs, I saw no reason to doubt his truthfulness about how spy plane reports would have been handled.

Friend's statements were all the evidence anyone should require to dispose of Haines's claims, and except for a good chuckle now and then around the CUFOS office, I put the matter aside. But I decided to write this brief article because of some recent discoveries by Frank John Reid, CUFOS resident historian and files researcher extraordinaire.

Reid often looks at the case files when responding to requests CUFOS receives for copies of various UFO documents. While examining Blue Book files from the late 1950s and early 1960s (we have hard copies of many of the case files), he found two reports of U.S. spy planes that *were identified as such* in the file. No cover-up, no obvious bogus identification to mislead the public, just a straightforward statement that the sighting could be identified as a military aircraft.

Figure 1 is a reproduction of the record card for the sighting from December 10, 1956, in Victoria, Texas. Every Blue Book report was given a record card, which was a brief summary of the key sighting details plus the conclusion (explanation) of the Blue Book staff. A U.S. Air Force pilot saw a "silver object with straigh[t] wing" for 15 minutes in the afternoon (2000 Zulu is 8:00 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time, or 2:00 p.m. in Texas). The pilot's description is a dead-ringer for the U-2, which was an extremely secret aircraft in December 1956.

Although the U-2 was secret, this didn't prevent the Blue Book staff from concluding that the pilot saw an aircraft, which was believed "to be USAF reconnaissance type on experimental test mission." Although the word "secret" wasn't added to this comment, it wasn't necessary.

Any USAF reconnaissance aircraft that was still experimental was clearly top secret. Yet the Blue Book staff had no qualms about making this identification in their records. So much for the claims of Gerald Haines.

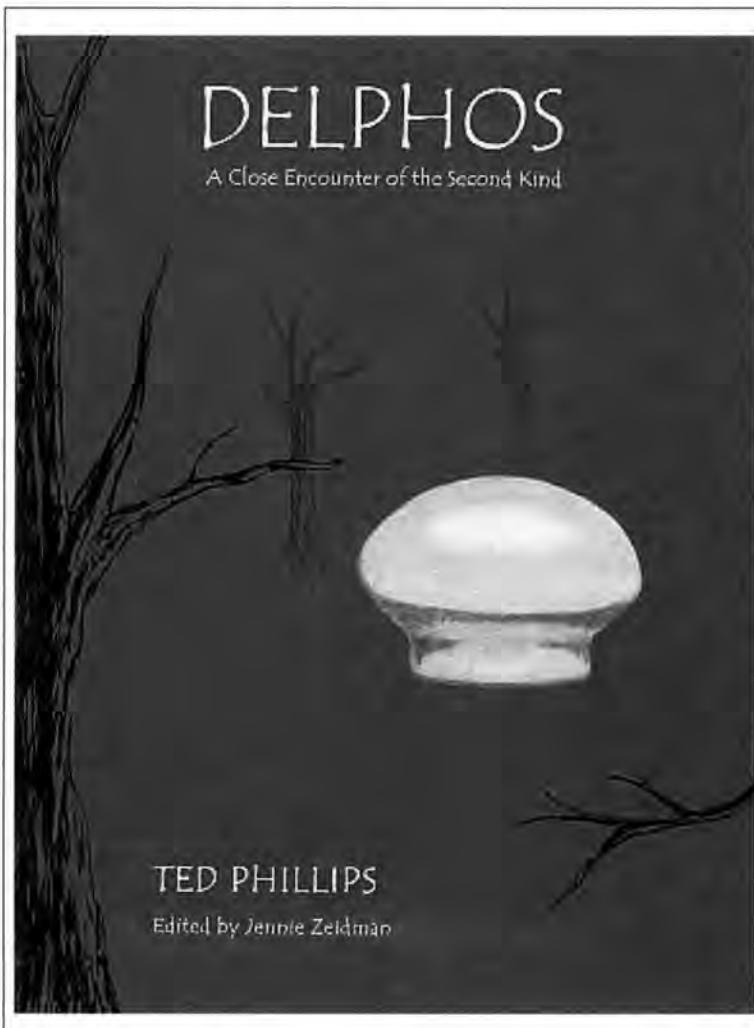
To demonstrate that this wasn't a fluke, Reid found another sighting, this time plainly identified as a U-2. On June 3, 1961, a civilian weather observer saw an object through a theodolite from the Mercury Test Site in Nevada. It remained in sight for over two hours, and he estimated the altitude at 80,000 to 120,000 feet. Although the observer couldn't estimate a size or shape because of the great distance, this didn't prevent the Blue Book staff from again identifying this as "Probably aircraft." They commented, "The object was probably an a/c [aircraft] of the U-2 type. U-2 flights are known to take place from Nellis AFB, Nevada and the flight characteristics and altitude support this conclusion." (By 1961, the U-2 was public knowledge because one had been shot down over the Soviet Union.)

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <b>10 December 1958</b>	2. LOCATION <b>Victoria, Texas</b>	12. CONCLUSIONS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <b>10/2000Z</b>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE <b>USAF Pilot</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <b>15 minutes</b>	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <b>one</b>	9. COURSE <b>E to N</b>
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING <b>Silver object with straight wing, having engine rods or large wing pods intakes observed between 56,000-62,000 feet. Small contrail, estimated speed Mach 85.</b>	11. COMMENTS <b>Object was definitely aircraft. Believed to be USAF reconnaissance type on experimental test mission.</b>	

Fig. 1. Project Blue Book case that probably involved a U-2 spy plane.

This sighting, which took place during Lt. Col. Friend's tenure at Blue Book, would have been easy to pass off as a weather balloon and so avoid having to identify it as a U-2. Blue Book investigators concocted far more ludicrous ex-



The special monograph *Delphos: A Close Encounter of the Second Kind* has recently been published by the UFO Coalition and is available through CUFOS. The Delphos, Kansas, physical trace case from 1971 is one of the most important in UFO history, and is probably the most extensively studied U.S. trace case. The newest analytical techniques were used to examine existing soil samples from the case, extending the earlier analyses. This summary report describes the incident, providing for the first time the complete chronology of the reported events, the witness testimony, the extensive investigation by Ted Phillips, and the extensive analysis done by several labs. The Delphos case offers a strong rebuttal to doubters who maintain that scientific investigation of UFOs is impossible because there is nothing to investigate.

The monograph can be purchased for \$20.00, including postage (U.S. orders). For foreign orders by surface mail, add \$4.00. For airmail, inquire for cost to [infocenter@cufos.org](mailto:infocenter@cufos.org). Send orders to:

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Chicago, IL 60659

planations than a balloon would have been for this sighting. But they forthrightly identified it for what it undoubtedly was, a U-2.

Although Reid found these two sightings identified as a U-2 in the Project Blue Book case files, there can only be a few other such reports, if any, given how closely we have looked at the Blue Book files over the years. Thus, if Blue Book staff were willing to openly identify sightings as reconnaissance aircraft but only a handful of such cases appear in the files, what does this tell us about the claims that half of the Blue Book reports were caused by such aircraft? Not U-2, but B.S. ♦

### THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

Organized ufology has seen better days—far better days. Just under a decade ago, MUFON's membership peaked. Meanwhile, CUFOS had the funds to publish the *Journal of UFO Studies* on a regular basis and still support other research projects, albeit modestly.

Nowadays, MUFON's membership has dropped by 40%, and the number of CUFOS associates has taken a similar plunge. This same trend has occurred worldwide, with some exceptions, since the mid-1990s.

Those of us charged with managing the affairs of UFO organizations have our theories and suspicions about why this has occurred, revolving around the Internet, cable TV programs on the subject, the lack of support for many small nonprofits (not just those concerned with exotic topics), and the dearth of interesting sightings with physical evidence (though this has been true since the 1980s).

But whatever our theories, we have seen our cash reserves, never great, dwindle relentlessly in the past few years. By the fall of 2002, CUFOS was in such a financial state that the board was seriously considering what to do if we did not have sufficient funds to continue operating. At the time, we put out a notice to our longtime supporters, plus others who read and subscribe to some of the leading UFO e-mail lists, for help in this semi-crisis.

The UFO community and CUFOS associates were very generous in responding to the news, and our operating funds have increased significantly since September (although in the thousands, not tens of thousands, of dollars). On behalf of everyone connected with CUFOS, and especially the board and officers, I want to thank all who gave a contribution after they heard about our plight. Your support is very much appreciated, and goes entirely to keeping the office running, maintaining and expanding the files, and doing the work that Allen Hynek envisioned almost 30 years ago (those who have visited our office know the money doesn't go to comfy chairs or creature comforts).

Readers of *IUR* can contribute to our survival by renewing their associate status and telling others about UFOs and CUFOS, when the opportunity arises.

—Mark Rodeghier

### GWU's SciFi UFO SYMPOSIUM

The Science Fiction cable channel sponsored a symposium on "Interstellar Travel and Unidentified Aerial Phenomena: Science Fiction or Science Fact?" November 8, 2002, at George Washington University. Unfortunately, the audience was sparse and only a handful of news media showed up, according to attendee Richard Hall, who contributed most of this review.

Richard Henry, professor of astrophysics at Johns Hopkins University, questioned the adequacy of the scientific method to deal with a subject like this, illustrating how easy it is for scientists to debunk the subject strictly on theoretical grounds without studying any actual data. However, this approach could easily be wrong; therefore, UFO reports deserve careful study, he said.

Michio Kaku, professor of theoretical physics at the City University of New York, spoke entertainingly about his research on worm holes and string theory. "Aliens," he said, "may be here now, in another dimension, a millimeter away from our own," but he warned that we might be merely an anthill on the route of their superhighway.

Bernard Haisch, director of the California Institute for Physics and Astrophysics, also suggested theoretical ways around space travel limitations imposed by the vast distances in the universe. Further, he examined the issue of potential government cover-ups and the classification systems used in the intelligence community, with some useful facts and history about Special Access Projects.

Jacques Vallee, a computer scientist working in the private sector, argued that today's science can study UFOs in many ways and that the UFO phenomenon is a chance to advance knowledge.

John Callahan, former FAA Division Chief of Accidents and Investigations, talked entertainingly about one aviation case: The 1986 Japan Airlines B-747 radar-visual sighting over Alaska. Many new details were included. Callahan had personally briefed then-FAA Director Donald Engen on the case. Since UFOs were not within the FAA's job parameters, they alerted the CIA, which gobbled up all available evidence and declared that nothing had happened. "You only *think* you see those coffee urns on the side table," he joked to the audience.

Peter Sturrock, emeritus professor of applied physics at Stanford University, who has analyzed the Condon Report and was instrumental in the Laurance Rockefeller-sponsored 1997 conference at Tarrytown, N.Y., said that ufologists would get more respect if reputable academic journals opened their editorial pages to UFO research. "Scientists are not being encouraged, supported, or funded in their UFO research," he added.

Every panel member contributed some worthwhile information and, here and there, some valuable insight into all facets of the UFO problem, in all senses of the word—scientific, social, and political. "Very stimulating and interesting, at least to the choir," commented Richard Hall. ♦

## FLYING TRIANGLES—*continued from page 7*

highway and Magazine Hill.

It had rained earlier and the sky was overcast. The traffic light changed and she moved forward, keeping an eye on the lights. The road she was on borders the east side of Halifax Harbour and Bedford Basin, which extends inland some 14 nautical miles from Chebucto Head. Located on the east side of this basin and accessed by the Magazine Hill four-lane highway is the Naval Munitions Magazine that services Canadian and NATO naval vessels. (It has the distinction of having blown itself to pieces shortly after V-E day in 1945 and having knocked out my father while he was carrying me, then three months old, in his arms at the time. Of course, I don't remember.)

Lisa made her way up the hill and found she was having difficulty keeping the strangely lit craft in view in the windshield of her car. She rolled down her window and could now see that the object showed three lights in a triangular pattern with the "leading light" flashing red to white. The drawing on the cover is Lisa's sketch of the object. When they were about to crest the top of the hill, she could then see the body of the craft that was moving very slowly across the road. It was massive, she related, much bigger than St. Mary's University football field. She doubted this would fit into it.

Lisa advised that she drove directly underneath and, "Boom, just like that it was hailing those really tiny, fast-falling, not quite sleet, kind of hail. We [other traffic] all slowed down further and I tried to reach beside me to get out my camera but there wasn't time, so I rolled down the window to try and hear it, but there was no sound but the hail."

The object slid by them to their right. Once they were out from under the object, the hail stopped. They watched the object do a flat figure-eight and move back over the highway before it sped off in a flash toward Fall River to the east.

The hail is interesting. Do these things generate some charge that might create weather underneath them?

Lisa stated that the event affected her son, who was frightened more than herself by the encounter and did not wish to be interviewed. She admitted that she had heard about UFOs and seen documentaries on TV, "but when you see something like this yourself, it changes your whole outlook. I thought this was a plane crashing." Where have I heard that before?

This incident came to me too long after the event to do much investigation. I checked the aviation weather for that evening and found that the cloud base was at 1,100 feet. Conditions were not right for hail and hail was not forecast in the advisory for pilots in the Automatic Terminal Information Service at Halifax International for that evening.

While writing this article, I contacted one of my sources about the loss of another resource I have used. However, I was advised that a person working at that agency had an FT

sighting the week before about 11 miles off the end of runway 6 at Halifax International. The witness was accompanied by her two daughters, 18 and 21, and watched a large object outlined by its lights move very slowly over the small village of Gays River. This is right on the edge of the zone at the airport and should have been clearly visible by tower operators and on primary radar. I'm checking into this now.

If these FTs are some type of experimental aircraft—and I don't for one moment give any credence to this hypothesis (the National Institute for Discovery Science's claim to that effect notwithstanding)—one wonders what they are doing flying about the Halifax area. Sooner or later, all types of aircraft have an accident. That being the case, where is the crash debris from one of the "experimental aircraft"? These seem sufficiently large to preclude hiding the recovery operation. And there are too many questions that must be answered concerning these objects flying in restricted commercial airspace and flying low over domestic airspace in clear violation of regulations in those 188 countries that are now signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation—among them the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Russia, Sweden, and Norway. ♦

## HOST ROCKET—*continued from page 14*

steered by radio with radio impulses from a ground station, perhaps with television or by a pilot in the projectile," wrote the committee.

And as with the submarine intrusions in the 1980s, it was suspected that the perpetrator was the Soviet Union. But also, as with the submarines, no hard evidence was ever found. Whatever was behind the elusive ghost rockets is still anyone's guess.

## ADDENDUM

While photos of fireballs are not common, the network of amateur and professional meteor observers around the world is increasingly successful at capturing images, and video, of meteors and fireballs. The Dutch Meteor Society has an excellent Web site at [www.dmsweb.org](http://www.dmsweb.org).

In the early afternoon of May 6, 2000, a very bright bolide was seen over Poland and Moravia in the Czech Republic. At maximum brightness it was comparable to the sun in luminosity. Pieces of the meteorite were found near the village of Morávka. A video was made of the bolide, an image of which is shown above. Notice the similarity between the Morávka image and that of the object photographed by Reuterswärd. ♦



## LETTERS

### ON BLOBS AND CHIAROSCURO

To the editor:

I am glad to see that the ongoing and formidable task of reading the now famous Ramey memo is still occupying the thoughts of many in the field of UFO studies and elsewhere (James Houran and Kevin D. Randle, "Interpreting the Ramey Memo," *IUR*, Summer 2002, pp. 10-14, 26-27). The memo certainly continues to occupy my own thoughts, and has done so for over three years now. (I invite interested readers to see both my article in the Summer 2000 *IUR*, "Deciphering the Ramey Memo," and my book *The Golden Age of UFOs*, Black Mesa Press, 2001, for an account of my own forays into this ever-intriguing problem.)

Looking at the memo under scientific conditions and comparing results from Roswell-knowledgeable and "blind" groups are unquestionably approaches to be applauded. The disturbing possibility of "seeing what one expects to see" has already shown up in earlier research—for example, with the readings, by some, of MAGDALENA and ROSWELL for the place name in Line 5, neither reading being in fact possible in light of the length (eight characters) of this character-group. My own reading of CARLSBAD astonished me when I discovered it, and I can assure everyone that it was the result of no preconception on my part. In general, any effort to remove personal bias from the reading is bound to be productive.

I would respectfully differ, though, with my friend Kevin Randle on a couple of points. First, with regard to my own work on the Ramey memo, Kevin says that my background in cryptanalysis "has little relevance," but I would argue that cryptanalytic skills are in fact greatly needed here, because even though the document itself is obviously not a ciphertext, it's still a problem in decipherment. For example, one sometimes has to try to determine what a given letter is by deciding whether its contiguity with other characters makes it more probably a vowel or a consonant. This is precisely the sort of thing a cryptanalyst does.

Second, when Houran and Randle say that "Ufologists . . . are probably among the least desirable or effective people to be trying to decipher the document," this is only obliquely true. One indeed wants to eliminate single-minded bias, but I should think one would not want to cut out specialized knowledge altogether. The provenance of the Bond Johnson photo (time, place, circumstances) makes it highly probable that the memo has to do with the sole matter that concerned the Eighth Air Force on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 8, 1947: the crash at Roswell and the need to cover it up quickly. Again, as in cryptanalysis, one may bring a document's circumstances to bear upon its decipherment, being watchful all the while for the effects of bias. I would say that *all* approaches are needed—unbiased teams

as well as case-knowledgeable specialists.

I was glad to see David Rudiak's suggestion that care be taken to determine word-lengths in the document. Actually, I did this three years ago by simply using such things as the "watercolor" utility (and contrast adjustments) found in most image-enhancement software packages, a good way to "blob" characters so that they can be counted, and for me there has been no word-length ambiguity for some time now, except that at times words run down into the crease in the paper and have a length ambiguity of a single character or so. Many readings suffer from a lack of understanding of all this, for example, the readings (including Rudiak's) that give the signature line as RAMEY, an impossible reading as the character-group clearly has a length of six. (I have numerous image files in which the signature line TEMPLE is in fact very clear, except for the final character, which tends almost to resemble an A in some images. Who or what "Temple" may be, remains unclear, and if nothing else the reading is unbiased by case-familiarity expectation.)

By the way, has anyone else noted that the machine producing this TWX has two readily identified peculiarities? Namely, that the machine sometimes strikes "D" a little below the line and sometimes strikes "E" a little right-of-field? This can be helpful to know.

Again with regard to the problem of objectivity versus seeing what one wants to see, dangers lurk in attempts to read military jargon into the memo, for example, in the problematic image in the top-left corner. While the attempts of Rudiak and others to find relevant results here are laudable, the problem as I see it is that at this level of photomicrography, the information-to-noise ratio isn't favorable enough to make it clear whether one is seeing real text or simply imaging artifacts. In dodging among the patterns of light and dark at this level, one could find almost anything. I will go so far as to say that if someone specifies a line of poetry they would like to see, I will "find" it in Ramey's thumb, by interpreting microscopic nuances of chiaroscuro. Again, Rudiak and others *must* try to interpret what's in the corner of the memo, but one must also proceed with care and with an understanding that sometimes what one sees may be like the face of Elvis in the cracks in the wall.

I don't wish to sound disapproving of anyone's efforts, however, and I believe all the interpretation teams are doing very admirable work. Heaven knows, we all want the same thing—the truth. The Ramey memo is an ongoing and difficult problem that we all need to keep pursuing, and I certainly continue to be eager to help in the overall effort in any way I can.

Donald R. Burleson  
Roswell, New Mexico

## ABDUCTEES AND PARANORMAL CLAIMS

To the editor:

Mark Rodeghier notes ("Abductees and the Paranormal," *IUR*, Summer 2002, p. 32) that abductees claim to experience other paranormal events and/or possess psychic ability more frequently than the general population. Although the two primary outcomes of the study could either point to aliens targeting those with psychic abilities for abduction, or to abductions resulting in the honing of one's psychic/paranormal powers due to exposure to the ETs or their procedures, a third conclusion is possible: Those who falsely believe they're being abducted (whether through honest misinterpretation of dreams and/or sleep paralysis, mental health issues, or outright fabrication), are predisposed to believe they have had other paranormal experiences.

I would hazard a guess that those who are interested in the UFO phenomenon also have a general interest in other unknowns such as cryptozoology, life-after-death experiences, telekinesis, etc. If someone were to come forward and admit that she was abducted by aliens (whether because of an honest belief or an intentional falsehood), I think it would be equally easy for the same individual to make other claims of experiencing the unknown. Think of the character in the restored video edition of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, who while sitting at a conference table with the media present during the military's debunking session with the Indiana UFO witnesses, not only subscribes to the UFO event but also admits to having seen Bigfoot, at which time those assembled give an eye-rolling, "yeah, right" reaction.

While it might be possible that psychic ability is either the result of or the reason for a human abduction (assuming that abduction is a real phenomenon), I think it would be easy for those making extraordinary claims regarding their abduction beliefs to claim other fanciful powers.

Another noteworthy item in the article is the statement that 18- to 22-year-old undergrads probably don't make the best control group for a study, given that abductees tend to be older. This certainly seems to be true, as most abductees interviewed in books and documentaries tend to be older individuals (age 40 and up). What's interesting, however, is that in many abduction stories, the abductions have been taking place since childhood and continue through adulthood as if an ongoing, lifelong experiment is taking place. Yet if this were so, why wouldn't undergrads have a much higher rate of abduction reports? Why don't we see more teenagers approaching investigators to tell their stories, as they should have already experienced several abductions if the alien's M.O. is to grab humans from early childhood? It seems very strange that people wait until middle age before they report their experiences, as there should be an equal percentage of teens and twenty-somethings already reporting abductions in similar numbers if the ET experiments are truly life-long in scope.

Jim Jamrus  
Mokena, Illinois

*Mark Rodeghier replies:*

You are absolutely correct that there are other possibilities besides the two I mentioned. I decided to concentrate in a brief article on the two most direct scenarios. As for your third possibility, I would generally support your conjecture that those who honestly but falsely claim they are abducted are also prone to believe, whether correctly or not, that they are psychic.

Or to put it another way, if someone's abductions are caused by sleep paralysis, OBE, extremely vivid dreams, or other odd mental phenomena, they are also likely to report psychic experiences because the latter tend to be associated with the former. But I don't think conscious hoaxes are involved. There are very few of these in ufology—except for some photo and contactee cases—and hardly any in abduction accounts, so far as I can determine.

What I don't know is whether the claims of psychic experiences are "real" or false. If false, they could arise because people who have non-real abductions tend to monitor their own experiences more closely than the average person, and tend to misinterpret events as psychic that the rest of us just shrug off. Or, their brains may function in such a way that they are presented with many unusual experiences, including ones that appear to be psychic in nature.

All these are interesting questions, and we need further studies to sort them out. As for the comments about the control group, while it is true that people seem to report lifelong abductions, it is also true that many younger people don't recognize their experiences as abductions until a later age. Or perhaps they are not ready to face this fact until they are older and more mature. But this, too, requires further research. Since books about abduction have been in the mainstream for many years, at least since Whitley Strieber's first book *Communion* (1987), I wonder whether younger people have begun reporting abductions because their experiences are now more socially validated? That would be an interesting research study.

Nevertheless, in any study, it is best if the control group matches the abductees in age (and gender, as well). But having both a younger and older group would be even better.

To the editor:

I read part of your article "Abductees and the Paranormal" on our Amateur Radio UFO Net recently. As you may well imagine, I was particularly interested to hear what responses this article might elicit from our members who believe that they may have had an abduction experience of their own. I was not disappointed.

The sentence, "But determining which came first, the abduction or the paranormal, remains an elusive goal," produced a rather surprising response from one of the experiencers (J). He said that he could not see how he would be able to answer that.

For, apparently like many other abductees, J pointed out that his first abduction experiences had occurred very early in his childhood. So he asked: "How would I know if

I had any of these psychic abilities before I was abducted? I've been being abducted all my life!"

And in response to one of the measures of psychic ability in the questionnaire mentioned in the article ("I am more psychic now than I was before my abduction"), he had this to say: "Yeah, that's kind of interesting. 'Cause I know that right after this stuff happens to me [abduction], I'm a lot more psychic. Then it sort of seems to fade away with time. I mean, like the longer it's been since it happened, the less I have of that sort of psychic stuff. And then, when they take me again, it comes back strong all over again."

William Diggs  
Woodstock, Illinois

*Mark Rodeghier replies:*

The abductee you quote raises valid points.

As regards the first comment, it certainly is true that, if abductions really are lifelong events, trying to sort out which came first between abductions and psychic abilities is rather futile. I've spoken to abductees who have said both that they were abducted from a young age and knew they had psychic abilities when young as well. But I've also had abductees tell me that they did become more psychic after they became abductees because not every abductee believes that he or she has been abducted their whole life.

The whole issue is difficult to investigate since the onset of someone's first abduction experience is just about impossible to determine with any certainty. What can sometimes be determined is the first recalled experience, or the first date when a person has memories, however vague, about abduction-related events, but these cannot necessarily be used to determine the date of first abduction. And if investigators such as Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs are correct, most first abductions occur in childhood, which would make this almost impossible to sort out.

As for the second comment, whatever the cause-effect relationship, this experiencer's comment that his psychic abilities are enhanced after an abduction is food for thought. It would appear to at least connect the two types of phenomena. For example, perhaps there is some third thing—a brain state of some kind—that causes people to experience abductions and to believe they are psychic, and this thing is therefore the direct cause of both. But this unknown brain state or psychological condition would cause abductions and psychic experiences to appear to be causally linked.

On the other hand, if aliens abduct someone, and that person's mind is manipulated during the experience (to gain control over the person, to implant images, etc.), then it is conceivable that the manipulation temporarily unlocks certain latent capabilities in the brain, one of which might be psychic ability (what others might be enhanced?).

Without some type of experimentation on this matter, we'll never sort this out, which is why I welcomed the research by Keith Basterfield and Michael Thalbourne in the June 2002 issue of the *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*. ♦

## HARVARD—continued from page 16

"Memory Distortion in People Reporting Abduction by Aliens," *Journal of Abnormal Psychology* 111 (2002): 455–461.

4. Beth Potier, "Starship Memories: 'Alien Abductees' Provide Clues to Repressed, Recovered Memories," *Harvard University Gazette*, October 31, 2002, online at [www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/2002/10.31/09-clancy.html](http://www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/2002/10.31/09-clancy.html).

5. Susan A. Clancy, Daniel L. Schacter, Richard J. McNally, and Roger K. Pitman, "False Recognition in Women Reporting Recovered Memories of Sexual Abuse," *Psychological Science* 11 (2000): 26–31.

6. Thomas E. Bullard, "The Influence of Investigators on UFO Abduction Reports," in Andrea Pritchard, David E. Pritchard, John E. Mack, Pam Kasey, and Claudia Yapp, eds., *Alien Discussions: Proceedings of the Abduction Study Conference Held at MIT, Cambridge, MA*. Cambridge, Mass.: North Cambridge Press, 1994. pp. 571–619.

7. Thomas E. Bullard, "Hypnosis and UFO Abductions: A Troubled Relationship," *Journal of UFO Studies* 1 (1989): 3–40.

8. Stuart Appelle, Steven Jay Lynn, and Leonard Newman, "Alien Abduction Experiences," in Etzel Cardeña, Steven Jay Lynn, and Stanley Krippner, eds., *Varieties of Anomalous Experience: Examining the Scientific Evidence*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association, 2000. ♦

## KAUFMANN EXPOSED—continued from page 11

on the three alleged documents: They are an exact match.

Given all this evidence of counterfeit documents, we can have no confidence in any details of Kaufmann's testimony, even though he certainly was in Roswell in 1947 and worked at the base (though in the personnel office, not intelligence). We can speculate on his motives and why he deceived investigators, but that will probably be of little use today. The critical point is that we have determined the validity of Kaufmann's testimony, and can now discard it as we seek to establish what exactly did, and did not, occur at Roswell in July 1947. ♦

## RAELIAN CLONE HOAX

Journalists once again proved how clueless they are on scientific subjects by falling for Rael's Clonaid hype and hoax in December. As the *Toronto Globe and Mail* put it: "CNN led with it all day, triggering a worldwide feedback loop, and before you could say 'due diligence' the story was laundered into respectability.... Meantime, we journalists don't have much reputation to lose. But still. 'Everybody associated with the media became a little less dignified,' says Orville Schell, the dean of Berkeley's graduate school of journalism."

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