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Police Chief Jeffrey Greenhaw took four polaroid pictures of an unusual creature while investigating reports of UFO landings near Falkville, Alabama, in October 1973. The GSW computer analysis of those photographs appears in this issue.

# MUFON UFO JOURNAL

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## FROM THE EDITOR

The International UFOlogy Conference, described on page 12 of this issue, may be one of the most important UFO meetings ever. Judging from the speaker's lineup, nearly all the major researchers in the field will be in attendance, not to mention scores of professional ufologists in the audience.

But even more important will be the many behind-the-scenes meetings of foreign ufologists and government leaders. Hopefully real progress can be made

in the areas of information exchange and a new, worldwide effort to solve the UFO problem.

The Mexican government's interest in the UFO phenomenon has reached a peak with the inauguration of President Portillo. Many of the government's official agencies are helping to insure the success of the Conference. All this leads me to hope that Mexico, which is a member of the UN Outer Space Committee, will take the lead in bringing the UFO problem to the floor of the United Nations.

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# Falkville Creature Photographs Analyzed

by William Spaulding, Director GSW

Photographs of images purportedly representing the unidentified object phenomenon have been available for evaluation since the conception of modern daysightings (1974). It is extremely rare to have the opportunity to evaluate photographic data on purported occupants. During the Flap of 1973 there were dozens of reports of "creatures" connected directly to the observation of the UFO phenomenon.

One such picture from the 1973 sightings was forwarded to GSW for analysis, by Walt Andrus - Director of MUFON. Computerized evaluation techniques have been utilized by our organization on 600 + UFO photographs. If an "object" can be analyzed, then obviously, an image of a human-like creature can be tested for its authenticity.

The Falkville, Alabama occupant photographs were subjected to the following computer-aid evaluations: edge enhancement, color contouring, pixel distortion analysis, and digitizing.

**Edge Enhancement** - The total series of pictures were subjected to edge enhancement to gain details of the "creature's" edges and surface condition. By enhancing or detailing the edges it helped to alleviate some of the reflections of light that was bouncing wildly off the aluminum colored suit and obscuring the details.

The edging also detailed the surface of the suit (skin) by canceling the reflections and facets of light. This enabled the technicians



Police Chief Greenhaw shows his position relative to that of the creature (x).

to observe surface details and identify random pieces of aluminum foil or wrap laced on the suit.

Reference should be made to the Analysis Explanation Sheet which details all the various modes of evaluation/testing utilized on these photographs.

**Color Contouring** - All the pictures were submitted to the coloring technique to test the image for its true grey value (density), which blends continuously both in intensity (level) and spatiality (area). This technique gives the photographic analyzer hard data on the light source and its direction to the subject being photographed and the actual density of the image. This method of testing is also utilized to evaluate background data by revealing anomalous densities, barely visible to the human eye.

The entire set of photographs

were scanned utilizing the digital densitometer and the areas of interest were recorded for comparison between pictures.

**Pixel Distortion Analysis** - Pixel (picture cell) analysis was performed to evaluate the approximate distance of the image from the camera/witness. The edges of the image are outlined with a special computer program, then these same edges (areas) are magnified and the individual squares of pixels are measured for their relative straightness or lack of the same. Reference should be made to Figure 4 depicting pixel distance information.

The general rule for distance, measured from the pixels data is simple; if the pixels are straight the image is close, conversely if the pixels are wavy this denotes a distance factor.

**Digitizing** - Digitizing or computerization of the pictures was



First shot of  
the creature  
was taken from  
50 feet away.



Second shot of  
the creature  
was taken from  
20 feet away.



Third and fourth shots of  
the creature were taken  
from only 10 feet away.



Computer color enhancement (left) and edge enhancement  
(right) were performed on the Greenhaw photographs.

performed to enhance the hidden details. Various modes of digitizing add picture clarity and resolution to the original, therefore, lighten dark areas, highlight shadows and finite portions on the film, and increase the overall contrast of the film.

Digitizing added details to each image to enable accurate measurements of image size, height, width, position, etc. This was accomplished on a video micrometer that measures dimensions in .001" units.

**Conclusions** - It is the consensus of the photographic analyzers that the photographs in question should not be considered strong evidence of an extra-terrestrial entity. The following data is supplied to quantify the same:

A) The outer garment of the alledged creature is a hot suit, manufactured from fire retardent materials, including asbestos and other non-combustible/non conducting fibres, then coated with an aluminum covering.

B) A flash attachment was utilized during the exposure, which highlighted upon the wrinkled surface and reflected brilliantly, thus masking some obvious details of manufacture.

C) Digital densitometry revealed certain areas of lower

reflectivity, not attributed to shadows or reflection. Further analysis revealed that these inconsistencies are attributed to 'patches' of aluminum foil, sparsely positioned on the overall suit. Possibly placed on the 'suit' to mask known manufacturing signs, ie, buttons, zippers, insignias, etc.

D) The anatomical features depicted within the pictures are considered normal (human-like) including; the length of the arms, the position of the features, and their relative sizes. The ballooning effect of the legs and feet is due to the manufacture of the suit and not that of the body inside the garment.

E) Picture factoring, calculated without the benefit of the known reference points, revealed that the entity was between 5 feet 6 inches and 6 feet tall.

F) Void of the actual camera data, the photograph was taken at a relatively close distance. Computed at less than twelve feet (camera to object distance)

At best, these pictures represent a humorous attempt at hoaxing a space creature, which GSW believes was initiated by the tremendous media coverage in the southern states, during the Flap of 1973.



Greenhaw shows where the creature disappeared from the road during the half-mile chase.

## NEW AUSTRALIAN CASE UNDER INVESTIGATION

By Richard Hall  
MUFON International Coordinator

A strange case currently under investigation in New South Wales was reported to me by Bill Chalker in a letter dated June 1, 1976. On March 22, 1976, at 5:45 AM in Nemingha, N.S.W., a Murrundi couple and a utility truck driver were parked opposite the Nemingha Hotel, when they noticed a small white car with the headlights on approaching. A bright light "from above" descended over the car; greenish-yellow light from the object covered the car. At this moment, the car became enveloped in a thick ball of white haze and the headlights went out.

"The car was now well on its wrong side of the road," Chalker said. "After about 2 minutes the haze seemed to dissipate and finally a woman got out of the car and proceeded to wipe the windscreen with a yellow cloth. The windscreen seemed to be covered with a white substance." A few minutes later the woman was about to get back in the car when the lights came back on suddenly. "She appeared to be somewhat surprised, and then threw away the cloth, which then 'burst into flames.'" The witnesses saw the car proceed very slowly toward Nundle, totally covered by a thick white substance "not unlike white paint," except for the cleared windscreen.

"This rather bizarre case has no obvious explanation at the moment," Chalker reported, "and I intend to investigate it in detail. The time of the year (here) is late summer."

# *The Skynet Log: Circling Ships*

*By Ann Druffel and Morrey Allen*

On the evening of September 5, 1976 a puzzling incident involving four witnesses occurred in the Los Angeles Basin area. In Canoga Park and Reseda, two communities lying twenty and twenty-four miles respectively northwest to the Civic Center, separate pairs of citizens excitedly reported two whirling discs in the sky. The objects, seen in a stormy sky, were exchanging or "interlocking" rays of light as they rapidly circled each other.

On September 6th, Mary Ann Ryman called SKYNET #3 (Druffel), having been referred by the local police. She stated that she and her mother-in-law, Tess Ryman, had been watching TV at 6:50 p.m. the previous evening in their home in a residential area of Canoga Park. Seeing the first flashes of an approaching electrical storm, Tess Ryman stepped out onto the patio. The lightning was some miles away, in the north. She then noticed two softly glowing balls of light above her and at first "thought they were clouds". She changed her opinion rapidly, however, as they moved silently in rapid circles over the back yard.

Tess Ryman called her daughter-in-law and for twenty minutes the two startled women watched the lights repeatedly sweep in precise maneuvers above their heads. Both witnesses had the impression the lights were at very low altitude and were emanating from solid objects.

The lights were the color of GE light bulbs, with a touch of blue, and glowed softly "like a moon

behind clouds". They were equal in size and were viewed against a heavy, gray layer of rain clouds.

An on-the-spot investigation was conducted on behalf of MUFON and CUFOS (by Druffel) on September 7th. Both witnesses seemed stable and reliable and did not seem to tend toward embellishment. Some discrepancies in the two accounts were easily accounted for if one considers that Tess Ryman's eyesight is not as sharp as her daughter-in-law's. But the general appearance of the lights, their maneuvers, and the duration of sighting coincided in both accounts.

Mary Ann Ryman stated that clearly defined rays, of unequal length, shot out from the perimeter of each object. Apparent size of the objects plus rays was about one and one-half inches at arm's length. These rays extended, on the average, about one and one-half times the diameter of the objects. They reminded her somewhat of "rays of the sun", though much less intense. Tess Ryman did not see the rays, but viewed the edges of the objects as indefinite, "like the jaggedy edges of a cloud".

Tess Ryman was frightened by the persistent circling of the objects, fearing that "one of them might drop". Mary Ann Ryman, who had read some literature on UFOs, theorized that the lights were "UFOs" or "ships" which were surveying the neighborhood. She was frankly fascinated by them.

Mary Ann Ryman described three precise "maneuvers" per-

formed by the objects. Maneuver A (See Sketch 1) was the tight circles, exact and almost acrobatic, which the objects executed over and over in the same area of sky above their yard. Each circle was of nine to ten seconds duration. The center of the circle was measured at fifty-five degrees above the southern horizon. The diameter of the circles was about seventy degrees. During these circular motions, the objects stayed an exact distance from each other, moving clockwise. The true diameter of their circles, as measured by Mary Ann Ryman, was about two-hundred and fifty feet, assuming that the witnesses' estimate of the objects' altitude was correct. They were fairly certain that the objects were slightly above a telephone pole at one corner of the yard (estimated height forty feet). The objects did not rotate on their own axes, though Mary Ann Ryman spoke of each "ship" having a front and a back.

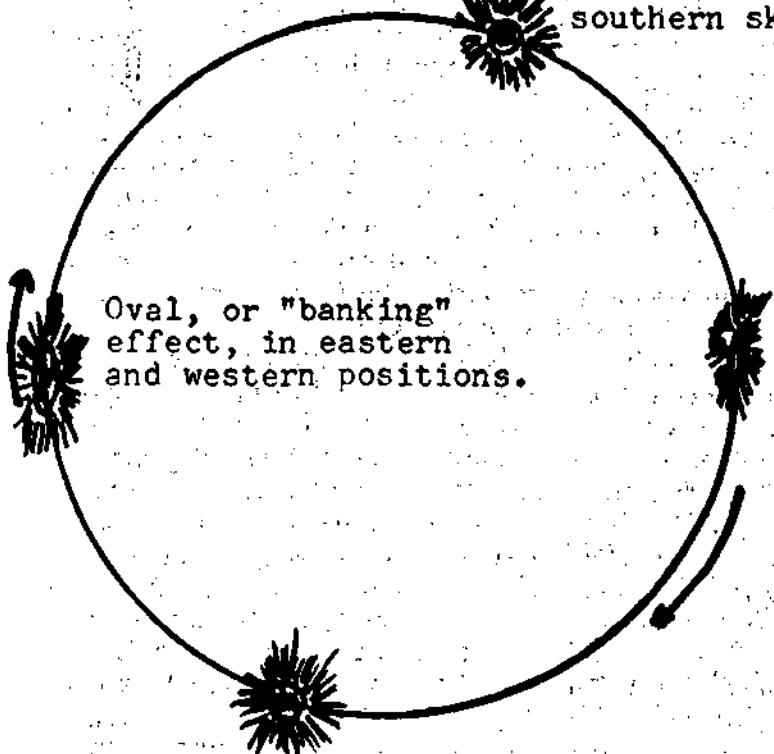
The witnesses stated that the objects would complete about eight perfect circles, then go into the second "maneuver". (See Sketch 2) During this, they made a crisscross motion into the circle, moving toward each other and passing less than a diameter's length away. While passing each other, the rays "interlocked" briefly. (See Sketch 4) Then the objects would exchange places with each other on the perimeter of the circle, continuing on for eight more circles before coming together again. Maneuver B took approximately five seconds.

In Maneuver C, the objects left

**SKETCH 1**

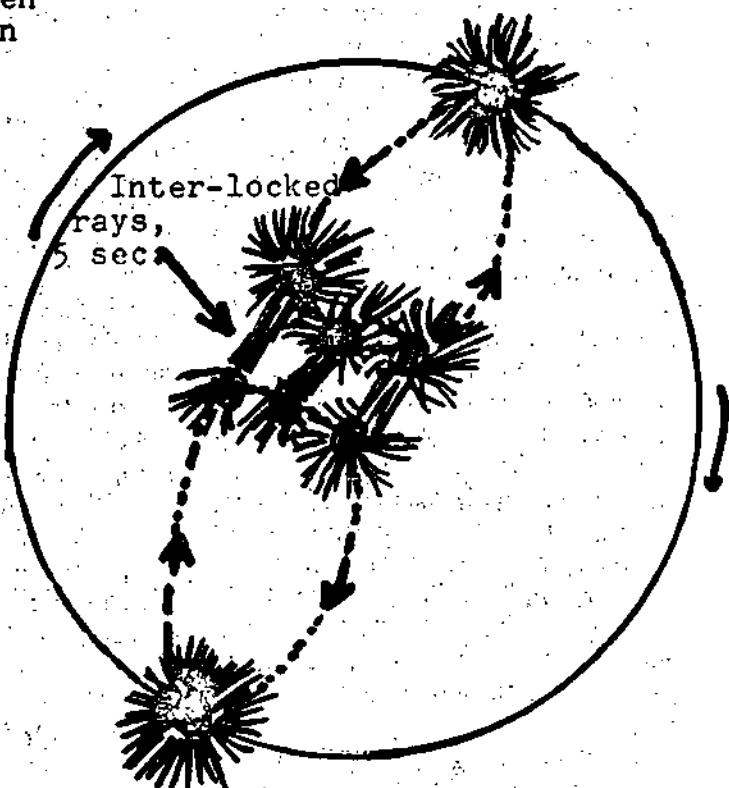
**MANEUVER "A"**

Round aspect, when overhead and in southern sky.



**SKETCH 3**

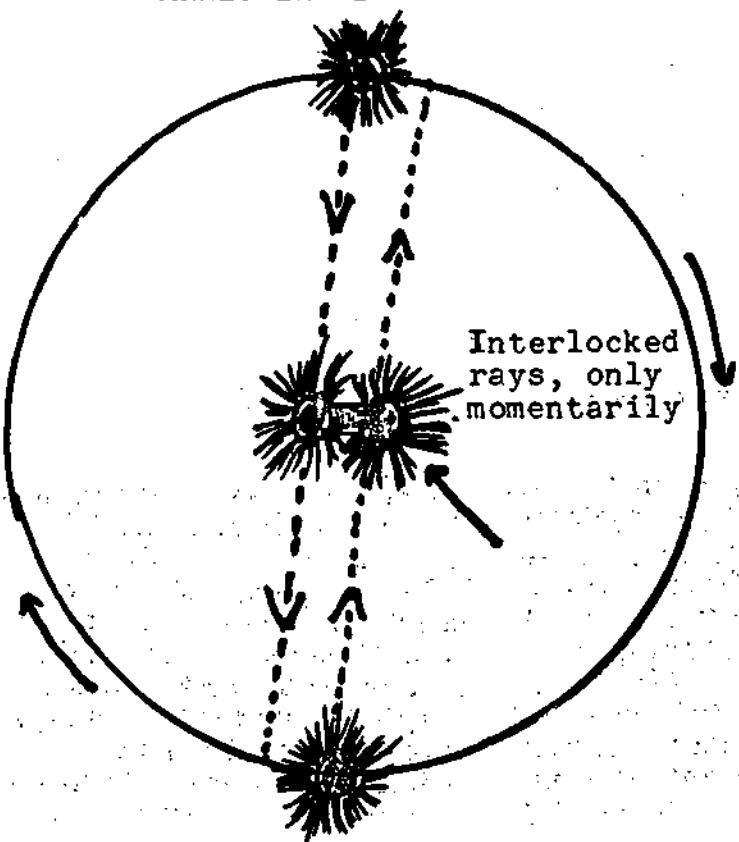
**MANEUVER "C"**



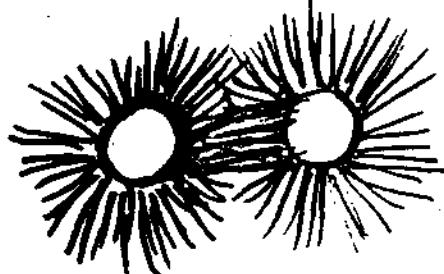
**SKETCH 2**

**MANEUVER "B"**

Interlocked rays, only momentarily



**SKETCH 4**



Two objects as drawn by Mary Ann Ryman. Interlocked rays applicable to Maneuvers B & C.

**SKETCH 5**



Object as drawn by Mrs. Ryman. Rays not discernible, both objects grayish-white with "jaggedy" edges.

their clockwise circles and came together on a curved path, interlocking rays as they traveled close together, then separating from each other and returning on a curved path back to its original place. (See Sketch 3) This maneuver took about thirty seconds and was performed only about one-fourth the number of times Maneuver B was performed.

The interlocking of the rays seemed to impress Mary Ann Ryman deeply. She stated the rays definitely overlapped each time the objects passed closely. During these periods, the area between the objects brightened considerably. She suggested that during interlocking, the objects might have been communicating in an "exchange" or "talking time".

After watching the objects perform for a full twenty minutes, the

special interest in "double UFOs", which are generally described as two spherical objects joined by a link or bar. But it was puzzling why no one else in the neighborhood had reported the objects. Mary Ann Ryman inquired of her neighbors, but none of them had been outside at the beginning of the lightning storm.

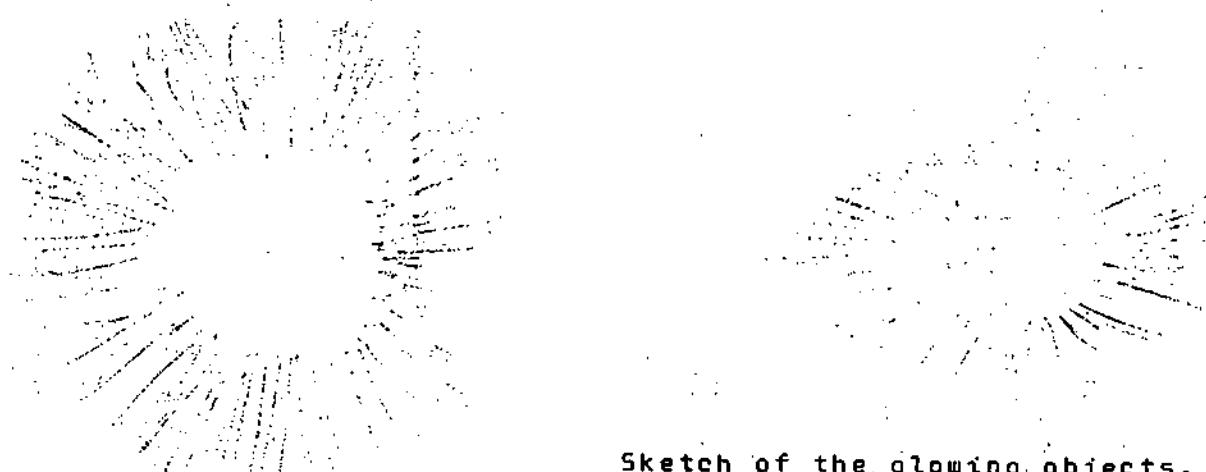
The storm was a most violent one, resulting from freak meteorological conditions. In intensity, it rivaled none in this area during the past thirty years.

On the same evening, September 5th, at about 6:45 p.m., a young, frightened man, Mr. R.J., had called SKYNET #3 (Druffel) to report that two glowing balls were over his Reseda residence, whirling around each other and "exchanging flashes between them". Since the sighting was still in progress at the time of the

overhead". The investigator had been outside watching the approaching storm and had noted two searchlights in the area from which R.J. was calling. Everything about the lights R.J. was reporting compared favorably to searchlights, except that occasionally the beams of the searchlights were visible to the investigator but were evidently not visible to R.J.

When the rain came a few minutes later, the lights disappeared, both by R.J.'s observation and the investigator's as well. When the rain passed some time later, a number of lights reappeared, again noted by R.J. and again plainly identifiable from the investigator's position.

Exchanging notes on the two cases, the writers came to the conclusion that Tess and Mary Ann Ryman must have been



Sketch of the glowing objects.

women saw bolts of lightning flashing near their home. At this, the two objects "sped off together toward the south". A few seconds later, rain started to fall. It seemed as though the objects "were keeping ahead of the storm".

This seemed to be a sighting of unusual interest, especially since the investigator (Druffel) has a

police-referred call, R.J. was referred immediately to SKYNET #68 (Allen) whose home lay three miles east from where R.J. was calling. R.J.'s grandmother was also witnessing the objects.

Allen, also a MUFON investigator, talked to R.J. by phone, and gained a detailed description of the "two white discs of light maneuvering

seeing the same searchlights which had frightened R.J. When this was discussed with Mary Ann Ryman, however, she firmly stated they could not have been searchlights on clouds. She reiterated the facts of the clearcut rays, the precise and long-lasting maneuvers, and the unwavering appearance of the lights which seemed to be emanating from

solid objects.

Unusual meteorological conditions continued in the Los Angeles area for several more days. Three more reports of "UFOs", attributable to searchlights on clouds were received by SKYNET. During this period Mary Ann Ryman called Allen. She was watching searchlights playing on the underside of clouds, with the beams not visible. She had never noticed this before and could now understand why MUFON had labeled her first report as searchlights, because the effect was very similar.

"But," she continued, this is not what I saw on September 5th." During subsequent interviews, the witness stuck to her original statements. She pointed out that the most notable difference between her September 5th sighting and the searchlights viewed a few days later was that the searchlights flitted about in erratic manner on the uneven bottom surface of the cloud layer, whereas the September 5th objects maneuvered smoothly. Also there was the matter of the visual appearance of the objects.

At his home, with sketches and word-pictures at hand, investigator Allen made up a color drawing. When it was shown to Mary Ann Ryman she exclaimed, "That's it! That's what I saw!" (See Allen's drawing, accompanying this report) At this interview, the elder Mrs. Ryman was not available, having suffered a painful injury, so we do not have her confirmation.

The drawing shows the object as a disc, and in a second aspect as an ellipse in its "banking" position. Mary Ann Ryman had also noted that the elliptical form was adopted as the two objects sped off to the south just before the rains came. The most striking part of the drawing are the numerous, definite flowing rays

which streak out against a dull gray sky.

So we are left with a puzzle, two cases, with a confirmed explanation which fits most of the facts. But not all of them.

What were the interlocking "rays" seen by Mary Ann Ryman? What were the "exchange of flashes" reported by R.J? Sven assuming that the heavy, low cloud layer was unusually homogeneous in makeup, could searchlights give the appearance of precisely-moving solid objects which never strayed from definite paths? Would two searchlight operators "play" at maneuvers with their searchlight beams over a small area of sky for twenty full minutes?

It was not feasible to try to track down the searchlight advertising companies involved, due to the fact that a number of searchlights were in operation over the area that night.

Can these cases be explained simply as misidentifications? We know that the human eye has a tendency to add detail to unknown objects, especially if the observer is experiencing strong emotion. Thus R.J.'s frightened eyes could have seen "flashes" when the two searchlight's edges came together. Mary Ann Ryman, in her elation, might likewise have added detail. Why she saw definite rays which "interlocked" remains the question here.

This case probably reinforces our knowledge that witnesses, even those which seem most stable and reliable, cannot always be relied upon. We present this, not as a documented UFO report, but as an exple of how cases can seem to be what they are not, and of the vulnerability of human nature.

YOUR ARTICLES, NEWSCLIPPINGS, AND SUGGESTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. SEND MATERIAL TO:  
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HAMMOND, IND. 46327

## MUFON Amateur Radio Networks

Due to the many questions we receive from MUFON members who are also Amateur Radio Operators, the following recap is being published as a reminder of the present nets operating each week. (All times are Central Standard or Daylight)

Day of Week	Time
Sunday	1300
Saturday	0700
Saturday	0800

Amateur Band	Frequency
20 meter phone	14,260 — 5 KHZ
40 meter phone	7,210 — 5 KHZ
75 meter SSB	3,975 KHZ

Net Control Station  
WNC or WINXY  
WINXY Waltham, MA  
WA9ARG Quincy, ILL.

Elmer Romigh, WA5CTJ in Bandera, Texas has been keeping your International Director informed of the activities on the 20 and 40 meter S.S.B. nets, since Walt Andrus still has not placed his Ham rig in operation on these frequencies. Walt is now W5VRN.



# UFO Sighted at Haute-Marne, Ireland

(from OURANOS No. 15; Investigated by Eric Meylan)

Translated by Jim Smyth (MUFON Representative for N. Ireland)

This sighting, widely reported in the press, required much detailed investigation. The phenomena appeared on Highway C.D. 44, between Andelot and Blancheville, the chief witnesses of which were Andre and Dominique Samie and Patrick Pingwak.

The event happened at about 12:15 a.m. on Saturday, August 16, 1975.

The following is the testimony of witness Andre Samie: My son Dominique, at this time doing military service in Toul, was on leave. During the night, he awoke me, telling me to get up and go with him to witness something apparently unbelievable. He explained to me that when he was driving between Andelot and Blancheville, accompanied by a friend who also lived in Andelot, they were "buzzed" by a UFO which approached their car twice.

He described the object as being roundish in shape, having a diameter of about 30 meters with a hemispheric section underneath. The object was bright and red/orange in color. Dominique's friend, Patrick Pingwak, had a camera and he took a snapshot using flash. The object then immediately approached the car very quickly. Panicking, my son made a rapid reverse turn back for about 500 meters to be nearer Andelot. My son's friend got

out of the car and took a second photograph. The object again approached the car at a terrifying speed. Dominique made for Andelot fast!! Then he decided to find another witness to this phenomena. That is why he came for me. At first I was incredulous and not very convinced, but, faced with the alarm of my son, I finally decided to go to the spot, by way of route R.N. 65. It was then that something happened at the crossroads at Cirey-Les-Morielles: I saw in front of me a hemispherical object, close to the ground and glowing red/orange. It was over a small wood and was oscillating slightly. I drove onto route C.D. 137 to stop about 400 meters from route R.N. 65, so that I might observe the phenomena without leaving the car; engine kicking over and headlights out. At this time, two cars passed along the road in which the drivers must also have seen the phenomena but did not slow down. Some time later a second object appeared, identical to the former. It came towards us from behind the car. However, I can state that at that moment we were no longer looking behind us — all our attention was directed towards the object which had come upon us. It is possible that this was the same object which we had seen over the small wood and that it had

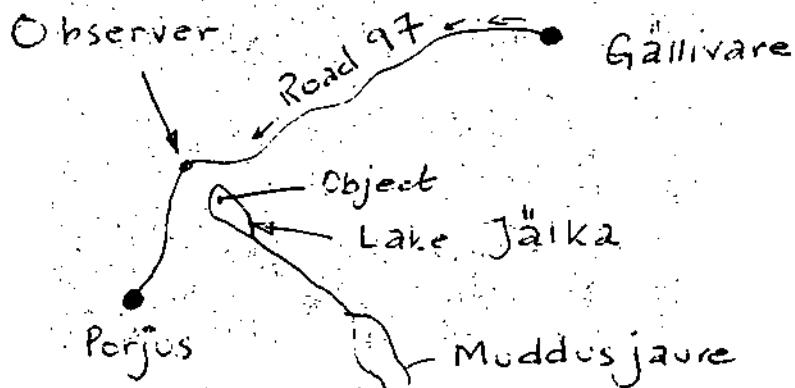
moved at a fantastic speed. Indeed, when on route C.D. 137 I was facing north, whereas at the first sighting on route R.N. 65 I was facing west in the direction of Chaumont. I also became afraid, realizing that I was witnessing an extraordinary event. I wheeled the car on the road and raced towards Chantereines. On arriving here, I stopped in the street. The object had stopped at the end of the road but at any moment it might come into the village. Feeling my blood freeze and fearing for my safety, I decided to make for Andelot by route C.D. 44. It must have been between 1 o'clock and 1:30 a.m. The object remained at the altitude of approximately 30 meters, barely visible in the darkness. Convinced that it would no longer follow I crossed the village away from the object. After about 2 kilometers, between Chantereines and Blancheville, the object appeared again in the middle of the road behind my car. At Blancheville, the object resumed the same position as at Chantereines, remaining at the entrance to the village. After a moment it disappeared."

Testimony of Dominique Samie:

"It was around 11:30 p.m. as I was near the village of Andelot, going towards Boulogne in my father's car and ac-

accompanied by my friend, Patrick Pingwak. At about 100 meters from Andelot, on the left hand side of the road, I noticed a dim white light which grew rapidly in intensity. For several moments this light followed us for about 50 meters. I then stopped the car to get my camera. It is always in the car and always contains a roll of film. The object was just above us and we could only make out the 'under-carriage'. It resembled an orange-colored semi-circle and emitted a very strong and vivid light which, however, did not light up the surrounding countryside. My friend wound down the window of the car and took the first photograph. In a flash, the object shot towards us at a fantastic speed. I threw the car into reverse and revved madly back from about 500 meters. The object followed us and we could make it out clearly. The top part emitted a dim white light. The lower part remained orange. I took the road to my right. Patrick again took a photograph of the object which was still above us. Again, in a flash, the object approached us. The 'under-carriage' was perfectly clear but the rest of the object remained blurred."

## Lake Objects Reported In Scandinavia By Richard Hall



Professor Bertil Soderquist, MUFON Representative in Sweden, has reported several incidents of mysterious objects in lakes, but with no apparent UFO association. The most UFO-like occurred in March 1974 on Lake Jalka, northern Sweden (about 67.0 deg N; 19.9 deg E). Mr. R.R. was driving on the road between Gällivare and Porjus in the early morning. The weather was cloudy and chilly. As he approached the small lake (about 2.5 km by 300 m), he saw a strange mist over the ice-free lake. On closer approach, he saw that the mist surrounded a mysterious object (see sketch) resting on the water. The object was about 15-20 m long, 5 m in height, and had a superstructure ending in a point. The contour was darkish. The witness hurried away, driven by a sudden fear.

On August 10, 1974, at 10:00 AM, Mr. & Mrs. K.C. were driving from their home in Hölter, Norway (about 20 km north of Oslo) toward the town of Hamar. When they reached the southern end of Lake

Mjosa, their attention was drawn to an object in the lake. What appeared to be a periscope was protruding about half a meter above the surface, about 50-70 meters from the shore. The "periscope" was apparently aimed toward the shore, where the road and a railroad pass very close to the lakeshore. Nine hours later, a local earthquake was registered in precisely this area.



In Lake Siljan, Dalarna Province (central Sweden), April 30, 1976, three witnesses saw a pointed object tearing a channel through the ice between 5:15 and 5:30 pm. The object, estimated to be moving 90 km/hr, cut a channel 1 km long and 3-4 meters wide through the 20 cm thick ice. Ice-floes and water cascaded around it as it forced its way through the ice. The object was dark (2 witnesses) or gray (1 witness) and about 10 meters long.

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Walt Andrus' home)

# International UFOlogy Conference To Be Held in Acapulco



The Main Auditorium, where the International UFOlogy Conference will be held in April.

From April 17 to 24, Mexico will host the first International UFOlogy Conference. The week long event will bring together the world's leading authorities on UFO phenomena, plus government and military leaders from a number of countries. The list of featured speakers includes MUFON Director Walt Andrus and editor Dennis Hauck. Other scheduled speakers are: J. Allen Hynek, Carl Sagan, Donald Keyhoe, Jim Lorenzen, John Keel, William Spaulding, Ray Stanford, Jacques Vallee, and James McDivitt from the USA; Brinsley le Pour Trench, Gordon Creighton, and Charles Bowen from England; Andreas Faber Kaiser and Antonio Ribera from Spain; Erich von Daniken from Switzerland; Hans Petersen from Denmark; and nearly a dozen other top ufologists from around the world. Prime Minister Eric Gairy of Grenada is also a scheduled speaker, and

other government representatives will be in attendance. In fact, the Conference will be handled like a mini-UN session with simultaneous translations into English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and German.

The public is invited to attend the Conference and there will be private meetings of the various national groups throughout the week. There will also be special excursions to ancient astronaut sights such as Palenque and the Mayan ruins. Promotion for the event is being handled by the official Mexican Tourist Agency and security is being provided by the Mexican government. Special charter flights will be leaving from major cities in the United States, Europe, and South America. Complete lodging and meals at luxury hotels will cost only \$350 for the week. Admittance to the Conference itself will cost \$150 for all seven days. Brochures and registration forms can be obtained by writing: UFOlogy Conference, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010.



The Acapulco Convention Center, scene of the International UFOlogy Conference.



Lucius Farish

## In Others' Words

The November 30 issue of **NATIONAL ENQUIRER** contained two articles pertaining to UFO's. A September 19 sighting by the crew of a jetliner on a Portugal-to-Africa flight is detailed and Rev. Billy Graham's views on UFO's and life in outer space are explored. An article about the forthcoming movie, "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," may be found in the December 7 **ENQUIRER**.

**THE STAR** for November 16 tells of an Air National Guard pilot's claim that UFO occupants tried to establish telepathic contact with him while they chased his jet fighter.

Although **ARGOSY** UFO still depends on reprinted material for much of each bi-monthly issue, the January number has interesting articles by Wendelle F. Stevens and Kevin D. Randle, plus a contribution by Dale Titler and yours truly.

The February issue of **OFFICIAL UFO** features an interview with Dr. J. Allen Hynek (conducted by Gene Steinberg) as well as articles by Bill Quinalty, James Oberg, Kevin Randle, Robert Barrow, Wendelle Stevens and others. Barrow's article updating the film, "UFO," is particularly interesting.

A couple of corrections: In the August column, I started that publisher Ray Palmer was combining his two magazines,

**SEARCH** and **FLYING SAUCERS**, into one bi-monthly publication, **SEARCH**. The name is correct, but the publication schedule will be quarterly, rather than bi-monthly. The subscription rates are \$5.00 per year. And, in the October column, I said a panel discussion on UFO's would be published in the December issue of **PLAYBOY**. Actually, this is now slated for the February issue, so perhaps this will reach you in time for you to obtain a copy, if you wish.

If you have not yet obtained a copy of **ASTRONOMY** magazine's reprint, **THE ZETA INCIDENT** by Terence Dickinson, here's a chance to do so at a savings. Stanton Friedman is selling copies at \$2.50 each, postpaid. If your order is for five or more copies, they're only \$2.00 each. Stan also offers additional discounts for purchases of more than 25 copies. This is an excellent publication and I regard it as "must" reading. Order from: **UFORI** — P.O. Box 502 — Union City, CA 94587.

It may or may not do any good to write to your Congressman about the UFO subject in general, but it will definitely benefit you if you'll write him and ask for copies of two Congressional Research Service booklets, **EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE AND UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS: A SELECTED**,

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY** (#76-35 SP - 45 pages) and **THE UFO ENIGMA** (#76-52 SP - 124 pages). Both publications are well-written and certainly worth a 13c stamp and a few minutes of your time to request them.

A reminder that James M. McCampbell's book, **UFOLOGY**, is now available in a paperback edition, selling for \$4.95. The book has been reviewed in a previous column, so I will only say that it is an excellent summary of the UFO topic and should be required reading for all Ufologists. The publisher of this new edition is: Celestial Arts — 231 Adrian Road — Millbrae, CA 94030.

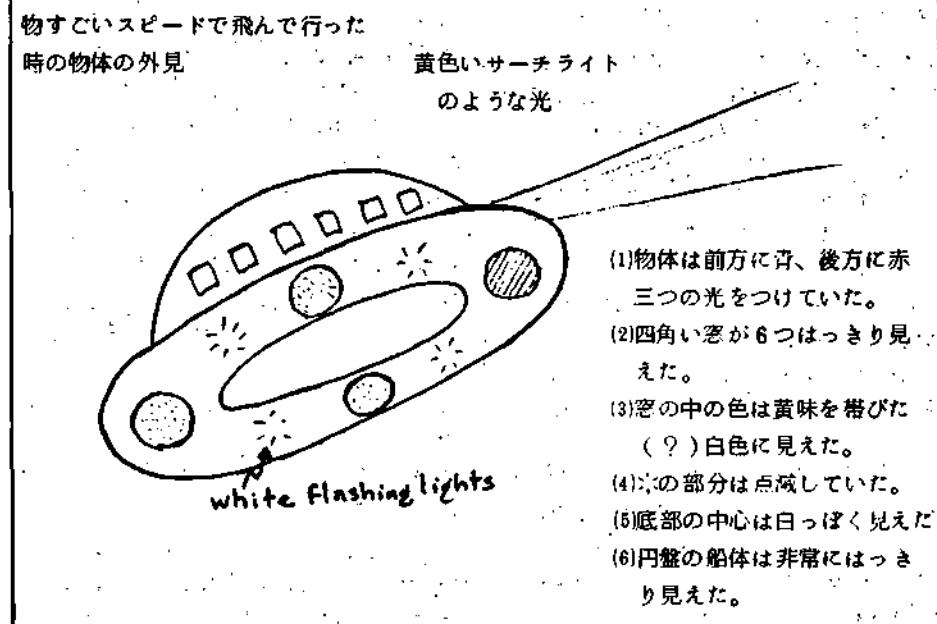
Robert Earle's **PROOF OF ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS**, Nazca Sketchbooks #1 and #2, present his views concerning the now-famous Nazca Lines of Peru and their claimed links with space visitors in ancient times. Mr. Earle has visited the Nazca area and some of his conclusions are quite thought-provoking, to say the least. Each of the Sketchbooks is priced at \$1.98. For \$5.00 per year, you can join Earle's Nazca Science Boosters Club, entitling you to both Sketchbooks and a quarterly Nazca Newsletter. Also available are 38 blueprint-size charts of the Nazca region, with each chart covering an area of 3 x 4½ miles. These are priced at \$6.50 each. The address is: P.O. Box 9635, Bay

Village, OH 44140.

Socorro, New Mexico, April 24, 1964. Most of us know — roughly at least — what is alleged to have occurred in that Southwestern desert town on that particular day. Patrolman Lonnie Zamora said he saw a flame-spewing object which landed in a gully, disgorged two humanoid occupants in white clothing, and then (with occupants again aboard) took off into the sky. It left behind burned brush, "footprints" (of both occupants and machine) and, Ray Stanford says, samples of an exotic metal alloy which presumably was not manufactured on this planet. As Stanford recounts the events following the incident, they unfold like clues in a cosmic detective story. The metallic samples, allegedly confirmed as non-terrestrial by a NASA scientist, are lost or destroyed in testing. It all makes for fascinating reading and I found the book thoroughly intriguing, but other researchers whom Stanford names in the book are unhappy with his "highly personalized version of 'objective truth,'" to quote Richard Hall. This leaves Ye Olde Reviewer up the proverbial stump, wondering just what the heck is the truth about the Socorro case? If you want Ray Stanford's account, I recommend that you purchase SOCORRO 'SAUCER' IN A PENTAGON PANTRY and make your own decisions. It is a well-written and interesting book, whether or not it is the "final word" on the case. The publisher is Blue-apple Books, P.O. Box 5694, Austin, TX 78763. The price is \$8.95.

## Three UFOs Sighted From Japanese Frieghter

Translated by J.I Takanashi  
(from Japan Flying Saucer Investigation, No. 76)



On the night of April 6, 1975, at around 11:20 p.m., the Japanese freight "Shinto Maru" was navigating homeward about 180 miles southwest of Singapore, after unloading lauan wood at Diambi in Sumatra, when the Third Mate sighted a strange, lighted craft approaching the freighter from the port side. The object, which appeared to be traveling on top of the water, suddenly ascended. When the mate signaled it with the steamer's light, it appeared to respond with its own light. Then the object changed course, rose higher, and flew off on a course of 160 degrees. The surprised Third Mate sent for the Captain, who also sighted the object through binoculars. The Captain also

sighted a second object, which approached the ship and flew away in the same fashion. They later sighted a third object in the distance. Some part of this third sighting was shared by three other members of the crew.

The object was about 10 meters in diameter and about 2 meters thick, in the Captain's estimate. It had one blue light and three red lights on the underside and there were many port holes encircling the dome-shaped upper part. Inside the port holes there was a yellowish-white light, and the middle of the underside appeared whitish. Steersman Yoshio Kotani, 30 years old, a deckhand, and a salon boy were the other witnesses.

# Pentagon Pantry: Is The Cupboard Bare ?

By Richard Hall

At the request of some friends, I have decided to prepare these comments about Ray Stanford's 1976 book on the 1964 Socorro, N.M. landing case. So far I have had mixed emotions about doing so, not wanting to dignify some of the allegations made by making a formal response, but not wanting the lack of a response to suggest acceptance of Stanford's account. However, copies of the book were sent to many MUFON people and other active UFO researchers, some of whom have insufficient background to evaluate it.

The Journal now seems to be an appropriate forum for placing my objections on record. In a nutshell, I consider Stanford's account of NICAP's part in the Socorro investigation — and particularly his unfounded claims of a secret, positive analysis report on the alleged "metal scrapings on the rock" — to be both a highly distorted and a highly subjective version of what transpired.

After reviewing the NICAP files and personal records, and checking with others present at NICAP in 1964, I wrote to Stanford July 21, 1976 challenging him to produce (1) a copy of the tape, or even a transcript of it, which he claims to have made surreptitiously while riding in the car with Walt Webb and me to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

to have the same analyzed; (2) copies of the notes or phone memos made of the alleged phone conversations with the two NASA scientists, upon which he claims to have based his "verbatim" quotes. Having received no response, I sent him a reminder on December 13, 1976 of what had been requested.

From Stanford's failure to produce these documents, I can only conclude either that he doesn't have them or that they would fail to support the most fundamentally important claims in his book. The surreptitious taping of supposed colleagues speaks for itself, and is indicative of the near paranoid suspicion upon which most of the argumentation in the book rests.

Before going into more detail, these other points need to be made:

- In a telephone conversation with Stanford July 12, 1975, I asked him whether he had tape-recorded his telephone conversations with the NASA scientists, which would end all controversy. He replied: "No... If I had told them I was taping them they may not have talked so freely." If he, implicitly, so mistrusted Walt Webb and me that he saw overriding reasons to deceive us, why would he not tape the absolutely vital phone conversations that, he claims, prove a cover-up? Instead, he

told me, his quotes of them were based on notes made immediately afterwards.

- Why did Stanford wait 12 years (six years after I had left NICAP) to make a public issue of the Socorro case and my handling of it? If he believed then what he now professes to believe, why didn't he vigorously protest at the time and force the issue with NICAP? And if he had evidence that he didn't trust NICAP to publish, why didn't he resign and publish it elsewhere? For all I knew until 1975, Stanford reluctantly accepted the NASA analysis report despite his obvious desire at the time to believe that he had the conclusive physical proof of UFOs.

- When Stanford first phoned me on June 20, 1975, he talked about a book he was writing on the Socorro case discussing the physical evidence. He did not say that the book would be highly critical of me and reach conclusions contradicting those of NICAP, nor did he offer me any opportunity to comment on the allegations that would be made. I volunteered that I had received a letter from Dr. James E. McDonald concerning a report of "fused sand" having been gathered at the landing site and analyzed by a chemist. Stanford asked for a copy of the letter, and I sent it on June 24th. In the book (p. 73) he refers to this letter as having

been obtained "from the late Dr. James McDonald."

Why he didn't credit me as the source — and owner — of the letter I don't know, but I suspect it was because to do so would show me as openly co-operating and concerned about the truth of the Socorro case. This would tend to contradict his thesis that Richard Hall was more concerned with buttering up scientists than in seeking the truth.

• Stanford apparently is off by a week in dating the trip to Goddard as July 31 (p. 120). Walter Webb wrote me July 12, 1976 that his diary shows for July 23, 1964: "Met Ray Stanford at NICAP"; and for July 24: "To Goddard Space Flight Center..."

#### NASA ANALYSIS

Stanford's claim that I was told the preliminary analysis pointed toward an extraterrestrial source is the single most important — indeed, critical — claim bearing on my culpability (or stupidity). If I am called to testify before a Congressional committee investigating an alleged cover-up of the Socorro case (Stanford's apparent goal), I will testify to what I am quite confident is the truth: Neither Dr. Frankel nor anyone else at NASA ever suggested to me that they were leaning toward an extraterrestrial interpretation. In fact, when Dr. Frankel talked to me about tentative findings of a zinc-iron alloy, he said to me that the results suggested a zinc pail! No quantitative analysis had been conducted at this point, so that Stanford's claims of significant findings at this time make no sense at all — except in terms

of what he wanted to believe.

A major myth purveyed by Stanford is the impression he leaves that I more or less twisted his arm to have the analysis done by Dr. Frankel at the NASA facility and that he was just going along with my decision. ("Hall, apparently, was sure that the metallurgist... was the man to do the job." p. 116 "I felt the decision to take it to Goddard was a judicious one, trusting Richard Hall's judgment." p. 117). As the record of our correspondence clearly shows, the judgment was Stanford's.

Several options were open to him and I repeatedly asked him which he preferred. We had initially suggested the Smithsonian Laboratories in Cambridge, Mass., where Walt Webb had indicated the analysis could be done under his direct supervision. On May 5, 1964, Stanford wrote me that he might be able to have the analysis done locally at Phoenix, Arizona. I replied May 8th: "If you can persuade competent local scientists to analyze the remaining metal samples, and have assurance that a public report would be available, that would probably be the best arrangement."

For reasons of his own, Stanford chose to have the analysis done at Goddard and he did so with the foreknowledge that (as I had told him in my letter of June 25, 1964) "He (Frankel) stated he had done analysis of alleged UFO artifacts for the government..." When Stanford quotes from this letter (p. 117) to establish how he "had just been persuaded" to have the analysis

done at Goddard, he omits this sentence about Frankel's prior connection with governmental UFO analyses.

By selective quoting, Stanford leaves the false impression that I led him down the primrose path. When he states (p. 151) that I told him in 1975 of "later" discovering that Frankel had worked closely with the FBI, this is a grossly misleading distortion of what I said; I was simply reminding him of what we both knew at the time. He uses this distortion in conjunction with the claim that I said I "could believe" there had been a cover-up involving Frankel to suggest that I now recognized the error of my ways. All I said was that I did not rule out that possibility entirely, but that is a far cry from "believing" that it happened, which I do not.

Stanford (p. 151-152) characterizes my published report on the analysis as "highly distorted" and accuses me of "intellectual dishonesty" in the way it was reported. I published the results of the one and only analysis report ever given to me by the NASA scientists, and that analysis concluded exactly what I said it did. The reader may wish to compare the intellectual honesty of that with Stanford's treatment of salient facts in the instances cited above.

His entire case rests on two apparently undocumented and unverifiable alleged phone calls that only he can witness. In addition, no one else involved in the Socorro investigation remembers the startling (and presumably unforgettable) positive NASA analysis report that

only Stanford remembers.

In 1964, NICAP's position that UFOs appeared to be extraterrestrial was well-known, and I was the officer responsible for all NICAP publicity at the time as Acting Director. To have been instrumental in proving the case with physical evidence would have been a feather in my cap; undoubtedly I would have gone down in history as leader of the organization and personal participant in the historical event that gave the world this proof. If I had been told by Frankel what Stanford claims I was told, I would have had every reason to spread the spectacular news to my NICAP colleagues. No one at NICAP (including Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Don Berliner, and Walt Webb) recalls any such news.

#### The Socorro Symbol

Not much space will be taken commenting on Stanford's curious reasoning about the "insignia" or symbol, about which he again accuses me of misleading everyone. As I told Stanford on the phone, his presentation on this subject is "a total red herring." There is no doubt whatsoever about the authenticity of the symbol that has been published, and in his zeal to find conspiracy and cover-up Stanford ignores absolute proof that exists both in Air Force and private files.

Stanford never offered at the time, and still does not offer, any compelling evidence to the contrary. Instead, he seizes on distorted information from second- and third-hand sources and values that equally with first-hand and documented information. His entire treatment

of the symbol is, to me, revealing evidence of the way his mind works in fanning the flames of conspiracy, no matter how faint the burning ember or how overwhelming the preponderance of evidence to the contrary.

It is ironic that Stanford hints at more cover-up (p. 42) by reporting that Capt. Holder suggested to Zamora that he not discuss the symbol publicly. Holder's reason for this should appeal to Stanford: "Holder said he reasoned that if the symbol were kept from public knowledge and subsequent records of the same symbol on an object should reach the authorities, then the government investigators would know that they were dealing with authentic reports."

Stanford probably has forgotten a letter dated May 3, 1964 that he sent to me at NICAP, since it was handwritten on notebook paper and he may not have retained a copy. In it he suggested:

"I advise not letting out the **real** (as told in tape by Mike Martinez) description of **symbol** on **UFO**, so if person(s) claim **UFO 'contact'** with **or** on **side** we can suspect a **hoax**, while anyone giving the **real** (& **unpublished**) description would tend to authenticate himself. Do you see my reasoning?"

If what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, then we have documented evidence of Ray Stanford suggesting a UFO cover-up. (We ignored this advice since our interest was in publishing the facts about what Zamora had seen). Unless it is another error by Stanford, this letter clearly implies that he

considered the alternative symbol to be a hoax in 1964. On May 5, 1964, I wrote to Stanford and concluded the letter with this sentence: "By the way, I offer you the **real** red marking (symbol) on the **UFO** obtained from Zamora on the telephone

" Stanford never disputed in 1964 what came to be the accepted symbol, so his effort to do so 12 years later is highly suspect.

#### Ray Stanford: Psychic/Scientists

In order to understand how Stanford's persuasively written account of the Socorro case might be bent and twisted by his biases, one must know something about Stanford. He is best known today, as he presents himself in the book as the scientific "brains" behind Project Starlight International (PSI), near Austin, Texas, with sophisticated equipment designed to track and record UFOs. This facet of his seeming dual personality explains why I trusted Stanford to investigate Socorro on behalf of NICAP in 1964.

I was aware at the time of his flirtations with well-known "contactees" and his subsequent disowning of them, and even of his alleged psychic contact and visual sighting, with other witnesses, of a UFO in November 1954. That did not involve any claimed face-to-face or verbal contact. What I did not know at the time, and not until reported to me by Walt Webb in 1976, was that Stanford himself was a full-fledged "contactee." In Robert J. Cribble's *Flying Saucer Review* for September 1956, Stanford had an article entitled "Is It Not

Time?" In it he asserted that George Adamski was among "those sincere and steadfast ones who have met our visitors face to face," and that stories like Adamski's "have stood the test of time."

He went on to say, "The readers of the Review know that I personally was privileged to have a contact with these people on November 6, 1954... Most of you, however, do not know that since that time I have been granted other contacts with these more evolved visitors from other planets. These contacts have given me (and others who have been contacted) a greater insight than I had ever dreamed possible. We have learned many things which have surprised even us. We know that these visitors can and will contact those who are ready — those with receptive minds. Never underestimate their ability to contact!"

Stanford has never shared with us what allegedly transpired during these contacts, nor what "surprising" things he learned. A veiled reference to these mid-1950's experiences appears in the Socorro book (p. 152-153), totally glossing over his claim at the time of having been singled out for contact because of his "receptive mind." Instead, he refers to these alleged experiences as "a couple of close-range sightings." Does he now renounce his former claims of privileged contact with spacemen? If he does, to what does he attribute them? Self-delusion?

In 1975 Stanford took out an ad in the **National Enquirer** offering to sell tape cassettes of "voices" obtained by him

through "a meditation-induced unconscious state" from people calling themselves "Brothers." (Adamski and other "contactees" claimed to be contacted by "Space Brothers.")

Stanford apparently passionately desires to obtain objective proof of these subjective experiences, hence his commitment to the Socorro sample being "metallic" even before any analysis was done and his ultra-scientific UFO tracking station.

#### Conclusions

In the Socorro book Stanford presents conspiracy theories based on his presupposition that he, in fact, had metallic traces of a UFO. NASA's failure to confirm this could only be explained by a cover-up. It is apparent to me that, far from "verbatim" quotes, Stanford has paraphrased remarks out of context, and taken serious liberties in doing so. His psychic and "contactee" background and his conspiratorial turn of mind give me little confidence that he, alone, has succeeded in uncovering truth where others have failed. Instead, I see in his writings example after example of "reading into" events that which he is already prone to believe. He shows every evidence of what I prefer to call "systematic self-delusion" rather than malicious intent.

The Socorro case is a strong one, and not all the facts have come out yet about analyses done on other samples obtained at the site or full testimony from other witnesses. Despite its good summary of the basic facts of the case, however, this book introduces false issues

and serves more to confuse than to enlighten.

My views and beliefs are amply documented in the UFO literature. I would have preferred that the NASA analysis show an unknown metal indicating an extraterrestrial source. But to the best of my knowledge, that is not what scientific analysis of Ray Stanford's Socorro sample showed.

*(Continued from page 20)*

slinging (IN CAPITAL LETTERS) emanates from a highly biased source, convinced in advance that any report of "spacemen" has to be a hoax, and must be filtered accordingly. APRO's response has already cast the allegedly suppressed polygraph test in a different light. The case is too complex to review here, but a careful reappraisal excluding polemics and concentrating on critical points of evidence seems to be needed.

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I would like to thank Glenn Welker, Fred Merritt, and Barbara Mathey for contributions of cancelled foreign stamps to exchange for U.S. postage. This program, described on page 18, helps underwrite the high postage costs involved in international exchange of UFO information. Active MUFON members also are encouraged to send case reports, publications, and newspaper clippings directly to the MUFON Information Exchange Centers overseas, in exchange for all the information they so kindly provide to MUFON.

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

by  
Walt Andrus

Thousands of hours of research into entity or humanoid cases has culminated in a 200 page typewritten catalog of 1300 Close Encounters of the third kind compiled by Ted Bloecher and David Webb, Co-Chairmen of MUFON's Humanoid Study Group. Starting in late August of 1896, the catalog, dubbed "HumCat" by Ted and Dave, has all reports identified by year, case number, date, time, location, an alpha type classification, a brief description, the investigators name if known, and the source of the report. This is without a doubt one of the most comprehensive humanoid catalogs compiled to date. Ted and Dave are to be congratulated for a superb research achievement in this specialized field. Credit must be also given to Lex Mebane who assisted Ted in the finished product. MUFON and the JOURNAL extend our appreciation for "a job well done". We also want to express our thanks to the large number of UFO researchers worldwide who provided case information for this magnificent endeavor.

November 5, 6, and 7th marked the dates for the "National Research and Investigation Conference" sponsored by the British UFO Research and Investigation Conference" sponsored by the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA), held at the Birmingham Centre Hotel in Birmingham, England. They were assisted by members of the UFO Studies Information Service (UFOSIS) and the Northern UFO Network (NUFON). The international scope of this UFO Conference was reflected in the choice of the featured evening speaker, Mr. Ted Bloecher, representing the United States, but in particular as MUFON's State Director for New York and Co-Chairman of MUFON's Humanoid Study Group. Ted titled his presentation "The Humanoids - An Analysis of UFO Occupant Cases". A tape recorded presentation by Dr. J.

Allen Hynek on "Current UFO Research" followed Ted's lecture. Many of our JOURNAL readers will remember the outstanding illustrated lecture that Mr. Bloecher gave at the "1975 MUFON UFO Symposium" in Des Moines, Iowa. Other fine speakers giving papers on diverse UFO subjects were Peter Rogerson - "INTCAT - An International Catalogue of Type I UFO Reports"; Jack Webber - "The Alphabet of UFO Reports"; Bernard Delair (MUFON's Representative for England) - "UFO Waves and Their Prediction"; Anthony Pace - "The Vehicle Interference Effect"; Robert Digby - "They Shoot UFO's - Don't They?"; Tim O'Brien - "A Unified Extra-Terrestrial Hypothesis in Explanation of the UFO Phenomenon"; Roy Dutton - "An Objective Analysis of the UFO Phenomenon"; Mark Stenhoff - "A Projected Study of Fluid Vortex Rings and Plasma Phenomena as Explanatory Hypothesis for the UFO"; and Ian Grant - "The UFO Problem - Solved".

In addition to the formal papers that were presented, Group Sessions were held on the following research techniques with leaders as indicated: "Investigation Procedure and Techniques", Robert Digby, Steve Gamble and John Shaw; "Data Processing, Cataloging and Case Documentation", Jenny Randles; and "Instrumental Detection of the UFO Phenomenon", Charles Lockwood and Anthony Pace. The success of this conference must be attributed to the conference organizers—Miss Jenny Randles (NUFON), Mr. Philip Rogers (UFOSIS) and Mr. Roger Stanway (BUFORA) for their fine planning and motivation.

Ted Bloecher's written report on his visit to England includes not only the people he met at the BUFORA Conference, but personal visits with many folks that are well known on the UFO scene such as Julian Hennessey in

Belgravia; Charles Bowen, Editor of the Flying Saucer Review; Eileen Buckle, Gordon Creighton, John Lade and Brian Winder, FSR Staff Members; Bernard Delair, Director of Contact UK; and John Rimmer and Peter Rogerson, Editors of MUFOB (The Merseyside UFO Bulletin).

Ted's evaluation of BUFORA Conference may be summed up in the following manner: "I found the conference similar in nearly all respects to the best of the MUFON Symposia of recent years; the degree of interest and involvement was high, and the participants serious about efforts to improve investigate and research techniques". According to Ted, among the most interesting and valuable documents made available at the Conference for the benefit of BUFORA investigators was the just released "UFO INVESTIGATION - A HANDBOOK FOR UFO INVESTIGATORS"— a production on a scale that rivals MUFON's "FIELD INVESTIGATOR'S MANUAL". A copy of MUFON's manual was mailed to Bernard Delair as an aid in producing their handbook.

November 1976 ushered in a new monthly publication to the UFO field—the INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER with Dr. J. Allen Hynek as Editor-in-chief and Allan Hendry, Managing Editor. Even though IUR is operated as a separate corporation, it will be the communications media for the Center for UFO Studies. In the first edition (8 pages), Dr. Hynek sets forth the purposes and philosophy of this new publication in an article titled "Estimate of the Situation". When the Center for UFO Studies was organized in 1974, MUFON was the only major UFO organization to pledge its support and has demonstrated that cooperation for the past two years. We are very cognizant that the IUR will be in direct competition to THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL. However, we welcome that

competition, because the ultimate benefits will be accrued by UFO researchers in having available not only higher caliber publications for the readers, but an opportunity to share their investigative and research accomplishments via published papers. The professional caliber staff members of THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL welcome the INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER to the UFO scene, because we recognize that both publications can fill a specific and distinct need. The JOURNAL (formerly SKYLOOK) has established itself as one of the leading UFO publications in the world today, therefore we are going to be trying even harder to maintain and justify that prestigious reputation.

Recently, George Eberhart, a graduate student at the University of Chicago conducted a survey to assess the level of activity of workers in the UFO field and document the kind and types of sources utilized. Four hundred eighty-four questionnaires were sent out to active researchers in May and 33 per cent of them responded. The survey disclosed two items of major interest to MUFON members; (1) The most popular UFO Journals turned out to be APRO Bulletin, Flying Saucer Review, and SKYLOOK and (2) James McCampbell's book "UFOLOGY" ranked in the top five for UFO books considered absolutely basic for any library. Dr. Hynek's "UFO Experience" held a significant lead.

We have just complied with a request by "The Institute of Scientific Information of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences" for a specimen copy of SKYLOOK to be studied with the view of reviewing it in their published ABSTRACTS JOURNAL. Issues No. 103 and 105 of THE MUFON UFO JOURNAL were submitted. Widespread publicity would occur if the review was published. Their goal is to supply their readers with maximum information about the latest achievements in science and technology. It is gratifying to know that SKYLOOK came to the attention of this scientific body.

## RECAPPING AND COMMENTING

By Richard Hall (MUFON International Coordinator)

(Comments in this month's column are based, in part, on articles appearing in the July 1976 MUFON UFO Journal)

As everybody realizes by now, MUFON has had serious transition problems following Dwight Connelly's resignation as editor and Dennis Hauck assuming double duty editing Official UFO and MUFON UFO Journal. Some printing problems contributed to delays, and I can envision Director Walt Andrus chewing on ulcer pills. Happily, the worst seems to be past and Dennis is rapidly catching up. However, one thing is obvious: MUFON specialists, State Directors, and others, are failing to produce articles and summary reports for publication.

MUFON and the Journal cannot succeed without better cooperation from active members who use the information they obtain for private research purposes. MUFON encourages such use, but the users have a strong responsibility to share that information. This means taking time to write up significant cases, summary reports, and newsnotes in manuscript form (typed, double-spaced) and submit it to the Editor. One manuscript of four or five pages from each of you once a month would make all the difference in the world to the Journal. If you can't write (and I've never heard of anyone who thought he or she couldn't write), at least send newspaper

clippings and news of any UFO related programs or activities in your area.

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Reading the latest polemic about the Travis Walton case, by Phil Klass, I can only repeat that it is an outstanding example of how not to go about UFO investigations. The "committed" positions and ax-grinding continue to shed more heat than light on the situation. At this point, no one has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the case is either (a) genuine or (b) a hoax. In fact, as I've said before, there is no reason why we should rush to an "either-or" judgment. Klass' mud-

(Continued on page 18)

Mark R. Herbstritt

## Astronomy Notes

December 1976

MERCURY - greatest eastern elongation is on the 20th, but this is an unfavorable one, Mercury being only about 10 degrees above the southwestern horizon at sunset.

VENUS - It is prominent in the southwestern sky for about 3 hours after sunset.

MARS - It is too close to the sun for observation.

JUPITER - Moving from Taurus westward into Aries, it is now well up in the east at sunset and is visible until nearly dawn.

SATURN - Near the boundary between Cancer and Leo, it rises in the late evening.

The GEMINID meteor shower occurs from December 10 to 13.