

# visitors

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## DOLAN SPEAKS AT UFO SYMPOSIUM

by Scott Waldyn, Staff Writer

The Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS) and Illinois MUFON brought together UFO Symposium 2 to the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Tinley Park. Among the highlights, Richard Dolan, historian and author of *UFOs and the National Security State*, presented a lecture as the key-note speaker.

Dolan's presentation, "The Challenges of UFO Disclosure," offered visitors and attendees a three-part slideshow lecture probing into the importance of UFOs, the secrecy of the subject politically and historically, and his own personal thoughts on who "they" are.

"What drew me into the UFO topic was a very simple question. It's not "Are they real?" Dolan said. "It was



much more basic than that. It was, "Was this ever a valid topic of history? Was this something that our national security leadership was ever truly interested in? I got into this topic wanting to know the answer to that one single question. Was this something as part of our national history? And the answer to that question, to me, is yes, absolutely, it is. Of course, once you answer that question, a lot of follow-up questions arise, such as, 'Well, why?'"

As a researcher and a formally educated historian, Dolan's approach was to treat the subject as something of societal and historical importance rather than scientific. When he first began his research into UFOs 15 years ago, it proved to be nothing short of mind-blowing. (Continued on page 2)

### CAN THE MILITARY KEEP A SECRET?

by John B. Ringer, Historical Anomalist, Contributing Writer

An argument often used to squash speculation that our military is hiding the truth about UFOs is that the government isn't capable of keeping any secrets, let alone one as powerful as this. I have to admit, the first time I heard this argument it resonated. My own experience with the armed services consisted of two years as a draftee in the mid-50s, and the Army I knew was almost a case study in inefficiency. I had the feeling 'they' couldn't do anything right. Of course, my attitude was far from ideal as I considered the whole thing a huge waste of my time.

One of my most vivid memories of Army life is the rumors. Since our officers felt no need to explain anything, rumors filled the void. It started during the induction process and lasted until my final day in uniform. Most rumors were wrong, and even the ones that got it right were usually (Continued on page 8)

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(DOLAN SPEAKS continued from page 1)

“The biggest challenge for me was when I got to the realization that I found a legitimate topic. It opened up a completely new mental world.”

With the release of his book (the first of three volumes), Dolan’s research is catalogued in a manner that allows believers and non-believers alike a chance to see this topic from his initial and personal approach to the subject.

“The first challenge that I had was learning my topic. I didn’t have a lot of background information,” he said. “I started at, as it were, ground zero. I had to educate myself and basically teach myself Ufology 101. So, I had to go through that process, read book after book after book. It was a never-ending process. The way I was able to turn that around was that I took very well-organized notes, and that allowed me to take the initiative to write my book.”

In terms of reception, Dolan felt his work has been generally well received among the ufology community, although some criticism is cast over his ideas about the government’s role in UFO history, relating mostly to how deeply-rooted a cover-up and possible conspiracy is. Regarding press, the author stated that his work had also been relatively ignored by most of the mainstream media.

“It’s one thing for mainstream media to deal with UFOs as a scientific anomaly, as something of interest. ‘Gee, what if there’s life out there? Gee, could that thing be something unusual or out of the ordinary?’ That’s one thing. That’s relatively safe,” he said. “To ask a question though, to ask, ‘Has my government systematically lied and covered up the topic?’—the media system has missed this major point. Is there a major cover-up? That’s a very significant issue, and that’s not something you will find the mainstream media is willing to tackle.”

Overall though, Dolan felt that his



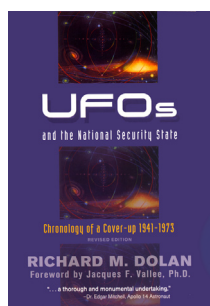
Richard Dolan answering attendees’ questions at the UFO Symposium 2 on June 22nd 2008 in Tinley Park

book provided much positive impact among those interested in the field and area of study.

“There’s real hunger for knowledge on this topic, and many people have told me that this book is a very much-needed book,” the author said.

One thing Dolan mentioned about ufology, however, was the idea of change—how information, theories, and technology constantly changes, particularly in the recent decades, and ufology along with it, bringing the field of study to a societal and cultural level.

“The more you stay in this field, the more it changes,” he said. “When you think about the changes of our society in the last one hundred years, there is no period in history that comes close to the level of change that we have experienced, not even remotely. Cars, airplanes, radios, televisions, atomic bombs—that’s all within forty years, and then you go to missiles, computers, internet, ipod [and] little bluetooth phones. This technology has changed our society in such a dramatic way. [It has] also brought political changes I believe. [It is] at least bringing political instability, I think. [Technology] is certainly bringing economic instability. So, we’re in a very tumultuous era. Think about the revolution in internet. In the matter of ten years, no internet to internet, no computers in American homes to most Americans having computers. We’re living in a time



Dolan’s first book, *UFOs and the National Security State*

**“Disclosure...would be...nothing short of explosive.”**



of dramatic change, and it is just my feeling that times of openness can occur.”

With this idea of rapid technological advances, Dolan expressed how he felt this dramatic change could alter the way ufology is perceived rather quickly, perhaps within decades if not sooner. Disclosure, if ultimately brought about by this change, would be, he noted, nothing short

of explosive.

“Change is happening now to the world. So, I think that’s what I would have to say. We’re in a very dramatic period of change, and I don’t think we’re done,” he said. “It could very well be a world that has an open acknowledgment of an extraterrestrial presence.” ☺

## SHOW ME THE EVIDENCE: THE SCIENCE OF UFOLOGY

Come hear the evidence presented by the internationally renown physicist, author, and UFO lecturer Stanton Friedman. His presentation, “Flying Saucers: and Science” will be joined by the leading UFO evidence researcher, Ted Phillips. Also speaking will be author and Roswell expert, Donald Schmitt and the Illinois MUFON Director and UFO researcher, Sam Maranto, along with Michigan UFO researcher and video documentarian, Bill Murphy. You’ve seen them on TV, now hear and meet them in person in an exciting and educational afternoon of discussions about alien visitation. A question and answer period will be open to all attendees after the formal presentations.

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WILL FIND YOU.

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SHOW ME THE EVIDENCE—THE SCIENCE OF UFOLOGY

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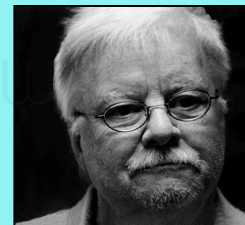
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## I N S I G H T S

# PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE FIELD INVESTIGATOR (PART ONE): DIGITAL VS. FILM

by Frank Coffman, MUFON Field Investigator, Editor



## Digital vs. Film—Preliminaries

The new millennium has ushered in enormous change in many aspects of our lives. Certainly one great revolution is the ongoing shift from traditional film to the new digital photography.

The cusp of transition that we are moving through currently in cameras and photographic technology is by no means the first such transition in the history of the photographic image, but in many ways it is the most significant in terms of difference. The previous modes of creating a photographic image have been analog—in which a facsimile of the image is literally “drawn by light” [*graphos* and *photo* from the Greek] on a receptive medium upon which the image is fixed (or at least latent and ready to be made permanent).

The original processes of exposing to light chemically treated stone or bitumen, tin or other metals gave way to the use of thin glass plates still treated with the necessary dangerous chemicals. This “wet plate” or “collodion” process (most historically notable in the many famous Civil War photographs by Matthew Brady and Alexander Gardner) was used through the mid- to later 19th century, but gave way to George Eastman’s wonderful invention of celluloid film in the late 1880s. By the early 20th century, film was the norm.

One interesting innovation that changed this in the mid-century was the invention of the Polaroid camera which exposed an image that could be quickly seen as a “positive,” rather than needing to go through the process of “development” of a negative and subsequent “printing” of a corresponding positive image.

And film is, of course, still with us and will continue to be widely used—especially by professionals and art photographers, due largely to its own unique properties which, thus far, can not be exactly duplicated by digital cameras. Polaroid “film” is still used widely by professionals, especially for initial testing of camera settings on middle to large format cameras when doing photo shoots.

But we in ufology might well be numbered among those for whom film remains an important standby and for whom the Polaroid also has certain advantages (as long as it remains with us, for there are signs it is being phased out of existence—at least out of ready accessibility). I’ll come back to these points shortly.

There are distinct advantages to both film and digital photography. A quick look at the advantages and disadvantages of each might be useful here:

## Digital Photography—Advantages

- ❖ The cost of digital cameras is decreasing at a staggering pace. One can now obtain a quality digital camera, capable of capturing remarkably good images at a cost of hundreds of dollars, where only a decade ago the cost would have been in the thousands.
- ❖ The obvious advantage of having no more cost—EVER—for purchase and processing of film. A digital camera “pays for itself” quickly, if the owner takes only an average number of photos per year.
- ❖ The sheer number of images that can be “shot” is staggering and limited only by the capacity of the digital memory in the camera and the quality setting for the photos being taken. This eliminates concern over the cost of “overshooting”—which is a good thing in photography; take enough and more than enough images and some must turn out—in theory.
- ❖ Since hundreds of photos can be taken without any need for “reloading” (as with film) there is less chance of missing “the shot.”
- ❖ The digital camera requires comparatively less available light to capture clear and detailed images, so the use of flash is not required as often.



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- ❖ The images can be improved after the fact by computer adjustment and color and contrast and brightness corrections in a computer. In other words, a poorly exposed image can be made better after the fact! This is true of all digital images, but it is especially true in the better digital cameras that are capable of shooting what is known as “RAW” format, gathering vast amounts of information from the subject image. This is not true with film where it’s pretty much a case of “what you take [expose] is what you get.”
- ❖ With most digitals, all sorts of useful information is stored along with the data required to reproduce the image. Things like date and time of the shot, aperture of the lens, relative “film” speed (ASA/ISO), shutter speed, etc. These are things frequently not recorded by the film photographer.
- ❖ Miniaturization of digital cameras has made it possible for a very good quality image to be taken by an entirely portable camera—one that can be always available. Furthermore, the technology has made it possible for our cell phones to double as cameras, thus increasing the chances that nearly all people can have a fairly adequate camera “at the ready.”
- ❖ With special modification, a modern digital camera can take very fast infrared photos, thus showing relative heat signatures of objects. While this modification is pricey (around \$400 usually for most SLR digitals) and “permanent” in the sense that the camera then shoots ONLY infrared images, it might prove very useful in ufological studies and field investigation [more on the use of infrared and other special cameras in a future installment of this series].

With advantages such as these, it makes little sense today for anyone who wishes to take excellent photographs in a cost-effective way NOT to invest in a digital camera. In fact, I would recommend for the Field Investigator—or for anyone seriously interested in ufology—to invest in at least two (2) digital cameras: one “mini” or at least one that is small enough to carry on ones person [and make it a habit to do so]; and one a larger fixed-lens with significant zoom capabilities, OR, even better, an SLR (“single lens reflex” which provides a viewfinder that looks through the actual shooting lens) with interchangeable lens capabilities and a resemblance in size to traditional better quality 35mm film cameras.

But, for our purposes as Field Investigators or for the purposes of ufological studies in general, there are a

couple key disadvantages to the digital camera as well. In an important way, one advantage is also a disadvantage.

## Digital Photography — Disadvantages

- ❖ With the smaller digitals and the lower-end, lower cost models, the clarity of the image is still not quite as good as the better film cameras; certainly the image cannot be enlarged as much as with a well-exposed 35mm negative or slide, and it is decidedly inferior to the medium format film cameras (120 or 220 roll film, which is the other “standard” remaining in film today, the APS smaller format being phased out). “Graininess” or, more properly termed, “pixilization” happens when digital images are enlarged too much. The best digitals have overcome this, but cameras that can do 20-plus mega pixel images still cost many thousands of dollars (\$8000 to well over \$20,000), and the better SLRs that are 10+ mega pixels are cost prohibitive to many.
- ❖ The very fact that digital images can be easily manipulated after the shot leaves increased room for skepticism regarding the images captured. Not only can colors, contrast, and brightness be changed so that the image does not truly reflect what was seen with the naked eye, but images can be distorted, added to, or subtracted from relatively easily, and an expert can create quite a convincing fabricated image. This throws the door wide open for skeptics to readily say: “It’s a doctored photo, a fake, an intentional hoax.”

Let’s look briefly at the disadvantages of film (which will be quickly seen as the converse of most of the advantages of digital), followed by its lingering advantages for the photographer—especially for the photographic aspects of field investigation.

## Film Photography — Disadvantages

- ❖ The cost of purchasing and developing and printing film or slides can be significant, especially if one shoots a great number of photographs. Because of this, the tendency to “save film/save shots” can result in a very real possibility of losing potentially important images.
- ❖ The number of photos that can be shot in quick succession is limited by the film capacity and variety of the camera. There will always be time lost in reloading, sometimes significant, during which a key shot might be lost.

- I N S I G H T S**
- ❖ As light wanes, film is not as reactive as digital to available light, and the “faster” films (those with film speeds/ASAs/ISOs of 800, 1600, or more) tend to produce ever grainier images—especially upon enlargement.
  - ❖ With small (35mm and APS) and medium (120/220) format canister and roll film, respectively, the development of the film is uniform across the entire roll. While this is usually the optimum for good development, the fact remains that the individual frames were likely shot at many different camera settings and conditions of light. If they were all well-exposed, there should be little problem in creating a set of negatives that render true, but the control of each and every frame is, obviously, lost. The large format (“field” and “view” type) cameras—you know, the big wooden boxes set on hefty tripods—produce very large negative images (4” by 5” or 8” by 10” or even larger) and the huge negatives are developed individually, but that size camera is impractical for field work.
  - ❖ Perhaps the greatest potential problem with film is the fact that several steps are needed to create the positive image (except in the case of the Polaroid exposure). The more steps, the more chances of error in a process. A potential threat in film processing is the contamination of the image by dust or other particles either in development of the film or the printing and fixing of the positive image causing irregularities and even misleading final images. Also, the chemical process itself needs to be monitored closely and the work done evenly using properly mixed and clean chemicals. But this is not usually a major problem if the development and printing are done carefully by one experienced in darkroom work.
  - ❖ The fact that digital photography is emerging as the primary and decidedly dominant form of photography for the new millennium, makes it relatively simple today for one to obtain exceedingly fine film camera equipment and peripheral gear for a fraction of the initial cost, spending tens rather than hundreds, hundreds rather than thousands of dollars on still-perfectly-functional equipment. EBay, other online auctions, wholesalers, and photography stores have some amazing deals—if one knows what to look for. Especially significant here is the relatively inexpensive potential for the purchase of a quality 35mm SLR and lens system, OR EVEN for an introduction into larger format film shooting (120/220 rather than 35mm).
  - ❖ The film camera provides superior results when shooting in the manual mode with the settings of focus, shutter speed, and lens aperture controlled by the photographer. Add to this the fact that there are lenses available for film photography that are far superior in capability to even the top end in digital photography, and film shows another decided advantage. Also, some film cameras can be set at “f-stops” [“aperture” or diameter of the opening of the lens when shooting] as tiny as f32 or even f44]. With available daylight and/or a long enough exposure, amazingly sharp images, in focus from near foreground to infinity can be shot—think Ansel Adams kind of image sharpness. As miraculous a thing as the human eye is, it cannot provide clarity near to far like a good lens set at these large “depth of field” settings.
  - ❖ And finally, perhaps of greatest importance, since it is much more difficult to alter a film negative (and very, very difficult to alter exposed color slide film or a Polaroid image [which goes directly to “positive,” thus eliminating the printing step]), the potential for skeptical reception is greatly reduced. Things like double exposure and manipulations during printing of regular negative film can, of course, be done, but they are easy to detect for experts, especially compared to the ease in which digital images can be altered.

Even noting these disadvantages, there are still some very distinct advantages to shooting film—particularly in scientific research in general and for the MUFON Field Investigator or anyone hoping to document UFO evidence in particular.

## Film Photography—Advantages

- ❖ “Point and shoot” models and more sophisticated film cameras alike are generally less complicated to operate, if for no other reason than they have fewer “bells and whistles,” fewer settings to check on and keep track of.
- ❖ With many people, there is a certain comfort level to shooting film, as it has been a standard for over a century.

So, I’m going to end up advocating what might come as a surprise to some by saying that, for the camera components of what I will call “The Complete Field Investigator Photography Kit” not only should one own—and keep handy—two (2) digital cameras (one “pocket or purse” [at least a cell phone with camera capability, but ideally a true digital “mini”] AND another more sophisticated larger digital camera [ideally an SLR], BUT one



should also invest in at least two (2) and possibly three (3)! film cameras—again one “pocket or purse” size, another larger, more sophisticated camera (ideally a 35mm SLR and not an APS), and yet a third in what is known as “middle format,” one using 120 or 220 roll film—At the very least, someone or some few in any given MUFON local area should have access to middle format equipment.

At the risk of briefly boring those of you who already have a familiarity with photography and its jargon. I’m going to take just a bit of time to clarify some of the terminology I’ve presented for those who are newer to photography or who have never considered it anything more than point, then shoot, then take film to the store for prints or slides.

First, I’ve used the term “SLR” a few times above. Those letters stand for “single lens reflex” indicating a camera in which the viewfinder actually looks through the camera lens (via a prism or mirror that quickly moves out of the way when the shot is taken, thus giving a pretty much exact view of what the resultant image should look like. This type of camera (available in both 35mm and in some 120/220 middle format models) usually has interchangeable lenses. In many modern models, it comes equipped with a variable “zoom” lens that pretty much takes the place of the three standard and traditional types of interchangeable lenses in the photographers arsenal: normal, wide angle, and telephoto.

Second, the larger film format—what I’ve called “middle format” or 120/220 film variety—uses larger film, with the standard size being exposed a 6cm by 6cm, 6x7, 6x9, or 6x4.5 size, depending on the camera used. The resultant image is anywhere from 3 to 6 times the size of a 35mm negative, and the detail captured in such an image is astonishing and capable of huge enlargement. For documenting a site or photographing physical trace evidence, such a middle format camera has obvious advantages.

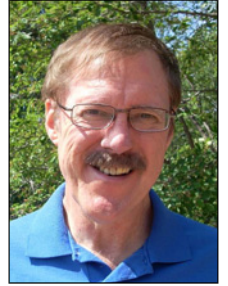
#### NEXT TIME in Part Two:

Examples of cameras both digital and film and some suggestions on good options; lenses and filters; a few comments on film (slide vs. print, and color vs. black & white); and peripheral photography gear—completing the “Kit.” ☞

## “NORTHERN LIGHTS”: UFOS FROM A MICHIGAN PERSPECTIVE

by Bill Murphy, Staff Writer

The *Visitors* newsletter is, I believe, an important and potentially powerful addition to the field of American ufology, and I’m excited and honored to be a staff writer-contributor to this effort. Too often, what one sees is almost totally “Someone Else’s News”—stuff gleaned from other newsletters and internet sites—which, while valuable, doesn’t represent any new contribution to the field.



I thought I’d start off my contributions with some background about myself and how I got involved in ufology, then let you know what particularly interests me in the field and what current studies I’m carrying out. This will give you an idea of what topics I’ll be covering in the future, and some perspective on my ufological point of view. I grew up in the Lansing, Michigan area, went to school at Michigan State University, where I got degrees in History, and went on to the University of Michigan.

Along the way I met and married my wife Linda, who for some time didn’t know about the interest in UFOs I’d had since reading Edward Ruppelt’s *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* (Stanton Friedman and a lot of other people in this field credit that book with getting them started, too). One of my college students suggested we consider joining MUFON. My first thought was along the lines of “What’s a MUFON?”

Eventually, we did go to a Michigan MUFON meeting, and were rather surprised to realize that here was a bunch of normal people who were talking intelligently about some fairly abnormal things. Linda and I started attending local MUFON section meetings in our area, and very quickly became MUFON State Section Directors and in early 1995 Co-State Directors, as well.

In 1997 new work opportunities required we give over most of our free time to establishing professional competencies, and it seemed appropriate to turn over the Michigan MUFON reins to new leadership. Over the past two years things ufological have accelerated once again; I write a column for the Michigan MUFON Newsletter, am part of the MUFON History Project under Research Director Robert Powell, and Linda and I are Research Associates and new Field Investigators with MUFON, while

Linda has contributed to Katharina Wilson's website. I am also associated with the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies.

I'll close this introductory article by encouraging you to read all you can about ufology, to sift the useful from the less-valuable, and to share your interest. You, as an individual, can make a contribution; ufology needs good people who are willing to roll up their sleeves, be knowledgeable about the subject, and speak intelligently about it to others. I invite you to join in that effort, and look forward to writing for and talking with you.


Bill will be an introductory speaker at the upcoming UFO Symposium 3 on August 17th. A preview of his presentation follows below.

## MAKING THE CASE FOR UFOLOGY: ABSTRACT

### A Preview of Bill Murphy's Symposium Talk

Skeptics and debunkers paint ufology as a ramshackle, chaotic arena filled with amateurs, hoaxers, and starry-eyed believers, while Science, their kind of Science, is the bastion of reason that will ultimately prove the earthly salvation of humankind. The reality is rather different: the debunkers' own words and actions help show that ufology and Science are subject to the same kinds of problems and issues that debunkers pin only upon the study of UFOs

With thirty years of experience in both academia and the world of technology, Bill Murphy will draw similarities between these fields and the study of UFOs. He sees ufology as a serious discipline, and ufologists themselves, deserve more respect and regard than they have been given. And Science has a duty to evaluate evidence for the UFO phenomenon, when that evidence is properly collected, analyzed, and interpreted. Yet mainstream Science may be ill-equipped to deal with the evidence for an extraordinary intervention upon this earth.

In the end, we have to take the work of ufologists such as Stanton Friedman, Donald Schmitt, Ted Phillips, and Sam Maranto to the wider educated world. His presentation will suggest ways to make the case for ufology to that larger audience. 

(CAN THE MILITARY KEEP A SECRET? continued from page 1)

fragmentary. Nevertheless, rumors were the life's blood of our daily existence. Given this experience, I dismissed the possibility of the military keeping serious secrets as absurd.

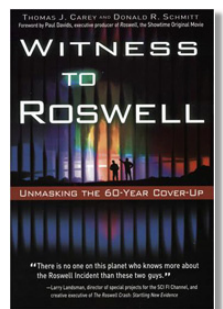
I should add that I had no bad feelings about the Army, other than not wanting to be personally involved. Like most citizens in the period following World War II, I trusted my government to do the right thing. While the Army might be bumbling, its heart was in the right place. *And, we knew, without any doubt, that we were the good guys on the world stage.*

Today, I no longer believe the government can't keep a secret. The accumulated readings I've done about UFOs, especially the latest books on Roswell, have given me a different take on what 'they' were really like. And, since I don't have a mole within the system, I'll need to consider a range of information to show a pattern across different venues and eras.

## What was the government doing at Roswell?

The Army (and our government in general) appears to have been acting in a manner quite contrary to my benign view of them. In the case of Roswell, they first appealed to patriotism, and then, for good measure, they also scared the crap out of everybody involved. *I've learned you can indeed keep a secret if you are ruthless enough.* Who would have thought that the government of the United States would threaten to take its citizens out into the desert and kill them? Who would have expected them to threaten children in the same way? My guess is, not many, and I'm not a bit happy about losing my innocence on this topic.

There are many good books about Roswell, but the one I'm reading now makes the point about enforced secrecy as well as any. *Witness to Roswell*, written by Thomas J. Carey and Donald R. Schmitt, is also a great read. As the title suggests, the authors have focused their investigation upon those who witnessed the events surrounding the Roswell incidents. They have exhaustively considered statements from both the past (thanks to the dedicated work of many earlier investigators) and new testimony. A typical 'story' comes from an old-timer who knows he or she doesn't have





much time left. Some come from relatives. <sup>(1)</sup>

The key figure in the Roswell story is, of course, rancher Mack Brazel. He is the unlucky fellow who found and reported the debris field from the crashed saucer. For his efforts, he was badly embarrassed and manhandled by the military. Not only did they 'hold' Mack for five days, as though he were a criminal, they accompanied him to the radio station so he could recant his earlier story. Not long after, he told his daughter not to believe everything she might read about her dad in the papers. "The government is going to use me to keep something secret!" Mack refused to tell his sons anything when they pressed him for details. "You don't want to know," he said before slamming the door. <sup>(1)</sup>

Another witness to the events at the Roswell Army Air Field was Arizona's lieutenant governor, Joseph 'Little Joe' Montoya. No one is quite certain how he happened to be on the base, but we know that he telephoned his friends, the Anaya brothers, to come and get him. He sounded upset, and when the brothers collected Montoya, he was indeed upset. He told them to get him, "...the hell out of here!" In his nervous ramblings, he told of seeing a flying saucer and 'beings' that weren't human. Later, when he had recovered his composure, Montoya told the brothers not to talk about what he had told them. "It's too dangerous to talk about. The FBI will do away with you." Later still he said, "If you talk about it, someone, maybe not the FBI, but someone in the government will get you." <sup>(1)</sup>

Here are a few additional tidbits from the book:

- ❖ PFC Rolland Menagh was an MP who guarded the crash site and accompanied the 18-wheeler which hauled the egg-shaped craft back to the base. He was sworn to secrecy of course, and when he retired from the Air Force years later, he was reminded about the incident and told to, "Keep quiet or else!" During retirement, he periodically received visits from military-types in dark suits. <sup>(1)</sup> (p100)
- ❖ Staff Sergeant Earl Fulford was one of dozens of enlisted men chosen to 'clean up' the debris field. They combed the area until 4:00 p.m. that day. Then they were themselves searched to be sure they didn't have any souvenirs. Each man was personally warned by the First Sergeant not to say anything. The punishment for doing so was court-marshal. Later, their squadron commander told them, "You didn't see or hear anything. Nothing happened!" <sup>(1)</sup> (p106)
- ❖ Eli Benjamin was a PFC with Top Secret clearance. He was assigned to guard several gurneys inside a

base hanger, and then told to transport the gurneys to the base hospital. He was able to see that the gurneys contained small, grey bodies. After delivery, he was debriefed and made to sign a nondisclosure statement. He was told that if he ever spoke about this incident, "...something bad would happen, not only to me, but also to my family." <sup>(1)</sup> (p138)

- ❖ Dr. Lejeune Foster, a renowned authority on human spinal-cord structure was flown to Washington to examine the spinal structures of the bodies retrieved near Roswell. After she finished her work and was debriefed, she was told that if she talked about what she had seen, she would lose her license to practice medicine and that she risked being killed. <sup>(1)</sup> (p144)

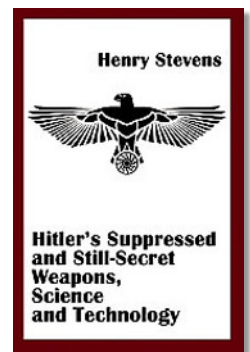
I could go on, just from this one source book, but you get the drift.

## Heavy-handed secrecy about World War II

Henry Stevens has a new book out called, *Hitler's Suppressed and Still-Secret Weapons, Science and Technology*. Stevens attributes many technological wonders to the Nazis, and in particular to the 'Kammler Group', headed by Hans Kammler. He also credits the SS for spearheading the most advanced research. Among Nazi creations (and bear in mind, this was during the 1930s and early 1940s) Stevens lists digital computers, flying discs, liquid air, synthetic penicillin, atomic weapons, an electric gun, magnetic waves to stop engines, death rays, and remote controlled rockets. He even hints at experiments in time distortion and zero point energy. <sup>(2)</sup>

I picked this book off the shelves because I doubted that World War II secrets would still be worthy of suppression. After all, this war ended over sixty years ago! Once again, I was apparently guilty of naiveté.

Mr. Stevens, in his quest for details of German scientific advancements, made frequent use of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and he is clearly no fan of the National Archives. One simple but clear example of the information 'freeze' was when he tried to acquire the papers relating to the German scientist Dr. Hans Friedrich Gold. The National Archives said they could find no such information. Stevens concluded that they simply lied to him. He says, further, "...nothing comes easily out of the Federal Government. Everything is kept secret. It is sim-



ply their policy. They have no idea why this information is being requested and could not care less. Their policy is secrecy, pure and simple. This applies to everything. The National Archives is simply a de facto reclassification project.”<sup>(2)</sup> In other words, our government is still blocking information gained from the Germans following World War II. They use the fog of bureaucracy to obscure or hide information, even when the law says they should work to provide it. Go figure!

### What came with the V-2 rockets?

A somewhat different spin on secrecy comes from aviation expert Nick Cook. In his years of researching zero point gravity and related topics, Cook interview dozens of scientists and traveled to many countries. He believes that when we appropriated German technology and scientific personnel following the war, we got more than we anticipated:

America, more than any other ally, had acquired a vast array of German-derived technology. Much of it, like von Braun’s V-2 rocketry, was highly advanced, but essentially recognizable. Some of it, however—notably the nonconventional science pursued by the SS—came from a different culture altogether. To master the weapons it had acquired from the Germans, America found that it had to recruit the engineers responsible for them. Some were former Nazis, but many were just scientists, no more no less, who’d simply been doing their job. The trouble was, it didn’t end there. With the help of German-derived science, America’s

technological lead over the rest of the world accelerated exponentially after the Second World War. But the black world was a low-grade reflection of the system that had been employed to protect the secrets of the Kammlerstab (Dr. Kammler’s staff or group) within the confines of the Skoda Works. *The state within a state had been transported four thousand miles to the west.*<sup>(3)</sup>

In Cook’s mind, the concept of black projects came to us, along with the

German technology—it was part of the package! The SS had been incredibly efficient at compartmentalizing their research, especially their exotic research. If Cook is right, the American culture changed at that point in ways those pulling the strings could hardly have imagined. Is it fair to say that trust died in the process?

## Black budgets buy black aircraft

Yet another face on secrecy stems from military research. Bonnie Henderson spent ten years researching her 2005 book, *UFOs: Out of the Black*. She believes that all/most UFO sightings can be explained by factoring in the government’s secret, experimental aircraft. She does a credible job of describing, as well as anyone can in the never-never land of black-budget projects, the various flight characteristics of these exotic craft. And they are exotic in the extreme!

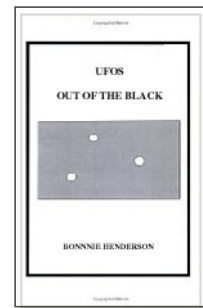
For example, the *New York Times* reported in 1988 that a hypersonic reconnaissance craft named “Aurora” had been developed to replace the SR-71 Blackbird. Aurora may have been flown as early as 1985, and its speed is reportedly in the Mach 6-8 range. Aurora is above top-secret, *and the government has not yet admitted it exists.*<sup>(4)</sup>

Henderson is clearly not in favor of such secrecy, and she has this to say about the consequences:

Black projects were funded secretly. Over the years and decades, billions of taxpayer’s dollars were spent without public scrutiny and without Congressional oversight or approval. Funding for black aircraft was buried in top secret projects or tacked on to big budgets for white programs. Outrageous sums that were spent on items like toilet seats could have been one conduit for the secret funding. The USAF and especially the CIA were given a free hand to spend huge amounts of public money on black projects. There was no way of knowing which projects succeeded and which failed, how many test pilots were injured or even killed. Deceit, mendaciousness, cover-ups and disinformation were all acceptable if it protected the black projects for it was all done in the name of National Security.<sup>(4)</sup>

You really have to wonder just who it is that pulls these strings. With so much money at stake, and with such exotic technology being produced, who speaks for the American citizen?

(Continued on page 16)



Dr. Kammler



V-2 Rocket



# CONVERGENCE

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



Webster's says that convergence is "the coming together of separate things to a common point." There are four trends that I see that are converging in the "Extra-terrestrial Intelligence" field.

First, MUFON and other organizations are getting better organized and making an impact on public opinion. Reference the popular UFO Hunters series on the history channel. The scientific and analytical approach is being used more and more rather than the "Gee whiz did you see that?" approach. The sightings cases are going into an organized and accessible world-wide data base.

Second, the search for extra-terrestrial planets has turned up hundreds of planets revolving around other stars. Several different approaches are being used and it is now commonly known that planets around other stars, even binary stars, are quite common. Most of the extra-solar planets so far discovered are of the Jupiter type. This is mostly because the current technology has not had the resolution to find anything smaller. Now, however, with more sensitive instruments, the search for earth type planets is in full swing. Four or five candidates ranging from 3 to 5 earth masses are already under study. Also the habitable zone around any given star, the "Goldilocks Zone"—you know, neither too hot nor too cold but just right—has been studied more extensively, and it now seems that one of the most common types of stars, the red dwarfs, also are likely to have a habitable zone around them as well. This further expands the possibilities for extra-terrestrial life.

Third, the Phoenix Mars lander appears to have landed on top of a subsurface ice layer. The intent is to sample this ice and see what's in it—maybe some organics that would indicate life. Just the confirmation that ice is there, just under the surface of Mars, is a significant discovery which opens up the possibility of life supporting liquid water having been present on Mars at least sometime in the past. Discovery of even primitive life on Mars would go a significant way towards ash-caning our Earth-centric view of life in the universe. It would say that life in the universe is at least not unique to Earth or rare, and in fact may be common.

Fourth, a recent re-examination of the Murchison meteorite that fell in Australia in 1969 by a team in the UK has found two types of ring shaped molecules containing carbon that are close chemical relatives of earth based

RNA and DNA. RNA and DNA are the two molecules that make the chemical instruction set for how to build a human or bacterium or any Earth-based creature. They believe it's not Earth contamination because the Carbon 12 to Carbon 14 ratio is typical of that found in outer space. So if this stuff is in outer space it might explain how life started so quickly on earth—currently a mystery. It didn't have to evolve the complex molecules that made up life, they just fell from the sky.

Let's sum up. Extra-solar planet hunters are optimistically looking for earth type planets in the Goldilocks Zone, planets are likely to be ubiquitous in the universe, past life on Mars is beginning to seem more possible, RNA- and DNA-like molecules have been in outer space for at least 3.5 billion years (Earth is about 4 billion years old and life started on earth at least by 3.5 billion BC from the fossil record), and MUFON's data base is getting more sophisticated and expanding, 300 plus sightings a month world wide.

So where do these trends converge? Here are my predictions:

1. Within two years, 2010, planet hunters will find an Earth-type planet with clear evidence of life.
2. By the end of this year, 2008, the Mars Phoenix lander will find evidence of organic life on Mars, but the doubters will stretch out acceptance until 2009 claiming it was from earth contaminants on the lander.
3. By 2011 other teams will analyze recent meteor falls and find evidence of organic molecules supporting the "Pan-spermia" theory of the late royal astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle that life originated elsewhere and fell to Earth. This will be further supported by the findings of the Japanese comet sampler mission.
4. MUFON will have unequivocal photographic evidence of an extra-terrestrial craft by 2010 but the air force will claim it is one of their secret projects.
5. By 2012 it becomes so obvious that the universe is teeming with life that the government comes clean about ETs and the President introduces the Ambassador from the Pliades to the world as he steps out of his saucer onto the White House lawn.

Seriously, it looks like our scientists are gradually creeping up on the idea that the universe is lousy with life and that it's been here a very long time. This will have the effect of softening the cultural blow that would follow any public announcement of intelligent extraterrestrial life and, in fact, will make such an announcement more likely. ☺

## FROM THE FILES



### V-SHAPED UFO OVER CHICAGO

Case No. 11161

On June 12th, 2008 at 7:22 pm, a Chicago CTA bus driver following her route westbound down Belmont Avenue noticed a bright white light in the sky. The light, without the flashing wing lights of an aircraft, appeared stationary and she mentally noted the position of the object and that it was approximately a mile away. A few seconds later it began to move and change its direction from north to east, facing her less than one thousand feet high. From that perspective, she could determine it was a V-shaped object with a solid stripe of white light down the sides of the craft.

Passengers, not noticing the object, boarded the stopped bus and she continued watching. At arm's length, it appeared to be about eight inches in width and began to move eastward over her bus. Then it stopped and the white lights began to fade to black and then suddenly glowed a brilliant green while it continued to hover. As she was forced to continue her route, the object passed beyond her sight over the bus and behind her.

When she arrived at Damen Avenue, four blocks further west, she was surprised to see the craft again motionless in front of her with the lights again changing in color from white to bright green. In recounting the sight, she

remembered thinking that the lights on the sides seemed to be made up of adjacent blocks, like windows, but with little to distinguish their separate panels. The bottom of the craft was black and she could only see that it was the shape of a V. As the stripe changed from white to green, the change started at the bottom of the stripe of light and went upward to the top in repeating waves. The light also was a continuous stripe along both of the sides of the object. The craft appeared to be much larger than an airplane at that distance, but, unfortunately because of the noises in the bus, she could not determine if it gave off any sound.

As she pulled again into the traffic, the object passed over her bus and she lost sight of it. The remainder of her work night was normal except for the anxieties she felt in having observed the UFO. The case was investigated and determined to be an unknown. ☞



Artist's conception of V-shaped craft over Belmont Avenue in Chicago, June 2008.

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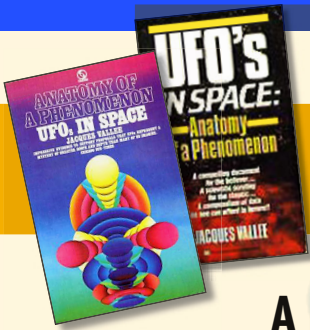
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## OFF THE SHELF

## BOOK REVIEW

## A Review of Jacques Vallee's ANATOMY OF A PHENOMENON: UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS IN SPACE —A Scientific Appraisal

by Bill Murphy, Staff Writer

Jacques Vallee's *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965) is one of the classic works of ufology. Vallee is a French astrophysicist and computer scientist who became uneasy at the way fellow scientists regarded UFO phenomena. He personally saw anomalous data being discarded because it conflicted with the preconceptions of some scientists, including the astronomers managing a satellite-tracking project in which he participated.

He also found that the data suggestive of anomalous aerial phenomena seemed to go back centuries before Kenneth Arnold's classic UFO report in 1947. *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* is Vallee's effort to make a scientific argument, written for both the educated layman and technical reader, that UFO reports are worthy of serious scientific study, and to suggest avenues to pursue that study.

*Anatomy of a Phenomenon* contains seven chapters and an extended "Note" at the end. Vallee proceeds from the basic premises that the UFO report is the basic unit of analysis, and that the cases need to be considered both individually and in the aggregate. Chapter One covers UFO reports before the "Modern Period" that begins with the Scandinavian "ghost-rocket" wave of 1946. Chapter Two is an overview of the scientific aspects of the possibility of contact with "Superior Galactic Communities"; the "Note" at the end of the book expands upon this topic. Chapter Three considers modern UFO reports and documentation, while Chapter Four proposes, as Vallee does throughout the book, specific scientific research strategies. Chapter Five touches upon a subject of special interest to Vallee: the human reaction to the UFO "event". Chapter Six outlines Vallee's original classification scheme for UFO reports; his "Type II Sightings" of "cloud cigars"

apparently "generating" UFOs figure prominently in his initial thinking on the subject. The last chapter presents various "Theories and Hypotheses" made by thoughtful researchers on the possible origins of the UFO phenomenon. Included are views that may be unfamiliar to some, but that are still, after 40 years of ufological study and debate, worthy of attention.

Along the way, Vallee makes numerous noteworthy points. He criticizes the notion that the public generates and propagates UFO rumors as a way of releasing psychological tensions. This "is denied by the absence of correlation between important periods of interest in science fiction and peaks of UFO activity." Vallee applies the "Principle of Least Effort" to explain the mental laziness possibly behind both uncritical acceptance of any UFO theory that comes down the pike, on the one hand, and the knee-jerk reaction of debunkers to any UFO report as "It can't be, therefore it isn't":

There seems to be a natural tendency among some groups to attribute to some sort of intelligence any natural phenomenon they are not yet able to understand. An opposite inclination is found among people who will attribute everything to illusion and the imagination of the observer. It is less expensive and much easier to accept any phenomenon we do not understand as either the indication of some unknown, "occult" power, such as a divine or intelligent manifestation, or as a pure hallucination than to undertake objective research.

Vallee draws attention to the provinciality of many past UFO studies by authors from the United States. I think ufology in the U.S. is nowadays more internationally aware through media attention and improved communications—we see Mexican videos periodically and most are familiar with "The KGB UFO files", for instance. He even suggests that the U.S. sightings (at least up to 1965) are generally less interesting than those made elsewhere, remarking that the 1952 Washington D.C. sightings could be considered "second rate" by comparison to contemporaneous European reports! Vallee also claims national differences in reporting style, noting that descriptions by French witnesses are generally more detailed than those made by Americans—an interesting observation, if true.

I found ten pages of *Anatomy's* "The Scientific Problem" Chapter Four to be especially valuable. Vallee takes issue with the Air Force's conclusion that UFOs pose no threat because they have shown no evidence of hostility, and he tackles the question of the lack of available physical evidence of "crashed UFOs" and the strong tendency of mainstream scientists to downplay the importance of witness observations. One suggestion invokes quality control terminology—Vallee thinks the supposed extraterrestrials have likely solved "all problems of hardware reliability."

Of course, many ufologists contend that since 1947 there is such physical evidence, but it has been sequestered by security forces across the globe. Vallee comments "This is a new occasion for us to wonder if logicians do not restrict a little too much our area of responsibility when they ask us to disregard our emotions and block our imaginations to the bare facts, and to see everything through a microscope with the mind of a machine."

Here Vallee adduces something from one of his own specific areas of strength—data processing; his computers assist in the logical, unemotional part of his work, but his imagination and intuition frame the questions and interpret the answers from the computed statistics. This is how technical specialists resolve quality problems, detectives solve cases, and historians construct their pictures of past societies. In fact, have not all useful endeavors been the products of imagination, hard work, and to some degree, science, logic or ordered thinking—the Apollo space program, Thor Heyerdahl's ocean-crossing expeditions using pre-industrial technology, and discoveries in high-energy particle physics? Indeed, in Vallee's later work *Passport to Magonia*, he goes even further in writing "Human actions are based on imagination, belief, and faith, not on objective observation—as military and political experts know well.

Even science, which claims its methods and theories are rationally developed, is really shaped by emotion and fancy, or by fear." Vallee also notes that "mental processes that today oppose the hypothesis of extraterrestrial intelligence are precisely those we like to suppose were abolished four centuries ago", having been employed against Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo. Vallee provides one of those priceless examples of establishment scientists making remarkably unscientific pronouncements: in 1957, not long before the launch of Sputnik, the British Astronomer Royal declared that "Space travel is utter bilge". Vallee engages in an instructive excursus on how

the "specialist" scholars at the Emperor Charlemagne's court (800 AD) might have interpreted a sighting of a fleet of 20th-century atomic bombers. Finally, Vallee argues that a "generalist-analyst" [my term], aided by mathematics, would likely have far more success studying UFO reports than the "specialists" have accomplished in (then) twenty years of work.

Chapter Five contains much on how the scientific community has dealt with UFOs. Vallee states, "The scientist's reaction to the problem [of UFOs] has never been anything but emotional." He accuses establishment scientists of "neglecting to conform with the basic rules of scientific honesty when confronted with this problem", and he finds a basic flaw in SETI-like programs that seek intelligible "radio signals through space because radio waves are a good vehicle of information and because space travel between planetary systems is inconceivable. Both assumptions are extrapolations of conditions existing on earth today." [emphasis added].

Vallee criticizes such assumptions by making the same point that Allen Hynek would voice even more strongly the next year, Hynek stating that 20th-century scientists tend to forget "that there will be a 21st-century science, and indeed, a 30th-century science, from which vantage points our knowledge of the universe may appear quite different." Vallee also pointedly observes: "It has been repeatedly affirmed by scientific authorities that what constitutes a scientific subject is not its nature but the way it is treated." [emphasis added]. While arguing that scientists should not be afraid of ridicule for taking on the UFO problem, he also does allow that they have career, family, and in general practical reasons for not immersing themselves in the study of UFO reports.

So what to do? Vallee lists the positives and negatives of amateurs undertaking UFO investigations. Vallee clearly has misgivings about the way much ufology is conducted. He emphasizes his concern about hoaxers and hucksters, and about the agendas of the U.S. UFO organizations of his day. I believe Vallee still maintains these concerns, and to a large extent no longer identifies himself with mainstream ufology ("Beginning as an active researcher, I have become a sorrowful bystander in this field," he said in a 1995 interview with *Noetic Sciences Review*). In contrast, this passage from professed "open-minded skeptic" and religious scholar Christopher Partridge in his book *UFO Religions* gives a more positive perspective on the conduct of modern ufology:



Whilst there are UFO reports and studies which are little more than ridiculous speculation, even fabrication, there are, as I have discovered when attending gatherings of UFO enthusiasts, 'ufologists' who go to great lengths to ensure that sightings are verified and that hoax encounters and shoddy researchers are exposed. It is my impression that many in the ufology community are hard working and intelligent people who, as far as they are able, are committed to the highest standards of research. Indeed, I have been genuinely impressed by the detailed (if a little obsessive) scrutiny of government documents, the critical discussions of recent publications on UFOs, the dogged determination to thoroughly investigate reported sightings, and the files apparently compiled over many years.

At the close of Chapter Five we begin to see Vallee's lively interest in folklore parallels to stories of encounters with UFO occupants, yet he is extremely wary of contactees' claims; he notes that when rationalism is left behind, "similar fancies have been found in all branches of science".

Some bits and pieces from the rest of *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*: Vallee believes (as Ruppelt had claimed) that "Type I" sightings (perceived as objects on or near to the ground) were more common in the early "modern era" than reported at the time; as with I. Davis, he cannot determine the origin of the term "little green men"; and he notes G. Inglefield's May 1964 Flying Saucer Review hypothesis that the miracle at Fatima was not only ufological in origin, but perhaps even "a gesture of mocking."

On the matter of "ancient astronauts", Vallee avers "These theories seem to receive more support from traditional texts and legends than from objective archaeological facts," and argues that "References to 'ancient knowledge' are commonly found in extra-scientific literatures, and they are, as a rule, incompetently treated."

He reviews and critiques Aime Michel's four hypotheses on the possible purposes of UFO earth exploration and the attitudes of the "operators" toward us. Michel's first hypothesis is that contact "may follow one-way channels parallel to the 'contact' between a naturalist and the insects he observes; insects do perceive the contact but only on their level, and they are unable to participate in a voluntary exchange of information." This possibility has concerned me also; it could explain why in 60 years' efforts we have not unraveled the UFO phenomenon or phenomena. I remember hearing a speaker at the 1995 MUFON Symposium in Seattle predict in an informal conversation that we would have "The Answer" within 5

years; back in the 1950's Edward Ruppelt had predicted great progress soon; Vallee himself would title a section in his later book *Challenge to Science* "The Solution is Within Reach"—and it hasn't happened. Of course, complete pessimism about the possibility of our understanding UFO phenomena will not produce further useful research. There indeed may be different levels of "operators" and phenomena "out there", some more intelligible to our senses and intellect than others.

Could the seeming intractability of UFO phenomena be caused by their very variety, including perhaps a variety of unrelated causes, some much more "exotic" and unintelligible than others?

At the conclusion of his "Theories and Hypotheses" Chapter Seven, Vallee comments "Through UFO activity, although no physical evidence has yet been found, some of us believe the contours of an amazingly complex intelligent life beyond the earth can already be discerned."

*Anatomy of a Phenomenon* thus poses the extraterrestrial hypothesis as a viable causal possibility, but in *Passport to Magonia* and subsequent books, Vallee lends increasing weight to reports and analyses that he finds inconsistent with a simplistic model of straightforward exploration of earth by extraterrestrials. Vallee's eventual disenchantment with a simple extraterrestrial exploration hypothesis, I believe, stemmed in part from his inability to make it answer all of the data, to be the Grand Unifying Theory for all relevant UFO phenomena. However, I think Vallee may err to the extent that he seeks a single, unitary explanation covering all perceived UFO phenomena; while I agree the phenomena are related with regard to their strangeness, their "paranormality", and their being outside the pale of common human experience, I do not agree that all must be related in their causation and (possible) purpose. If in fact UFO events stem from multiple causes, we should not expect one theory to cover all the bases.

With *Anatomy of a Phenomenon*, Jacques Vallee laid the groundwork for an open-minded, scientific approach to what many considered an "unscientific" subject, and challenged debunkers and unthinking skeptics for their lack of scientific responsibility. The important lines of argument in this book have never been successfully attacked by those closed minds, who probably would prefer that the public did not read and reflect on this book. I strongly recommend that any thinking person with any serious interest in UFO phenomena should acquire a copy.

Afterword: Any contribution to the intelligent public  
(Continued on page 16)

# COMING EVENTS

AUGUST  
SEPTEMBER  
OCTOBER  
NOVEMBER

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **August 17th—Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center**  
Truth...if you dare UFO Symposium 3: "Show Me the Evidence: The Science of Ufology"  
Stanton Friedman, Ted Phillips, Don Schmitt, Bill Murphy, and Sam Maranto will present.  
Tickets are available for \$20 on line at [www.illinoismufon.com](http://www.illinoismufon.com) or \$30 at the door.  
18501 S. Harlem Avenue, Tinley Park, IL  
Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606  
Email: [mufonsam@comcast.net](mailto:mufonsam@comcast.net) (see ad on page 3)
- **September 12th, 13th, 14th —Rend Lake**  
Illinois MUFON Regional Meeting—on hold due to scheduling conflicts
- **October 18th—Starved Rock State Park**  
Public meeting in the LaSalle Room  
10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. with an informal get together after the meeting. Case summaries to be presented by investigators. The official announcement of Illinois MUFON hosting the 2009 40th MUFON International Symposium will be made.  
Route 178, Utica, IL  
Contact: Sam Maranto (708) 460-7606  
Email: [mufonsam@comcast.net](mailto:mufonsam@comcast.net)
- **October 23rd—Lockport Public Library**  
Presentation (Maranto): "Seminar on UFO's"  
7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.  
121 East Eighth St., Lockport, IL  
Contact: Kristin Nimmo (815) 838-0755  
Email: [knimmo@dpvlib.org](mailto:knimmo@dpvlib.org)
- **October 30th—Crest Hill Public Library**  
Presentation (Maranto): "Seminar on UFO's"  
7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.  
1298 Theodore St., Crest Hill, IL  
Contact: Kristin Nimmo (815) 725-0234  
Email: [knimmo@dpvlib.org](mailto:knimmo@dpvlib.org)
- **November 9th—Tinley Park Holiday Inn Convention Center**  
Truth...if you dare UFO Symposium 4: "UFOs and National Defense"  
Robert Hastings, researcher and author of UFOs and Nukes, will present along with other speakers yet to be announced. Tickets will be soon on sale for \$10.88 before November 1st on line at [www.illinoismufon.com](http://www.illinoismufon.com)  
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(BOOK REVIEW continued from page 15)

discussion of a subject benefits from responsible review and critique by others, and I would welcome your comments. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife, Linda Murphy, for her observations. ☺

## Notes

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(CAN THE MILITARY KEEP A SECRET? continued from page 10)

There are other examples, but these give the essence of what it was that changed my mind. I think the military and the government can indeed keep secrets, but only because they are willing to violate the precepts of a free society. We are all diminished by such actions. ☺

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