

MUTUAL UFO NETWORK

CASE BRIEFS: EXPLORATIONS & REVIEW

ISSUE #1

Northern California Affiliate

July / August 1994

Welcome to *Case Briefs*! In an effort to respond to numerous requests for continued information on investigations conducted in northern California, we will be publishing a new periodical to be known as *Case Briefs*. This periodical will be published from time to time, and will normally appear at the time of the general MUFON meetings held presently in San Jose. As the San Jose gatherings usually take place every other month, it is planned to publish five or six times a year. A subscription to *Case Briefs: Explorations and Review* is \$12.00 for six issues, or \$16.00 should mailing be necessary. This should just manage to cover most of our expenses. Checks should be sent to MUFON *Case Briefs*, P.O. Box 7668, Landscape Station, Berkeley, California 94707-0668.

Response to the first two newsletters was overwhelmingly favorable, and Kathi Hennessey, Editor of the Newsletter, established a high standard to be followed. But Kathi is overburdened with other time consuming enterprises and Laura Steiger has agreed to take over the editorship. Kathi will continue to take an active part in the creation of each issue and she will become the Assistant Editor. Since Laura does not have access to all of the computer potential that was generated by Kathi in the first two newsletters, and since there is uncertainty as to the nature of future issues, it has been decided to form a totally new organ with a different title and structure. This is what we have come up with and we would appreciate your comments. Until we procure a box in San Francisco, material submitted to *Case Briefs* may be sent to the above address. Such material should be double spaced and in good English. It is trusted that readers will find the *Case Briefs* to be "a thing of beauty and a joy forever," and that no one will be subjected to the kind of fetid ramblings generally found in the mass media.

Virgil Staff, State Director

THE MYSTERY IN MODOC

*Part I: The 1950's and 1960's*By Tim Landrith, State Section Director,
Lassen, Modoc and Siskiyou Counties

Is Modoc County really in California? Yes, although most locals consider everything south of the county line as "southern California," and most of California has no idea of where it is located. Upon reading this you will most likely have to consult your California road map in order to locate this isolated region. Situated in the upper northeastern part of the state, Modoc County shares its northern border with Oregon and its eastern border with Nevada. With a total population of just under 10,000 scattered throughout over 4,000 square miles, Modoc County is as bucolic as you can get. Beautiful mountains, wide open valleys, and lots of lakes and

streams provide pristine living with few of the hassles of urban life. Very little has changed over the last one hundred years. Family owned ranches are still abundant, logging still exists, although limited, and fishing, hunting, and camping bring tourists to one of California's best kept secrets. Modoc also has more than its fair share of UFO sightings.

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Greetings! I am Tim Landrith, State Section Director for Modoc, Lassen, and Siskiyou Counties. After speaking with Kathi Hennesey, we decided to share the mystery in Modoc with all the people in our northern California MUFON family.

My partner, Field Investigator Trainee, Jean Bilodeaux, and I have selected a few of over 150 accounts we have compiled in the past year.

We hope to share a brief synopsis of a few of these sightings in the upcoming issues. For the most part, say 90%, these sightings are fly-bys, but we get everything from abductions to cattle mutilations. To maintain continuity, we'll start from the 1950's and run to the last reported sighting in October 1993. Please note that the residents of Modoc County are extremely reluctant to come forward, so naturally their anonymity will be assured.

We have selected two sightings from each decade starting in the 1950's. Reports will appear here and in the next issue of Case Briefs.

Summer 1954

This sighting took place in an area called Long Valley in Washoe County in the far northwestern corner of Nevada. It is adjacent to Modoc County, California. The area is extremely remote, with less than one person per twenty square miles. This is the oldest recorded sighting of a UFO that we have been able to gather. Throughout the years the area continues to be an active zone for unexplained phenomena, with over a dozen UFO sightings occurring there in 1993.

A cowboy was riding in Long Valley, checking on cattle during the late summer of 1954. While riding along the cowboy noticed that his horse kept looking off to the side. This was unusual behavior for the horse, so the cowboy looked in the direction the horse was looking. He was extremely surprised to see a hundred foot long, fifteen foot high, light brown, cigar shaped object hovering inches above the sagebrush. The object was about eighty feet away and had windows its entire length. There were no wings, or propellers, or any noticeable means of propulsion. No noise was emitted and if it hadn't been for his horse he probably wouldn't have noticed it.

The object followed along side the cowboy at the eighty foot distance, as he rode through two mile square fields. The cowboy didn't feel any need to hurry, as the object didn't threaten him. He did say he kept an eye on it at all times. His destination was a cabin where he stayed, and

where he knew another cowboy was staying. He got to the gate, got off his horse and unhooked the gate while the UFO settled down on the ground nearby. The cowboy led his horse up to the cabin and roused the other cowboy. They both watched the UFO for about ten minutes. Then it rose up about a foot above the sagebrush, floated over to the dirt road, followed the dirt road up and over the hill. At no time was there any dust raised by the object, either when it flew along, landed or took off. The cowboy said they could have kept up with it in a pickup, but neither one of them wanted to.

June 1957

In June of 1957, just prior to sunset, a ranch wife and her three boys were traveling north on Modoc County Road #48 in route to Everly Spring. This particular dirt road skirts the western shore of Goose Lake and runs to the Oregon border. It is a very isolated area, with no electricity and only two homes in a 35 mile stretch. As they rounded a bend, a huge object was observed hovering above the basalt rim due west of the road. The woman, age 32, described the object as being cigar shaped and at least 100 yards long, but what impressed her the most was the absolute brilliance of its silver color, so bright that it hurt her eyes. She stopped her car and got out along with two of the boys, ages 8 and 11. The 3 year old boy was sound asleep and the woman distinctly recalls that he had been quite awake a moment earlier.

They watched this object a full fifteen minutes. There was no sound or movement and as the sun fully set, the object did not change in appearance. The woman estimated that it was less than an eighth of a mile from the road and that it could not have been a reflection since the sun, while setting, was behind (west) it.

After 15 minutes she decided to go ahead to Everly Spring, knowing that her husband would worry, besides they needed drinking water. As she started forward she took one last glance, but the object had disappeared. She admits to being a

little frightened at this point and hurried to get the water and get back home. Upon arriving, her husband was quite upset and claimed that she had been gone for over two hours. The entire trip should have taken only 45 minutes. To this day the woman, nearly 70 now, maintains that the object was "not of this world."

While interviewing this woman, I could feel her sincerity. She cannot account for the missing time and does not wish to be regressed. She said that in 1957 she had never even heard of a UFO.

The mid-Sixties

In the mid-sixties the head of a conservation camp in western Modoc County and eastern Lassen County received the following messages one evening. The area is extremely remote and very sparsely populated. The convicts at the camp were required to fight any lightning or uncontrolled fires in the area. The following is the account as he told it.

"It was about eleven o'clock one night when we received a call from one of the three lookouts in the area. They reported they had seen an unidentified flying object land at certain coordinates. They were concerned about the possible chance of fire in connection with the landing. Since I had just taken command of this camp, I assumed they were joking and didn't pay much attention to their report. The other men agreed and we laughed it off. Within a minute or two we received another report from another tower. The coordinates matched with the first sighting.

"Since there was no way that the two towers could have communicated with each other, we began to give the story some credence. We even looked up the spot on the map. There was only a dirt logging road in the area, no buildings or people. A minute later the third tower in the area also called in with the same report and coordinates. We knew it wasn't a joke. I asked for volunteers to go check it out. No one wanted to go out. I was unfamiliar with the area, so we all decided to wait until morning, or until a fire

actually started. The next day we could find no sign of any fire in that area."

April 1969

In April of 1969, a family was working on their new home two miles northeast of Alturas, Modoc County, California. The residential area was new, with no power, plumbing or other facilities. The family was doing all their own labor. They had been building over a period of months, due to the weather. They had no neighbors.

On this particular day they had decided to quit a bit early, around dusk, for the sky was heavily overcast and a light snow was falling. As they approached their family station wagon, their dog began to whine and bark. They opened the car doors just as a shaft of bluish gray light dropped out of the sky above them. They all stood there engulfed in light, wondering what was happening. The dog jumped into the car and began whimpering; the four children did likewise, but the parents stayed outside for 30 seconds more.

They stated they could hear a "hum," like high voltage power lines, but knew that the nearest power was two miles away. The hum was coming from directly above the car. They then jumped inside the car, locked the doors and the father tried to start the car. It would not start and they stated they could see a definite dimension to the shaft of light, as if they were under a stage spotlight.

As the hum grew louder, the wife started crying and kept repeating, "They're going to get us!" The husband kept asking, "Who? Who's going to get us?" Suddenly the hum stopped and the shaft of light withdrew into the clouds. The car started and they drove back to Alturas.

The wife became plagued by nightmares of "aliens" trying to kidnap her children. The dreams continued for seven years before they finally stopped. She also stated that she never felt comfortable in their new home.

CASE BRIEFS

CASE 1: THE PERILS OF KATHLEEN

Part I

By Virgil Staff, State Director

"Kathleen" lives in a small hamlet outside the Bay Area. A few years ago she seldom gave any thought to the UFO phenomenon since it was assumed that UFOs did not descend into relatively heavily populated realms. Moreover, abductions, if they happened at all, were to be expected in the more easterly parts of the United States. But in northern California? Hardly! Kathleen has had reason to modify her original views and in future issues of *Case Briefs* we will discuss the ongoing experiences of this very brave lady.

On Sunday evening, February 27, 1994, Kathleen felt great. She had consumed more than one cup of coffee, and she was wide awake. Since she wasn't sleepy, she moved about the house in fulfillment of a multitude of chores, watched some television and generally puttered around in the hope that eventually she would relax and lose herself in slumber. She went to bed around 1:30 a.m. but continued to be alert and restless.

As she lay on her back in her somewhat darkened bedroom and looked up at the ceiling, at a big shelf on the top of the closet and at a darkened chandelier, she suddenly realized "here was one of the grays, and it looked like it was swimming. It just popped out through the ceiling somehow. It was something like a foot or two away from touching the ceiling and it was doing this swimming motion...and I was entranced with it... Then it rolled over and looked at me and I had this feeling of total amusement and fascination as I watched it."

About this time another gray appeared. "It's head popped out from the ceiling and it looked down at me. I thought, 'Gee, there's two of them there.' "The second gray that was looking down at her "had some kind of shield maybe about 2 1/2 feet wide, or maybe not quite, and above the

shield, it was holding some kind of gun. It was a round cylinder thing about five inches across. And then it had a smaller cylinder thing that was maybe 1 1/2 to 2 inches in diameter in the center of this five inch one."

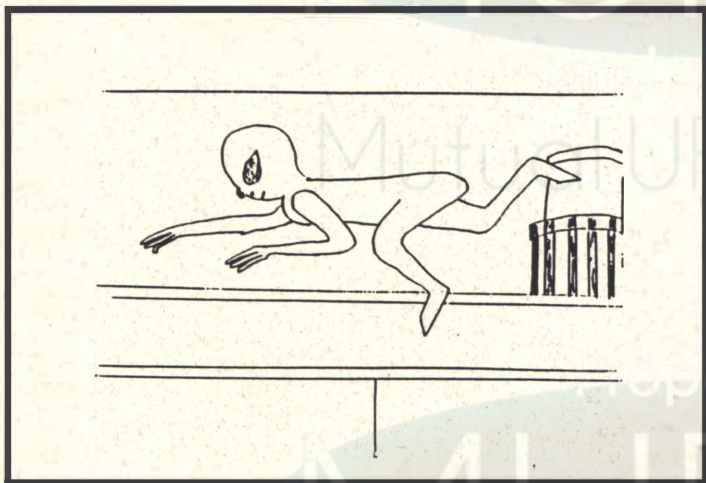


Figure 1. Being moving in swimming motion.

"Right away there was this fear. 'Oh gosh, they're going to give me a medical exam' and then, 'Oh gee, I hope they don't float me up out of bed into the space craft.'" Kathleen began to pull the covers up around her face but not so far that she could not watch the intruders. "They looked at me for a minute and I looked at them and mentally I was telling them 'No, No. I don't want any medical exams. Leave me alone. Leave me alone...no medical exams...don't hurt me.' Then they both just disappeared into the ceiling and everything was quiet for about two minutes."

Kathleen then relaxed and assumed that all was well - that they were gone for the evening, that there was nothing to fear. With that, she rolled over on her side in the hope that she could now sleep. Almost immediately she began to feel a dull pain on her right foot in the area of the joints and the arch. She noticed a dull aching sensation that appeared to be traveling into the right ankle. "I noticed that this pain took an unusual sensation. It was like somebody pressing their finger into the outside of my leg, but then on the other part directly across from it, on the inside of my leg, it felt like a needle going in some two inches above the previous point, and then the sensation

departed." About two inches or so above this point she again felt the sensation of someone applying pressure, to be followed again by the sensation of the insertion and withdrawal of a needle. She opened her eyes but couldn't see anything but the darkened bedroom. At the same time the sensation continued and finally moved up to just below the knee. It eased off for another second or two and then began anew as a pain in her left arm.

About the time that the pain had started Kathleen's body went limp, "like an old dish rag. I felt like I was just a part of the dead - totally relaxed to where I didn't even feel like turning or twisting in bed. It seemed like my mind was trying to be what I call 'screened over.' I guess these E.T.'s know that I was very fond of the winter Olympics, especially the ice skating and stuff, because it seemed like pictures were coming into my mind about me going out onto the ice rink and skating around. And yet I saw other skaters there including Nancy Kerrigan and we were all skating and watching each other and enjoying each other's skating." Kathleen's mind had been fully conscious but then it became totally relaxed and "it seemed like they tried to get me to have this pleasant memory of skating." But her mind would "come back and I would start trying to convey to them 'you're hurting me...you're hurting me.'"

"And then also while I was laying there wondering - what are they doing, - what do they want, a couple of names popped into my mind. One of them was YUR-A-MAN-NAH...and it was like I was trying to learn a new word. Mentally I was trying to pronounce it back to them." Two other words she attempted to commit to memory were AFAH and AREE NEEAH. "The sensation of the needle going in and out finally stopped and then I could feel my body coming back more into what I call the waking state to where I could move around and get up and do things." Kathleen promptly reached over and turned on the bedroom light, grabbed her notepad and began to record the events of the evening.

Kathleen sleeps with an electric blanket and when she initially crawled into bed, the blanket was turned on and was up against her

thigh. "I could just feel a coldness on my hip and everything too, and so that's when I pulled the blankets up even more because I thought, 'Gee, my temperature might even be lower than 96.7 degrees...' and then it was just a few minutes after that when the E.T.s first appeared through the ceiling." While watching the first gray going through the swimming motions, she noticed what would be the equivalent to our elbows and knees: "they seemed to be jointed to where they could bend their arms and bend their legs too and go through all the motions like we do."

When Kathleen first saw the gray near the ceiling, "he was laying face down and say like an ordinary person swimming in a pool of water. There was this swimming motion where one arm was coming out in front of the other arm, with the feet kicking."

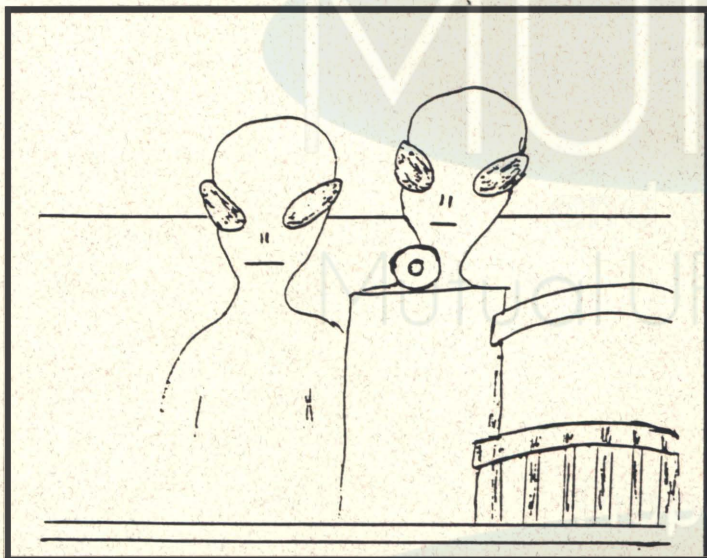


Figure 2. Beings with shield and cylindrical object.

He then "rolled over and looked down at me and then his body seemed to shift around and first he was in a horizontal position in front of me, and then he shifted positions to where his body was almost the same direction as to what I was laying." She watched him for perhaps 45 seconds to one minute and then the other gray "just popped his head through the ceiling...held this gun thing up and right away I knew that was a medical exam." He then put up the square shield "and then propped the gun thing up on top of that and aimed

it at me. When this other one popped through the ceiling, well the one that was swimming around...shifted his position so that both of them were looking at me."

It is of great import that Kathleen watched the second gray coming through the ceiling. "At first when I was laying there it was almost like a shadow moving. It was like a rippling sensation that came down through and at first I thought maybe it was just the dimness of the bedroom. But then that's when I noticed...a rippling sensation not only with the shadow, but it began growing more gray and kind of a waving up and down motion. And then all of a sudden I could see the light gray skin, the three long fingers and the great big black wrap around eyes and all of that."

Kathleen never saw anything depart the gun. But immediately after she watched the second gray "popping his head through the ceiling, right after he popped his head through the ceiling that's when I noticed he was holding this gun up and I guess that's when I began to feel a little bit of panic. He came through a little bit more..., and it was all of a sudden this shield thing came up. He was holding it and then he lifted this gun like thing above the shield and just kind of set it on top of the shield." By then they were both looking at her. It was at this point that start fear began to creep over her being. "Because when I saw this shield and the gun, I knew something was ready to happen."

Kathleen thinks she was awake at least half the time, and she believes they were having some difficulty "to put me out and I just was not." She believes she was totally aware of what was going on around her while she watched the little beings. She feels the skating with Nancy Kerrigan was a pleasant dream that they provided for her enjoyment. One can only be perplexed over what might have been transpiring while they had her mind on the figure skating.

In the morning when she inspected her body, there was a red mark on her right ankle. In the late afternoon, just before she went to work, she again examined the red mark and found it much less noticeable. But the skin just below this

little red mark was raised up into a triangle showing no discoloration, but which appeared as a piece of embossed paper. On either side of the triangle was a white spot. The triangle had sides that were about three inches long and it was located on the inside of the leg just above the right ankle. The red mark and the two white marks were about one-quarter inch in diameter. As she wandered around the house that morning she began to feel more like her normal self. On a future occasion we will return to this case to discuss certain physical principles that may be relevant.

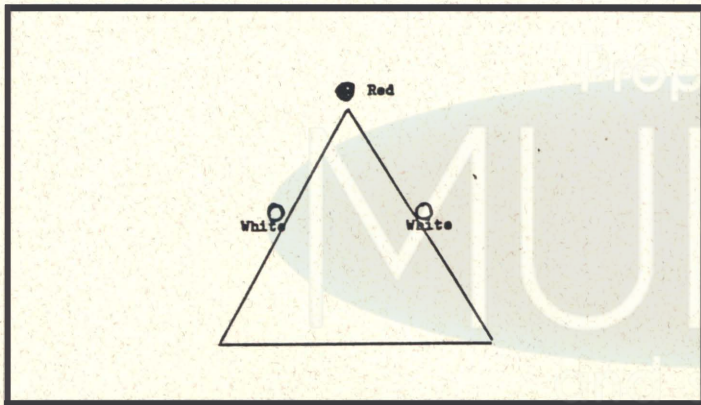


Figure 3. Triangular Marks on Kathleen's Ankle

CASE 2: AND THE WIRES HUMMED!

By Virgil Staff, State Director

Sometime before 12:01 a.m. on the memorable night of September 1, 1993, seven of us climbed a big hill just southeast of Clearlake Oaks, California. The path was steep and winding, and in the moonlight, the surrounding flora shimmered metallically. This path, not far south of Highway 20, is a sort of "road" that jogs off to the east from Sulfur Bank Drive. The approximate location of our ultimate destination was 39 00'47" North Latitude, and 122 38'47" West Longitude. There was a full moon and in spite of everyone being loaded down with equipment, the view and the expectations provided an experience that will never be forgotten.

Three of the party were representatives of *Independent International Pictures (IIP)*. Some of the equipment was bulky and heavy and several of us made the trip twice. Arrival at the top of Telegraph Hill seemed worth the effort, although some of the party must have wondered if they would have a heart attack prior to reaching the summit. From this vantage point one could look northwest and down into the sleeping town of Clearlake Oaks, southwest towards the lake and, when one turned around, there were miles of moon-swept hills in view. In time, we spread out on a big flat spot on the top of the hill and prepared to wait-out the long night. The night was warm and balmy and the visibility was glass-clear. Spirits were high, but as the hours passed there was a sense that this might just be another eventless night.

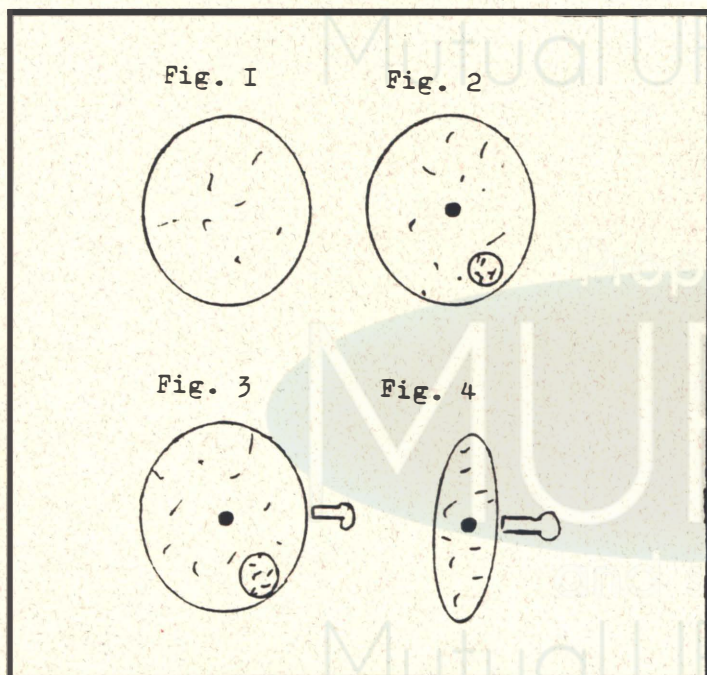
About 4:00 a.m. on the morning of September 2nd, someone shouted: "Whoa... Look at that!" Looking to the NNE, at 41 degrees, an orange ball was seen to be rising above the distant hills. The rise was relatively rapid and already at this time it was essentially obese, but appeared to be more vertically oriented - like a disc resting vertically. As the orange ball ascended it became more orange-red in shade and some of us believed it to be approaching. Frankly, we were so stunned to observe this ascendancy that we may not have been as observant as we should have been. It will be necessary to study the *IIP* film before we can be certain on the details. But the orange ball appeared larger than Venus would have been and, for a time, it appeared to be approaching. Needless to say, everyone was exhilarated.

As this red-orange luminosity ascended it began to take on the coloration and appearance of the stars. As it turned bright silver, or white, it appeared to have a magnitude greater than that of Venus. This is to say, without the 8 x 40 binoculars, it was a point source of considerably greater apparent magnitude than what one would expect for a typical planet. As its elevation in the sky increased, it appeared to become smaller. The general presumption was that as it ascended higher in the heavens, it was also increasing its distance

from the observers. There was a large metallic transformer case at the summit and about the time of the initial appearance of the orange luminosity, the wires out of the case began to hum loudly. By use of the 8 x 40 binoculars, the gigantic milk-white luminosity appeared to be becoming more like a very obese disk. (Figure 1)

This silver or milk-white disc - vertically inclined - sometimes had a milk-white circle, or bag, down in the bottom right hand quadrant. The contents of this circle, or bag, were also silver or milk-white, but were of greater intensity than the surrounding object. It was presumed at the time that this circular body was within the larger body, but on further thought, it seems possible that it may have been a separate body external to the larger luminosity. (Figure 2)

As time passed, a dark spot appeared in the center of the luminosity and out of this darkened center or "hole" appeared a milk-white teardrop shaped luminosity that lay horizontally and at a distance from the larger luminosity. The aperture remained for one hour or more and at times the teardrop would move in close to the dark spot of



the larger luminosity. (Figure 3) At times the larger luminosity became quite thin (Figure 4), but normally it appeared more like a pudgy cigar that

had been tremendously shortened by use. My own presumption was that we were dealing with a huge disc, located in the sky, like two plates facing each other, and standing on edge. One can hold two such plates out in front of one, and turn them about, so as to create the different shapes seen on this early morning. What was more puzzling was the occasional appearance of an amoebae-like configuration, whereas at other times, it was seen to extend vertically more like the morphology of a paramecium. This occasioned a short discussion of critters and of the work of Trevor James Constable.

At some time during the early morning darkness, when the luminosity began to appear more distant, the singing of the wires near the transformer case came to an end. With the naked eye, the object appeared as a very high magnitude planet. Everyone had a "high" and the excitement was relaxed but contagious. It had been a very positive experience. At approximately 06:00 a.m., with approaching daybreak, someone shouted to "Look up above you!" Directly over our heads, at 90 degrees elevation, could be seen hundreds of bright point sources zigzagging their way across the sky. Most appeared to be moving southwestward from the general area of the luminosity. The folk around Clearlake are familiar with this phenomenon and identify the luminosities as "fireflies." There were also a number of zigzagging lights flying in opposition - that is, back in the direction of the great extended luminosity. When we finally began departing the scene about 06:37 a.m., the "star" was approximately 60 degrees elevation and had a bearing of approximately 60 degrees NE.

So what was it that was seen that early morning of September 2, 1993? What appeared as a star or planet to the naked eye, but filled the space of perhaps 1/70th of the total field of the 8 x 40 binoculars? To hazard a guess, it is our view that we were watching a gigantic mother ship discharging and receiving its space shuttles. We have no knowledge of our proximity to this ship, but it may have been the equivalent to hundreds of meters in diameter - or perhaps even bigger.

Without any certainty, one can guess that those lights heading southwest were shuttles returning citizens to their homes. Those point source luminosities heading back towards the mother would have been shuttles that had discharged their wards and were possibly returning with more. Mother ship schedules are unknown, but it can be presumed that these roving hospitals probably function on a 24-hour schedule.

And one can presume that shuttles were going out in all directions from the mother ship and not solely over the observers of Telegraph Hill. It has been reported by a representative of IIP that enhancement of the 16 mm film shows ingress and egress of these point source luminosities in the area of the great mother. There were hundreds of lights moving across the party on the hill and if it can be presumed that there were lights moving out in all directions, then we are clearly speaking of an enormous space ship that can handle many hundreds of shuttles within a short period of time and at any given time may have thousands of humans aboard. Based on various other studies it may be better understood why the entities appear to be in a hurry - why they appear to be operating on a tight schedule. Why they might be short of time. Certainly such operations may require vehicles at least several hundred meters across - possibly thousands.

And what is transpiring aboard? Listen to the abductees. Read *The Watchers* by Raymond Fowler. Read *Secret Life* by Dr. David Jacobs. The prior investigation in this paper concerned the adventures of Kathleen. What would Kathleen say? Kathleen has been taken up towards some immense football shaped vehicles. But she always arrives in the vicinity via the local shuttle. According to Kathleen, she never sees any stacks of clothing on the mother ships and she never sees clothing in the shuttle. Every human being she has seen, in either the mother ship or in the shuttle, was naked. When she comes through the ceiling, her bed clothes are there on the bed. And as they lay her down on her bed, she reports that her bed clothes come to clothe her body. In this world of Alice in Wonderland, she is not bothered by such

seeming magic since she observes that if they can get her through the ceiling, it should not be any major problem to get her into or out of her clothes.

What does all this mean? If anyone is certain, they have not provided sufficient data to convince the masses. The picture is bewilderingly complex and certain reports seem most easily interpreted as related to a Vallee-type Magonia, while others, similar to this one, seem more akin to invasions. Clearly the invasion is on and whatever may be one's attitude to events of the moment, these events may suggest that whatever we are seeing is a part of the most significant events that have transpired on Earth for the last 2,000 years. This was C. G. Jung's view and on page 5 of *Flying Saucers: A Modern Myth of Things Seen in the Skies*, he wrote concerning similar events "which are in accord with the end of an era."

CLASSIFICATION: September 2, 1993.

1. Hynek: DE-1
2. Berliner Strangeness Scale: 2
3. Berliner Credibility Scale: 9
4. Berliner Coefficient of Usefulness: 18
5. Speiser Strangeness Factor: S-5
6. Speiser Probability Factor: P-5
7. Hynek Strangeness Factor: (Speiser) 10
8. UFOCat Type: Type 1
9. Gegan Classification: Type D
10. Arthur Bray Classification: Class II
11. Vallee (1965): Type III
12. Vallee (1966): Type II, Class B
13. Vallee (1992): SVP Credibility Rating S-4, V-3, P-3
14. Ronald Story (1980): SEIK

ARTICLES

THE COAST WEEKLY Part III

This is the third in a series of installments we've taken from a feature article originally published in the

November 4 - 11, 1993 issue of the Coast Weekly, Monterey County's largest circulation newspaper (based in Seaside, California). Because the Coast Weekly is a regional publication, and because the article focused specifically on local UFO activity, we asked for and received permission to reproduce it in its entirety for our *Case Brief* readers. While Part II focused mainly on the close encounter experiences of Anne DeSoto, which seem to follow the more classic abduction scenario, Part III opens with writer Chuck Thurman's interview with a Carmel resident who claims contact with ET's through the highly controversial mode of channeling and continues on to expose the long history of government cover-up.

* * * * *

A totally different sort of alleged contact is represented by Carole Austen, a grandmotherly Carmel resident, who says she channels communications from outer space. According to her extraterrestrial contact on the Pleiades (who, she says, prefer to be referred to as 'other celestials') want us to know that they are friendly beings who are mostly interested in helping the citizens of Earth. Austen says she is frustrated with many researchers because they spend too much time focusing on the frightening aspects of being abducted rather than on the spiritual opportunities such contact opens up.

And, in fact, once a contactee has worked through the fear and isolation that often accompany the abduction experience, many contactees say they achieve a new sense of inner peace and understanding. It's a long way from the images of UFOs described by Austen, DeSoto and Mr. X to the cold factual conclusions drawn by the U.S. government - which now claims the whole subject of UFOs has been thoroughly dissected, analyzed and discarded.

The most famous United States study of UFOs was Project Bluebook, which examined nearly 13,000 reported sightings between 1947 and 1969. Of those sightings, all but 701 either had conventional explanations or were of such a questionable nature that they were dismissed. The skeptics and debunkers were gratified. At the same time, those 701 inexplicable incidents still provide grist for the UFO community's mill.

Michael Lindemann, editor of *UFOS and the Alien Presence: Six Viewpoints*, tumbled into

the field of UFO research while he was researching secret government weapons programs in 1989. Despite the 24 years that have elapsed since the Air Force closed the covers on Project Bluebook, Lindemann says it still provides a landmark in UFO research. "If we look just at the 701 unknowns (out of Project Bluebook's over 12,000 cases)," says Lindemann, "it still established beyond a shadow of a doubt that UFOs are very real."

Skeptics and debunkers, of course, point out that those 701 cases merely prove that people saw unidentified, - unidentifiable - flying objects. They will point out that UFO believers have yet to provide any hard evidence that the earth is being visited from ambassadors from outer space.

It's an argument that researchers like Lindemann find infuriating. "I want to differ with the general skeptical announcement that eyewitness accounts are not evidence," says Lindemann, "skeptics are fond of saying 'all you have is stories, ergo you have nothing.' That is simply nonsense. Even if we had just eyewitness accounts, we would have plenty of evidence. We don't have proof, but we have plenty of evidence."

There are also those who say the government has a whole lot more than eyewitness accounts. One of the most celebrated UFO incidents dates back to July 1947 when something crashed near Roswell Air Force Base in New Mexico. The day after bits of wreckage were retrieved from a remote location on Mac Brazel's ranch, the Air Force announced that they had picked up pieces of a non-earthly space craft. Those bits of wreckage were sent, under guard, to Wright Air Force base near Dayton, Ohio.

**"If there were, I couldn't tell you about it...
If there were, we couldn't discuss it."
- Major Dave Thurston, USAF**

Somewhere along the way, though, the Air Force reversed its decision and announced their previous announcement was incorrect. They held

a press conference where they said the crashed object was actually a radar balloon and displayed bits of wreckage to prove their case.

Debate has raged ever since. Although the Air Force stands by its second story, there are eye-witnesses who say the wreckage displayed did not come from the crash site and that the real wreckage continued its journey to Wright. It is a matter of record that ranch owner Brazel was held by the Air Force for several days. After he was released he complained of being intimidated and thereafter spoke very little of the crash or what he found.

Interestingly, despite the thoroughness of Project Bluebook, there is no mention of the Roswell Incident.



Some UFO researchers say such incidents constitute evidence that the government and military know a lot more than they're telling us.

Stanton Friedman is a nuclear physicist who has worked for General Electric, Westinghouse, Aerojet General and TRW. He is also an outspoken critic of the government's tight-lipped policies regarding UFOs. In *UFOs and the Alien Presence*, Friedman is quoted as saying, "We certainly are dealing with a 'Cosmic Watergate.' That is, the government has withheld the best data, and put cover stories all over the place to make getting at the truth all the more difficult."

The National Security Agency (NSA), one of our government's most secret security agencies, denied having any interest in UFOs until the early 1980's. Then, when Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) filed suit against the CIA, it was discovered that the NSA had on file 18 documents relating to UFOs which they refused to release, citing national security interests. Attorney Peter Gersten filed a second request to obtain the documents, received only censored versions of two documents, and NSA spokesman Eugene Yeates admitted that the NSA actually had 239 documents on the subject. When a Freedom of Information request was filed for those documents, the presiding judge reviewed a 20-page abstract of information they contained and ruled that "the public interest in disclosure is far outweighed by the sensitive nature of the materials and the obvious effect on national security their release may well entail..."

If government agencies are to be believed - a stretch given their denial of past investigations - they are no longer interested in UFOs. When *Coast Weekly* contacted the CIA, Nancy Barnes in the Media Relations Department told us, "We don't have anybody to talk about UFOs. We started sending everybody to the Air Force years ago. You're going to have a tough time getting anybody to talk about UFOs because we haven't done anything in a long, long time."

"I can't speak for the entire government," said Major Dave Thurston at the Air Force press desk in Virginia, "but I can tell you the Air Force perspective. We no longer investigate UFOs. We investigated from 1947 to 1969 (Project Bluebook)...and we determined there was never

ROSWELL INVESTIGATION UPDATE

On June 28th, the date we went to press with this issue of *Case Briefs*, I called Congressman Steven Schiff's district office in New Mexico to get an updated report on the status of the GAO's investigation into the military's cover-up of an alleged UFO crash in the desert north of Roswell, NM during July of 1947. I spoke with Mary Martinek who told me that while there are no new major developments in the case, Rep. Schiff is satisfied with the methodology and thoroughness with which the investigation is proceeding.

The GAO is currently looking into the Air Force's files and Rep. Schiff is reportedly very pleased with the "enthusiastic" cooperation the GAO has been receiving from them. She cautioned that, much as we all would like the matter to be resolved quickly, 50 years worth of cover-up is not an easy thing to undo. The process of reviewing the many, many cubic feet of old files is a long and arduous task. What might complicate matters is that the statute of limitations on keeping records (30 years) expired sometime ago. An encouraging note however, is that the GAO is finding a surprisingly large number of unrelated documents from that time period, so perhaps some documents will yet be uncovered.

When asked what our members can do to assist with the investigation, Ms. Martinek said that it will be helpful if we write to our elected officials to express our interest and concern. She also urges people to sign and send in copies of The "Roswell Declaration." MUFON Journal subscribers may remember that a copy appeared in the Journal a few months ago. Copies will also be appearing soon in *OMNI Magazine* and possibly in the *U.S. News and World Report*. She also urges people to tell others about the current investigation into the events in Roswell during July of 1947. While not everyone will be convinced that the cover-up involves "little green men," most everyone, on careful examination of the evidence, will agree that there can be little doubt that a major cover-up was implemented and continues to this day.

Laura Steiger, *Case Briefs* Editor

☞ Readers will like to know that a movie that dramatically recreates the events that allegedly occurred in Roswell during July of 1947 has recently been produced. Showtime is currently planning on airing "Roswell" this August, but does not yet have air dates. Please check your local listings.

any threat to national security nor that they represented any sort to technology unknown to us." If that response suggests that the government does possess high-performance aircraft that are

mistaken for extraterrestrial space ships, Thurston isn't saying.

Paraphrasing another government official faced with the same questions years ago, Thurston said, "If there were (such aircraft), I couldn't tell you about it. I am not aware of any such technology, but if there were we couldn't discuss it."

(Editor's note: In the next and final installment, Thurman takes a look at local MUFON activity vis-a-vis the UFO issue.)

REVIEWS

THE HAUNTED UNIVERSE

by D. Scott Rogo

A "Retro Review" by Bufo Calvin

UFOs are out of our minds.

Read that sentence carefully. Not UFO witnesses. And the UFOs aren't out of *their* minds. They are external projections of the human mind, created subconsciously through psychic abilities.

That was the contention of the late parapsychologist, D. Scott Rogo, in his 1977 work, *The Haunted Universe*. The book attempted to see if what was known from the controlled experiments and field work of parapsychologists could explain different types of strange events outside of the lab and haunted houses...events including UFO sightings, falls of fish from the sky, and encounters with monsters.

Rogo came from kind of an odd viewpoint: he presented his fellow psychic researchers as sort of staid chemist types who had, through careful and plodding work, produced a basically undisputed body of knowledge of ESP and psychokinesis (PK). I doubt that many people outside of the field had that image. Then he went on to try and shake them up, to "break through the inhibitions we work under in parapsychology."

His intent was excellent. He cautioned against promoting theories which cannot be tested.

In the beginning of the book, he says he will be "evaluating the reports scientifically and openly, but never credulously."

Unfortunately, the tendency to see things as falling into the area in which we have greatest knowledge undid these noble intentions. An engineer will often see a UFO sighting as a nuts and bolts problem. A psychiatrist may see it as a mental aberration. A mystic may see it as a spirit. Billy Graham thought they were angels. This is only natural. By placing it in our fields of best expertise, we give ourselves the best chance to find the answer.

In Rogo's case, this meant that a psychic explanation is almost always better than a physical one. Take the famous Pascagoula case, wherein two fishermen (Hickson and Parker) were forcibly taken aboard a UFO by weird-looking creatures. A point is made that the security cameras at a nearby shipyard failed to record the object, despite its presence for around twenty minutes. Rogo suggested that it could be because the "object" was psychically created by Hickson, and was only real enough to "infect" Parker, but not to be photographed. He ignored the possibility that the craft could somehow have had some sort of technological screening device, a scenario which I think most people would find at least worthy of consideration.

Rogo also chided ufologists for their lack of knowledge about "paranormal phenomena." His awareness of what was understood to be the workings of psychic abilities allowed him to dismiss some suggestions of the period, such as the idea that the famous abductees, Betty and Barney Hill might have shared a dream telepathically. Rogo was able to talk with authority about "shared dreams," and how the details would vary too greatly to support the theory in the Hill case. However, Rogo also failed to support many of his own ideas with citations from the literature. For instance, he felt that the failure of electrical equipment in the presence of a UFO might be from the percipient drawing upon that energy to create the UFO. This is an astonishing idea which, it would seem, would be easy to test. Simply

measure the output of a light bulb while a subject uses PK. Rogo certainly felt that PK was producible in a controlled laboratory situation where such measurements could be obtained.

The book gets wilder as it goes on, suggesting that evil exists as an external force, and that monsters, such as Mothman, might have been created in the human mind and then developed a continued existence outside of it. So what starts out as fairly conservative becomes increasingly speculative.

Rogo himself realized that. He says in the last paragraphs of the book, "I said that one should not promote a theory unless one could test it experimentally, either to verify it or negate it. Perhaps I have violated that principle several times in the course of these chapters. If so, it is only because when confronting something as extraordinary as a miracle, we can never explore it experimentally. All we can do is make deductions from our observations..." Readers will find interest in Rogo's deductions, even if they do not find all of them convincing.

TIDBITS

MAY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At the Northern California MUFON General Meeting in San Jose on May 15th, Linda Kerth, Ph.D., presented slides of children's drawings of UFOs, drawings which, she states, "Spring purely from the imaginations of schoolchildren."

Dr. Kerth analyzed about 500 drawings by Swiss children aged 7 to 15 to see whether they differed greatly from sketches of UFOs made by adults based on real experiences. "It was suggested that such a baseline of purely imaginable drawings by naive subjects would be valuable in comparison with sketches by eyewitness of real UFO's," she said.

It has also been hypothesized by Jungian theorists that the UFO experience draws upon

archetypal symbology, involving mandala-like symbols which are transformed or emerging "archetypes." "If this is true," said Dr. Kerth, "then such archetypes should be evident in children's drawings as well as in adult drawings - there should be essentially no difference between the groups." This is far from her findings, however, which were published in the *Journal of UFO Studies* (Vol. 4, 1992). In fact, the children's drawings are quite different, both in terms of overall shapes drawn and in types and numbers of details drawn, such as "windows" and "doors." These differences were illustrated by the colorful and artistic creations of the children themselves.

Lester Velez, Training Coordinator also led an interesting group "open" discussion.

Note: There will not be a General Meeting in San Jose this July. The next meeting is currently scheduled for the third Sunday in September.

FIELD INVESTIGATOR TRAINING

I am happy to report that for our next field investigator training session we will have Dr. Richard Haines, eminent investigator, take us through a field investigation form, beginning to end. Also, Linda Kerth will speak to us on memory retrieval, with specific focus on children.

I believe this will be a great training session - oh, yes, it appears that due to various scheduling conflicts, our next session will be some time in September, rather than June. Most likely it will be held either the week before or after our next general meeting in September. A mailing list will be made in August to advise members of the specifics.

Last but not least, I'm looking for someone to be the Assistant Training Coordinator. If you are interested, please give me a call at (408) 268-2837.

Lester Velez
Training Coordinator

RADIO NEWS

For those fans of Art Bell's "Area 2000" UFO topic call-in talk show which used to be carried by KDWN Las Vegas, his new 3 hour show called "Dreamland" is syndicated nationwide and can be found Sunday nights on the following California stations:

<u>CITY</u>	<u>BROADCAST STATION</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
Bakersfield	KNZR 1560 am	7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Chico	KPAY 1060 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Merced	KYOS 1480 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Palm Desert	KNWZ 1270 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Quincy	KPCO 1370 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Redding	KQMS 400 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Sacramento	KSTE 650 am	12:00 - 3:00 a.m.
San Diego	KOGO 600 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Santa Barbara	KQSB 990 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Santa Maria	KSMA 1245 am	7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Santa Rosa	KSRO 1350 am	9:00 - 12:00 a.m.

As of June 10th, no other California stations carry "Dreamland," but stations are being added frequently. Please feel free to call your local stations and urge them to carry "Dreamland." For programming questions please call the syndicating company, Chancellor Broadcasting Co., in Oregon at (503) 664-5673.

Laura Steiger, *Case Briefs* Editor

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