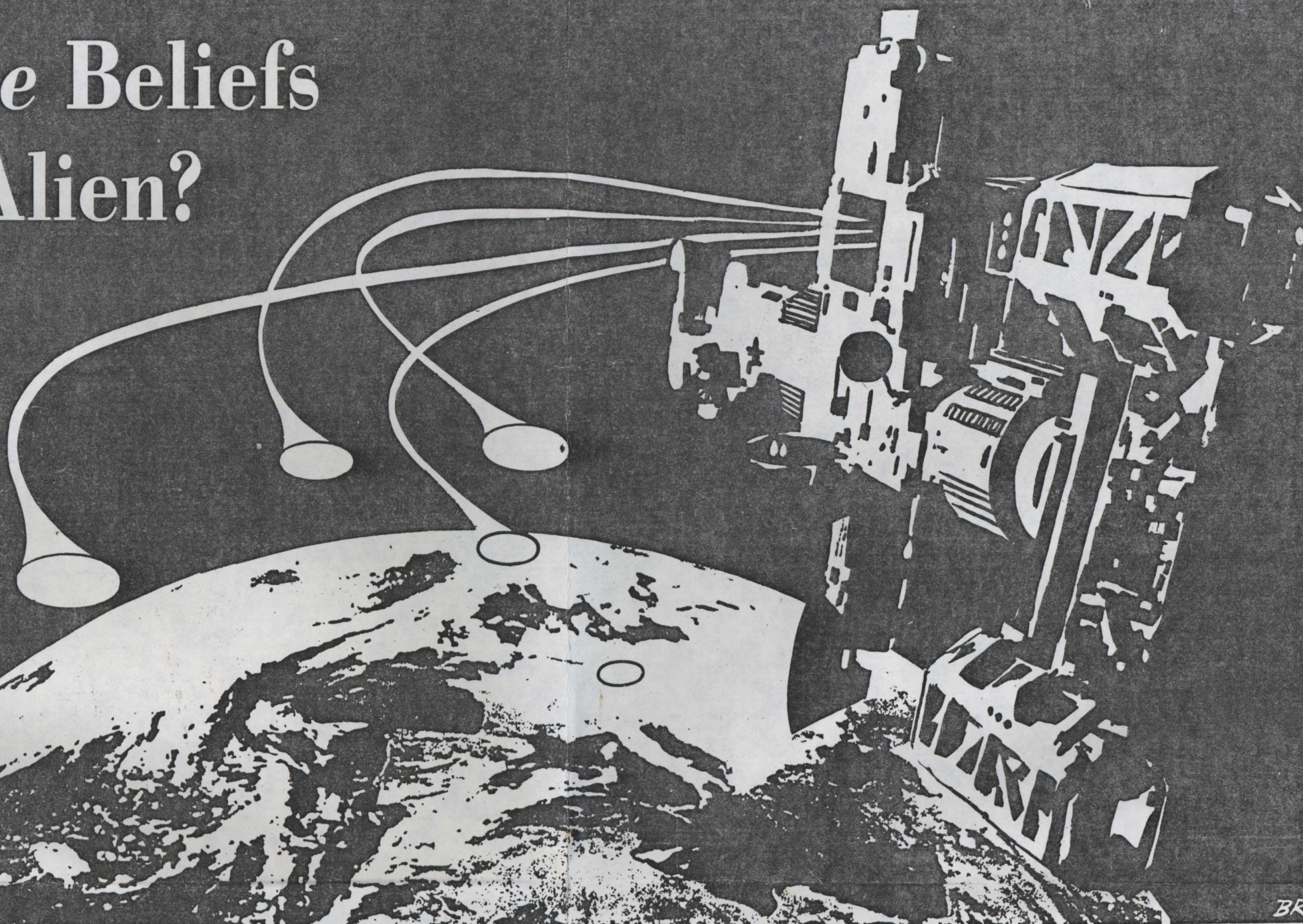


# Whose Beliefs Are Alien?



BRADLEY

By E.F. Porter Jr.  
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

The impressive thing about the people who convened at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel recently for the three-day 16th annual MUFON Symposium is their dauntlessness. Nearly 40 years of scorn and ridicule have failed to shake their belief in flying saucers.

MUFON is an acronym for Mutual UFO Network Inc., a national organization for the investigation of unidentified flying objects, enjoying tax-exempt status as an educational and scientific organization. It is made up of people who are convinced that the planet is being visited by intelligent beings from outside the solar system who arrive in lens-shaped craft and

The next thing he knew it was 2:45 in the afternoon and he was two miles away, Chapleau said. He remembers nothing about the intervening time. He told no one about it.

Later, when he was a Navy Seabee stationed at a naval air base on Malta, he was standing watch at the field one night when he saw a huge, football-shaped craft approaching the runway. It was covered with bright lights and a tripod landing gear with bright metallic balls instead of wheels at the ends of the legs.

The craft descended to the end of the runway about 3,000 feet from where Chapleau was standing, and it stopped in midair. It made no sound. It hovered for a few moments and then retreated into the sky. He said person-

**"The only material evidence of flying saucers is held by the government, and the government will not even admit that it exists. . . . The sole exception is a small medal that was given to a woman in Berryville, Ark., by a pair of humanoids who came to her rescue after she fell off a ladder while picking apples."**

again before it disappeared upward into the sky.

He described the object as circular with steps, like a stack of disks of diminishing size. As far as Chapleau knew, he was the only person on the

could not identify, who have performed autopsies and done other examinations on the bodies.

"I wouldn't begin to claim this is proof," he said. "But when you look at the type of inf-

suffered a compound fracture of the leg and was bleeding heavily, Andrus related.

"She saw two creatures coming through the orchard. They didn't walk, they floated across the grass. One was in a tight fitting suit and a skull cap. The other had an inner tube like the Michelin man.

"They had high-pitched voices, like children. They told her to get up. She knew she couldn't get up, but they told her to get up, and she could."

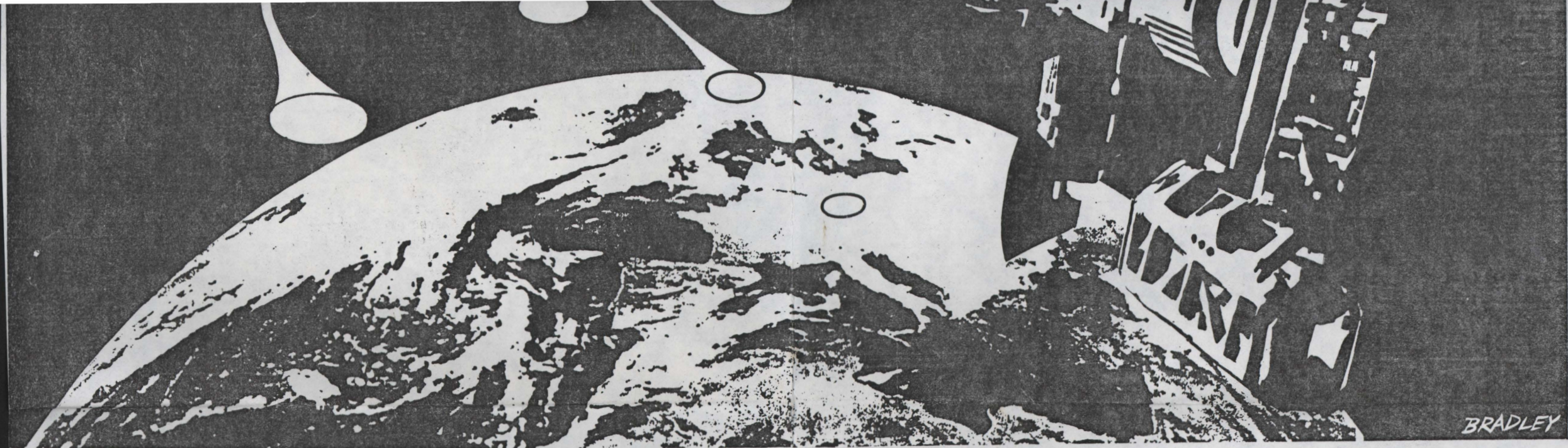
The woman invited her rescuers into her kitchen and offered them refreshment. They said they wanted juice. She offered them apple juice and orange juice, but they declined. She never learned what they pre-

lar reports, said that one possible reason for government secrecy is to keep the Soviets guessing as to whether the saucers are, in fact, an American secret weapon.

Another possibility is that the U.S. military wants to be able to make use secretly of any technological innovations that might be learned.

A third possibility is that the government policy makers simply chose not to risk the social upheaval that might result were the existence of a more advanced civilization to be known.

None of the conferees thought it significant that never in the nearly 40 years since flying saucers were first reported have there been any photo-



BRADLEY

By E.F. Porter Jr.  
Of the Post-Dispatch Staff

The impressive thing about the people who convened at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel recently for the three-day 16th annual MUFON Symposium is their dauntlessness. Nearly 40 years of scorn and ridicule have failed to shake their belief in flying saucers.

MUFON is an acronym for Mutual UFO Network Inc., a national organization for the investigation of unidentified flying objects, enjoying tax-exempt status as an educational and scientific organization. It is made up of people who are convinced that the planet is being visited by intelligent beings from outside the solar system who arrive in lens-shaped craft and that the federal government knows a lot more about them than it's telling. For a majority of these people, the moment of truth came when they actually saw a flying saucer.

Take William J. Chapleau, Vermont state director for MUFON, for example. He says he had his first encounter of any kind when he was 14. He was hiking near his home in Rutland when he saw a bright glow over the brow of a hill. It was about 11 a.m. on a cloudy Sunday in October, he said.

The next thing he knew it was 2:45 in the afternoon and he was two miles away, Chapleau said. He remembers nothing about the intervening time. He told no one about it.

Later, when he was a Navy Seabee stationed at a naval air base on Malta, he was standing watch at the field one night when he saw a huge, football-shaped craft approaching the runway. It was covered with bright lights and a tripod landing gear with bright metallic balls instead of wheels at the ends of the legs.

The craft descended to the end of the runway about 3,000 feet from where Chapleau was standing, and it stopped in midair. It made no sound. It hovered for a few moments and then retreated into the sky. He said personnel at the control tower across the air field denied seeing anything. The only other witness was the base duty officer.

His third experience occurred while he was still in the Navy, stationed at McMurdo Sound in Antarctica. He was skiing one afternoon on a slope near the base when he spied a large, metallic object fly over the crater of Mount Terror and pause. It then sped over the ice shelf to a second volcano, Mount Erebus, and paused

**"The only material evidence of flying saucers is held by the government, and the government will not even admit that it exists. . . . The sole exception is a small medal that was given to a woman in Berryville, Ark., by a pair of humanoids who came to her rescue after she fell off a ladder while picking apples."**

again before it disappeared upward into the sky.

He described the object as circular with steps, like a stack of disks of diminishing size. As far as Chapleau know, he was the only person on the base to see the object.

★ ★ ★

MUFON's international director, is Walter H. Andrus Jr., a retired manager of a Motorola plant in Quincy, Ill., now living in Seguin, Texas. Flying saucers have not only been sighted, he said; they also have crashed, and crew members have been killed. He described the crew members as hairless with large heads, small bodies, long arms, webbed hands and only the vestiges of genitalia.

"Their skin is shiny, beige to gray, not green; it's almost reptilian," he said.

Where are the fragments of the crashed saucers and where are the bodies? Andrus said they had all been confiscated by the Air Force and taken to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base at Dayton, Ohio. "The military investigations (of saucer crashes) are very thorough," he said. "They come with metal detectors and get everything."

MUFON's information comes from sources with direct information, all of whom invariably insist on anonymity, Andrus said. The sources include eminent medical specialists, whom he

suffered a compound fracture of the leg and was bleeding heavily, Andrus related.

"She saw two creatures coming through the orchard. They didn't walk, they floated across the grass. One was in a tight fitting suit and a skull cap. The other had an inner tube like the Michelin man.

"They had high-pitched voices, like children. They told her to get up. She knew she couldn't get up, but they told her to get up, and she could."

The woman invited her rescuers into her kitchen and offered them refreshment. They said they wanted juice. She offered them apple juice and orange juice, but they declined. She never learned what they preferred.

Before they left, they gave her a small medal. Later she sent it to the Johnson Space Center in Houston for analysis. NASA officials told MUFON representatives informally that the medal appeared to be made of type metal, a commonplace alloy of lead and tin used for printing type, but it was never returned.

Leonard Stringfield, a retired public relations man for a chemical company in Cincinnati, who collects simi-

lar reports, said that one possible reason for government secrecy is to keep the Soviets guessing as to whether the saucers are, in fact, an American secret weapon.

Another possibility is that the U.S. military wants to be able to make use secretly of any technological innovations that might be learned.

A third possibility is that the government policy makers simply chose not to risk the social upheaval that might result were the existence of a more advanced civilization to be known.

None of the conferees thought it significant that never in the nearly 40 years since flying saucers were first reported have there been any photographs of the crew members, nor anything but indistinct and rather unconvincing photographs of the saucers themselves.

They did not think it astonishing, moreover, that in all this time that not a single analysis has ever appeared in a reputable scientific publication on either the saucer fragments or the tissues of the dead aliens.

As far as the saucer devotees are concerned, it only confirms a pervasive and successful federal cover-up.

RN