

**MD. PROBERS
USE HYPNOSIS**

People who claim they were abducted
by aliens are not 'crazy,' study shows

New UFO facts revealed

By Anita Lewis
News American Staff

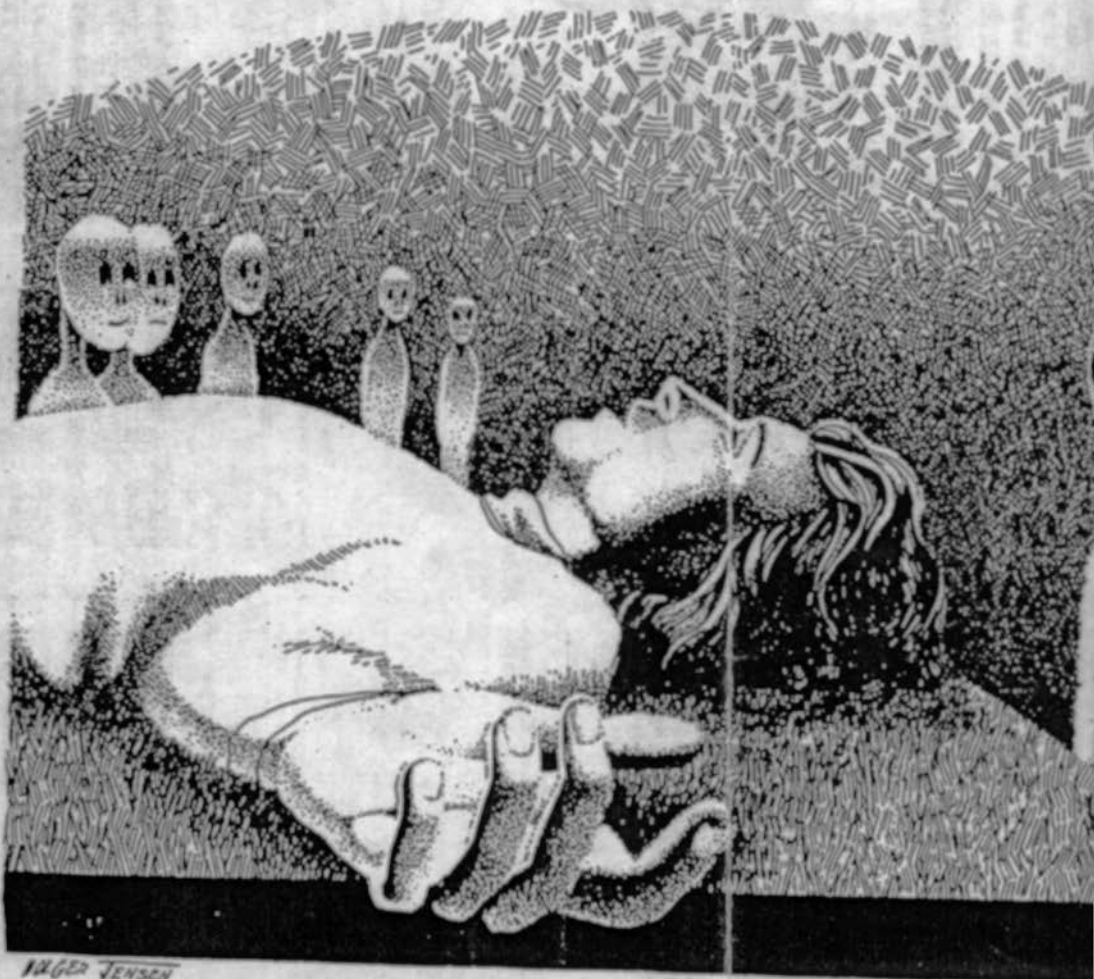
AFTER THAT FATEFUL NIGHT 14 years ago, 20-year-old Steve Kilburn was overwhelmed by a sense of dread and foreboding each time he drove that stretch of Maryland's Route 40 that led to his girlfriend's home. He couldn't shake the feeling that something had happened to him along that road. He sensed only that it involved an unidentified flying object. The rest of story was locked deep in his subconscious. Under hypnosis, however, he told a tale of being abducted and taken aboard an alien spacecraft.

Virginia Horton (who, like Kilburn, insists her real name remain a secret) remembers watching a television documentary about Kilburn's abduction. She recalls things clinking into place, triggering something inside her. She contacted the psychologist who participated in the film, and for her, too, hypnosis released the memories.

Although tens of thousands of reports of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been filed since the first modern UFO sighting by U.S. private pilot Kenneth Arnold in June 1947, far fewer people come forward claiming they've been abducted by aliens. When they remember the terrifying episode, they're leery of talking about it, afraid they'll be labeled publicity-seekers or "crazies" who've seen "little green men." In fact, they're neither, claims a new study of nine UFO "abductees," including Kilburn and Horton, funded by the Fund for UFO Research Inc., a Mount Ranier, Md.-based non-profit organization.

New York psychologist Dr. Aphrodite Clamar and UFO researchers Ted Bloecher and Budd Hopkins (author of "Missing Time," an investigation of UFO abduction cases published in 1981 and called the most exhaustive work done on the topic) hired psychologist Dr. Elizabeth Slater to test the five men and four women. So as not to prejudice the findings, researchers kept Slater in the dark, didn't tell her that the people she was testing claimed to have been abducted by aliens. She was simply asked to test and evaluate the psychological profiles of the men and women. Although the study wouldn't prove the truth of the claims, it could pick up any mental illnesses that would explain the individuals' experiences.

Slater subjected the group to a barrage of standard psychological tests but found no evidence of any mental disorders, just what UFO researcher Hopkins calls "garden-variety neurotics" — highly intelligent, creative men and women who seemed a bit immature and cautious with people. A second psychologist "blindly" reviewed the test results and came to similar results. After being told the nature of the study, Slater said the



INGER JENSEN