

UFO 'rider' shares trip in school talk

THORNTON, N.H. — Betty Hill, whose tale of a ride aboard a UFO made news worldwide, returned to the town where she says space aliens captured her 25 years ago.

Speaking recently to schoolchildren, Hill recalled the autumn night she and her husband, Barney, saw "a bright star" hovering above New Hampshire's White Mountains. The two earthlings claimed they were "dragged aboard kicking and screaming" and examined by diminutive humanoids.

"I was absolutely terrified," said Hill, now 67. "My husband and I said, 'We're never going to tell anybody about this. No one would believe us.'"

But spots on their car and other eerie reminders troubled her husband, and the two sought help from a Boston psychiatrist. In 11 months of hypnosis, Betty and Barney were able to break through amnesia they say the aliens forced on them.

When a Boston newspaper broke the story, the Hills were flooded with calls from reporters throughout the nation and in Europe. Their chilling tale of their two-hour trip was recounted in the book "The Interrupted Journey" and the movie "The UFO Incident."

Hill said her husband, who died of a cerebral hemorrhage in 1969, initially did not believe in UFOs, but she approached the incident with an open mind and is convinced there are "astronauts here from another solar system."

In her lecture, she shows slides of UFO sightings that draw oohs and ahs from the youngsters. She also displays a dummy named "Junior," who she claims resembles one of her humanoid captors.

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