

Aliens are among us—author

Fort Collins man claims extraterrestrial contact

By Jim Slack
For the Triangle Review

"We understood you would come along."

This was the matter-of-fact greeting from the 7- to 8-foot-tall space being Joseph Ostrom found himself facing one night nine years ago on a hotel roof in Crete.

Ostrom is a softspoken man who works in a Loveland print shop and lives quietly with his wife and baby girl in a trailer house in Fort Collins. You wouldn't pick him out of a line-up of suspected alien fraternizers.

But Ostrom's encounter has gained him a good deal of publicity recently, including a recent talk show appearance on KOA radio. He is also featured in the best-selling book, *Aliens Among Us*, by Ruth Montgomery.

The alien who contacted Ostrom, it seemed, was prescient. Ostrom would go along—willingly. Presently a turquoise-colored beam lifted them aboard a small spacecraft. From there they transferred to a larger city-like ship, full of humanoid beings with whom Ostrom felt an instant rapport. Ostensibly he was there to receive a message of hope for our troubled planet.

Was it all a dream? Ostrom thought so at first. The next day, not having been there before, he went up to the roof and it was exactly the same "dream." He still wasn't sure though and returned to Arizona, where he was living, and tried to put the experience out of his mind.

He didn't succeed. "After I came back from Crete my life turned around within a year," says Ostrom. "I lost a lot of the things I loved and cared about. But new things filled in the gaps."

He then began having an obsessive dream

night after night. "It was of a map of the United States with dots on it. People were moving toward the dots. They seemed to represent where people were supposed to be.

"This caused me to close down my advertising agency and move to Denver, where I saw myself being drawn to. It turned out later the dot was indicating Fort Collins. I felt I had to meet certain people here."

He met his wife Carol here, who also claims to have had encounters with extraterrestrials. He told her about his own experiences and dreams. She suggested he see Dr. Leo Sprinkle, a University of Wyoming psychology professor and a leading UFO investigator. Sprinkle gave him a series of psychological tests and found him to be perfectly normal.

Sprinkle then hypnotized Ostrom, regressing him back to the experience in Crete. More details of his close encounter came to the surface.

"I didn't ask the tall man where he was from," Ostrom recalls. "For some reason I didn't ask some of the more obvious questions. I did ask, 'Why me?' He said it wasn't just me. They were picking up hundreds of people every year. It occurred to me to ask if I could take my camera along. He paused for about 45 seconds, as if communicating with someone, and said, 'No.'"

Ostrom couldn't see the tall man's face. He seemed to be wearing a protective mask. He communicated with Ostrom telepathically, in perfect English. The small craft they first entered wasn't at all like a spaceship as we know it—no flashing lights, instrument panels or video screens. They passed from a dark area into a lighted room with a high ceiling. He saw a man with gray skin and a long drawn face sitting at a table.



AURA READER AND AUTHOR Joseph Ostrom shows a drawing of the alien which Ostrom claims to have met several years ago on the island of Crete.