

3 Women Are Abducted by a Massive UFO

... Lie Detector and Hypnosis Confirm Their Chilling Account

By BOB PRATT

In one of the strangest, most terrifying UFO encounters of all time, three Kentucky women were taken out of their car and subjected to torturous physical examinations by mysterious beings.

Their incredible ordeal has been verified by police lie detector tests and separate hypnotic sessions conducted by a top university professor.

The women — all lifelong churchgoers with excellent reputations — remember seeing a huge flying saucer swoop down toward them as they were driving along a country road. Suddenly they felt an awesome force take control of their car — until it was hurtling along at 85 miles an hour.

Then came a strange 80-minute blank in their lives — a baffling gap that the women found impossible to explain. The gap ended with their next conscious memory . . . driving into a town eight miles away from the original sighting.

It took deep hypnosis to unlock the secrets of those missing 80 minutes. The explanation that emerged was a fascinating story of abduction.

In a trance, each woman told of being removed from the car and held prisoner in a strange chamber. Each also was forced to undergo a frightening and painful examination before finding herself back in the car.

And investigators who probed the case found there was physical evidence to confirm the trio's experience — each woman suffered a bizarre three-inch burn on her neck.

"This is one of the most convincing UFO cases on record," declared UFO expert Len Stringfield, a director of the Mutual UFO Network and an investigator for the prestigious Center for UFO Studies.

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, a veteran hypnotist who conducted the hypnosis sessions, said he firmly believes the women described "real" experiences while hypnotized.

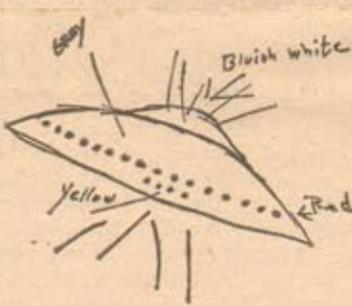
"It is very difficult for people to lie under hypnosis," noted Dr. Sprinkle, associate professor of psychology at the University of Wyoming.

"And when three people in separate hypnotic sessions all agree on the essential parts in their account, the chance they have lied is beyond all reasonable possibility."

The three women — Elaine Thomas, 48; Louise Smith, 44; and Mona Stafford, 35 — have lived in and near Liberty, Ky., most of their lives. Two are grandmothers and the third, Mona Stafford, is the mother of a 17-year-old.

They were returning from a late supper in Stanford, 29 miles from home, when their nightmare began at 11:30 p.m. last January 6. Suddenly, a mile west of the city, a large disc-shaped object hurtled into view.

"It was as big as a football field!" recalled Louise, who was driving. "It was metallic gray with a glowing white dome, a row of red lights around the middle and three or four red and yellow lights



DRAWING of UFO by Louise Smith was almost identical to those done by the other two women, though all were in different rooms at the time.

underneath." The UFO stopped ahead of them — then circled around behind their car. Suddenly the auto picked up speed. Louise found she couldn't control it.

"The speedometer registered 85 miles an hour! The others screamed to slow down — but I held my foot in the air to show them it wasn't even on the gas pedal!" Louise said.

Then some awesome force began dragging the car backward . . . and at that point came the 80-minute gap in the trio's memories. Their next conscious memory was of seeing a street light as they entered Hustonville — eight miles from where they'd seen the UFO.

The frightened women immediately drove to Louise's home in Liberty. They should have arrived around midnight — but it was 1:25 a.m. "An hour and 20 minutes, maybe longer, was missing — time we couldn't account for," Louise said.

Louise's neck hurt, so she asked Mona to look at it. Mona found a strange red mark "like a fresh burn that hadn't blistered, three inches long and an inch wide. Elaine's neck had the same mark and so did mine."

The terrified women summoned a next-door neighbor, Lowell Lee, and told him their story. He sent them into separate rooms to draw a sketch of the UFO. The drawings were almost identical.

The red marks vanished two days later. But the hour and twenty minutes they'd lost continued to puzzle them . . . until The ENQUIRER had them hypnotized on two separate occasions in July.

During the hypnotic sessions, all three vividly recalled what had happened to them from



ORDEAL: Friends (from left) Elaine Thomas, Mona Stafford and Louise Smith were driving along when UFO swooped on them. Then came an 80-minute blank unexplained until the three underwent hypnosis.

the time their car was pulled backward until they reached Hustonville.

Elaine Thomas remembered lying on her back in a long, narrow incubator-like chamber while beings — "dark figures, small, looked about four feet high" — kept passing by and looking in at her.

She said a blunt instrument was pressed hard against her chest, causing considerable pain. At the same time, something was encircling her throat — and each time she tried to talk, she was choked into



HYPNOTIZED Elaine Thomas describes her ordeal aboard the UFO to Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle.

silence. Elaine cried softly at times under hypnosis.

"Something is pressing on my throat! Like hands, all over, all around . . . I see shadows as they pass by . . . pressure on my chest . . . they won't let me breathe! I can't get away!"

Louise Smith said she was in a "hot, dark" place and something was placed over her face. She begged the beings to let her see them, and once she was allowed to look — but quickly closed her eyes because whatever she saw was frightening. Even under hypnosis Louise can't remember what the beings looked like.

Reliving her experience hypnotically, Louise gasped out: "Help me, Lord, please! . . . (sobbing) . . . It's so dark . . . I'm scared. Get that off my face . . . let go my arm . . . I want to get up but I can't . . ."

At one point she cried out: "Please, I can't do NO MORE! . . . I'm so weak . . . I want to die! Please don't! (sobbing) . . . Don't touch me!" And later: "Can I go home now? (smiling) . . . I'm going fast, so fast! . . . I see a light . . . it's a street light!"

Mona Stafford remembered lying on a bed in what seemed to be an operating room, her right arm pinned down by



some invisible force, while three or four figures in white gowns sat around her bed. She doesn't recall their features.

Mona believed she was being tortured. She said that once her eyes felt as though they were being jerked out of her head, and another time her stomach felt as if it were being blown up like a balloon.

"My head hurts, my eyes hurt so bad . . ." she said. ". . . I see an eye . . . it's kinda like crystal . . . it just bursts out into light or something . . . My hand feels like it's tied down . . . it's hurting, it's numb . . ."

At one point she screamed: "Ooh! He's coming at me! . . . Ooh, they're pulling at me, they're pulling my feet! My feet are being bent backwards. Twisted. I CAN'T TAKE NO MORE!"

The women were given lie detector tests by Detective James Young, senior polygraph examiner for the Lexington, Ky., Police Dept. and vice-president of the state polygraph association. Afterward, Young said in a signed statement:

"It is my opinion that these women actually believe they did experience an encounter."

Dr. Sprinkle, who hypnotized all three women twice, added: "It is quite obvious these women have specific impressions which indicate to them that they were being observed and handled by strange beings."

"In my opinion, it would be very difficult if not impossible for these women to fake their impressions. The impressions during the 'loss-of-time' experience are similar to those of other UFO witnesses who apparently have experienced abduction and examination."

Sheriff Bill Norris of Lincoln County, where the women saw the UFO, told The ENQUIRER that during January there had been "a number of UFO sightings in the county."

\$1,000,000 REWARD

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All evidence we receive will be screened by our editors, by Jim Lorenzen, international director of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and by Jack Acuff, head of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP).

Claims with the most convincing evidence will be submitted to The ENQUIRER's Blue Ribbon Panel on UFOs, made up of top scientists and educators. If they

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