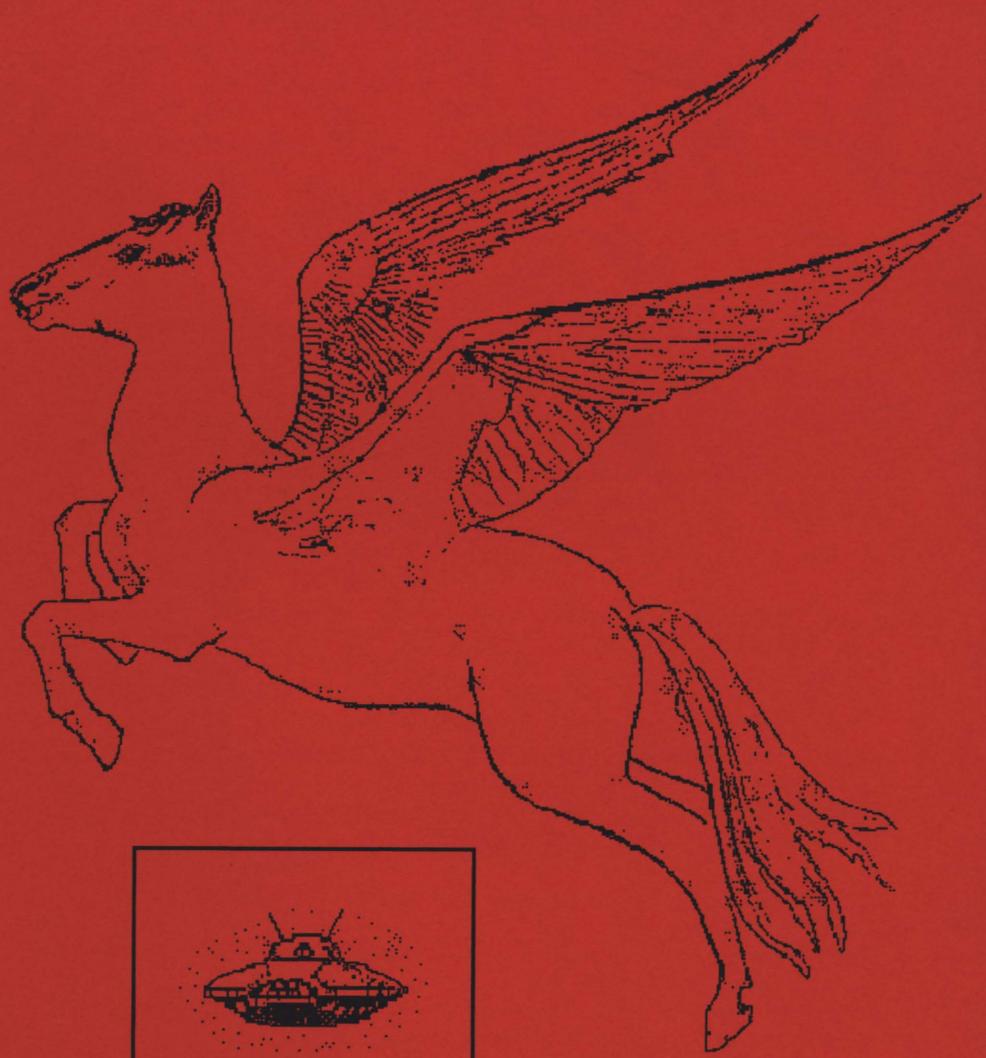


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Surrey Investigation Group into Aerial Phenomena

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NIBIRU? NOT YET!

In the Sumerian writings, the word we translate as “planet” differs slightly in meaning from our own usage. Any substantial member of a solar system is counted as a planet by the Sumerian system, so that Nibiru, though only visiting at its orbital perigee once every 3,600 years, is counted as the twelfth planet in their usage. Its approach is visible only from our southern hemisphere, and as it is head on to us, would only be remarked as an increase in apparent size. This is not easy to detect and would require prolonged observation from our most powerful telescopes to identify an object that was slowly increasing in brightness and apparent size. As far as we know, such an observation is not currently in progress.

As described in Sumerian records, Nibiru is larger than Earth and supports life in conditions comparable to the terrestrial, so all reports of planetoids in the region of Pluto cannot possibly refer to Nibiru, and talk of a twelfth planet in regard to them is misleading. Our problem is that, although we know the orbital period of Nibiru, we do not know when it last reached perigee in our solar backyard, and therefore cannot tell when to expect it. When I suggested to Sitchin in conversation that as we are both old, it was unlikely that we would witness the planet’s return, he made it clear that he was rather hoping to witness that event, although admitting that he had no firm evidence. It was, I think, a wish-fulfilment with him.

Remembering, from his own accounts, how Annunaki behaved among themselves and how they treated their terrestrial subjects, I could not share his desire to meet them in the flesh. Of course they may, in the intervening millennia, have mellowed and become less arrogant in their treatment of their earth born slaves, but I wouldn’t count on it. Zechariah suggested that the god of the Annunaki is Jehovah, which as a Jew he finds reassuring, but I’ve read the Torah too, and remember Job and Ezekiel, who had something of a hard time on occasion. So, though I don’t know when Nibiru is next due, I hope I’ll never see it, and wish you the same!

G.M.

THE CASE OF THE TENTH PLANET

By ZECHARIA SITCHIN

The announcement, on July 30th 2005, that a new celestial body has been discovered made media news around the world; and, because the reports were headlined “Astronomers Claim Discovery of 10th Planet,” my phone started to constantly ring... Some callers shouted “Congratulations!” while others, more cautiously, asked: “Is it Nibiru?” – “Nibiru” being the planet of which I had been writing and talking ever since my book *The 12th Planet* was published decades ago.

The announcement by a Caltech astronomer, Michael Brown, said that he and two colleagues, scanning the heavens in 2003, found a celestial body (designated 2003-UB-313) that they now realize might be larger than Pluto (the 9th planet) and thus qualify as the 10th planet in our solar system. Lacking many vital data except that it orbits the Sun at a very steep angle to the ecliptic (the orbital plane of Earth and other planets) and is now about 9 billion miles from us, the discovery’s announcement was explained as prompted by concern that a computer hacker, a “rogue astronomer”, or a team of Spanish astronomers claiming to have found such a body (that they designated 2003-EL-61), would pre-empt the Brown team.

A Planet, A “Planetoid” – Or What?

While the Brown team employed the term “tenth planet” merely due to its presumed size (“larger than Pluto”), other astronomers have already pointed out that it could be just one of several (perhaps even numerous) planetoids that are assumed to exist in what is called the Kuiper Belt; the Brown team found one such object not long ago and named it Sedna (and is rumoured to be preparing an announcement regarding yet another one, 2005-FY-9).

All that has kindled a debate among astronomers regarding what is to be deemed a full-fledged planet, or a lesser “planetoid,” or just a “Kuiper Belt Object.”

Among the many questions that are unanswered is whether the new celestial body, if a planet, has an atmosphere; that the object could not be sensed by the infra-red Spitzer Telescope (which the Brown team tried to do) suggests that it is just “an icy rock.”

The Ancient Data

So, is it Nibiru? Have astronomers now found the planet from which, according to my understanding of Mesopotamian and biblical texts and illustrations, astronauts had come to Earth some 450,000 years ago?

Based on the sketchy information so far available, the answer is No.

This regrettable answer stems, first of all, from comparing the information released regarding the new object and the ancient data concerning Nibiru. The latter was described as a radiating planet (i.e. one that has its own heat source and atmosphere), a planet that sustains life, home planet of the Anunnaki ("Those who from heaven to Earth came") – the biblical Nefilim.

When the Mesopotamian Epic of Creation (*Enuma Elish*) is treated, as I have suggested, as a sophisticated cosmogony and not as an allegorical myth, the origin and composition of a twelve-member solar system become clear. While the existence of varied celestial objects including numerous moons of various planets have been recognized in the ancient texts (and depictions), only our Moon and only Pluto (once Saturn's moon) have been included in the count. Together with all the planets we know of today (including those discovered only in the past 150 years) and one more – Nibiru – the Sun's "family" added up to twelve.

Such a solar system was depicted repeatedly on cylinder seals and monuments (now on display in museums in London and Berlin), as shown by illustrations in my books. One made famous by my writings is cylinder seal VA-243 in the Berlin Museum of Near Eastern antiquities, which shows the complete solar system with Nibiru passing between Jupiter and Mars when its orbit brings it back to our vicinity:



The cylinder seal is only a little larger than an inch, engraved (as all such seals were) in reverse. The sizes of the planets shown can thus be

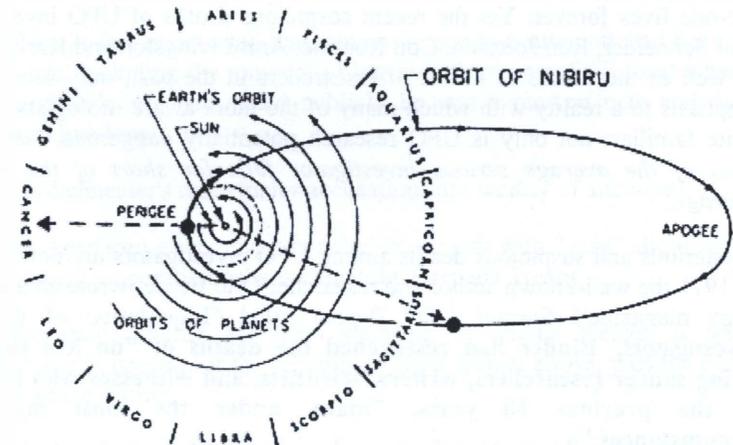
considered only approximations, relative to each other. Even so, it is evident that Nibiru was deemed not only much larger than Pluto, but also than Earth.

It was not an "icy rock" in the Kuiper Belt.

The Search For "Planet X"

It so happened that just two weeks before the recent news, at the Sitchin Reunion in Chicago July 15–16 2005, I reviewed the search for "Planet X" by various astronomers. A significant highlight of that search was the announcement in December 1983 by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory that IRAS (the infra-red telescope) has found a planet, much larger than Earth, moving in the distant heavens in our direction. The announcement – hastily retracted as a "misunderstanding" – prompted the Reagan-Gorbachov meetings and President Reagan's speech at the U.N. about the common danger to Mankind from "an alien planet out there."

My audience was treated both to a video presentation of Reagan's speech (and Soviet video footage concerning the Phobos Incident), and to a never-before-shown video of my interview of the astronomer who was in charge of the official U.S. government search for Planet X -- Dr. Robert Harrington at the United States Naval Observatory. Speaking of the planet as a matter-of-fact, Dr. Harrington described it as 2-3 times the size or mass of Earth, with an atmosphere, "habitable;" and compared its position to the one in my books' drawings:



Dr. Harrington died suddenly soon after our interview in August 1991; but what he knew, and what the ancients knew, must remain the only valid criterion for answering the imperative question: Is it Nibiru?

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IS SOMEONE KILLING OUR UFO INVESTIGATORS?

Here is Part one of an article by Professor G. Cope Schellhorn. This has been split into two parts for reasons of space. The concluding part will follow in the next issue of Pegasus.

Death by gunshot to the head. Death by probable poisoning. Death by probable strangulation. Deaths possibly by implantation of deadly viruses. No-one lives forever. Yet the recent suspicious deaths of UFO investigators Phil Schneider, Ron Johnson, Con Routine, Ann Livingston and Karla Turner, as well as the deaths of a host of researchers in the past, only seem to add emphasis to a reality with which many of the more aware ufologists are now quite familiar: not only is UFO research potentially dangerous, *but the life span of the average serious investigator falls far short of the national average.*

Mysterious and suspicious deaths among UFO investigators are nothing new. In 1971 the well-known author and researcher Otto Binder wrote an article for Saga magazine's *Special UFO Report* titled "Liquidation of the UFO Investigators: **Binder had researched the deaths of "no less than 137 flying saucer researchers, writers, scientists, and witnesses who had died in the previous 10 years, "many under the most mysterious circumstances."**

The selected cases Binder offered were loaded with a plethora of alleged heart attacks, suspicious cancers and what appear to be outright examples of murder. We will have occasion to refer to many of these cases, but first let us

take a look at more recent evidence of highly suspect deaths among present-day researchers.

Phil Schneider

No-one has shaken up those who have been following UFO fact and rumour in the past few years more than Phil Schneider. Schneider died January 17 1996, reportedly strangled by a catheter found wrapped around his neck. If the circumstances of his death seem highly controversial, they are matched by the controversy over his public statements uttered shortly before his death.

Phil Schneider was a self-taught geologist and explosives expert. Of the 129 deep underground facilities Schneider believed the U.S. government had constructed since World War II, he claimed to have worked on 13. Two of these bases were major, including the much-rumoured bioengineering facility at Dulce, N.M.. At Dulce, Schneider maintained, "grey" humanoid extraterrestrials worked side-by-side with American technicians. In 1979 a misunderstanding arose. In the ensuing shootout 66 Secret Service, FBI agents and Black Berets were killed, along with an unspecified number of "greys". It was here he received a beam-weapon blast to the chest which caused his later cancer.

If Schneider is telling the truth, he obviously broke the code of imposed silence to which all major black-budget personnel are subjected. The penalty for that misstep is presumably termination.

Schneider in fact maintained that numerous previous attempts had been made on his life, including the removal of lug nuts from one of the front wheels of his automobile. He had stated publicly he was a marked man and did not expect to live long.

Some of Schneider's more major accusations are worthy of attention:

- (1) The American government concluded a treaty with "grey" aliens in 1954. This mutual cooperation pack is called the Grenada Treaty.
- (2) The space shuttle has been shuttling in special metals. A vacuum atmosphere is needed for the rending of these special alloys, thus the push for a large space station.
- (3) Much of our stealth aircraft technology was developed by back-engineering crashed ET craft.

(4) AIDS was a population-control virus invented by the National Ordinance Laboratory, Chicago, Illinois.

(5) Unbeknown to just about everyone, our government has an earthquake device: The Kobe quake had no pulse wave; the 1989 San Francisco quake had no pulse wave.

(6) The World Trade Centre bomb blast and the Oklahoma City blast were achieved using small nuclear devices. The melting and pitting of the concrete and the extrusion of metal supporting rods indicated this. (Remember, Schneider's forte, he claimed, was explosives.)

Finally, Phil Schneider lamented that the democracy he loved no longer existed. We had become instead a technocracy ruled by a shadow government intent on imposing their own view of things on all of us, whether we like it or not. He believed eleven of his best friends had been murdered in the last 22 years, eight of whom had been *officially* categorised as suicides.

Whatever we think of Phil Schneider's claims, there is no denying that he was of peculiar interest to the FBI and CIA. According to his widow, intelligence agents thoroughly searched the premises shortly after his death and made off with at least a third of the family photographs.

Ron Rummel

Another recent disturbing case is the death of Ron Rummel, ex-Air Force intelligence agent and publisher of the *Alien Digest*, on August 6 1993. Rummel allegedly shot himself in the mouth with a pistol. Friends say, however, that no blood was found on the pistol barrel and the handle of the weapon was free of fingerprints. Also, according to information now circulating, the suicide note left by the deceased was written by a left-handed person. Rummel was right-handed. Perspiration on the body smelled like sodium pentothal, or so it is alleged.

The *Alien Digest* ran to seven limited issues, all now almost impossible to acquire. One thing is certain. Ron Rummel's magazine was touching on sensitive issues such as the predator/prey aspect of the alien/human relationship and the use of humans as food and recyclable body parts. Did Rummel cross a forbidden line? It would seem so. But which line, and where? Interestingly enough, one of Rummel's friends was Phil Schneider, and the two had been collaborating.

Ron Johnson

An equally disturbing and more recent death is that of Ron (Jerrod) Johnson, at the time MUFON's Deputy Director of Investigations. Johnson was 43 years old and, it would seem, in excellent health. He had just passed a recent physical examination with the proverbial flying colours. However, on June 9 1994, while attending a Society of Scientific Exploration meeting in Austin, Texas, Johnson died quickly and amid very strange circumstances. During a slide show several people sitting close to him heard a gasp. When the lights were turned back on, Johnson was slumped over in his chair, his face purple, blood oozing from his nose. A soda can, from which he had been sipping, was sitting on the chair next to him.

Did Ron Johnson die of a stroke? Possibly. An allergic reaction? Another possibility.

Some of the more outstanding facts of Ron Johnson's life might easily lead a more skeptical-minded person to a tentative conclusion that his death was probably neither accidental nor natural. For instance, his most recent job was with the Institute of Advanced Studies, purportedly working on UFO propulsion systems. He had been formerly employed by Earth Tech, Inc., a private think-tank in Austin, Texas, headed by Harold Puthoff. It would appear he held high security clearances, travelled frequently between San Antonio and White Sands, and had attended two secret NATO meetings in the last year or so. One of those meetings, it is rumoured, dealt with ET communications.

If all or most of the facts offered above are accurate, one thing seems obvious: Johnson was walking on both sides of the street. This in itself was highly dangerous, and he may have paid the ultimate price in an attempt to serve more than one master.

As for *exactly* what killed Ron Johnson, a number of possibilities beyond natural ones present themselves. It is quite easy in this day and age to induce strokes through chemicals or pulsed radiation. It is just as easy, and has been for some time, to induce heart attacks and other physical debilitations, such as fast-acting cancers. The best bet is that Ron Johnson was eliminated by a quick-acting toxin, perhaps a nerve agent. As for exactly why he was killed, we will probably never know. The autopsy, somewhat ludicrously, has been officially classified as inconclusive.

As a side note, a nurse returning home from Austin shortly after Johnson's death reported a similar death situation aboard her plane. When she tried to move rearward to offer her assistance, she was forcefully restrained from

doing so. Could it be, one wonders, that some agent, through an accident, was the victim of his own machinations? The idea strikes a nice note of poetic justice, if in fact that were the scenario.

Ann Livingston

Another death involving elements of high strangeness is that of Ann Livingston, who died in early 1994 of a fast-acting form of ovarian cancer. Livingston made her living as an accountant, but she was also a MUFON investigator and had, in fact, published an article entitled "Electronic Harassment and Alien Abductions" in the November 1993 MUFON Journal. The article was highly critical of Julianne McKinney, director of the Electronic Surveillance Project of the Association of National Security Alumni. McKinney discounts UFO phenomena, believing that what passes for such is most often one kind of governmental ploy or another, whether in the form of experimental machinery or experimental psychology.

Some facts which seem relevant to the case stand out. At 7:15 a.m. on December 29th 1992, Livingston's apartment close to O'Hare airport in Chicago, Illinois, was lit up brightly by a silver-white flash. She was accosted later in the day while in her apartment parking lot by 5 MIBs (Men in Black) which she described as being almost faceless and carrying long, flashlight-like black objects. She was rendered unconscious. What, we must ask -- assuming her story is true -- was done to her at this time, and why? And did it have anything to do with her later rapidly-advancing ovarian cancer?

It is not a well-known fact that Ann Livingston had been previously abducted. Her friend, Fran Heiser, has stated that Ann Livingston had met two handsome people, a man and woman, on an earlier trip to Mexico. To Livingston's surprise, the man told her that the attractive young lady she was meeting was in fact her daughter.

Karla Turner

Could genital intrusions from past UFO abductions have poisoned Ann Livingston's system in some way? That is exactly the suspicion Karla Turner (author of *Masquerade of Angels*, *Taken*, and *Into the Fringe*) had about the breast cancer that preceded her death during the summer of 1996. Both publicly and privately, Karla Turner held up the spectre of alien retaliation for statements she made in print, especially in *Masquerade of Angels*. How much her suspicions were founded in reality we will probably never know. (A good site on Karla Turner is:

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Crete/9923/karla.html>)

Who or what is/was killing UFO investigators now and in the past? Probably some of the deaths presented here -- which seem at first glance so suspicious -- are in fact natural or accidental, or self-inflicted because of stress or mental imbalance. But, as Otto Binder noted more than 25 years ago, *there are so many*. Pure common sense, and good logic, should lead us to believe that the high incidence of premature death in a field which has a limited number of investigators is very disproportionate compared to the population at large.

Spider Web of Causes

What we may have is a concatenation, a spider web, of interweaving threads which are causal and often, in fact, deadly. One thread is the activities of the U.S. (and other) intelligence agencies. Another thread is possible ET involvement. A third thread is the involvement of certain PSI-tech think-tanks and private PSI/PK practitioners, including negative occultists. A possible fourth thread is highly reactionary religious cults which feel they are carrying out the will of God. It is more than likely that one or more or all of the above agencies are responsible, in whole or in part, for many of the deaths from the recent past which have already been mentioned, and for many of those remaining cases from the present to the more distant past, some of which we will now explore.

Danny Casolaro

Danny Casolaro, an investigative reporter looking into the theft of Project Promise software, a program capable of tracking down anyone anywhere in the world, died in 1991, a reported suicide.

Casolaro was also investigating several UFO "no-nos" -- Pine Gap, Area 51 and governmental bioengineering.

Mae Bussell

Not long ago, Mae Bussell, a gutsy, no-holds-barred investigative radio host died of a fast-acting cancer just like Ann Livingston and Karla Turner. Bussell was acutely interested in UFOlogy.

Deck Slayton

Deck Slayton, the astronaut, was purportedly ready to talk about his UFO experiences, but cancer also intervened.

Brian Lynch

Brian Lynch, young psychic and contactee, died in 1985, purportedly of a drug overdose. According to Lynch's sister, Geraldine, Brian was approached approximately a year before his death by an intelligence operative working for an Austin, Texas, PSI-tech company. Geraldine said they told Brian they were experimenting on psychic warfare techniques. After his death, a note in his personal effects was found with the words "Five million from Pentagon for Project Scanate."

Capt. Don Elkin

In the '80s Eastern Airlines pilot Capt. Don Elkin committed suicide. He had been investigating the UFO cover-up for over 10 years and, at the time, was deep into the study of the Ra material with (Maria Rucker. There are reports of negative psychological interferences having developed during this latter investigation.



"You're all going on a long journey..."

ALIEN THINKING

by Angela Hind, Pier Productions, BBC News, June 8, 2005

This article is based on a BBC Radio 4 radio programme, *Abduction, Alienation and Reason*, originally broadcast June 8, 2005.

Not many scientists are prepared to take tales of alien abduction seriously, but John Mack, a Harvard professor who was killed in a road accident in north London last year, did. Ten years on from a row which nearly lost him his job, hundreds of people who claim they were abducted still revere him.

Professor John E Mack was an eminent Harvard psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and Pulitzer Prize winner whose clinical work had focused on explorations of dreams, nightmares and adolescent suicide.

Then, in 1990, he turned the academic community upside-down because he wanted to publish his research in which he said that people who claimed they had been abducted by aliens were not crazy at all. Their experiences, he said, were genuine.

They were not mentally ill or delusional, he said, and it was the responsibility of academicians and psychiatrists not only to take what they said seriously, but to try to understand exactly what that experience was. And, if reality as we know it was unable to take these experiences into serious consideration, then what was needed was a change in our perception of reality.

"What are the other possibilities?" said Mack. "Dreams, for instance, do not behave like that. They are highly individual depending on what's going on in your sub-conscious at the time.

"I would never say, yes, there are aliens taking people. [But] I would say there is a compelling powerful phenomenon here that I can't account for in any other way, that is mysterious. Yet I can't know what it is, but it seems to me that it invites a deeper, further inquiry."

Lifeline

For many people who claimed they had been abducted John Mack was a

lifeline. He worked with more than 200 of them, including professionals, psychologists, writers, students and business people.

Many had never told anyone else of their experiences, apart from Mack, for fear of ridicule from colleagues, friends and family. Here at last was a highly respected psychiatrist who was prepared not only to listen, but also to take what they were saying seriously.

An abductee -- or "experiencer," as they prefer to be known -- says that alien encounters begin most commonly in their homes and at night. It can, however, happen anytime, anywhere. They say they are unable to move; they become extremely hot and then appear to float through solid objects, which their logical mind tells them can't be happening.

Usually the experiencer says they are accompanied by one or two or more humanoid beings, who guide them to a ship. They are then subjected to procedures in which instruments are used to penetrate virtually every part of their bodies, including the nose, sinuses, eyes, arms, abdomen and genitalia. Sperm samples are taken and women have fertilised eggs implanted or removed.

Hybrid offspring

"Have I questioned my own sanity"? says Peter Faust, an experiencer and close friend of John Mack's. "Absolutely, every day to a certain degree, because the majority of the world says you're crazy for having these experiences. But, if it was just me who had contact with aliens, who had intimate experience with female aliens, producing hybrid offspring, I would say I'm certifiable, put me away, I'm crazy.

"And that's how I felt when I initially had these experiences. My wife thought I'd lost it. But then I began to look at the experience outside myself and realised that hundreds, if not thousands, of people reported that exact same experience. And that gave me sanity. That gave me hope. I knew I couldn't be fantasising this."

The whole experience is often accompanied by a change in the experiencer's understanding of humanity's place in the universe. And it was this that forced Mack to question who we are in the deepest and broadest sense.

"I have come to realise that this abduction phenomenon forces us, if we permit ourselves to take it seriously, to re-examine our perception of human identity - to look at who we are from a cosmic perspective," he said.

Extraordinary work

In 1990 John Mack's book *Abduction: Human Encounters with Aliens* was published. It shot to the top of the best-sellers list and John Mack appeared on radio and television programmes. Harvard decided enough was enough.

Mack was sent a letter informing him that there was to be an inquiry into his research on alien abductions. It was the first time in Harvard's history that a tenured professor was subjected to such an investigation. John Mack decided to fight back and hired a lawyer, Eric MacLeish.

"It was appalling that John had to go through this," says MacLeish now. "And we made it clear that if we were to have a full-blown trial here, then we were going to have a very public trial and call on everyone who worked with John - all of whom had nothing but praise for his extraordinary work and dedication to his patients -- and I don't think that's what Harvard had in mind at all."

There followed 14 months of stressful and bitter negotiations. "They tried to criticise me, silence me -- by saying that, by supporting the truth of what these people were experiencing, possibly I was confirming them in a distortion, or a delusion. So, instead of being a good psychiatrist and curing them, by taking them seriously I was confirming them in a delusion and harming them," said Mack.

The inquiry made front-page headlines all over the world and eventually Harvard dropped the case and a statement was issued reaffirming Mack's academic freedom to study what he wished and concluding that he "remains a member in good standing of the Harvard Faculty of Medicine".

He continued to work and write. But Mack was killed in a car collision last year in north London after leaving a Tube station. He was visiting the city to deliver a lecture on the subject which had won him the Pulitzer Prize in 1977, T. E. Lawrence.

But Mack's work lives on with an institute which now bears his name; the hundreds of people who count themselves in "the experiencer community" still hold him in particular affection.

His search for an expanded notion of reality, which allows for experiences that might not fit traditional perceptions and worldviews, is one they, at least, will be hoping continues.

The above article is based on a BBC Radio 4 documentary about John Mack, *Abduction, Alienation and Reason*, originally broadcast on Wednesday June 8 2005 on BBC Radio 4 at 2100 BST. (The broadcast is substantially longer than the above article).

Synopsis — The late John E Mack was a highly respected Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard University and a Pulitzer Prize winner for his work on T.E. Lawrence. In 1983 he founded the Centre for Psychology and Social Change (now the John Mack Institute) and was at the forefront of original research at Harvard University's Cambridge Hospital. In the early 1990s he turned the academic community worldwide upside-down because he wanted to publish his research in which he said that people who claimed they had been abducted by space aliens may not all be crazy after all. *Abduction, Alienation and Reason* is the story of one man's battle with his academic colleagues to keep an open mind and of his struggle to understand those who claim to have been abducted. His plea was as much for them as for the future of psychiatry.

Errata: An editorial note from the John E. Mack Institute regarding the radio programme *Abduction, Alienation and Reason* —

We note with some dismay that on this BBC programme Dr Richard McNally of Harvard Medical School again makes a claim, which in our view is inaccurate, that the alien encounter "experiencers" who McNally studied had "pre-existing New Age beliefs," which may help explain why they reported alien encounters.

Two of the ten subjects who participated in his study are heard in the BBC radio programme, and neither one fulfils that criterion: Karin, who described herself as "a right-wing Rush Limbaugh fan" at the time of her most memorable alien encounter, and Peter, who described himself as a "recovering Catholic" during his.

Beyond this factual contradiction, the suggestion is made by McNally that their stated belief in phenomena such as ESP/telepathy or being shown the future is evidence that these people were predisposed to report alien encounters. That suggestion fails to note that the alien-encounter experience itself (which seems to begin in childhood) involves telepathic communication from the purported "aliens" as well as visions of future environmental destruction, etc. To fail to note that the experiencers' subsequent beliefs in these and other extraordinary experiences may have arisen from the alien encounter experiencers themselves is, in our view, misleading.

Similarly concerning to us, a true but somewhat disingenuous assertion of McNally's is that the ten experiencers whom he studied had recalled additional details of their alien encounters after consulting therapists. While this is true (and while we appreciate that McNally did not attempt to dodge the fact that these people had conscious recollections of their alien encounters before seeing therapists), we find it is somewhat odd for him to note that the subjects had been to see therapists in light of the fact that the John Mack Institute provided McNally with about a third of his subjects. If McNally had wanted an honest random sampling of experiencers, without the certainty that they had been seen by a psychiatrist, he could have avoided skewing the sample by declining our referrals.

The more general question of why more elaborate theories of alien encounters are given short shrift by McNally is sufficiently addressed by participants in the BBC programme — including McNally himself, who comments that "I had no idea what he was talking about," in reference to John Mack's suggestion that Western concepts of reality are too restrictive for an understanding of the alien-encounter phenomenon.

So, with the above noted, we leave the rest to listeners; it is an exceptionally well-made programme and we hope you will enjoy it.

Source:

<http://www.centerchange.org/passport/alienthinking.html>

PHILIP KLASS, 85, DEBUNKER OF CLAIMS OF FLYING SAUCERS, DIES

By DOUGLAS MARTIN

Philip J. Klass, an electrical engineer and aviation editor who earned the nickname "the Sherlock Holmes of UFOs" for his assiduous, acidic debunking of flying saucers and those who claim to see them, died Tuesday at his home in Merritt Island, Florida.

The cause was prostate cancer, Rosanne Klass, his sister, said. He was 85.

Mr. Klass was for many years a top editor at *Aviation Week & Space Technology* magazine, where he wrote about satellite communications, lasers, missile defence systems and arms control. But he became known to a wider audience as a leading critic of the ever-growing number of Americans who are convinced that alien beings have visited Earth and taken at least a few lucky, or quite unlucky, people for a spin in space.

Mr. Klass applied careful, reasoned analysis to what is often a very emotional topic, as he repeatedly found explanations for saucer sightings in natural phenomena and manmade objects. He used details like the typefaces on documents to question the veracity of what some contended were deliberately covered-up government documents.

At a time when the cohort of people who have reported being kidnapped by aliens is growing, Mr. Klass suggested that improper use of hypnosis might be a good explanation. In his 1989 book *UFO Abductions: A Dangerous Game*, he lamented that some people "will needlessly bear mental scars for the rest of their lives" because, he said, they have succumbed to "fantasies" of alien abduction.

He wrote seven books on UFOs, appeared on many television shows and personally fielded a half-dozen phone calls a day on the subject.

His answers could be as specific as pointing to the unusual brightness of Mars and Jupiter in 1987 to explain a Japanese pilot's report of a flying saucer, and as general as his observation that people taken by aliens have never reported returning with a souvenir.

Mr. Klass could annoy people who believe in UFOs, some of whom called him "a disinformation agent," and irritate others who at least do not disbelieve. A notice about his death on the Website of *UFO Magazine* referred to his "logically untenable stands on issues where even the facts were not in his favour."

Philip Julian Klass was born in Des Moines on Nov. 8, 1919, and grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He earned a degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State University and got a job with General Electric, where he worked on the development of electronics for aviation during World War II.

In 1952, Mr. Klass left G.E. to become the first avionics editor of *Aviation Week & Space Technology*. He retired as senior editor of the magazine in 1986 but remained a contributing editor until 2002.

For years he offered a \$10,000 prize to anybody who could provide solid scientific evidence of extraterrestrial visitations. It is still unclaimed.

In addition to his sister, who lives in Manhattan, Mr. Klass is survived by his wife, the former Nadya Gane, and a stepdaughter and stepson.

In an interview with *Skeptical* magazine in 1999, Mr. Klass said his "fondest hope" was that he would be abducted by aliens. Afterward, he said, he would find time to watch TV, go to movies and read books about something besides flying saucers.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/08/12/national/12klass.html>

CROP CIRCLES: ALIEN BLUEPRINTS FOR CITIES?

By Karen Stern

This email was originally sent to Budd Hopkins. I had intended to email Prof. John Mack about this information but found out he died last year. I am, like Budd Hopkins, a creative visual artist and take very seriously the information in John Mack's book *Passport to the Universe*, about aliens warning abductees about our environment being destroyed.

As a creative visual artist I occasionally get creative breakthroughs or insights, but I have some difficulty conveying my ideas and insights even to those who do understand me – not to mention the difficulty of expressing my ideas to others who might not understand me!! I wanted to write to John Mack, feeling he would understand the ideas being expressed here, but learned that, sadly, he had died.

Madison, WI has recently been exposed to extreme ozone levels on hot, muggy days, just like those that bigger cities get. This is a new development in this city, and the authorities are, I believe, falsely blaming it on car-generated pollution. I feel this is incorrect, and see the real reason as valuable wild grasslands in Madison's environment being foolishly destroyed in a circular band around the city's outskirts by hundreds of businesses and housing developments that have sprung up rapidly in the last ten years. I am also sending you the email that I sent to a woman who works at our Dept. of State Natural Resources in Madison, to whom I expressed this idea since she

too was saying, on a local radio station talk show, that cars and pollution cause the ozone layers arising in Madison.

In my email to her I also raise the subject of crop circles, since one was made outside Madison in the 80s, on some out-of-town grasslands. I also recently saw a program on crop circles and how some scientists believed that some crop circles were secret codes of some kind, which we are, as yet, unable to crack.

Noting so many things about the vital value of the good air quality created by our wild, weedy and beautiful natural grasslands, and reading and knowing how the aliens have been very concerned about our wrecking our planet's environment, I came up with this idea: I believe the artistic crop circles designed, in many cases, by aliens might actually be informative blueprints for us to follow, on how to build and construct our cities now to support life on earth. I believe they are trying to tell us that the centre of our "city" circles, as seen from the air, from spacecraft or airplanes, should be where our government functions should be, and where our housing, businesses should be spread out all around. I believe, then, that a huge band of wild grasslands, woodlands, wetlands (if possible), etc. should be miles and miles wide, protectively encircling like a band, around each city circle, to ensure good air quality. Other individual designs in that area may also show what rivers, lakes, etc. to include within that circle. It would be interesting to compare the crop circles photographed from the air in different areas around the world, to see if they correlate in some way to the natural environmental formations of the area, being expressed by huge, grassy clumps, not matted down, in the artistic crop-circle blueprint picture from the air. This is my hypothesis, based on a creative flash of insight

Here is the email I sent to the woman in Madison who works at our State-owned Department of Natural Resources:

Dear Ms, I heard your interview on Charlie radio on the ozone problem... a very timely subject for me as an artist... I experienced a creative insight recently into the biggest factor causing poor air quality – what we call ozone on hot days -- now happening in Madison.

As a child I grew up in Beaver Dam, WI. I lived all my grade school summers in the early 1960s alone in the fields, meadows and grasslands near my parents' home. I studied nature and watched all the insects, snakes, frogs, birds, rabbits, mice, spiders playing their role in the balance of nature. I also got to know the wild plants -- which ones stung or hurt you, which ones tasted good, and which others sweetened the air by smelling great.

A year ago I acquired two pet rabbits. When I go to them, , their breath always smells clean and fresh (unlike the numerous other pets I have had) from eating lots of hay -- assorted wild grasses such as timothy, alfalfa, etc. Since I do quilting and sewing, I also read recently that in the 18th century women used to lay their soiled linens out on wild grasses at night, and would find them bleached the next morning, believing it was the dew on the grass that bleached them.

I have been depressed and disturbed by the destruction of the wild grasslands on Madison's far east side, where I live. It was bad enough when just East Town and all those restaurants were there, along with big K-Mart's ugly asphalt parking lot (which did not fill to capacity 95% of the time, I might add), but I have been very distressed at seeing American Family Insurance business park, Cellular Phone, Circuit City, Panera Bread, Cracker Barrel, Menards, Michaels, Old Navy, Best Buy, Kohl's, TGIF, Hardees, Country Kitchen, KFC, Joann Fabrics, etc. all move in, littering the landscape while gobbling up miles and miles of beautiful natural wild grasslands in the last ten years.

Now, as an artist who appreciates the beauty of nature, which I believe is the handiwork of God. A year and a half ago, in the wild meadow/grasslands on the end of Hayes Road, I used to see deer roam and hawks circle above those meadows in search of mice and small rabbits. About 30 homes were developed -- in about one year -- completely destroying miles and miles of natural wild grasslands around the outskirts of Madison! All these homes have those "sterile-looking" (dead) pesticide-treated turf-green golf lawns with no natural weeds on them, too! Very unhealthy for human life. DNR should encourage homeowners, and politicians should give homeowners tax breaks, if they allow their lawns to turn into wild grasslands, thus helping to improve air quality for Madison and future Madison citizens.

On two occasions in the past year I have seen deer, which no longer have homes owing to the housing complex, dashing across the road to Hayes in a panic and, once, spotted them running along the apartment-complex lawn which too, by the way, is carefully pesticided to get rid of those helpful weed grasses, which the owners view as "pests".

Sadly, I have seen dead coyotes on the side of the road from Sun Prairie to Madison, clearly trying to find a place to flee to and build a home in, now that American Family Business Park has stolen their wild homes from them. I also -- amazingly -- saw, about a year ago, a red fox -- which I didn't even think were still around in this fairly tamed area -- making a mad dash across

Highway 51. Witnessing so much destruction of nature in the Madison area distresses me so much that I no longer enjoy going for walks or drives. Some people go to buildings to worship God. As an artist, I find and worship God by being in God's home -- nature -- which I find being destroyed. And don't tell me to go to the Arboretum as that truly isn't the kind of natural "wilderness" I am looking for, with tons of cars, bikers, joggers, skaters floating past -- like a smaller version of Central Park, New York.

I have declared war on the City of Madison, whose lack of far-sightedness, and the pressure to "cave in" to Madison's Commerce Commission bureau (since they declared Madison an unfriendly place to do business in) have allowed Wall Realtors to buy up vast areas of valuable, untouched wild grasslands on formerly rural Hanson Road, and they have even built a road right into a corn field, calling it "Manufacturing Road" -- of all the unimaginative, disrespectful and ugly names -- in what was once such a beautiful natural area, erecting street lights and building sidewalks, cutting down all the beautiful grasses, while planning (and they have signs up announcing the fact) such ugly eyesores as "Light industry manufacturing" and "warehouses"--- with huge asphalt parking lots, and more space for "offices" and "condominiums." I have started posting signs up on these realtor and City of Madison signs, protesting against their intentions, trying to raise awareness and warning of how they are directly contributing to the ozone-layer problem with their wasteful and destructive development schemes.

So, the beef of my letter is my creative breakthrough on how to help society avoid ozone layers. I believe the ozone layers are happening in Madison not just due to car-exhaust pollution, but are mainly a direct result of the destruction of miles and miles of wild grasslands around Madison. Wild grasses, like trees, give us valuable oxygen to breathe; they probably give off more oxygen than trees, because they are more numerous than trees. (Mankind can go a few weeks, or even months, without food, and a few days or a week without water, but only a few minutes without air.) We see a lot of those new "Oxy-clean" products on the market now. Did anyone ever think that there may just be unknown oxy-like bleaching compounds, given off into the air, and in the water of the dew, from wild grasslands, which help CLEAN AND FRESHEN OUR AIR, just like bleach does on fabrics?? As to global warming, I can tell you why it is happening... during the end of the drought, with things at their driest, when I put up my warning signs in that grassland area, some of the small grasslands that still weren't destroyed, were COOL and moist to walk through, forming a mist (composed of water in the oxygen that the plants gave off in their respiration). In the very middle of a drought season these grasses were still emitting oxygen into water. Briefly put, my artistic observation -- creative breakthrough, scientific hypothesis -- that needs

to be tested, is that "There is a direct correlation between ozone levels rising in the city of Madison with the destruction of wild grasslands around Madison."

Businesses falsely assume they support life by creating jobs for people. What they foolishly overlook is that "NATURE TRULY IS THE ONLY ONE WHO SUPPORTS ALL LIFE" and people had better start having more appreciation and respect for her -- instead of posting up huge billboards saying "an investment to appreciate" when they are not appreciating the natural beauty and healthiness of the grasslands at all, which they are destroying in favour of boring, ugly-looking, sterile, unhealthy environments, ultimately, for our children and future generations, not to mention all the animal life that will be destroyed once the grasslands themselves have been destroyed.

A lot of people are wondering what crop circles in fields are all about. The area around Madison also had artistic crop circles drawn on her precious grasslands and fields. Many intelligent, and not-so-intelligent, people speculate that these crop circles are being caused by unknown alien craft. Many intelligent people studying the formations, according to a recent study, wonder if there might not be a secret code in the crop circles that we are not just breaking through into yet. Professor [John] Mack, of Harvard University, who has studied and talked to hundreds of different people supposedly abducted by aliens, found this out. Almost all abductees from different parts of the world, who didn't even know each other, received messages from the aliens, who were warning us of how we are destroying our environment, and who are very concerned to prevent us from doing so.

So, again, having a creative breakthrough has allowed me to express my views on what I believe the aliens are artistically trying to show us and tell us... they are giving us small blueprints from which to build our cities and towns. The huge outer layer of the circle, surrounding each city or town protectively, is grasslands, woodlands, wetlands, etc. to that area. Nestled cosily and safely inside those circles are our businesses, homes. This is how we must progressively begin to construct our towns and cities of the future if we want to survive in this world from an ecological standpoint. Some of those blueprint crop circles probably tell us how to deal with lakes, ponds, etc. too, by big areas of round grasses in a crop circle dotting the inside blueprint of a city or town.

Does this make sense to anyone but me, as to how we are to now construct our future, with nature guarding us, instead of our destroying her?

How do I contact Mayor Dave, Madison City Council, and Commerce

business dept. about these new and very "radical" but far-sighted ideas? Could you perhaps copy my email and send it on to them? Many thanks, and let me know if you do contact anyone with these ideas.

Sincerely,
Kathy Stern

ALIENS TO DESCEND ON LONDON AS SCIENCE MUSEUM LAUNCHES 'THE SCIENCE OF ALIENS' EXHIBITION

London is set to be besieged by aliens later this year when a brand new blockbuster exhibition comes to the Science Museum.

The Science of Aliens is being billed as the biggest and boldest exhibition of its kind to date exploring the real science behind the search for alien life and will open its doors on 15th October 2005. The exhibition will premiere in London before touring leading venues around the world.

The Science of Aliens will explore humanity's emotional attachment to the search for alien life while looking to the latest scientific developments in an effort to distinguish science fact from science fiction.

Divided into four themed zones, the exhibition maps out the landscape of everything we want to know about our search for what might be "out there". Offering different insights into the mass of influences that have shaped our concept of 'the alien'.

Visitors will enter the exhibition through Zone 1 -- *Peril from another planet*, which looks at the portrayal of aliens in popular culture. Themes and exhibits in this section are introduced by a full size Alien Queen (from the *Alien* film series) who will tower over visitors as they enter. Subjects covered in this zone include scary aliens, cute and cuddly aliens, hyper-intelligent aliens and the archetypal grey aliens made famous by the Roswell incident.

Zone 2 -- *What on Earth?* -- examines what scientists are actually doing to explore the possibilities for alien life -- investigating other planets and stars as

well as the evolution of life on Earth. This section looks in depth at the ways in which some creatures have adapted to harsh and extreme environments, and the fascinating array of weird creatures that inhabit the Earth's seas. Visitors will be able to learn about evolution and ancestry, the solar system, our known universe and the future of astronomy and exploration of alien solar systems.

In Zone 3, *Alien Worlds*, visitors are introduced to a cast of amazing alien characters imagined by scientists. These characters appear in a Channel 4 documentary to be aired in October to coincide with the opening of the exhibition.

Two vast projected landscapes have been created in this section as interactive areas for discovery, learning and play, enabling visitors to explore and interact with worlds and the creatures that live there, as scientists have imagined them. Visitors find out what these creatures look like, how they live, how they evolved and how science would explain the factors influencing their evolution.

Finally, Zone 4 -- *Alien Communication* -- examines the ongoing search for extra-terrestrial intelligence (SETI), asks why we feel the need to communicate with other planets, and gives visitors the opportunity to consider what kind of message they would like to send out to space to another life form.

Jon Tucker, Head of the Science Museum, said: "This exhibition is a unique look at a question which has fascinated and terrified people since the beginning of time: 'Are we alone in the universe?' Using the latest research and cutting-edge technology as a foundation, we will be asking people to think about what life elsewhere in the universe could be like. I'm sure that this exhibition will appeal both to adults and children, challenging their preconceptions and inspiring them to delve further into the science of life beyond Earth."

"*The Science of Aliens* will be out of this world," commented Sara Milne, CEO of Science & Media LLP, the new company behind the development of the exhibition. "A world-class creative team of designers, writers and producers have come together to create this exhibition, which will present the most up-to-date research from scientists from around the world. Visitors to the exhibition will enjoy a uniquely entertaining and educational experience in a stunning and contemporary environment. This exhibition will be truly groundbreaking and enables the Science Museum to do what it does best -- bring science to life"

Editor's notes:

The exhibition opens on the 15th October 2005, with a special preview day on the 14th October. Tickets can be pre-booked now via the web at www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/aliens or by calling 0870 906 3890.

Standard ticket prices:

Adult £8.95 / Concession £6.25 / Education - per child) £4.00 / Family 2+2 £26.00 / Family 1+2 £18.50. Group concessions available.

The Exhibition is produced in association with Channel 4's *Alien Worlds*, a Big Wave production. It will be broadcast on Channel 4 in two parts on 1st and 8th October 2005

Alien Worlds (cert. PG) will be released on DVD (£19.99) by 4DVD on 3rd October 2005. Special features include an in-depth and insightful documentary 'The Making Of Alien Worlds', Trailer plus DVD Rom content featuring fully interactive planet and alien profiles with cgi animation.



“So when did you first feel you were a conspiracy theory?”



LETTERS

Members who wish to express any opinions, ideas or comments are invited to write to Pegasus at the address on page 2. We reserve the right to edit any submission. Ed.

NEWS IN BRIEF/ SIGHTINGS ROUNDUP

DUNWICH, SUFFOLK - Three witnesses were watching satellites go over on a clear night August 5, 2005. They noticed jet planes and a separate bright flashing light tracking across the sky, west to east at first, flashing at non-regular intervals of 1-4 seconds. I mistook it for a plane initially, but it was brighter than any star or satellite by about 5 times, and larger than any other visible body by about 5-10 times. It appeared to be at a very high altitude and we heard no noise. It was not a plane, as there were no other navigation lights, and it was much brighter/larger emission of light than any plane we had seen that evening. It only grabbed my attention when it shifted course several times, and appeared on a different heading with each flash. It exited from our view 30 seconds later, heading northeast. It was clearly visible and then disappeared. I have no idea what it was, but it did not behave like anything I have ever seen, and I have spent quite a few nights watching stars and satellites track across the sky. Thanks to Brian Vike. Source: Filer's Files

NORTH YORKSHIRE - There are mysterious goings-on in the Filey Triangle. An eight-mile stretch of coastline could prove to be an extraterrestrial-tourist hotspot, says Paul Jeeves. Legions of UFO enthusiasts from across the UK have descended on what has become the nation's prime location to witness strange and other-worldly shapes in the skies between Scarborough and Filey. They recorded at least 50 sightings of unidentified flying objects last year between the two seaside resorts, which now appear to have an increasing allure for extraterrestrial visitors.

This year, 85 more sightings have been reported and North Yorkshire is now considered the UFO-spotting capital of Britain. Russell Kellett has found himself at the centre of the UFO mecca after moving to Filey. The 42-year-old had a bizarre close encounter at a railway crossing 17 years ago. Mr. Kellett was left with raw, red scarring on his hands, neck and face after he spotted a bright light hovering above him. He spends up to 15 hours each week scanning the skies above Yorkshire in the hope of capturing evidence of UFO activity on his video camera. The clear skies along the East Coast make the county an ideal hunting ground for UFOs. The close encounters in North Yorkshire last year include a multitude of UFO sightings in Filey, including sightings and video evidence of flying triangles emerging from the North Sea and videos of discs. Thanks to Paul Jeeves. Source: Filer's Files

PEAK DISTRICT -- On June 8 2005 the observer was camping in Newhaven when he spotted and photographed an unusual cloud formation with imposing rays from the setting sun at 9.30 PM. Later that night just as we were about to go to bed in our tent, I looked up and saw an erratic bright white light. I pointed it out to my girlfriend as it sped across the sky and then stopped suddenly, then continued its journey until we couldn't see it any longer.

In the countryside we could see literally thousands of stars filling the sky. My girlfriend saw another fast-moving white light that was slightly dimmer than the one I saw but easy to make out once I had tracked it. As we sat there watching it (watching us?) another, brighter, light came from the south and was making a beeline towards the UFO we were observing. The one that was hovering started to move again along its original path. The new UFO got to a similar position and then it too stopped dead in its tracks. When I got the photos of the cloud formation home, I was shocked to discover that I had taken a picture of a flying disk sitting up above the clouds.

<http://images.modblog.com/files/mbgallery/48761/files/disc%20photo.jpg> Source: Filer's Files

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