

Quarterly Report

January-March 1996

Overview

The new year began on a positive note as the three major UFO research organizations--the Fund, the Center for UFO Studies, and the Mutual UFO Network--met formally for the first time since the dissolution of their relationship with the Bigelow Foundation. Renamed the UFO Research Coalition, representatives met in New York City in January. Shortly thereafter, the inaugural project of the Coalition came to life when the long-awaited briefing book was published and almost immediately mailed to selected individuals in Congress, the media, and the scientific community. Some four years after members of the Fund began investigating a complex series of abductions in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, the principals involved in these abductions published an account of their experiences; accordingly, the Fund held a book-signing party for the authors in February. In January, a grant to Ann Druffel enabling her to continue her archival work with the late Dr. James McDonald's files was approved. ○

The UFO Research Coalition

The demise of the C-F-M Coalition as organized by Robert Bigelow was due directly to differences, of an irreconcilable nature, between the Bigelow Foundation on the one hand and the three major UFO organizations on the other. In fact, the brightest aspect of

the doomed Bigelow Coalition was the smooth working relationship the Fund, MUFON, and CUFOs established among themselves. The emergence of this relationship, wherein participants saw eye-to-eye on most major issues, was a driving force behind the decision of officers of the three organizations to continue with their association. Accordingly, the UFO Research Coalition was begun to carry out cooperative endeavors sponsored jointly by CUFOs, MUFON, and the Fund.

While not a legal entity at this time, the UFO Research Coalition will sponsor scientific research into matters germane to ufology and act to increase public knowledge of UFOs. Funding will be derived from inputs by the three sponsoring organizations as well as, ultimately, donations from individuals and sales of documents. At a meeting in New York City on 19-21 January 1996, representatives met to consider specific projects that could be funded in the coming year. First and foremost was distribution of the now-completed briefing book authored by Don Berliner with Marie Galbraith and Antonio Huneus. This 169-page book will be distributed to specific individuals within the government, academia, and the media for the purpose of interesting them in the UFO phenomenon by presenting them with the best evidence in favor of UFOs as anomalous objects. It is hoped that one thousand copies

eventually will be disseminated. The Fund agreed to act as distributor of the briefing book, with its management firm sending out the bulk of the copies.

A number of other projects also are receiving attention from the UFO Research Coalition for funding later this year and early the next. These projects--in the areas of abductions, field investigations, and government UFO documents--are in early, formative stages of discussion. Their costs and manner of implementation have yet to be determined; however, once undertaken, they will address a number of long-felt needs in the UFO field. ○

Office and Other Activities

The Fund awarded a grant to researcher Ann Druffel for the purpose of organizing the late Dr. James McDonald's files in Arizona. Once the files are properly archived, catalogued, and boxed, they will be moved to the University of Arizona, where they will be made accessible to the public. As usual with Fund grants, the balance of payment will be made upon completion of the work undertaken and submission of a final report.

The executive committee passed and sent to the board of directors a proposal from Revas Jorbenadze in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. The proposal seeks funding for research that would employ a number of psychological instruments in an effort to determine the personality profiles of suspected abductees in the Republic of Georgia. Secondly, it would collect demographic information from these same individuals. It is noted that proposals for funds in excess of one thousand dollars require majority approval by the Fund's board of directors.

On 10 February 1996--a snowy

Saturday in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area--the Fund hosted a book-signing party for Beth Collings and Anna Jamerson, the authors of *Connections: Solving Our Alien Abduction Mystery*. Executive committee members of the Fund had played important early roles in investigating the complex abduction events the women reported and linking them up with therapists and other abduction researchers. Local MUFON members, friends, and other Fund supporters turned out for the event. ○

Isabel Davis Award Balloting

This year, as in many previous years, the Fund will be presenting its Isabel Davis Award. The award recognizes long-term research contributions to the UFO field. Past winners include Budd Hopkins, Leonard Stringfield, and Bruce Maccabee. The winner is determined on the basis of a popular vote by current contributors to the Fund for UFO Research; the slate of candidates is nominated by the Fund's board of directors. All individuals who receive this quarterly report mailing are encouraged to send in a ballot. *Note that only the enclosed yellow ballots will be accepted for voting purposes.*

The 1996 Isabel Davis Award nominees are:

- ▶ **Ms. Ann Druffel** [Active in UFO research since the 1950s, Ms. Druffel is the author of *The Tujunga Canyon Contacts* as well as numerous journal articles. She is currently archiving the late Dr. James McDonald's files and completing a biography of him.]
- ▶ **Ms. Jenny Randles** [Ms. Randles has been a leading British researcher for many years and is the author of numerous UFO books, among them

The UFO Conspiracy, Abduction, and UFO Retrievals.]

- ▶ **Dr. Mark Rodeghier** [Presently scientific director of the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies, Dr. Rodeghier has contributed reasoned commentary on a wide array of UFO topics, including Roswell, the sociological aspects of abductees, and the interaction between UFOs and automotive vehicles.]

- ▶ **Mr. Walter Webb** [A seminal researcher in the field of abductions--he was the first investigator of the Betty and Barney Hill case-- Mr. Webb is the current chief field investigator for the UFO Research Coalition and the author of the recent *Encounter at Buff Ledge* and *Final Report on the America West Airline Case, May 25-26, 1995.*]

Ballots will be accepted through November 1996. ○

New Publications

Please note the following new items being offered for sale by the Fund: *Final Report on the America West Airline Case, May 25-26, 1995* by Walter N. Webb. This UFO Research Coalition publication is a supplement to the *Interim Report* produced last year. Although it now transpires that NORAD might not have tracked the UFO involved in this aerial sighting, the air crew nonetheless spotted *something* that can't be explained. The maps, sketches, transcript, and letters that helped propel Webb to his conclusion of "Unidentified" are presented in this report. *Colorado Probe: An Inquiry into the 1995 Salida UFO Sightings and Videotape* by Jennie Zeidman. The Salida, Colorado,

UFO sightings of 1995 received widespread play in the media, and the main witness became a celebrity of sorts. However, the media's rush to judgment overlooked a few pertinent details. As Jennie Zeidman reveals in this fascinating overview of the Colorado events, the invocation of aliens may be slightly premature. *Flying Saucer Review 1955-1994 Volume-Author-Article Index* by Edward G. Stewart. This is the only guide available to 40 years of a once-preeminent journal. *Mysteries of the Sky: Videotape of 26 August 1995 Fund for UFO Research Seminar*. For the past few years, the Fund has been presenting an annual one-day seminar at a local community college. Most speakers hail from the Fund's executive committee. In slightly less than two hours, this video presents highlights of each speaker's 1995 presentation.--*Rob Swiatek*

Members of the Fund's Executive Committee

- ▶ Richard Hall, *Chairman*
- ▶ Craig Phillips, *Vice Chairman*
- ▶ Don Berliner
- ▶ Rob Swiatek, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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Below are my printed name and address:

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to support the Fund:

(Name)

___ \$1,000
___ 500
___ 250
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___ \$50
___ 25
___ 10
Other: _____

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___ Please apply my contribution to the special Keyhoe/Davis awards account.

Please send the materials indicated below:

___ *Final Report on the America West Airline Case, May 25-26, 1995* by Walter N. Webb. It's always a pleasure to follow a top-notch UFO field investigator like Webb as he plies his trade and endeavors to find out just what a trained cockpit crew observed in dark New Mexico skies last year. His failure to find an explanation reaffirms beliefs that mysterious events continue to unfold over the surface of this planet. This UFO Research Coalition publication complements the *Interim Report* about this sighting and includes the pilot-flight controller transcript, Webb's conclusions, and completed MUFON sighting questionnaires. 44 pages, illustrated, center-stapled. \$10.00

___ SPECIAL OFFER: Order both the *Final Report* and the *Interim Report* for only-- \$13.00

___ *Colorado Probe: An Inquiry into the 1995 Salida UFO Sightings and Videotape* by Jennie Zeidman. Events at Salida, Colorado, last year generated much excitement and no little media hype before researcher Jennie Zeidman arrived on the scene for a look around. What she found has more to say about human nature than about the nature of UFOs. 18 pages, illustrated, center-stapled. \$8.00

___ *Flying Saucer Review 1955-1994 Volume-Author-Article Index* by Edward G. Stewart. The author, 1995, 8½ x 11 softbound, 613 pp, a triple index to all FSR material: by content per issue, by author (alphabetical) and by article title. The indispensable companion to your FSR holdings! \$59.95

___ (Video) *Mysteries of the Sky: 26 August 1995 Fund Seminar*. In 1995, the Fund held a one-day UFO seminar at Prince George's Community College in Largo, MD, that featured Fund

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associates and board members as speakers. This videotape includes excerpts from the talks of all the speakers, to wit: Don Berliner, Dr. John Carlson, Richard Hall, Dr. Robert Hall, Rob Swiatek, and Susan Swiatek. 1:43 in length. \$14.00

SUBTOTAL: \$ _____

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Fund for UFO Research
P.O. Box 277
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

Thank you!

FUND FOR UFO RESEARCH
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 1996

	<u>Mar 31, '96</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Merrill Lynch	30,729.79
Nations Bank	404.94
Total Checking/Savings	<u>31,134.73</u>
Other Current Assets	
FIDELITY ASSET MANAGER	7,239.69
Total Other Current Assets	<u>7,239.69</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>38,374.42</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>38,374.42</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	7,415.21
Retained Earnings	30,872.67
Net Income	86.54
Total Equity	<u>38,374.42</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>38,374.42</u></u>