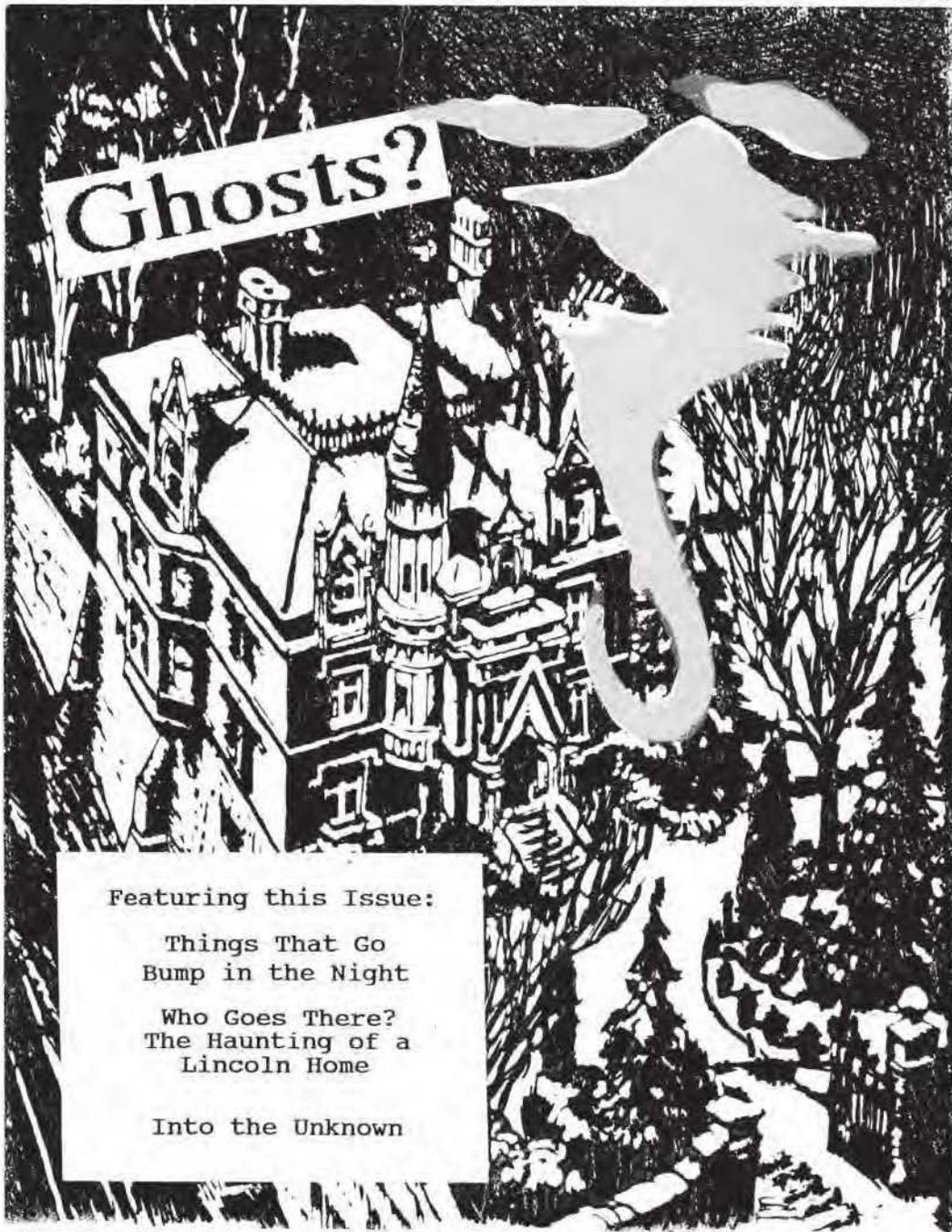


JOURNAL  
of the  
FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

VOLUME IV NO. 2 SUMMER/FALL 1989 \$3.50

# Do You Believe in



Featuring this Issue:

Things That Go  
Bump in the Night

Who Goes There?  
The Haunting of a  
Lincoln Home

Into the Unknown



**Editorial**

Hello and welcome to the Summer edition of the Journal of the Fortean Research Center. We have all been quite busy this last season, as the reader can tell from the unfortunate lateness of this issue. Have heart, though. The staff of the Journal are diligently putting the Autumn issue together for publication within the next month or so.

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## From the Director

### Loving/Hating the Alien

by Scott H. Colborn

Underground alien bases..secret governmental/alien treaties.."men-in-black"/abductee reports. Television programs and films like "Alien Nation", "War of the Worlds", "Alf", "Mork & Mindy", "E.T.", "My Favorite Martian", "Star Man", "Cocoon", and "Close Encounters". Not to mention books, and scores of magazine and journal articles to numerous to list here on the subject of human/alien involvement. I ask you, what is a guy or gal (or alien) supposed to think? Or, are we supposed to think?

Over the last five years I've had a growing suspicion that there is a lot of disinformation going on regarding alien/human contact. Some of it intentional, some of it not...but the effect is pretty much the same. It appears to me that what we have are two basic camps: 1) Hate the alien, and, 2) Love the alien. Of course I've reduced what very well might be a complex, even symbiotic relationship to an either/or duality. Indeed, many armchair enthusiasts and some veteran Ufologists are making pronouncements of fact and asking you to "buy into" their belief system. "Hurry up", they might say, "We haven't got much time left". I would like to ask you a question...What do we really know right now?

The answer is, 1) a whole bunch, and, 2) not very much. Or perhaps we could simply say, "Not enough to jump to conclusions". I know what you might be thinking here, "Oh come on, can't he make up his mind?". Well guess what...you're right!

It is my belief that we are witness to some tremendous struggles within our government and military as to whether or not the American people can handle the "truth" regarding UFO's. There are those who would just as soon continue the 40+ year cover-up. And there are those who, for reasons not known, want to let the

American people know.

The above information is not new. I just don't think we know enough to jump on anyone's band wagon. In fact I'm counseling a "don't know" attitude. By saying that you "don't know", you are leaving yourself open for knowing at a future time. On the other hand, if you believe that you've got it figured out, a typical reaction is to dismiss new information if it doesn't fit your particular slant.

The Fortean Research Center will continue to discuss a whole host of controversial topics, both in print and during our weekly radio show. By keeping an open mind, we all might learn something. And in the process not dismiss an idea because it is too wierd. I really laugh when I hear a UFO researcher disparage a point of view or a line of inquiry. The pot calling the kettle black...., well, sort of.

At the recent MUFON conference (June 1989 in Las Vegas) I ate breakfast with some researchers and the discussion got spirited when we discussed John Lear being "dis-invited" to speak. A point of view was expressed that Lear's material was too strange to allow MUFON to associate with him. I attempted to argue that it was precisely because of the strangeness of Lear's research that we should give him time at a microphone to present material, and answer questions. Not that I was (or am) a "believer" in his research...just that I hoped that by Lear providing additional information, we might understand him better. Perhaps not agree, but to make the attempt at understanding.

Well, John Lear spoke "unofficially" at the conference, and I didn't learn much. Let me restate that. In addition to the previously published papers in this Journal, I didn't hear what I wanted to hear...anything new. In all fairness to Lear, I feel the question should have been not who his sources are, but would he and his sources agree to testify at a

congressional hearing, with immunity and protection offered to anyone in the military or other sensitive government positions. Congressional hearings are probably the only way we'll be able to afford these "sources" the level of protection they need. You'll hear more on this idea from me in the future!

Some recollections from the June MUFON conference of this year...I especially liked and agreed with what Jacques Vallee said about not wanting to talk with the person who knows the person who has talked to the person that claims to have seen a UFO. Vallee said that as a researcher he wants to talk to the individual involved. There is a subtle message involved here, I think.

Bill Moore's disclosure at the Las Vegas MUFON conference that he aided intelligence agents in a dis-information program aimed at Paul Benewitz has raised questions with a lot of people. Bill said that he was offered information in exchange as part of a deal. Perhaps a small question can be raised here regarding ethics or the lack of such. If Mr. Moore would like to comment further I will gladly give him space in my column. Are his actions an example of the end justifying the means?

I enjoyed meeting Timothy Good at the MUFON conference. Good's book Above Top Secret is one of the best books I've read in the last couple of years, along with Vallee's Dimensions: Casebook of Alien Contact. Timothy seems to have a grasp of the complex nature of the UFO phenomena, and I hope we hear more of his counsel.

As a last comment, I would ask of you patience and the will for understanding what the UFO subject brings us. There are a lot of "want-to-believers" out there whose belief system fluctuates with every book read or talk heard. Use discretion, and don't jump on what might look to be a comfortable "band wagon". I'm not asking you to love or hate the alien...just do what the author Andrew Neher advises: "Keep an open mind, but not so open that your brains fall out"!

Editorial...cont. from page 3

This summer was, as I mentioned, a busy one. In addition to the summer vacation activities any family man participates in, I also attended the 1989 Conference for UFO Investigators in Laramie, Wyoming.

The conference centered on women in UFO research and I was able to hear a number of very good speakers. Among the speakers were Vickie Cooper, co-editor of UFO magazine, explaining her viewpoints of "The Ultimate UFO Secret". This focused on the alleged underground UFO base supposedly located in Dulce, New Mexico. Linda Moulton Howe, a noted authority on cattle mutilations, discussing her current research, and Dr. Edith Fiore, author of Encounters, describing her recent experience with people who make the claim of having been abducted by aliens.

The Fortean Research Center had its pot-luck/video/meeting on July 15, and a good time was had by all. There were 30 of us in attendance and the conversations were as wide-ranging as the diversity of the members themselves.

Director Scott Colborn and I both had the opportunity to give public presentations at the Omacon IX Convention in Omaha, Nebraska this summer. Scott spoke about the RAF Bentwaters alleged UFO landing in 1980 and I gave a talk on the apparition, ghost, and poltergeist phenomena.

More recently the RAF Bentwaters sighting was addressed to a group of 40+ men and women at the Unity Church of Today in Omaha, Nebraska. The Center was asked to give a presentation on November 5th which lasted over three hours. The audience was quite receptive and inquisitive. If it had not been for Scott's jeep losing a muffler as we entered the city, the evening would have been story-book perfect.

And so it goes. Make yourself comfortable and enjoy the rest of the Journal.

## Into the Unknown

by Dale Bacon



"Borley Rectory, a dark and rambling old house that stood in the village of Borley on the border between Essex and Suffolk, was for many years, known as 'the most haunted house in England.'" or so believed author and parapsychologist Harry Price in 1940.

The Milwaukee SENTINEL and Milwaukee STATE JOURNAL both ran newspaper articles stating that, "...most major media reported a spectacular poltergeist-type haunting in Horicon, Wisconsin." (Strange 1988)

A storyline from a 1987 copy of the Lincoln, Nebraska JOURNAL declared, "Legend or not, ghost no fun for one Lincolnite.'" (O'Hanlon 1987)

Haunted houses, poltergeists, ghosts...words which one might expect to hear when gathered around a campfire in the out-of-doors or perhaps while watching some late-night television creature-feature.

Many explanations for the sights, smells and sounds of this phenomena have emerged over the years. Two very different lines of thought exist when this discussion arises, those of the natural and the super-natural. In this sense the "natural" refers to the so-called logical explanation, and the super-natural refers to matters which science has not yet proven.

Afterimage, hallucination and the ever-popular "overactive imagination" are but three of the explanations given for the many ghost reports one hears and reads about each year. Granted, this writer would be the first to admit that some of these prosaic explanations are well-founded. Certainly not every creak or moan heard in the dark indicates an other-worldly presense and it is very easy to produce an afterimage (just stare at an object for a few minutes, then look up...the image of the object will still appear before your eyes).

British spirit tracker Peter Underwood states that one should "Always look most carefully and sympathetically for a normal explanation before considering the possibility of a supernormal one." (Underwood 1986).

However, are these "logical explanations" valid in every reported (and often unreported) experience?

Is the mother who unexpectedly and suddenly awakens from a sound sleep to see the image of her military-based son standing at the foot of her bed suffering from an over-active imagination? How then, does the fact that her sons death in combat, which coincides with the time of the vision, enter into the picture?

Can afterimage explain the sudden appearance of a young woman in a dormitory room which has been cleared of photographs and wall hangings, as was the case of the Lincolnite in 1987?

Does hallucination offer justice to the damage often reported by what are referred to as poltergeist activity?

Earlier I had mentioned there are two very different lines of explanation for the ghost phenomena. The natural, where I included three often-used examples, and the super-natural. In this writers' opinion, super-natural refers to an event transpiring which seems to be coming from outside what is considered natural by presently existing beliefs.

A "ghost" is a catch-all word used to describe many different phenomena. Consider the apparition. This is the most commonly thought-of image Americans exposed to TV and motion pictures have of a ghost. An apparition is considered to be the non-living (as we understand "life") part of the personality of a human, or other once-living organism, which has somehow survived in the physical world after the death of that organism. They are sometimes seen, smelled or the presense is merely "felt."

A poltergeist, however, is thought to be a psychokinetic disturbance caused by an uncontrollable energy within a particular living organism. Parapsychologists J. Gaither Pratt and William G. Roll have given this phenomena the term RSPK, or Recurrent Spontaneous Psycho-Kinesis in an effort to escape the "noisy spirit" connection. The "phenomena center" quite often tends to be a young person (male or female) in their late adolescence.

A second theory of the poltergeist is that the disturbances are caused by another etheric entity. It is attracted to an individual (again, usually a young person) for a brief period of time, disrupts the individuals life and then leaves of its own accord. This theory still uses the original German translation of a "noisy spirit."

A "haunt" is the location or object which individuals, and sometimes groups, are witness to apparitions, poltergeists or some other form of the ghost phenomena.

Organizations like the Society for Psychical Research (SPR), the American Society for Psychical Research (ASPR) and the Parapsychological Association have, in the past and present, worked in schools and private facilities to establish laboratories for the controlled study of these phenomena. However, due to the lack of cooperative apparitions and haunts, this research is far from being done. Much of the investigators work is done in the field. Talking to witnesses, digging into the history of a location and yes, even spending some sleepless nights in old dark houses.

Research into this phenomena has come a long way since the days of the spiritualist seance and table-rapping. 20th Century technology has made the audio recordings more clear, video-taping is available and the faked photograph of a ghost is not easily going to slip by expert photoanalysis.

The Forteian Research Center, home based in Lincoln, Nebraska, has been in the business of investigating the unexplained for seven years to date. Over the course of years the center has been called in to investigate cases of haunts, poltergeists, UFO's (CE-1, 2, 3, and abductions), out-of-place animal sightings, and reports of "big-foot" like beasts in and around Nebraska. Investigations are conducted professionally, keeping the involved individuals foremost in concern.

If answers are to be found to questions concerning psychic phenomena, as well as many other aspects of unexplained events which occur world-wide, all directions need to be travelled. Many of the occurrences do have logical and very natural explanations. Some scientific hypothesis' of an event, however, might best be considered "marginal" in answering the question, "Why did I see whatever I saw?"

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## Things That Go Bump In the Night

by Scott H. Colborn

One of the benefits of a newspaper taking interest in your work and doing a story is the resulting exposure and publicity that is generated. As a result of a story in the Lincoln Journal & Star papers in 1982, I received a phone call on January 10, 1983. A young man explained that he had called the Lincoln papers and had been referred to me. He wanted to know if I had any interest in ghosts. I asked him why he was calling. The young man, who I shall call Roger, said that he and his fiance, Betty (real names on file), believed that her house was haunted. Betty and her parents lived in a small town within an hour's drive from Lincoln. Roger briefly outlined a series of events that had allegedly occurred in Betty's home. Wanting to find out more, and to see the physical site, I set an appointment the following weekend to meet with them. Thanking Roger for calling, we ended our conversation. As I was soon to find out, events were apparently already escalating!

That same day of the 10th I had worked in my office on real estate matters from the previous weekend. As a licensed real estate broker, I made many calls during the early evening, working with home buyers and sellers. The evening of the 10th while working I received a second phone call from Roger...one of the strangest calls ever...and it wasn't concerning real estate!

Roger and his fiance, Betty, wanted to know if I could drive immediately to Betty's home. When I responded that my schedule wouldn't permit a trip that evening, they said that they could hear footsteps of someone or something walking around on the second floor, as they were speaking to me. Roger and Betty explained that Betty's parents were gone for the evening, and that they were the only ones home that night. As they described hearing the footsteps, there was

an electric tension in their voices. Roger was working hard to control his excitement as he described the footsteps as something like a circular pacing originating directly overhead in Betty's parent's bedroom. I asked them if there was any possible way that someone could have gained access to this bedroom without being seen by Roger and Betty. They answered in the negative. Whoever it was would have had to enter the house and walk up the stairway to the second floor, passing them in the process.

I asked them if they felt there was another explanation for what they were describing to me as footsteps. Perhaps there was a tree limb rubbing against the house, or simply the floor creaking with temperature changes from the January weather outside. Was there a pet upstairs? Roger and Betty replied that if you heard someone walking on the floor above you previously, you would recognize it when you heard it again. No, they said, what they were hearing were footsteps on the floor above.

Indeed, if one can be any judge of accuracy or even truthfulness based solely on hearing two people's voices, I would've had to have said that they sounded as though they were telling the truth...that they were indeed hearing something. I asked them if either of them felt like going upstairs and checking out the footsteps. Roger said he would not go upstairs, but Betty responded that she would. Quickly we worked out a plan that she would walk up the stairs to the second floor while Roger stayed on the telephone with me and relayed Betty's comments.

Betty proceeded to walk up the stairs. When she was about halfway up, she exclaimed that she had hit or encountered a very cold area on the stairs. At that precise instant, the footsteps

stopped. Upon investigation, Betty found no one on the second floor of her home. (That weekend we looked carefully at that portion of the stairs to determine whether a draft of cold air from a window or open door could have caused the "cold spot". Upon investigation we determined that the chances of the cold spot having been created by an open door or window were slight.)

To say my curiosity was aroused would have been an understatement. Roger, Betty and I confirmed our plans to meet January 15, 1983. I called then-director Ray Boeche and gave him an outline of the case, and we agreed that a meeting and investigation was warranted. I then spoke with Gregory Case and Stacy Vornbrock, psychological social workers, and they expressed an interest in being part of the investigative team. With plans made for our trip, I made a half-hearted effort to get back to work, but to no avail.

Webster's New World Dictionary, College Edition defines the word poltergeist as this: Polter/uproar + geist/a spirit. In other words, "a ghost supposed to be responsible for table rappings and other mysterious noisy disturbances". As we shall see from the following chronological list of reported events by Roger and Betty, the definition aptly fits the alleged incidents.

In July of 1982 Roger and Betty met. Roger was then 17 and was born and raised in Nebraska. Betty was 22, and had moved to this small farming town six or seven years previously, having originally been born on the east coast. Roger was employed in the printing trade and Betty worked as a nurses aid in an area hospital. Roger was raised in the Lutheran faith while Betty was brought up in the Catholic Church. It was approximately during this same month in 1982 that events of a highly strange nature began in Betty's home.

One night between 1 and 2am, Betty awoke to the sound of water running in a shower stall down the hall from her bedroom on second floor. As the shower stall hadn't worked for about one year because of leaking through the downstairs

ceiling, Betty was more than a little curious. She told me that she could hear water striking the sides and floor of the metal shower stall, and yet upon going down the hall to the shower stall, she said that she found it dry and dusty, with no sign of water.

In August or September of 1982, Betty began to hear windows being rattled and door knobs moved at various times of the day and night. One night her dog, which was kept on a chain in the rear yard, began to bark extremely loud. Betty said that she looked out a window of the living room on first floor towards the dog and saw someone looking in the window at her. The local police were called, and no tracks were found under the window and no explanation uncovered for this voyeur.

Both Roger and Betty reported hearing female voices, and whistling, starting in July of 1982 and continuing through mid-January of 1983. The voices were described as "very feminine", and Roger and Betty said that the voices sounded like conversation, with lulls and quiet periods. These voices were heard primarily upstairs. Betty asked her parents whether they had heard these voices, and her mother claimed that she hadn't. Betty's father was hard of hearing and wore a hearing aid. The whistling was heard by both Betty and Roger, and seemed to confine itself to the kitchen area, on first floor. The whistling was reported to sound "like a tune being carried...not just random notes".

In the fall of 1982 Betty said that she began to occasionally notice an odor of perfume in the house. No specific location was given. Betty told me that it wasn't a brand that she or her mother used.

As previously alluded to, Betty and Roger both spoke about hearing footsteps overhead while they were in the first floor living room. They described the footsteps as "not heavy or stomping...like someone pacing or walking around in an upstairs bedroom". Betty and Roger ruled out Betty's parents, who often were not at home when the footsteps were

heard. Sometimes at night when her family was sleeping, Betty reported hearing footsteps on the stairs from first to second floor, and occasionally in the hallway on second floor.

One night Roger had accepted an invitation to spend the night in a guest bedroom. After having retired for the evening to their respective bedrooms, Roger and then Betty were awakened by footsteps. Roger turned over in his bed and saw a dark hooded figure, seemingly masculine, standing over him. Roger did what many of us would probably do--he hid under the covers. He heard the footsteps go to Betty's room. Betty then described seeing a similiar figure wearing what looked to be a hooded black robe. While Betty's father owned a brown hooded robe, Betty said it didn't match the color of the black robe worn by their visitor, and that the black robe was "cult-like" and had more of a peak at the back of the hood. Neither were able to see any facial features, but Roger told me that a street lamp would normally illuminate his guest room at night. This particular night his room "went pitch black" during the visitation by the unknown individual.

New years eve day Roger and Betty heard heavy footsteps upstairs, unlike past occurances. They reported hearing doors slamming and dresser drawers being opened and closed loudly upstairs. Later that day, with no one else in the home, Betty locked the doors and took a bath in the first floor bathroom. Returning home, Roger found the kitchen door unlocked. He entered, locking the door behind him. Hearing that Betty was in the bath, Roger spoke through the door to her, and then returned to the kitchen where he found the door standing open again.

January 12, 1983 found Betty, Roger and Betty's mother watching television. Betty's father wasn't home, so when Betty and Roger heard footsteps upstairs, they knew it wasn't him. Betty's mother claimed that she didn't hear anything.

On the morning of January 15, 1983, Gregory Case, Stacy

Vornbrock and I were to drive to this property and began our investigation. Early that morning Betty was sleeping and was awakened by footsteps. Glancing at the clock, she saw it was 4:20am. She then described seeing "a grayish mist...two feet across" between her bed and the bedroom door. The mist began to move around the room, and then Betty felt her hair pulled hard. (Once previously Betty said that she was touched by "someone" as she descended the stairs from second to first floor.) She felt her bed sheets and blankets being pulled as if she were in a tug-of-war. Looking across the room to her desk, Betty saw her open Bible's pages standing straight up in the air. She had left the Bible open to the 23rd Psalm. (Later that same day I investigated whether the air movement from the furnace vent could somehow cause the pages to stand up. I was unable to cause to pages to move at all.) Betty felt her feet being tickled and said she felt like someone was touching and grabbing at her arm. Apparently nothing was visible at this time as Betty arose and went into the second floor hall with the intention of waking her parents. However, her parent's door was closed, so Betty didn't awaken them. Somehow feeling different, as if the act of waking and walking was helping restore her confidence, Betty returned to her room, and reported drifting off to sleep approximately 7:00am. She reported to me that she had gone to sleep with a "globe light" on, and this light had been on during the entire night.

Arriving later that morning, our investigation team initially spoke with Roger and Betty together, and then took each into separate rooms and questioned them. With few exceptions their recitations were the same. Both Mr. Case and Ms. Vornbrock later told me that they felt that Roger and Betty were telling the truth, and believed in what they were telling us. Mr. Case and Ms. Vornbrock also couldn't detect any reason why a story of this type would have been concocted.

While we were in the home, Betty's mother walked into the

living room and said something like: "You know, Betty, that this disturbs your father". While Betty's mother had never directly acknowledged any of the previously described events, she was reported to have said to Betty at some prior time that "we can't sell the house if these things continue". Our team had no other contact with Betty's parents. We asked if the Catholic Church had been informed of these events, and Betty replied that nothing had been said to the priest locally. Betty told us that when the Monsignor of the local parish visited occasionally, he "couldn't wait to leave". At any rate he had not been informed, and his last visit had been several months prior to our January 1983 investigation.

We asked Betty and Roger about their depth of knowledge in the occult. Betty told us that she had a book of spells and incantations, and had read from this book for some time prior to the start of the initial activity. We asked to see the book and then verified that the contents were indeed what she had described. We suggested that the book be removed from the premises and when she agreed, we took the book with us. Betty didn't know or wouldn't venture an opinion whether the reading of the book of spells and the alleged incidents in her home were related.

At any rate, the reported incidents ceased after our arrival in January of 1983. We did not notice any unusual activity during our visit that day. Prior to the writing of this article I called Roger and Betty to verify my notes and to ask a few questions. They had relocated since our last conversation to another state, with no unusual incidents or activity having occurred in their new surroundings. Betty's parents continue to live in their home, and Betty told me that she was unaware of any further activity or unusual incidents in her parents' home since our investigation team had been there. Betty did mention that her mother had made a comment to her regarding the house. Her mother told Betty that she had not wanted to stay alone in the house previously, and Betty understood

her mother to have been referring to the former alleged activity that had been reported. Betty's parents are well and at last report show no desire to move.

In conclusion, it appears that a series of bizarre and strange occurrences did take place in this small Nebraska farming community. They occurred... if we are to believe the reports of Roger and Betty. So we must ask ourselves if this was all a hoax? I personally have a gut feeling that Roger and Betty were truthfully describing events that they had experienced. I have no reason to doubt their accounts. Was the activity somehow linked to the use of the book of spells? Was there indeed poltergeist activity that Roger and Betty experienced? If so, why did it stop?

We will leave the story at this point, and let you, the reader, consider some answers to the above questions...or perhaps questions of your own. We ask that you consider the possibility of "things that go bump in the night". Please feel free to write to us with your impressions of the above account, or perhaps you'd like to tell the readers of this Journal of your own encounter with a ghost or poltergeist! I know one thing for sure...I'll never forget that phone call that evening in my office!



## The Long Island UFO Experience

by Bill Knell

It happens all the time! It might be in a barber shop, a photocopy store or even a supermarket. Anywhere on Long Island where people gather your bound to hear their U.F.O. stories!

Of course, I won't deny that I'm a bit of a catalyst! After all, I've been investigating U.F.O.'s on Long Island, and in other parts of New York State, for years.

I'll be talking to my family, or friends, about U.F.O.'s and, the next thing you know, someone will speak up and say, "It's funny you should say that! You know, I had this experience a while back..."

This is what I call the Long Island U.F.O. experience. I have found myself listening to U.F.O. stories in every conceivable circumstance. Even in Church! Now, for those of you who do not know where it is, Long Island is part of New York State, a portion of it is a part of New York City (Manhattan Island is connected by bridges and tunnels) and it lives up to it's name! It's a long island, being about 100 miles long and twenty miles wide, at it's widest point and sits just off the U.S. coast between Connecticut and New Jersey.

It's not just the stories that people tell! It's the bizarre legends, that seem to intermingle with the U.F.O Phenomenon, like Project Saucer, the possible U.F.O. crash off College Point, the Mount Misery sightings of discs and strange animals, the strange lights and disturbed ground reported, years before white men walked this land, near the Site of the supposed Amityville Horror house by native Indians. And yet, nowhere have the wheels of cover-up spun a better turn than here.

With all the U.F.O. stories, the legends and, despite the fact that I never get less than four

calls a week over my U.F.O. Hotline (718-380-8644), and usually quite a few more, the Phenomenon is handily ignored by the Press, debunked by Vanderbilt Planetarium and belittled by local, state and federal authorities. Still, despite such rude indifference, U.F.O.'s seem to have made Long Island a regular transit route and rest stop.

Although it's rare to hear or read much about Long Island within the U.F.O. investigation and research community, the word does get out. I get letters from Ufologists the world over telling me about this or that person they met who had a Long Island U.F.O. story to tell, and could I help them to verify it? Others ask about the supposed U.F.O. base that has been rumored to exist under the Island, off it's coasts or in one of it's several large lakes.

Of course, as I've already indicated, many Long Islanders, themselves, are ignorant of the high level of U.F.O. activity here due to the absence of sound press and media reporting on the Phenomenon. It's only because of the many stories, told in hushed tones, and the efforts of a few, brave media people, that word has gotten out at all!

One of the few who have spent years bringing those hushed stories to the surface, when no one else would, is Viacom cable television show host JOEL MARTIN. Not that he's a pushover! I've done his Show and he can ask the hard questions. Still, he's fair and objective where others might be rude and condescending. But, maybe he has to because he, himself, has several interesting Long Island U.F.O. stories to tell!

The syndicated television special UFO COVER-UP LIVE! also helped. No matter whether you are pro or con in opinion about that program, you must admit that it

brought the U.F.O. Phenomenon into more U.S. households than anything that anyone else has done in years! For me, it had the effect of bringing many U.F.O. witnesses out of the closet and to my attention. Some called my Hotline, others wrote letters to me.

Now, I spend about three nights a week trying to deal with the constant flow of reports that involve sightings, landing circles, abductions, government activity and cover-ups and even crashes! Even with this commitment of time and funds, I still feel like the leader of the band on the Titanic! I know that no matter how much I pour into the effort, the problem is still bound to overtake me! But, it's not like I'm alone either.

From time to time, one or more of the major, national U.F.O. organizations takes a small interest in this area. But, that interest almost never translates into action and I can understand why. Like many, like me sometimes, they are overwhelmed with the high level of activity and unable to commit enough time, effort and finance to cover the situation. In addition, many Long Islanders, though aware of the level of U.F.O. activity here, would still prefer to ignore it and hope it goes away. This kind of thinking has translated into low membership numbers for most of the national organizations in this area.

There have also been, and still are now, a few, small local groups who attempt to organize some sort of investigative effort. But, haunted by a lack of operational funds and general inexperience when it comes to practical U.F.O. knowledge and investigative technique, they usually do not last too long.

Beyond all this, we're still left with the Phenomenon itself. Even after almost twenty years of U.F.O. investigative experience, I still marvel at how often the U.F.O. Phenomenon manifests itself in this area! In the last eight months alone, I have found what I feel to be at least six genuine U.F.O. landing circles in various locations, investigated eight

cases of possible U.F.O.-related animal mutilations and personally photographed a nocturnal light which, when seen in the form of a 5x7 photo, has sent shivers up even the most skeptical of spines!

I won't even tell you how many abductions I think have taken place in this area. Of course you can always check with Budd Hopkins on that. After all, he lives just over the bridge, in New York City on Manhattan Island, and knows, only too well, that what I say is true!

This is all part of the Long Island U.F.O. experience! I share the information I gather through a free, monthly Newsletter that I call THE NEW YORK U.F.O. REPORT. If you would like to receive it, just drop me a line and request it. And; if you have a U.F.O. story to tell, don't hesitate to call! I'll be here, waiting, watching and investigating.

BILL KNELL,  
U.F.O Investigator  
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(718) 380-8644



## Why Are They Here?

by Ida M. Kannenberg

(All capital lettering in this article is suggested by the author, ed.)

Recently I was asked to speak at the local UFO organization's meeting. My long time communicator, mentor and comrade, asked to dictate something for me to read to the group.

Hweig (pronounced WHY-J) dictated thus:

"We are here, your three helpers-The Hidden One, Amorto, and I. You shall know more about us presently.

We concur that research into the government cover-up would be beneficial, but we three have joined together at this time to guide and steer you on another project.

You have discussed with us that Lindberg's flight across the Atlantic alerted us to the Earth people's development of flight, and that before a generation had passed flight into outer space would follow. We knew that the conquering of space would mean carrying EARTH'S CONTAMINATIONS to other planets and peoples. THIS IS THE BASIC REASON FOR OUR INTERFERENCE! We do not come so much to save Earthian's from themselves, but to SAVE OTHERS FROM YOUR POLLUTION. NOW DO YOU BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND? PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FROM THAT PERSPECTIVE! We are levelling with you. Now tell the world with your talks and writings.

SAVE GOD'S CHILDREN FROM THE POLLUTION AND CONTAMINATION OF EARTH!

Does that not solve the riddle of the severe and not so pleasant things we have done? Does it not explain why each of those whom we have contacted has seen us in different ways, analyzed us in differing lights, good and evil, angels or demons, helpful or destructive ones? EACH RECEIVES US ACCORDING TO HIS OWN INNER BEING, HIS OWN LIGHT, HIS OWN QUALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES.

We will not mention names, but there are those who call us hideous, disgusting, evil, and there are those who call us benevolent, friendly, helpful and good.

As your own soul envisions us, so we come to you, damned or blessed.

Do you not see that this is why we have played hide-and-seek with you, and remain hidden except for momentary glimpses just enough to let you know we are here, but not enough to reveal who and what we really are, or from where we actually come?

Those of the Earth who are in their own soul benevolent and kind, helpful, generous, and compassionate have been more clearly told truths about us. Those who are arrogant and self-centered have been tormented with many tricks and trials. WE TRY TO PLAY BACK INTO YOUR FACE WHAT YOU YOURSELF ARE, and from there to lead you out into what you might become, not for your OWN sake, but for the sake of the rest of God's creatures, which too many of you seem willing to destroy, contaminate, and degrade as quickly as possible.

Yes, we are moralistic. Is that bad? What we seek to change are yourselves so as to render your contamination impotent to impinge on the lives of others, those far, far away, or those close at hand.

The world is changing rapidly. Not the change of political revolution or physical catastrophes, although those things are happening, but more vital, the change in Man's thinking. That is the crux and the nexus, the core and the circumference, to change Man's thinking from the current dissolution of all that is good and true and beautiful.

Art, music, dancing and painting have turned from the creation of soul-enhancing beauty, into hideous representations of

the most base and worst in Man, reverting to the level of all that is most gross and lewd in his being. And the most sublime of the arts-Love-has been debased to jungle lust.

Do you think WE, THE GUARDIANS OF THE UNIVERSE, WILL ALLOW THIS CANKER CALLED "EARTH CIVILIZATION" TO SPREAD INTO THE SWEET SANCTUARIES OF THE UNIVERSE?

How many eons have we toiled to bring Man from his dirt-encrusted beginnings to the finest sensitivities of his soul (witness DaVinci, Michelangelo, Plato, Ghandi, Jesus) that we should now watch him wallow in the basest forms of self expression? It is time for the pendulum to swing back toward self-respect and self-discipline. That is what we are here to help regain. Get yourself together, be kind, be decent.

We have watched the development of flight on Earth and have become concerned with Man's development of Himself and His civilization. We knew He would eventually extend His capabilities into a flight to the stars.

Already He has littered space with thousands of pieces of cast-off debris, endangering the lives of others.

Will His conscience allow Him to litter the pure, untouched planets with more garbage? Will His contact with other civilizations beyond His solar system bring them the diseases of body and soul with which He is afflicted?

God forbid.

We, the Guardians, watch. We do what we can, what the sacred laws of the universe permit. To change the direction of Man's thinking, so that wholesome commerce and communication may some day, not too long away, traverse freely between your home planet and others which are to become known."

End of Hweig's dictation.

For the past ten years or longer, Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle (Laramie, Wyoming) has been talking and writing about us becoming "Cosmic Citizens."

According to this dictation, he

is exactly right. Before the UFO people want us cluttering up space and their communities with our destructive and polluting ways, they are trying to teach us, through many other persons and experiences, how to become GOOD "Cosmic Citizens."



# Who Goes There?

## The Haunting of a Lincoln Home

by Stephen Johnson

Life after death. Are ghosts proof of life after death? Are messages from spirits enough evidence to persuade people into becoming believers? That is, a believer in ghosts. Does it make sense? If there are ghosts, then could there be life after death?

Could it be that the haunt inside of a house is a lost soul, or a soul whose love for its life kept it from going away? Maybe its haunting is a way of telling present-day people that they are trespassing on property or territory once owned by the soul.

This is the perfect time of year to raise questions about ghosts. October 31st is the night celebrating the "lost soul," although my children think of Halloween as a night for candy-collecting only. It is also a great time of year to hear new stories of haunts. Here we have just such a story.

Veteren researchers Scott Colborn and Dale Bacon were kind enough to invite me, Stephen Johnson-member of the Fortean Research Center, along with them on an interview with a Lincoln, NE family to discuss their claim of a ghost.

Following is an edited reprint of a transcript provided graciously by "Judy." To protect those involved, all names used are pseudonyms invented by myself.

#### Beginning of Transcript

We bought the house in Sept. 1979, from "Mr. and Mrs. Clarke." "Mr. Clarke" had had a major heart attack and could no longer maintain upkeep on the house and yard. The first (ghost) sighting began right after we moved in. A smoke-like cloud appeared in the living room. Daylight or dark would make no difference. It seemed to be in the south end of the room and move towards either the foyer or down stairs to the veranda. Since we all smoked cigarettes, each family member thought it was merely trapped smoke with car lights reflecting on it from the west window.

I had noticed that our two dogs would appear to follow someone from the basement steps to the upper stairs of the foyer. They would wag their tails as if there was a friendly person (invisible, of course) present. We never associated the smoke cloud with the dogs odd behavior for some time.

We (my husband and I) were sitting at the north end of the living room watching television, when I saw my husband staring oddly at the south end.

I said, "What's wrong?"

He replied, "Oh nothing."

I said, "What did you think you saw?"

"I don't know." he said.

I then described what I'd been seeing. Sometimes it seemed to be a flash just out of the corner of my eye, then other times it was a cloud-like thing. He agreed that he had seen the same, and we half-heartedly joked about it being a ghost. Our son entered into the conversation saying that he, too, had seen these things. Later we mentioned the very strange reaction of the dogs, but again it wasn't a serious discussion, mainly just joking around, though I think each of us walked away feeling uneasy.

An old house has all kinds of creaking so at first we didn't

notice any pattern. It wasn't long, though, before I noticed what sounded like footsteps going up the stairs and footsteps on the upper floor, mainly in the north-west bedroom. Again, though, with two dogs and one cat these noises weren't unusual. We still would joke about our haunted house on occasion. Then one night during the work week, I had gone to bed about 11:30 p.m. As I lay asleep, the bedroom door opened and banged against the bed. I was half-awake and assumed it was my husband who often came home during the middle of the night with migraine headaches. At the time his work shift was from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. I thought this night was unusual because as he sat on the bed to remove his shoes he didn't say, " 'Judy' are you awake?" Also, after he removed his shoes he didn't stand to remove his pants. Yet I was tired, so I thought, "Just go back to sleep and don't be so silly, you're just imagining this stuff!" Now the body was laying on the bed beside me and still made no sound. Finally I whispered, "Scot." There was no reply. "Scot." I repeated. Still no response. I knew there was something wrong.

I slid my hand over "Scot's" side of the bed...and felt no body! At this point I was scared. I didn't want to believe I was awake, so I just lay in bed to scared to move. Finally whatever "it" was sat back up on the bed, as if to put "its" shoes back on, walked over to the bedroom door and shut it. At this point I knew it wasn't the cat, or my husband. I leaped out of bed, threw open the door and saw no one there, of course.

Both of my sons were home sleeping at the time and I ran to my son's room screaming, "'Robert, Robert' the ghost got into bed with me!" "Robert" jumped up and we both ran through the house like idiots trying, this time, to catch the ghost. Needless to say this didn't happen.

During this time period the ghost was very active walking up and down the stairs. One night in particular we had several of my son's friends over playing poker. The chandelier over the dining

room always shook when someone was upstairs walking in the master bedroom. This night the chandelier started shaking and we could hear the footsteps. The kids were counting heads and looking under the table for the animals. After it was apparent that all were accounted for, someone said, "OK, who's upstairs?"

"Scot" and I looked at each other and said the old house just makes noises. Of course, the kids didn't believe it for a minute.

In addition to other ghostly footsteps, which I believe was done to scare people, the next truly weird experience was when my husband was working on the car. He yelled at me, saying, "What do you want 'Judy'?" When I looked out to see where he was, I saw him looking at the upstairs window. I told him, "'Scot', I don't want anything." He looked shocked and asked if I was upstairs in the bedroom. I said, "No, why?" He then refused to talk about it. After a lot of coaxing he finally said a woman had appeared at the upstairs window and called his name. The weird thing about this was that he thought it sounded liked his grandmother's voice who had died some twenty years earlier. Even today if "Scot" is asked he won't talk about the experience.

The ghost, or thing, seemed to enjoy scaring my (at the time) future daughter-in-law when she would come after school, waiting for me to get off work. She would be huddled on the couch when I'd come in. She'd say, "'Judy' it's walking up and down the stairs again." I'd go to the stairway and yell, "Knock it off and I mean it!" The noise would cease. By this time we had accepted the ghost, or whatever it was.

Another incident that sticks out in my mind is when my nephew came to stay with his girlfriend and his dog. They had been here most of the day and night and were staying in the master bedroom. "Dave", my nephew, came down and said "Linda", his girlfriend, had decided to go to bed. So the rest of us sat and talked. About half an hour later "Dave" said he'd better go up and check on "Linda"

and "Yates", the dog. He came back down with an odd expression on his face and asked if had we ever considered that our house could be haunted? "Scot" and I looked at each other, then I said, "Why do you ask?"

He said "Linda" was sitting on the bed afraid to open the door. She had gotten up to go to the bathroom and when she opened the door she felt like someone was standing there. Then "Yates", the dog, started whining and dived under the bed, refusing to come out until "Dave" went up to coax him out. "Linda", although not actually seeing anything, shut the door, too terrified to even call "Dave's" name for help. Needless to say they left the next morning.

The only verified sighting was on the night "Scot" said he saw something and had told "Connie", my daughter-in-law, what he had seen. He made her swear not to tell me. He said that in this way if I would see what he had seen it could at least be verified for us. Of course, by his saying this I became frightened. Because he seldom admitted seeing or hearing anything until now, I knew he was being serious. So for days I kept walking into the house thinking something would jump out at me. I became so paranoid that even if no one was in the house when I got home I would enter and say in a loud voice, "Listen, don't scare me, you can live here just don't scare me."

Several weeks passed and nothing had happened, so I began to relax. One night I was sitting on the couch watching television with "Connie", who was sitting in a chair about eight feet from me, and I glanced at the front door. I saw a little old woman with what appeared to be a shawl pulled over her head. At first I thought, "Oh, someone's here at the front door." But as I continued to look I realized the person, or thing, was on the inside of the door. It appeared that she was transparent. I thought, "Oh God! It's our ghost!" About this time the woman turned to look at me and somehow I got the impression that she was leaving. I was about to say, "'Connie', look over by the door." when it disappeared. I

seemed to stare for a long time, but I'm sure only seconds passed. I said, " 'Connie', I think I just saw what 'Scot' saw!"

"Connie" said, "Where?" and I said, "At the front door! I'll draw it for you and you tell me if I'm right." I drew a sketch which "Connie" was shocked by and confirmed my suspicions. She said, "Why didn't you say something so I could have seen it?" I said it had all happened so fast that I was sort of shocked myself.

The next day I contacted "Mrs. Clarke" and asked if at any time she had ever felt that this house was haunted. She laughed and said no, but wanted to know why I asked. I said that we had experienced some "odd" stuff.

Well, of course, she later contacted the woman across the street who, in turn, wanted to know what was going on. By this time "Scot" was having a fit because I had told anyone about it, believing they would think we were crazy. About a month later the neighbor one house down from us to the east came by collecting for the cancer drive. He asked if we'd seen any more of our ghost. I asked "How did you know?" He said the woman across the street had told him about it. This mans' wife's parents lived next door until their father died and the mother had to go to a nursing home. I told the gentleman that we had, indeed, seen a ghost, but not recently. He asked what she looked like and I described the little old woman with the shawl or shroud she had worn. The man just laughed and said he didn't believe in shosts. I said neither did I, until we moved here! He left, but about 15 minutes later he was back at my door ringing the bell. Upon answering the door I found this very agitated individual. He said, " 'Judy,' I know who your ghost is." I was surprised, to say the least. He said it was a "Mrs. Kennedy", and that she had lived in my house when his wife was a child. He told me that his wife had called her sister, who agreed it was indeed "Mrs. Kennedy". He continued by stating that his wife had said "Mrs. Kennedy" wore a shawl around her

head and neck.

Since that time I have more or less researched the name and found that the "Kennedys" bought my house on March 3, 1920. They lived here until "Mr. Kennedy's" death in 1940. Whereupon his death in a Lincoln hospital their daughter moved "Mrs. Kennedy" to Iowa where she resided in a nursing home until her death. Our neighbor said "Mrs. Kennedy" dearly loved the house and cried at having to leave it.

Since the last true sighting of her at the front door, the only thing that has happened since is when my sister-in-law and her husband came to visit from Tennessee. They stayed at our house over night. During the night I heard footsteps and could see through the transit window that they had a light on all night. I thought they just could not sleep and were going down to the kitchen for coffee or something. The next morning I said, "Boy, you guys sure didn't get too much sleep last night." My sister-in-law, "Joanne," said "You're telling me!" She said, "Didn't you hear the footsteps up and down the stairs all night long?"

I said, "Oh, I thought it was just you guys not being able to sleep." I felt really bad about this, because with all my previous experiences with the ghost walking up and down the stairs I should have known that was what had happened. As I explained to "Joanne," I was so sure that the ghost was leaving the night I saw her, and the fact that no other occurrences had happened, I just assumed it was over. Irregardless, both "Joanne" and "Owen" were so scared neither would leave their room. I told them they should have just yelled at me and I would have told "Mrs. Kennedy" to stop! Needless to say they won't stay at my house ever again.

Since then we've had sporadic instances of guests saying they thought someone, or something, was in the upstairs hallway and overnight guests have mentioned hearing the walking off and on. Other than that, I haven't truly seen or heard anything in quite some time.

A woman who lived two houses to the west stopped and ask if we had seen our ghost lately? She claimed to have had the ghost at her house at one time. She stated that other people have had experiences with weird happenings in the neighborhood. Other than this, we do not think she (Mrs. Kennedy) is in the house anymore, unless she just stays non-active until something triggers her off.

#### End of Transcript

There are a few points that need to be examined. One would be the animal interest and involvement. It has been said many times that animals might possess senses that we humans don't. This story might confirm that. It seemed to be important to the family to get this point across.

Something that was said to us during the tape-recorded interview, which was not pointed out in the transcript, was the feeling of cold air at the top of the stairway. Cold air has been felt, even on hot nights, and pointed out by people in the house who were not informed of the ghost. This would help confirm the feeling of the fanmily.

The hauntings have almost come to a stop in concurrence with a remodeling of the house. If this is significant we do not know.

Although this story does not provide any physical evidence of life after death, it does involve a lot of people speaking out about confirming facts, and we found the family to be open and thoughtful about their experiences. We at the Fortean Research Center thank them for their courage to come forward.

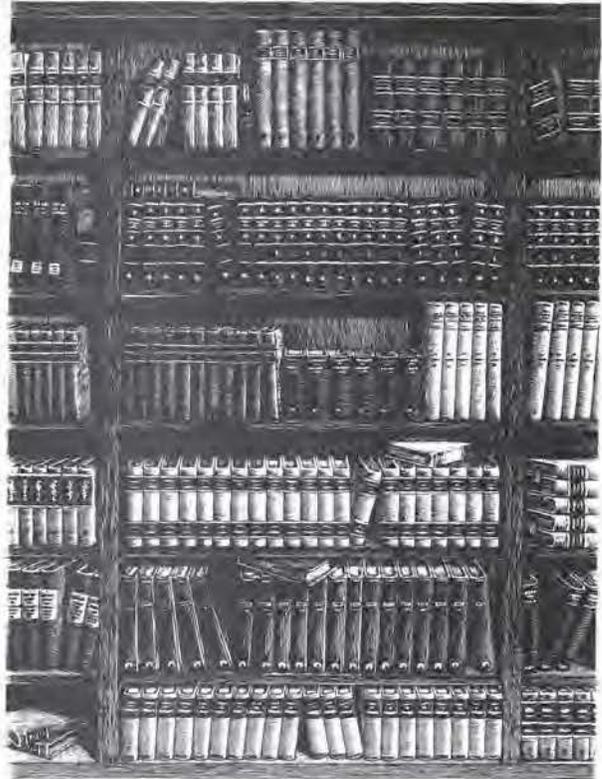
#### NEXT ISSUE

Watch for the next edition of the Journal of the Fortean Research Center. Some of the articles that will be included are:

- The Cattle Mutilation Phenomena in France
- Bigfoot sighting in Florida
- Worldwide UFO Sightings
- An Alien Harvest

.....AND MUCH MORE.

Going on sale soon!



## Book Reviews

### The Message of the Crystal Skull: From Atlantis to the New Age

by Alice Bryant and Phyllis Galde  
1989

I had a "coincidental" meeting with the Crystal Skull in Arizona a few years ago. Passing by the glass-encased, sculpted crystal, I had heard only a little about this amazing piece. I wanted dearly to hold it. Just reading The Message of the Crystal Skull confirms my desire to touch it once.

The Crystal Skull is a most fascinating archaeological find. Found in 1924 at an ancient Mayan ruin in Central America, the Crystal Skull is one of three ancient crystal-sculpted human skulls in the world. This skull is anatomically correct (the others aren't) and is modeled after a young woman. The skull has embedded prisms which cause the eyes to reflect images projected from underneath.

While all of this is fairly academic, the story of the Crystal Skull is a mosaic of thought-provoking, unanswered questions. Particularly interesting is the story of the find itself. Did the Mayan civilization create the skull? How did it acquire such anatomical correctness? Why does a forensic recreation of the face appear oriental? The Crystal Skull has had several psychic experiences associated with it. What are its messages?

This book does not attempt to find the answers. But it makes for some fun reading and leaves you asking for more. The next time I see the Crystal Skull I will still want to hold it, but at least I'll understand my yearning.

reviewed by Debbie Koon Stephens  
Crystal Clear Productions  
Copyright 1989

#### A Living Dinosaur

Roy P. Mackal  
1987

E.J. Brill  
Leiden, New York

If you are looking for an adventure, the kind of stuff Indiana Jones is made of, A Living Dinosaur is a good place to start.

Roy Mackal's expedition may not be as sensationalistic as "Raiders", but it's a true story in the vein of paleontology and archaeology which takes you on a journey to the Congo region of Africa in search of the Mokele-Mbembe as the natives call it. In other words it means monstrous animal, or as we know it dinosaur. The natives have identified it through pictures.

The ultimate question is whether a dinosaur could still exist in 55,000 square miles of no man's land. I think it's very possible.

If you want to read a true adventure, I suggest you pick this one up. You may never read another book like it.

Reviewed by Kirk D. Fenster

#### The Forgotten Pilgrimage of Jesus

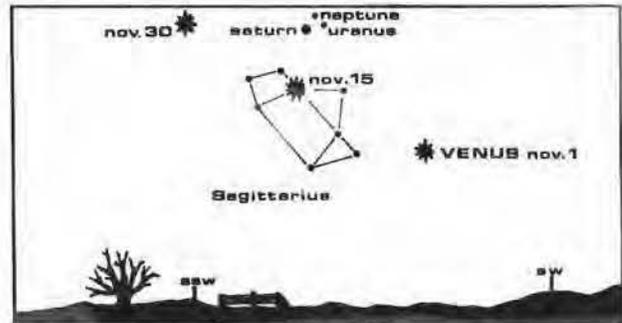
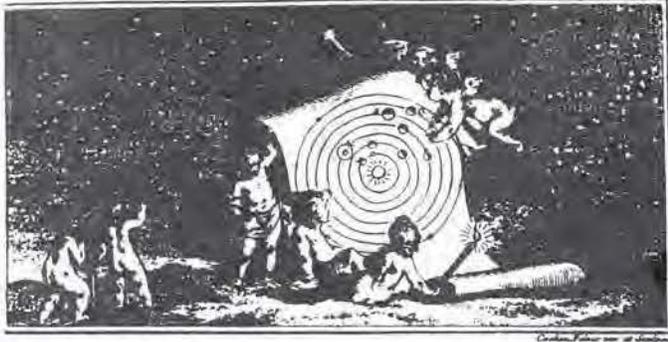
The Forgotten Pilgrimage of Jesus, compiled by James F. Forcucci is a gem. What James F. Forcucci has done is collect in one slim volume the essential writings of the nineteenth century Russian explorer Nicolas Noatovitch. In his travels, Noatovitch visited the famous Buddhist monastery of Himis in Leh situated in the little country of Ladak in the Kashmir region of Northern India. I had not heard of Ladak until a few years ago when my father returned from a trip to India and Nepal with stories and slides of his visit to the monastery in Leh, the capital of Ladak. Among the most valued possessions of the monastery are a collection of scrolls telling of the life of Saint Issa. (Jesus) Notovitch had been told of the scrolls while visiting the region but did not plan to ask about them lest he arouse the suspicions of the locals. Then he broke his leg. While recovering at the monastery, he was invited to read the scrolls and copied out the verses with the help of a translator.

The translation of the scrolls is divided into three parts, 1) a brief history of the people of Israel from Moses to the thirteenth year of Jesus, 2) the life of Jesus from age 14 to 29, 3) the life of Jesus during his public ministry in Israel. Here we encounter a smattering of archeology, of Bible scholarship, of history, of religious philosophy, and a perspective on the life and death of Jesus that has some parallels with the Biblical Jesus and some differences. If you are one who is fascinated by the story of Jesus and like adventure combined with scholarship, you may find The Forgotten Pilgrimage of Jesus both enlightening and entertaining. It is available through Kubicek and Associates, Box 30269, 320 North 26 St., Lincoln, Nebraska 68503.

Reviewed by John M. Wynhauser

# Sky Watch

by Erik Hubl

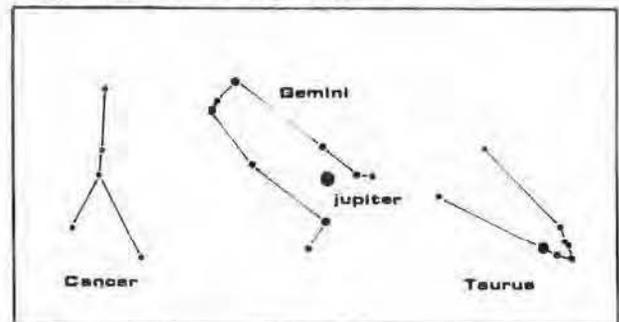


The sky offers a source of beauty for all who seek it. The thousands of stars that can be seen on crisp clear evening grab at something ancient and deep within the soul. There is a longing for understanding and an absolute amazement at the sheer immensity of it all.

Sky Watch was created with two purposes in mind. One, to be a source of astronomical events - in particular any that might be confused as UFO sightings. This happens more than one might think. The second reason is to create a format for inducing interest and excitement about the sky above us. Far too often in this day of television and fast city life, we forget to look up. I hope that you will find this information interesting and that you'll want to go out and see it all for yourself.

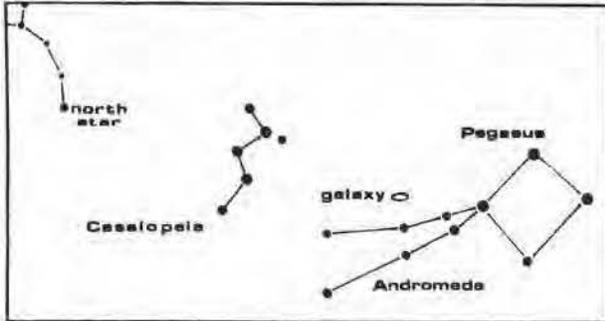
Two bright planets will catch your attention this fall. Venus is low in the southwest after sunset and shines so bright that many pass it off as an airplanes landing lights or sometimes a UFO. It can even appear to 'follow' you if you're driving down the road. And when you stop, so does it! But watching it longer will reveal that it slowly sinks toward the horizon. Venus shines at magnitude -4.9 (see notes) and will move through Scorpius into Sagittarius where it will be near the much fainter planet Saturn. Uranus and Neptune are also located in this same region but a telescope is necessary to see them.

Jupiter is the other bright planet that many people see. It rises about 9:00 PM. It is very well placed to watch its apparent motion over the course of several months. Right now, it lies in the middle of Gemini the Twins and is slowly moving westward. It shines at magnitude -2.5. Look for Jupiter in the East after 9:00 and high overhead by sunrise.



Cassiopeia is a pretty constellation that resides in one of the near parts of the Milky Way galaxy. Located nearby the north star makes it possible to see all year around. It is shaped somewhat like a 'W' or 'M' depending on how you look at it. It points to nearby Andromeda which is the location of the great Andromeda Galaxy. From dark country skies our closest galactic neighbor can be seen with the unaided eye. And binoculars clearly show its presence. Look for a small cloudy patch near the constellation Andromeda. M-31 as it is commonly called is a scant 2.2 million light years distant. That's about.....  
12,913,000,000,000,000 miles.

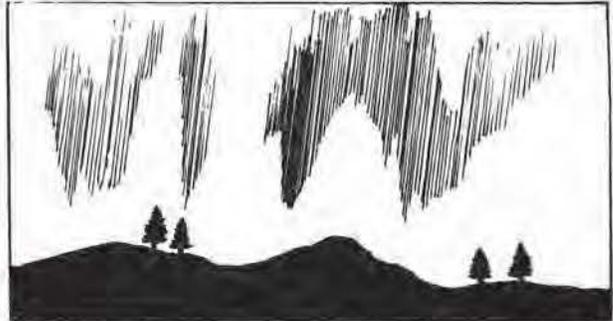
Without a doubt, this is the farthest object you can see with just your eyes.



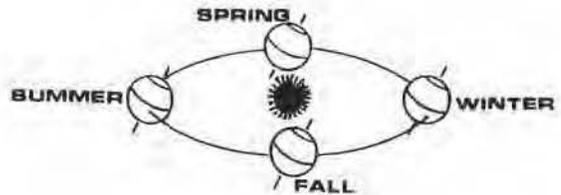
Those of you who were favored with clear skies on August 16th most likely saw part of the Lunar Eclipse take place. The Bacon family and my own witnessed this event from their house high on a hill in Lincoln, NE. We saw the large orb rise on the eastern horizon at about 8:35 CST. The eclipse had already started and the moon appeared to have a 'bite' taken out of it. The middle of the eclipse occurred at 10:08 with the moon looking very orange but through the telescope many surface features could be seen. Normally a full moon is so bright that it washes out any detail one might be able to see. I wonder how ancient cultures reacted to 'unexplained events' like the blood-red moon.

On October 20th a large solar flare erupted from the surface of the sun and unleashed millions of charged particles which slammed into the earth's magnetosphere. The flare produced such strong x-rays that satellites used to measure them were overwhelmed. A proton burst of 2,000 particles per cubic centimeter was measured compared to a normal 2 or 3 particles per cubic centimeter. On earth the result was spectacular. Streamers of red, pink and white light drifted slowly across the northern horizon. Columns of colored light shot up almost to the zenith, (the highest point in the sky) and drifted away to have yet another do the same. Much of North America could see this amazing display of northern lights which could be just a precursor of things to come. Around 1990-91 our sun, which goes through a 22

year sunspot cycle, will be at a maximum sunspot period creating the opportunity for more northern lights to be visible around the globe.



The Winter Solstice or first day of winter will occur on December 21st at 3:22 CST. This is the shortest day of the year and the sun will reach its lowest point in the sky. At 40 North latitude we will receive 9 hours of daylight and 15 hours of darkness. The sun will begin a 6 month climb to reach the highest point in the sky.



NOTES: Magnitude is the astronomical measure of brightness. The faintest star visible to the unaided eye is +6th magnitude. The brightest star is +1 or 0 mag. Venus can be -4th mag, a full Moon -12th mag, and the Sun -27th magnitude.

Keep an eye on the sky, you never know what you might see.

If you have any questions about watching the sky, please write to:  
ERIK HUBL  
Astronomical Advisor  
FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER  
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into the

FUTURE.



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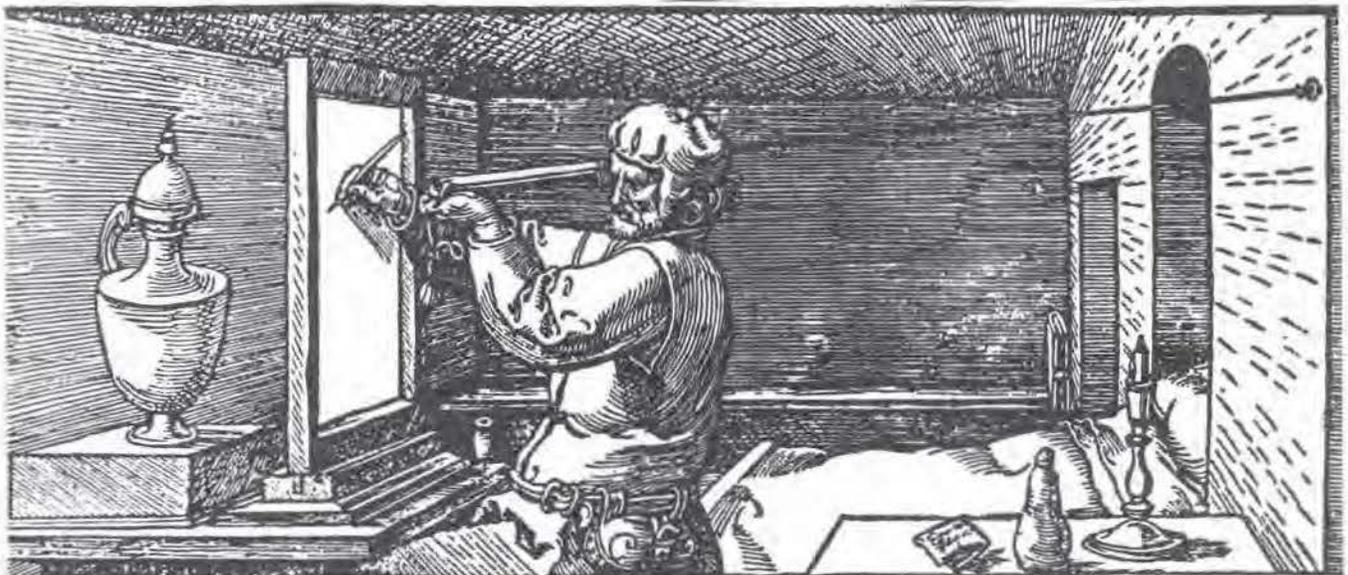
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