

Stanton Friedman is coming!

Words From the State Director



Stanton Friedman is coming! He will be Michigan MUFON's September special guest speaker, appearing at Henry Ford Community College's 350 seat theater in Dearborn at 7:30pm on Saturday the 22nd of that month. Tickets are \$12.50 (or \$10 for current HFCC students). More information will be made available soon, including how to purchase tickets. Please check mimufon.org for the most up-to-date information. Thank you so much MIMUFON member Jay Korinek of HFCC's WHFR radio station for all you're doing to make this happen. WHFR is our proud partner in sponsoring the event.

I'd like to offer deep appreciation here, as well, to member Tony Sivaletti, for a very generous recent monetary donation to Michigan MUFON. Thanks so much, Tony. For anyone who may be considering donating to our organization, please remember that your donations are tax-deductible.

I would also like to thank Sunny Young for really hitting the ground running in her new position as Michigan MUFON's Chief Investigator. We are truly fortunate to have her in this new role.

As many of you know, several times a year at various locations, I give introduction-to-UFOs library presentations. Most of the time I count myself lucky if the audience has at least two dozen members. Well, this most recent one at the Waterford library on June 20th was more than I could've hoped for. Official count was 126 in the audience, thanks in great part I'm sure to favorable lead-up interviews I was blessed to give for the Oakland Press newspaper and Warren Pierce program on AM 760 radio. There were so many people who pre-registered for the presentation that the library had to move the event from the library itself to the next-door civic center. But wait, there's more...they also filmed it to play on cable access (don't know when it will air, though). If you think your local library

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Thank you.

MUFON's mission is the scientific systematic collection and analysis of UFO / Abduction data, with the ultimate goal of learning the origin and nature and purpose of the UFO / Abduction phenomenon.

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might be open to a UFO presentation, please ask them. I'll travel just about anywhere to promote MUFON. It might just bring us some new members.

We tried something new and exciting for our May meeting with two presenters appearing via webcam, and I have to say that our efforts were, all-in-all, quite a success. MUFON International Director of Investigations Chuck Reeve joined us in the morning for the Field Investigator's Training and Smoking Gun Research Agency Director Jon Nowinski was our main presenter in the afternoon. To make it even cooler, Chuck was in California and Jon was in Connecticut...true coast to coast! The format was well enough received that we will be doing this again at occasional future meetings. Although hosting presenters via webcam will be done sparingly, who knows what big name speakers we may be able to draw by this method. Exciting stuff. Thank you Becky Konkolesky for bringing us another big step into the 21st Century.

Speaking of Becky, after seven years (if I recall correctly) running the Michigan MUFON store, Patty Donahue is now taking up the position of store manager. Thanks so much to both Becky and Patty.

For those who are still awaiting the documentary on Michigan MUFON by MSU student Matt Runyan, it appears that this project may ultimately never be completed. He was working on it for one of his college courses and realized that he didn't need to complete it and turn it in for a favorable grade, so he unfortunately set it aside indefinitely.

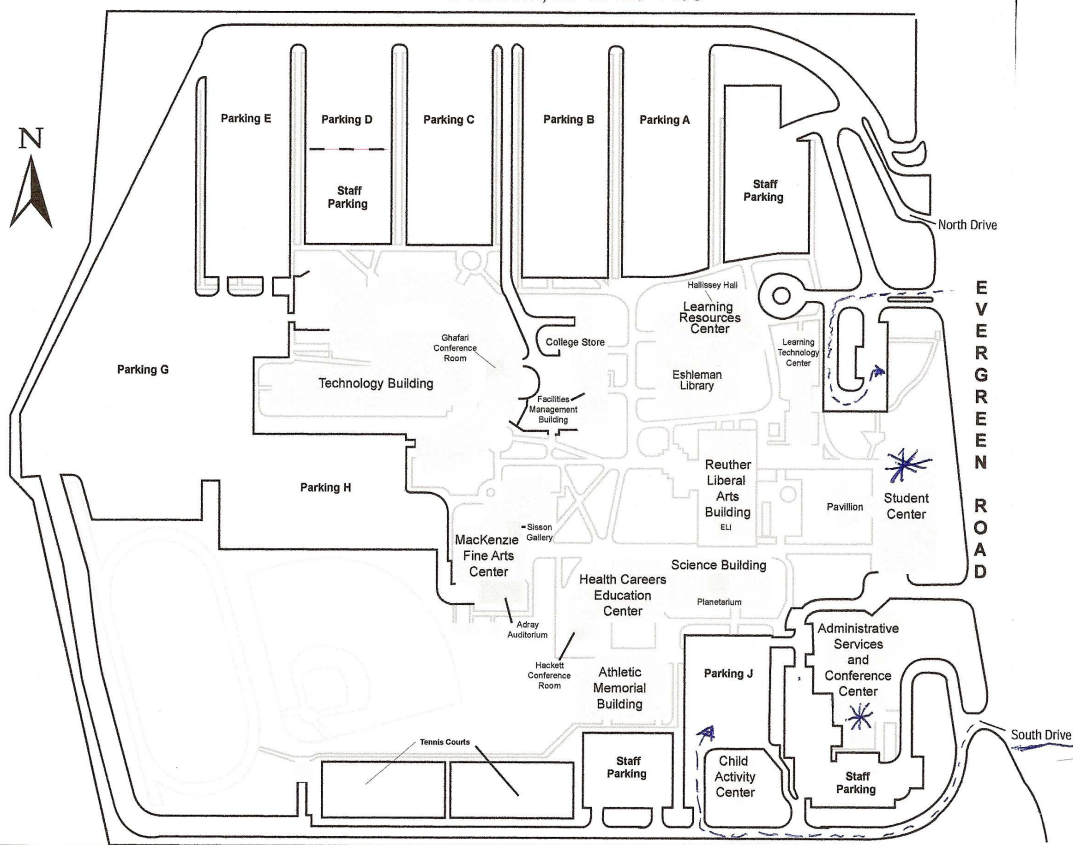
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And looking for more good downloadable reading? Please consider subscriptions to the Smoking Gun Research Agency's Dispatch (www.sgra-media.org) or the brand new Journal of Abduction Research (www.nicap.org/JAR_page.htm).

While awaiting Stan Friedman's arrival, in the meantime, please be sure to make it out to Denver this August 10-12 for this year's MUFON International UFO Symposium. As always, there is quite an exciting line-up of speakers.



Henry Ford Community College, Main Campus
5101 Evergreen Rd.
Dearborn, MI 48128-1495



Attention Board Memebers

The summer meeting of Mi-MUOFN board members will be held on the campus of Henry Ford Community College in the Student Center Saturday, **July 14, 2007 at 12:00 noon.**

The map on the right indicates the Student Center and the arrows show the parking lot off of Evergreen Rd. Just to the south of the Student Center is where the Friedman lecture will be held in September.

The address is 5101 Evergreen Rd. Dearborn MI, right across from Fairlane Town Center. You may call WHFR radio station at (313) 845-9676 or contact David Twichell for directions if necessary. (734) 675-6335.

This is a big one, so all board members are urged to attend. The Friedman lecture will be planned at this time.

See you there.

Pilots Spot Motherships Over Alderney in English Channel



ALDERNEY -- Joel de Woolfson of The Guernsey Press and Star reports, "Two experienced airline pilots on separate flights saw something up to a mile wide off the coast of Alderney on Monday afternoon. Jersey radar equipment did pick up the object, and an air traffic controller said he had received simultaneous reports from the Aurigny and Blue Islands pilots.

Aurigny's Captain Ray Bowyer, 50, said he saw the massive strange object during a flight from Southampton. He spotted a bright-yellow light ten miles west of Alderney while his plane was about 30 miles from the island and at 4,000 feet. 'It was a very sharp, thin yellow object with a green area. It was 2,000 feet up and stationary,' he said. 'I thought it was about ten miles away, although I later realized it was approximately 40 miles from us.

At first, I thought it was the size of a 737, slightly smaller than a jumbo jet. 'But it must have been much bigger because of how far away it was. It could have been as much as a mile across.'

As he continued his approach to Alderney, Captain Bowyer saw a second identical object further to the west. 'It was exactly the same but looked smaller because it was further away. It was closer to Guernsey.' The sightings come days after reports that scientists have discovered outside our solar system an Earth-like planet capable of supporting extraterrestrial life. 'I can't explain it. At first, I thought it might have been a reflection from a winery in Guernsey, but that would have disappeared quickly. This was clearly visual for about nine minutes.' The sightings happened at about 3 PM, on April 23, 2007.

Captain Bowyer, who has flown commercial planes for twenty years, said he had described the objects to air traffic control and filled in an incident report. 'As I got closer to it, it became clear to me that it was tangible. I was in two minds about going towards it to have a closer look but decided against it because of the size of it. I had to think of the safety of the passengers first.' He added that the experience had been quite scary. 'I'm certainly not saying that it was something of another world. All I'm saying is that I have never seen anything like it before in all my years of flying.'

Paul Kelly, 31, the air traffic controller who was on duty, said the Blue Islands pilot had made a similar report, but nothing had appeared on his radar. 'The pilot from Blue Islands was en route to Jersey at the same time and as he went past Sark he described an object behind him,' he said. 'The description was very similar to Captain Bowyer's and they described it as being in exactly the same place. But they were looking at it from opposite sides.' The pilot told him the object had been 1,500 feet beneath his plane. 'The Blue Islands plane was at 3,500 feet at the time so, again, both pilots placed it at the same altitude.

"If the object was stationary, our equipment would not have picked it up because the radar would have screened it out." Pilots and aircraft passengers have confirmed sightings of two large Unidentified Flying Objects off the coast of Guernsey. This is not something you see every day of the week - it was pretty scary," the shocked pilot said for BBC. At first he thought it was the sun reflecting from greenhouses in Guernsey. He said the objects were bright like the sun, but did not hurt his eyes when he looked at them.

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The same phenomenon was witnessed on the same day in southern France. Videos by people who saw it were published immediately on-line in several free-to-watch sites. The mysterious shapes were spotted April 23, and are described as long objects that measured up to a mile wide.

Aurigny Pilot Ray Bowyer is a professional pilot who has been flying for 20 years. He said: "In my years of experience I've never seen anything like this and frankly I'd be perfectly happy not to ever again. It's a pretty chilling thing and from my first sighting of it - it appeared to be fairly small but it must have been fairly huge."

<http://tinyurl.com/2fnq28> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/guernsey/6591365.stm>, <http://www5.channelonline.tv/news/templates/cinews2.aspx?articleid=9013&zoneid=1>, <http://www.thisisguernsey.com/code/shownewsarticle.pl?ArticleID=002080> Thanks to Andy at Alien Technology and UFO Sightings <http://journals.aol.co.uk/hgn53k/UFOsightingsDevonEngland/>

Thanks to FILER'S FILES # 18 - 2007



Monthly Statistical MUFON Report - for April 2007:

CMS continues to amass sighting reports from around the globe. In April 2007 there were 212 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS. Of these, 164 were from within the United States. Five of these were from Michigan. Most impressively of total sightings, there were 15 Landings, Hovering, or Takeoffs reported and 18 Entities observed.

In May 2007, there were there were 170 sightings reported to MUFON through CMS. 139 were from within the United States. Most impressively there were 8 Landings, Hovering, or Takeoffs reported and 6 Entities observed.

To review the CMS data yourself go to www.mufon.com and click on "UFO Case Files" to 1.) Easily look at the Last 20 Sightings, or 2.) Do a customized search of the CMS database by date and/or location, or 3.) Logon to CMS for even more detailed UFO sighting information about your State and the World.

"...And I suspect that unless the Defense Department proves us otherwise, that it was probably some form of alien spacecraft. I think as a public figure you have to be very careful about what you say, because people can have pretty emotional reactions, and I said my goal wasn't to try to stir the pot. The lights were really brilliant. And it was just fascinating. It was enormous. It just felt otherworldly. In your gut, you could just tell it was otherworldly.

"It's very significant that someone of the stature of a governor would come out and say, acknowledge that they experienced a UFO, because it brings a lot of credibility and strength to the case.

"I still, behind the scenes, tried to investigate it, but I got nowhere."

FORMER ARIZONA GOVERNOR FIFE SYMINGTON on the Phoenix Lights of May 13, 1997

CNN News: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/EDUCATION/03/22/transcript.fri/index.html>

WE ARE NOT ALONE:



David Twichell's local cable TV show is now a one-hour radio show. Broadcast from Henry Ford Community College, **WHFR (89.3 FM)** is commercial free, non-profit, public radio - hosting the best in alternative music and programming.

SSD Gary Golem will be the guest in July and **Dr. Roger Leir (The Alien and the Scalpel)** will guest in Aug.

Tune in on the first **Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM (EST)** with a new show each month.

Out of the area? Go to: <http://whfr.fm/index.php> and click on "tune in Live".

A HALF LIFE OF UFOs

By Dan Wright

For a few of you this is an introduction. For the rest it's farewell. Shortly my wife Betsy and I are leaving for Athens, Georgia. A warmer, sunnier climate beckons.

I've been part of Michigan MUFON and the international organization for 29 years. From 1980 to 1986 I was your state director – or more accurately, to your predecessors. People move into and out of MUFON, understandably. UFO investigations have been a fleeting minor hobby to most, a serious longstanding interest to quite a few, and a passion to fewer. Having stepped back from the stage, I find some amazement in viewing folks like Bruce Maccabee and John Schuessler and Stan Friedman, who have kept the fire lit all these years.

For many, a personal experience sparked an interest in learning more. Others were simply convinced by the sheer weight of evidence they were introduced to and couldn't shake the wonderment about those bigger questions: parallel evolutions, intelligences vastly beyond our own and, indeed, how a universal God force fit into all that.

Fortune favored me early on in cementing a resolve to help find some answers. My father, a truck driver, had a close encounter with a house-sized ball of amber light one predawn morning in autumn 1967, finding out afterward that numerous others had similar experiences along the Lake Michigan shoreline that night.

After absorbing the two dozen or so books he had purchased in the years to follow, I joined MUFON in April 1978. Five months later, the skies broke loose around my Lansing location and statewide.

In the midst of following up on fifteen credible cases in the tri-county capital area, I was privileged to have two CEs of my own in a three-week span that September. In the first, while traveling with a workmate along I-94 between Battle Creek and Kalamazoo, a gorgeous, black boomerang-shaped object swooped low, slowly and without a sound over our car at dusk. After performing a tight pirouette a hundred feet above an adjoining farm field, the vehicle came to a hover. I was at once awed and spooked. After some ten minutes, while I was comparing notes with another motorist, the object moved away at literally jogging speed, hugging the ground until finally lost from view beyond a distant wood.

It's been suggested to me by skeptical listeners in the years since that I was simply witnessing the flyover of a military prototype aircraft. The best response I can conjure after all these years is this: Where's the production model? Is it reasonable to assume we (the US) had a rather enormous aircraft in 1978 that could accomplish those feats yet not be in production three decades later? Possible – but not likely.

My second encounter was less dramatic in visual terms – just four softball-sized lights forming a square and moving silently over more farm terrain west of Lansing. Having been alerted by the Lansing police to several sightings in short order, I wound up pursuing the intruder in my car, eventually confronting the lights close at hand in a rural setting. The episode had no tidy ending but rather a jumble of impressions amid a mindset of general confusion. At one point the lights disappeared then reappeared at another location. I thought I had my full faculties throughout yet never considered approaching closer. Suffice it to say, among my final thoughts on this earth one day will be, "What was *that* all about?"

KEEPING IT LIGHT

Special thanks to **Connie O'Very** of **Mi-MUFON** for the "musical aliens"



In the years since I haven't personally witnessed a thing. But those two encounters, both while I was still something of a neophyte in terms of UFO investigations, welded a bond. I had to know what was really going on.

In 1980 Walt Andrus, MUFON cofounder and longtime international director, appointed me to the state directorship. I quickly found that there were really only a small handful of active members in the state. No semblance of an organization existed, no meetings were held, certainly no training was available. Michigan MUFON barely existed on paper.

A few years and dozens of speeches later to the likes of Rotary and Lions clubs, Chambers of Commerce and the like – frankly, to any group that would listen, attracting new members in ones and twos along the way – we achieved our first milestone: We outgrew living rooms and began quarterly meetings at a restaurant's banquet room.

Our First Symposium

1986 was a pivotal year for our Michigan group. A year earlier, Walt had decided we were advanced enough as an organization to host the '86 international UFO symposium. Oh my gawd, we weren't ready! But somehow we pulled it off. I selected Michigan State University's conference center as the site.

A gathering of that size, regardless of the subject matter, involves hundreds of details. What our cadre of volunteers didn't need was the added pressure of two MSU professors (a physicist and an astronomer) making loud noises about "such a shabby display at our august university." Three months before the scheduled conference those two yahoos threatened in a memo to go over the heads of the MSU conference officials and prevail on the university administration to have it cancelled.

Realizing it was far too late to switch the symposium to another site, the best defense seemed to be a good offense. I threatened the Profs in turn with a lawsuit – naming them in particular – if they followed through on their threat. I enclosed free tickets to the weekend's events. Meanwhile, I had worked with Walt to load up the list of invited lecturers with every distinguished Ph.D. available. My message: "Why don't you argue with my colleagues – who happen to be your academic equals and beyond!"

The skeptics backed down. One of the two took up our invitation, to his credit, attending most of the lectures. Afterward he remarked, "I heard and saw some things I can't explain."

Apart from the controversy, our Michigan MUFON volunteers pulled off some pretty cool plans that weekend. Our motto was "Everyone's a VIP," and so among other special services we provided informal taxi service from and back to the local airport and arranged a tour of the botanical gardens on campus as a side trip.

Following the conference I turned the state directorship over to Shirley and George Coyne, who grew the organization to unprecedented size in the years to follow, while I moved into a MUFON Board position.

In those early days, a few personal UFO investigations stood out in my mind: a March 1980 prolonged CE by a glowing bell-shaped object in a backyard outside Laingsburg, involving a pair of housewives and their eight children; a summer 1981 series of events, on another farm between Lansing and Flint, with an extended family as witnesses to multiple, small triangular crafts low to the ground; and the Coyne's 1983 encounters that prompted their intense interest.

From 1992 through 1997 I directed a project for MUFON on the abduction aspect of this subject. In retrospect and in strictly scientific terms, it was a somewhat flawed review. We collected and transcribed over 900 audiotapes involving 254 separate cases from across North America in which regressive hypnosis sessions, or in a few cases conscious interviews of the encounters, were conducted over a longer period of years. Looking back on it all, I'd guess that perhaps a hundred cases were very solid and overseen by qualified professionals conducting the sessions.

While that project was not statistically significant enough to satisfy hardliners, again I'd ask some simple questions: Was every one of these people delusive? What about the cases entailing couples or whole families? Why did certain unusual descriptive factors appear in numerous accounts if not due to the same intelligence at work?

Before and again after the abduction transcript project, I was fortunate to be Walt's deputy director for all MUFON investigations. Mostly that entailed reviewing the thousands of submitted investigative reports for completeness and clarity. I can't express adequately my exhilaration at reading reports which nailed down every factor and systematically eliminated mundane explanations. Again, volunteers had put forth the effort to turn interesting stories into verified accounts.

A more recent chapter for me personally was an exploration of claimed miracles, hailed by the Roman Catholic Church, and their potential ties to the UFO subject. (No offense intended to anyone or any group; I was raised Catholic, ceased practicing decades ago, but continue to be intrigued by Church lore.) Most fascinating was the series of episodes in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917 – well before "flying saucers" made any headlines anywhere.

Telling, in my opinion, were firsthand accounts of the final two incidents (of six in total) by journalists dispatched to this rural village from Lisbon. In surprisingly modern terms, they described a huge, metallic disc-shaped vehicle, complete with a surrounding plasma and multi-colored perimeter lights that cast beams onto a broad expanse. At one point it descended with a compressing force field as 50,000 fearful spectators looked on. The kicker, of course, was the vision (i.e., projection) of a personage resembling age-old descriptions of the Virgin Mary, witnessed by three young children alone while the massive crowd was enthralled by the craft overhead.

What was the real purpose behind this incident – ever since championed by the Catholic Church as one of Mary's miraculous appearances on Earth? Has a superior (but less than supreme) intelligence been manipulating Christian thought? If so, since when? What is the true relationship between the God most people accept in their thoughts and what we flippantly call alien intelligences?

That is where I've left it. My mediocre brain cannot take it any further.

With that, I beseech every person who reads the Michigan MUFON newsletter to involve yourself. You've taken the first steps; now dig for answers deep enough to genuinely satisfy your curiosity.

One day, perhaps next week or long after we're all gone, this will all become clear. And in the footnotes, some journalist will mention the unsung heroes who tried to alert the rest of us long before to what was really happening. That would be you.

Hang in there, Michigan MUFON. You really matter.

Dan Wright, in addition to being a former MUFON State Director for Michigan, was on the international organization's Board of Directors for fifteen years. He was a guest lecturer at the MUFON International UFO Symposium in 1995, 1997 and 2002. He has contributed many articles to the UFO Journal over the years.

Editor's Note: Dan Wright was one of the founding fathers of MUFON's Michigan Chapter and one of my first MUFON friends. He and Betsy will be sorely missed. I hope they will both continue their investigations in Georgia and coordinate their findings with Michigan.



Passport to Magonia: On UFOs, Folklore, and Parallel Worlds

by Jacques Vallee

Chicago, Contemporary Books, 1993, original: Chicago: Henry Regnery Co, 1969

Bill Murphy's column.

"A good researcher should not be afraid to change his mind" says Jacques Vallee in his 1969 book *Passport to Magonia*. This third of three Vallee works on *Grass Roots UFO's* list of the twenty best books in the ufological field merits its inclusion partly because it further demonstrates the development of one of the more brilliant but at the same time frustrated minds in the field of ufology. Jerome Clark has noted that Vallee argued "eloquently" for the ET hypothesis in *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965), and that in *Challenge to Science: The UFO Enigma* (1966) Vallee and his wife Janine "urged the scientific community to consider the UFO evidence in this light" Now, however, Jacques Vallee abandons the ETH and introduces the remarkable idea that "the observational material on hand since World War II ... is nothing but a resurgence of a deep stream in human culture known in older times under various other names", and that "alien encounters" really have more in common with folklore tales of elves, faeries, satyrs, fauns, and demons that they do with extraterrestrial astronauts. In his attempt to link UFO experiences with the not only Celtic but worldwide experience of "little people", "the gentry", and such, Vallee abandons many of the scientific tools he had previously viewed as crucial to an understanding of the phenomenon; as he says:

this is not a scientific book. It aims only at the documentation of a recurrent myth; namely, the myth of contact between mankind and an intelligent race endowed with apparently supernatural powers. In the pursuit of this goal, I have had to take great liberties with many current beliefs, with scientific conformity, and with some matters of faith.

This is at one and the same time the great value, and a possible danger, to this book. On the one hand, *Magonia* is a salutary, strong challenge to "mainstream" ufological paradigms and lazy thinking, and it provides a set of explanatory statements that take into account the worldwide nature of the phenomena and their recurrence throughout recorded history. But *Magonia* discards or diminishes much of value that has been painstakingly gained by valid scientific efforts in the ufological field, and as Vallee came to his folklore and sociology without a rigorous training, some of his techniques and the conclusions reached by his employing those tools are more open to question.

Vallee did not, however, make this transition in his thought lightly. Including the rest of the opening quotation bears this out: "A good researcher should not be afraid to change his mind; he should not feel desperate because his comforting beliefs leave him as soon as he begins to think critically." Already in *Challenge to Science* the Vallees had derided the "unthinking nuts and bolts ufologists." We have elsewhere commented on Dr. Vallee's subsequent arguments against the ETH. But in *Magonia* he goes beyond a shift in scientific argumentation: he goes beyond science itself. "Modern science rules over a narrow universe, one particular variation on an infinite theme."

I entirely forgot that I was a scientist by profession when I began the manuscript of Passport to Magonia. My only guide has been the persistent feeling that science had offered no answer to some basic needs in our hearts, and that perhaps the present loneliness of man, echoed in the great miseries of times past, had provided most of the emotional power, most of

the intellectual quality, mobilized in that unreachable goal: Magonia – a place where gentle folk and graceful fairies dance, and lament the coarse world below.

Whereas *Anatomy* and particularly *Challenge* had espoused the discovery of patterns in the ufological data and the use of computers to elucidate these patterns – rather divorcing the data from their “living” context -- *Magonia* focuses on selected individual tales, building up impressions rather than statistically-discussible premises. As Dr. Vallee later comments, “I have become increasingly skeptical of the use of computers in UFO research”. Vallee is very selective in the cases he chooses to discuss; the vast majority of nocturnal sightings, daylight disks, and even many close encounter sightings get short shrift; his concentration is on entity cases, a variety of his Type I Close Encounter cases, and just as important to him are those cases lacking as are those possessing an attached UFO sighting. These “ufo-less” cases got almost no play in Vallee’s earlier works and his earlier work in general, as he readily admits: “I must confess that I have previously regarded many such cases as worthless (even if their documentation is not inferior to that of the more believable cases we study).” The result of Vallee’s efforts is a very entertaining book of 163 pages, amplified by inclusion of a 197-page listing of UFO landings from 1868-1968.

While Vallee rightly highlights “cases that deserve close examination, but which were ‘swept under the rug’ by UFO students themselves” because they conflicted with their theories and senses of what was acceptable and what was too extreme to believe, he, as we have seen, demonstrates some selectivity in cases himself, and will show more selectivity in his argumentation. Vallee avows that “The phenomenon has stable, invariant features...But...also the chameleonlike character of the secondary attributes of the sightings: the shapes of the objects, the appearances of their occupants, their reported statements, vary as a function of the cultural environment into which they are projected.” This line of argument allows Vallee to see strong similarities in the basic elements of the abduction phenomenon and encounters with faeries, and to suggest an identity between the two experiences, at the cost of minimizing the differences as, relatively, meaningless, or at least as not detrimental to the equating. This is rather what Kenneth Ring does when he argues for the equivalence of Near-Death Experiences (NDE) and abductions – ignoring the many serious differences, in favor of emphasizing the similarities. To my mind this starts us on the road to what Michael Persinger does with his “Tectonic Stress Theory”. From there, one wonders how great a leap it is to Phil Klass’s “hoaxes, hallucinations, and hooch” – if you delete enough inconsistencies between two separate sets of phenomena, you can find identity through the few similarities that remain.

Passport to Magonia is full of interesting stories which do bear some similarities to CEIII and abduction scenarios, and Vallee is of course right to emphasize that to a large extent what is reported and how it is described are functions of the worldview of the percipients – their level of technological sophistication, their religious upbringing, etc. And Thomas Bullard has done much to elucidate the similarities in folkloric scenarios and abduction narratives (see particularly his article “Folkloric Dimensions of the UFO Phenomenon”). But not every folklore tale has the same similar elements as close encounter stories, abduction narratives demonstrate a greater cohesion of elements, and Bullard also points out the separateness and apparent event-level reality inherent in UFO abductions (whatever the genesis of fairy tales). Many of the aspects of fairy lore, such as the gratitude shown by the elves in return for services performed by humans, do not figure that importantly in abduction narratives (especially those generated after the appearance of *Magonia*), and to my mind Vallee’s effort to compare a few cases of fairy “chariots” with the plethora of present-day “unidentified flying objects” is not as successful as most of his other points.

I am also concerned about some elements I call “hit and run archaeology” – one of several forms of a larger problem I call “archaeology lite”. I will expand upon these concepts in later articles. For now, let’s call “hit and run archaeology” the practice of presenting a true mystery, suggesting only one explanation for it, usually one not widely-held by real authorities within the field, and then moving on as if the point were proven. In the case of the Pacal Palenque sarcophagus, Vallee does just that, using the “speculation” of “several people”, including a (then) Soviet science writer. Vallee also traipses into another “archaeology lite” area in his suggestion that “the only object we know today closely resembling the Mayan design is the space capsule.” This is an example of a “20th century paradigm” fallacy. Such a procedure explains previous peoples’ thoughts, works and activities from a 20th-century science and technology viewpoint – and I use 20th-century advisedly, because my point is that successive ages tend to reinterpret past experience within their own frameworks, and that eventually there will probably be a “21st century paradigm” as well, but I haven’t yet seen any examples exclusive to this century or millennium. The point is not that these explanations are necessarily wrong, but they should not be treated as the only valid or mentioned explanations until the matter is more definitively resolved. Vallee’s discussion of the Jomon Era statues also veers into “archaeology lite” – in this context it is illuminating that here Vallee finds great potential significance in “breathing apparatus” for beings apparently unable to function without such in our world, while elsewhere he seems to emphasize the opposite, that the beings in UFO encounter cases usually don’t need such assists!

It is important to note that Vallee does not make final pronouncements; he merely raises important and provocative points. “The problem cannot be solved today. If we absolutely must have something to believe, then we should join one of the numerous groups of people who have all the ‘answers’ ” – Menzel, the Condon Report, or magazines that “prove” that flying saucers are real and from

outer space. One intriguing item is Vallee's movement toward the idea that UFO and faery encounter experiences may be staged efforts to raise humans up an intellectual scale, an idea that he will develop further in the years after *Magonia*. But in *Magonia* he argues that it is:

reasonable to draw a parallel between religious apparitions, the fairy-faith, the reports of dwarf-like beings with supernatural powers, the airship tales in the United States in the last century, and the present stories of UFO landings ... [because] the mechanisms that have generated these various beliefs are identical ... [and this is of more importance than] the problem of knowing whether UFO's are physical objects or not.

Vallee is treating UFO reports an example of modern-day folklore in the making, an important perception that Dr. Bullard has discussed in greater detail.

As with the other two books I have profiled, Vallee makes important intellectual points throughout *Passport to Magonia*. Vallee deals with the problem of the unintelligibility of completely natural or alien intelligence-produced phenomena, of such being beyond the capacity of the human mind to understand:

The behavior of such beings would then necessarily appear random or absurd, or would go undetected, especially if they possessed physical means of retiring at will beyond the human perceptual range. It is interesting, but only incidental, to observe that such physical actions would appear on scientific records as mere random accidents, easily ascribable to instrumental error or to a variety of natural causes.

While he has moved beyond mainstream science in *Passport to Magonia*, Vallee does not abandon his scientific training or all of his earlier views. I am reminded that Vallee never lost sight of there being some sort of physical reality to the UFO phenomenon. While Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman in their *The Unidentified* moved farther away from event-level reality, arguing that the UFO phenomenon is primarily a subjective, symbolic Jungian mystery with limited and fleeting physical manifestations mostly generated by the psyches of the percipients, Vallee recognized that his eventual "control theory" was not the full answer to the data. Note this quote from *Dimensions*:

The [control system] theory does not explain how UFOs are made to appear to us, although it gives support to one idea about them: that they are constructed both as physical craft (a fact which has long appeared to me undeniable) and as psychic devices whose exact properties remain to be defined. As a focus for psychic phenomena, the UFO evokes a deep emotional reaction in the viewer, but logical development of an investigation is prevented – or precluded – by the apparent violations of causality that surround it and by the sociological climate that is created.

While underscoring the event-level reality of UFOs, Vallee in *Dimensions* continues to emphasize the fundamental power of their impact upon the percipient. He also sets forth the difficulty this causes for the human mind that attempts to wrap itself around the phenomenon, and to explain it in the light of one or more comfortable physical, biological, social, or cognitive frameworks.

Something the later Vallee "control theory" and the thread in *Magonia* have in common is the undeniable "display" or "performance" aspect to many UFO experiences. Michael Swords has used these terms in a 2006 article. Swords instances several cases where the perceived phenomena performed aerial antics – circlings of celestial objects, tracings of geometrical figures -- that would only have been intelligible as such to a very circumscribed set of percipients. Such incidents are troubling to traditional "nuts and bolts technology" explanatory frameworks that basically treat UFO encounters as just chance glimpses by terrestrials of aliens who are on about other business.

Vallee's valuable collection of UFO Landing Cases consciously excludes "all reports accompanied by photographs offered as material evidence and that have been proven to be fakes". While "It can be argued that in the latter case it does not necessarily follow that no valid sighting has been made, or that the incident is not relevant to the UFO rumor in general ... Such faked evidence ... throws considerable doubt on the character and truthfulness of the witness and would carry the discussion into an altogether different province." In other words, the "noise" generated by acceptance of a case whose photographic evidence has been proven hoaxed only diminishes the possibly true "signal" and is not worth the effort. Vallee also mentions the problems inherent in large, very formal UFO organizations, which he claims "answer a psychological need rather than a genuine desire to discover the answer to an interesting intellectual problem." The burden of financial overhead, internal bitterness and interorganizational feuds engendered by such big organizations take money and attention away from research. An additional point I found thought-provoking was Vallee's observation that the "attempt to secure evidence is a constant feature of fairy tales, and we are also reminded of the efforts by Betty Hill to convince her captors to let her take a peculiar 'book' she saw inside their craft...the men denied her the opportunity to convince the world that the experience had been real." This touches upon the "why no souvenirs?" argument of skeptics towards UFO experiences – whether it argues for a basic identity of faery and alien encounters, or for their individual or combined reality, is something else.

In many ways *Passport to Magonia* is as courageous as well as groundbreaking work. It took a scholar of Vallee's caliber to carry it off so well.

Vallee, Jacques, *Passport to Magonia: on UFOs, folklore, and parallel worlds*, Chicago, Contemporary Books, Inc., 1993, p. 156 (soft cover edition). Originally published Chicago: Henry Regnery Co., 1969

1978 *Fate Magazine* interview by Jerome Clark, p. 1 on www.nidsci.org/articles/clark.html

Vallee, *Passport*, p. 56

ibid., p. x

ibid., p. 156

ibid., p. 22

ibid., p. xi

1978 Clark *Fate Magazine* interview

Vallee, *Passport*, p. 98

ibid., p. 68

ibid., p. 149

ibid., p. 105

ibid., p. 146

Journal of UFO Studies, New Series, Vol. 3, 1991, pp. 1-57.

Vallee, *Passport*, p. 103

ibid., p. 2

Has anyone else noticed that the "contraption" many believe they see on the Palenque sarcophagus looks more like something out of "American Chopper" than a "typical" UFO?

Vallee, *Passport*, pp. 3-4

ibid., p. vi

ibid., p. 154

ibid., pp. 150-151

ibid., pp. 148-149

ibid., p. 155

Jerome Clark and Loren Coleman, *The Unidentified: Notes toward Solving the UFO Mystery*. New York, New York, Warner Paperback Library, 1975

Dimensions: A Casebook of Alien Contact. Ballantine Books, Inc., 1988, pp. 247-248 (paperback edition). This quote may also be found on p. 277 of the hardbound edition.

"We Know Where You Live", *International UFO Reporter* 30:2 (January, 2006), pp. 7-12

Vallee, *Passport*, p. 171

ibid., p. 158

ibid., p. 116



Stanton Friedman to Speak in Dearborn, Michigan

Nuclear physicist, Stanton T. Friedman will be speaking at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Michigan on Saturday, September 22, 2007 at 7:30 PM. His illustrated lecture, "Flying Saucers ARE Real!" has been a crowd pleaser for years. This will be a great opportunity for MUFON members and the general public to meet the man that has been dubbed "The father of Roswell".

The lecture will be in lieu of our September meeting at Flint and tickets will be around (if not less) than the cost of the normal meeting. The details of the event are still being hammered out.

WHFR radio, HFCC's non-commercial, public radio station, and Michigan MUFON are co-sponsoring the event. MI-MUFON member, Jay Korinek, is also an instructor at the college and Station Advisor for WHFR. He has pulled some strings to get the venue for the lecture at the college and we are greatly appreciative.

The board will meet with Jay and the station's General Manager, Susan McGraw at the college on July 14 at noon to hammer out the final details and see the venue first hand. We urge all board members to be present for this one.

It might be a little ride for those in the northern part of Michigan but it also might be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear Mr. Friedman speak, shake his hand and maybe even get an autographed copy of one of his books.

The September issue of the Newsletter will have complete information about the event. See you there!

Michigan MUFON

State Section Directors Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2007

The May 6 state meeting was held at Walli's Restaurant in Flint, Michigan.

Bill Konkolesky, State Director, called the Section Directors' meeting to order at 3:55 PM. In attendance were David Twichell, Rebecca Konkolesky, David Bleicher and Wendy Smith.

The group discussed the proposal for MIMUFON to sponsor a lecture by Stanton Friedman in September 2007. Bill explained that Oakland Community College has a newly appointed Student Life Coordinator, who must meet with Bill and the Dean of the College for event approval. Scheduling this meeting has so far proved to be difficult. Earlier in the day Jay Korinek suggested the 350-seat auditorium at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn might be available as an alternate venue. Previous lectures sponsored by MIMUFON have drawn approximately 100 people for Nick Redfern (at OCC), and less than 200 for Erik Von Daniken (at HFCC).

Friedman has proposed to go with the idea of an expense-included flat fee for his presentation. An event charge of \$12.00 per person was discussed. Advertising costs are undetermined, though no-cost publicity is available through Jay Korinek and David Twichell's radio shows, and as community event placements in local newspapers. Printed posters can potentially also be located in local bookstores and coffeehouses.

Bill announced that Patty Donahue would assume control and responsibility for the MIMUFON Store in November 2007. Patty already has several ideas for how to update the store.

Profits from the MIMUFON store sales on May 6 totaled \$51.00.

Bill requested end of fiscal year (May 31) valuations from the Treasurer, Librarians, and current Store Administrator by the end of June, in order to prepare a comprehensive State report for MUFON International by the time of the International Symposium.

Wendy reported 29 attendees at the day's meeting. She also reported that the MIMUFON bank account balance as of May 5 is \$3,331.65. Income for the fiscal year ending May 31 totals \$3,883.34, expenses \$3,926.91, a deficit of \$43.57.

Patty Donahue will lecture at Mystiques West in Westland in September. David Twichell questioned the no-cost advertisement printed for this store in every issue of the MIMUFON Newsletter. It was decided to continue with this practice, as Mystiques West provides no cost public awareness and publicity for MIMUFON.

David Twichell reported that the laptop computer formerly used to track Library holdings is no longer operative. Its value will be reduced to zero in the asset calculation for MIMUFON.

The annual State Section Directors' planning meeting, usually held in August, was briefly discussed. It is possible to meet at Walli's and order individually off the regular menu, to avoid a room charge. The location and date of this meeting were not finalized.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Wendy Smith, May 15, 2007.



38th Annual International MUFON Symposium

2007 International UFO Symposium

Sponsored by the Mutual UFO Network

"An Estimate of the Situation: The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis"

August 10-12, 2007

Marriott Denver Tech Center Hotel

Denver, Colorado

Attention: Early registration will begin in April!

Speakers as of July, 2007

Stanton Friedman - 60 Years of Roswell

Dr. Rudy Schild - The University Community Response to UFO Research

Richard Dolan - The Extraterrestrial Presence on Earth: Why It is Revolutionary

Timothy Good - NEED TO KNOW: UFOs, the Military and Intelligence

Brad Sparks - Startling new revelations on the origins of MJ-12

Kathleen Marden - New evidence on the Betty and Barney Hill Case

John Greenewald - The UFO Hunters

Sam Maranto - The O'Hare Airport and Tinley Park Sightings

Michael Nelson - Startling new evidence on the Portage, Ohio UFO case

Robert Salas - Faded Giant - The Malmstrom Air Force Base encounters

<http://mufon.com/symposia.htm>

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Hotel Parking: Important note about Hotel Parking: If you are staying at the Marriott, you will not have to pay for parking – your guest room key will be used to validate parking. If you are not staying at the Marriott but are attending the conference, please bring your parking ticket to the main registration desk or the Colorado MUFON table to be stamped and avoid having to pay for parking.

Make your meal choices for both Friday night's dinner and the Saturday luncheon when you make your reservations at <http://mufon.com/symposia.htm> or when calling (970) 221-1836 or (970) 221-1UFO



2002 SEALED AFFIDAVIT OF WALTER G. HAUT

Lt. Walter G Haut (USAF retired) served as Public Relations Officer for the 509th Bomb wing in Roswell, NM in 1947 during the now famous "Roswell incident". He was the one who first released the news to the media that a "flying disk" had crashed on a ranch outside of Roswell.

In December 2002, Haut filled out a notarized affidavit that was sealed and not to be publicly disclosed until after his death. Haut died in December 2005. A copy first appeared in the June 2007 book *Witness to Roswell* by Tom Carey and Don Schmitt. Again Haut said that he had seen the crash object and bodies in a hangar (Hangar 84 or P-3). Col. Blanchard, a close friend his entire life, made a point of taking him out there.

Below is the affidavit by Walter Haut that that quoted in the aforementioned book:

DATE: December 26, 2002

WITNESS: Chris Xxxxxx

NOTARY: Beverlee Morgan

(1) My name is Walter G. Haut

(2) I was born on June 2, 1922

(3) My address is 1405 W. 7th Street, Roswell, NM 88203

(4) I am retired.

(5) In July, 1947, I was stationed at the Roswell Army Air Base in Roswell, New Mexico, serving as the base Public Information Officer. I had spent the 4th of July weekend (Saturday, the 5th, and Sunday, the 6th) at my private residence about 10 miles north of the base, which was located south of town.

(6) I was aware that someone had reported the remains of a downed vehicle by midmorning after my return to duty at the base on Monday, July 7. I was aware that Major Jesse A. Marcel, head of intelligence, was sent by the base commander, Col. William Blanchard, to investigate.

(7) By late in the afternoon that same day, I would learn that additional civilian reports came in regarding a second site just north of Roswell. I would spend the better part of the day attending to my regular duties hearing little if anything more.

(8) On Tuesday morning, July 8, I would attend the regularly scheduled staff meeting at 7:30 a.m. Besides Blanchard, Marcel; CIC [Counterintelligence Corp] Capt. Sheridan Cavitt; Col. James I. Hopkins, the operations officer; Lt. Col. Ulysses S. Nero, the supply officer; and from Carswell AAF in Fort Worth, Texas, Blanchard's boss, Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey and his chief of staff, Col. Thomas J. Dubose were also in attendance. The main topic of discussion was reported by Marcel and Cavitt regarding an extensive debris field in Lincoln County approx. 75 miles NW of Roswell. A preliminary briefing was provided by Blanchard about the second site approx. 40 miles north of town. Samples of wreckage were passed around the table. It was unlike any material I had or have ever seen in my life. Pieces which resembled metal foil, paper thin yet extremely strong, and pieces with unusual markings along their length were handled from man to man, each voicing their opinion. No one was able to identify the crash debris.

(9) One of the main concerns discussed at the meeting was whether we should go public or not with the discovery. Gen. Ramey proposed a plan, which I believe originated from his bosses at the Pentagon. Attention needed to be diverted from the more important site north of town by acknowledging the other location. Too many civilians were already involved and the press already was informed. I was not completely informed how this would be accomplished.

(10) At approximately 9:30 a.m. Col. Blanchard phoned my office and dictated the press release of having in our possession a flying disc, coming from a ranch northwest of Roswell, and Marcel flying the material to higher headquarters. I was to deliver the news release to radio stations KGFL and KSWs, and newspapers the *Daily Record* and the *Morning Dispatch*.

(11) By the time the news release hit the wire services, my office was inundated with phone calls from around the world. Messages stacked up on my desk, and rather than deal with the media concern, Col Blanchard suggested that I go home and "hide out."

(12) Before leaving the base, **Col. Blanchard took me personally to Building 84 [AKA Hangar P-3], a B-29 hangar located on the east side of the tarmac. Upon first approaching the building, I observed that it was under heavy guard both outside and inside. Once inside, I was permitted from a safe distance to first observe the object just recovered north of town. It was approx. 12 to 15 feet in length, not quite as wide, about 6 feet high, and more of an egg shape. Lighting was poor, but its surface did appear metallic. No windows, portholes, wings, tail section, or landing gear were visible.**

(13) Also from a distance, I was able to see a couple of bodies under a canvas tarpaulin. Only the heads extended beyond the covering, and I was not able to make out any features. The heads did appear larger than normal and the contour of the canvas suggested the size of a 10 year old child. At a later date in Blanchard's office, he would extend his arm about 4 feet above the floor to indicate the height.

(14) **I was informed of a temporary morgue set up to accommodate the recovered bodies.**

(15) I was informed that the wreckage was not "hot" (radioactive).

(16) Upon his return from Fort Worth, Major Marcel described to me taking pieces of the wreckage to Gen. Ramey's office and after returning from a map room, finding the remains of a weather balloon and radar kite substituted while he was out of the room. Marcel was very upset over this situation. We would not discuss it again.

(17) **I would be allowed to make at least one visit to one of the recovery sites during the military cleanup. I would return to the base with some of the wreckage which I would display in my office.**

(18) **I was aware two separate teams would return to each site months later for periodic searches for any remaining evidence.**

(19) **I am convinced that what I personally observed was some type of craft and its crew from outer space.**

(20) I have not been paid nor given anything of value to make this statement, and it is the truth to the best of my recollection.

Signed: Walter G. Haut
December 26, 2002

Signature witnessed by:
Chris XXXXXXX

Source: <http://roswellproof.homestead.com/Haut.html>

Thanks to MiMUFON member Jean Waskiewicz for submitting this article.



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The Nightmare Scenario

By Jon Nowinski of the Smoking Gun Research Agency

Ask someone you know to name an island off the East Coast of the U.S. and odds are they'll answer with either Block Island or Fishers Island. It's doubtful that the name of Plum Island would even make it on anyone's list, and there's a good reason for that. For starters, few people know the island even exists, and that's likely because there are very few maps that actually include it. But this little 643-acre island should not be overlooked so easily. This little-known place has captured my interest, so I just had to dig!

Plum Island – or as it is officially known: the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal Disease Center – is situated only 13 miles off the Connecticut shoreline, and less than 2 miles from the Long Island coast. Even though many people pass right by this island aboard the Orient Point Ferry, few people take notice. Perhaps if they looked just a little closer they would wonder what it was, and that may even lead to questions. But, as one local resident told me, "people around here like to think that if they don't take notice of it that it will somehow not exist."

It seems impossible not to spot the billboard-size signs warning that the island is a restricted area and use of deadly force is authorized. It doesn't take much to make out the humvees with armed guards patrolling the perimeter of the island. Or the "gunboats" that circle the waters around it, making sure no boaters accidentally drift too close. And then there's the occasional thunderous thud as a large military helicopter passes overhead on its way to disappear somewhere on the island. I admit all these things peak my interest, and unlike most I do take notice of them, but wouldn't people like to know what's in their own backyards?

"I've heard the rumors. I've known people who worked out there. And truthfully, no, I'd rather not know what they're doing," said one person I spoke to while I was standing on the dock observing the island through a pair of high-powered military binoculars. After having gotten responses similar to this from most of the people I spoke with, I decided that I just had to dig. Here's my obligatory warning: if you choose to read the rest of this article, you may not enjoy what you learn.

In 1826 the early form of today's Coast Guard set up a lighthouse on the southwestern tip of the island. Shortly after (1850) the military acquired another 150 acres to set up as a defense facility. And finally in 1901 the War Department took over the entire island.

The real story of Plum Island begins in 1948 when Congress ordered the construction of a laboratory that could conduct research into deadly animal diseases. Originally the research being conducted on the island was intended for biological warfare for use against the Soviet Union, but in 1969, that all supposedly changed when President Nixon ordered that such research be stopped. Since then, the focus is said to have shifted to purely defense against animal disease outbreaks, although some have repeatedly claimed that biowarfare research continues on Plum Island.

Aside from just the isolation, there were a many other factors that played in to Plum Island being picked for the site of this new lab. One of the primary reasons was that the island was so small, and never had any official occupants, so it was left off of most maps. Another reason was that officials believed that since the island had few trees, not much vegetation, and not a very good environment, they wouldn't have to worry about animals such as deer and birds. Oh boy did they mess up with that one!

Despite ongoing issues with safety, worker strikes, and construction problems, officials continue to boast that Plum Island is "one of the safest places on earth." Still, with the severity of the materials contained on the island it takes only one mistake to cause the nightmare scenario. In the history of the operations on Plum Island there are two specific incidents that – while never being directly connected with the facility – cause a great deal of concern and questions.

First, in 1975, a youth in Connecticut came down with a mysterious disease that had never been seen before. Doctors dubbed it "Lyme Disease" after the town where the youth was from. When searching for the possible origin of this previously-unknown disease some doctors and others noticed that the youth lived within only a few miles of where the Plum Island Ferryboats docked. Because at the time this seemed like an isolated event, no substantial research was conducted into the origin of this disease. It was not until years later that it was discovered that microbes nearly identical to the ones found in Lyme Disease were being researched on Plum Island at the time.

More recently, the terrible outbreak of West Nile Virus (WNV) that spread rapidly across the entire country can be traced directly back to the Plum Island facility. The lab on Plum Island was one of the few places to be researching and experimenting with WNV at that time, and specifically the strand of the virus that was first discovered during the outbreak in 1998. Furthermore, the first case of WNV was identified in a victim who lived on Long Island, less than 20 miles from Plum Island.

What should concern people even more is that these are just two incidents that paint a picture of a long history of biological insecurity. At one point in 1978 there was an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease on the island, which resulted a complete evacuation, followed by a massive toxic spraying and incineration of all the biological materials on the island. The problem with nightmare scenarios is that they are always considered the ramblings of someone who has no sense of reality, that is until the nightmare becomes the reality.



From The Editor's Desk



David Twichell

NARCAP Boss Snubs MUFON

In the March 2007 issue of the MUFON UFO Journal (#467), Don Allis submitted an excellent article on NARCAP (National Aviation Reporting Center on Anomalous Phenomena), not to be confused with NICAP (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena).

NARCAP was established in 2000, and is dedicated to the advancement of aviation safety issues as they apply to Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP). "UAP" is an acronym coined by NARCAP's Executive Director, Ted Roe, in an effort to distinguish his organization from

those who investigate "UFO's" (Unidentified Flying Objects). His website (www.NARCAP.org) features several quotes from reported sightings of anomalous lights and various unidentified craft from the military and commercial airline industry as well as numerous news releases on the subject. The organization is dedicated to addressing the obvious safety implications involving the air transportation industry and encourages pilots and others within the industry to submit reports of their encounters to the NARCAP website.

After reviewing the article and website, I felt that Mr. Roe would be an excellent person to interview for my radio show on WHFR, We Are Not Alone, so I sent him an email with the request. He promptly replied with the following:

Hi David,

Thank you for your interest in NARCAP. I have not read the MUFON Journal article that you are referring to though I would like to, this is the first I have heard of it...who wrote it?

I tend to decline media interview requests as a rule. It is my opinion that the media and the study of UAP have gone separate directions. Whereas we take UAP seriously as a hazard to aviation, which is a position that is consistent with several international studies, the media consider the matter to be entertainment and filler that can be manipulated for their benefit with no respect for our image or mission. And they cant it all towards the alien/ETV (extra terrestrial visitation) discussion without respect for us or our work.

Further, we changed the term from "UFO" to "UAP" specifically because it is more accurate and less pejorative. In other words, a UAP sighting isn't necessarily an alien spacecraft sighting and unless we treat the entire study of UAP seriously, we won't learn enough to be able to know the difference between a poorly documented phenomenon and an alien incursion. I am seeing that the term is catching on and fear that it will eventually mean "alien spaceship" as the term "UFO" does now...

Most media interest in this topic focuses squarely on the debate between unbelievers and believers/knowers and the ETH (extra terrestrial hypothesis). Our materials tend to be used as weapons even though our own opinions and position on the matter is clearly stated.

This debate and atmosphere is really not conducive to our work with the aviation community. We are judged by the company we keep and the aviation community won't take us seriously if we are sharing the podium with abductees and Richard Hoagland. There is little to respect in the actions of people like Peter Davenport and Jeff Rense with regard to their public pontifications and egomaniacal abuse of case information.

The O'Hare matter was complicated specifically because of Peter's decision to involve the media - he created an environment that threatened the security of the witnesses, overwhelmed the local facility with media and UFO nut-cases, put the system on the defensive and put no less than four different investigative groups on the case at the same time.....all so (sic) he could look good on camera, I guess. I really can't see another reason for it, otherwise....he has never published a paper on the topic so I doubt that even he knows what he is doing. Just an example of what isn't helping and what we want to avoid.

NARCAP has done so much without broadcasting it all over the place... we have had our docs published in federal libraries like the Dept of Transportation, we have participated in congressional subcommittee hearings, we have briefed and engaged the NASA Aviation Safety Program and the NASA administrated FAA ASRS program, we have developed relationships with the few official efforts to study UAP in the world, we have pursued an activist role within the aviation community both nationally and internationally through the UN ICAO and other angles, etc. We

owe all of these successes to careful image management and a steady focus on our mission statement.

We will be releasing our O'Hare investigation in the coming weeks and will, of necessity, have a press release. I expect that we will get a lot of media requests but I am not really prepared to engage any of them. We wrote a paper, if someone has a beef, let them write a paper.... That is the only debate we are interested in so BBC and the rest will have to find some other way to fill their hour than at our expense.

We have done a lot of other stuff that is active and effective and we did it without involving the UFO community, UFO conferences, George Noory, etc. We have done so well at it that some fringy folks out there have accused us, and me, of government complicity... as if the situation isn't nutty enough already. I have been accused of "secrecy" and worse simply because I care

enough about our work, our image and our message that I am not going to "get behind" the various permutations of UFO believers at their demand, entertain them at their conferences, etc.

So, my feelings about the media and "business as usual" in UFOlogy are not really consistent with a good interview for the MUFON folks.

NARCAP has no position on whether or not "We are Alone".... science will be the last to weigh in on that discussion, I am afraid. Until somebody can define an alien incursion, science won't be able to validate one. Not enough foundational data and all efforts should be squarely focused on building the base data on UAP so we can separate signal from noise, poorly documented natural phenomena (and it looks like there are several) from truly anomalous objects, etc. Eventually, the truth will come out but not until the whole topic of UAP is engaged. UFOlogy is not patient or disciplined enough to do this.

I am happy to discuss this with you further, if you like.

*Thanks for your interest in NARCAP. Sorry for the diatribe, I am on my first cuppa joe -
Ted.*

I wrote back with a copy of the MUFON Journal article and to assure Mr. Roe that although I am a MUFON field investigator, the radio show was not affiliated with MUFON (although I mention it in every show), that I share his concern in regard to airline safety involved with "UAP's", and would he reconsider an interview. I never heard back from him. Obviously he was not really "happy to discuss it with me further" as he had indicated.

I respect Mr. Roe's refusal to be interviewed on radio and further respect the work he is doing with his newly formed organization. However, I find glaring contradictions in his rambling missive:

Mr. Roe claims to have disassociated himself from the UFO community while two of UFOlogy's notables, Dr. Richard Haines (Chief Scientist) and Dr. Jacques Vallee, serve on NARCAP's Executive Advisory Committee.

The purpose of NARCAP is to inform the public of the safety hazards associated with "UAP" yet he criticizes Peter Davenport for "involving the media". Isn't that what informing the public is all about? Mr. Roe can't think of any reason for Davenport's action other than he wanted to "look good on camera". Is that the real reason for Roe's disdain or was it that Davenport simply one-upped him on the story?

Mr. Roe complains that he has been accused of "government complicity, secrecy and worse" since he founded his organization. Well, welcome to the wonderful world of "UAPs"! It comes with the territory.

The quaint notion that his newly coined term "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" will somehow dignify the subject and segregate it from the UFO community is comical at best. "UAP", "Unidentified Flying Object", "Unconventional Flying Object", "Flying Saucer", "Fastwalker", "Bogey" . . . and on and on – a rose is a rose is a rose . . .

At the end of the day, *they* are in our skies and, among other concerns, present a safety hazard to conventional aircraft. At the end of the day, we are all seeking the same answers to the same questions with precious few resources with which to accomplish our goal.

So thank you Mr. Roe and NARCAP for your contribution to the cause. Keep up the good work. But before you do, please allow me to make two suggestions:

1. Like it or not, you are one of us now. Acclimate yourself to that fact.
2. Have another "cuppa joe". It may steady your resolve.

David Twichell

MiMUFON Newsletter Editor.



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When possible, contact by e-mail is the best method to reach most of the people on this list, but does not preclude using the telephone numbers if desirable. If you call please be patient as most of the people are not available during the daytime hours. When you leave a message, please speak clearly and leave you telephone number, city, state, and brief message explaining your contact. We will return your call at the earliest convenience.

ATTENTION: If you would like to start receiving your newsletter or invitation via email, please email the editor at news@mimufon.org

Suggestion Box.

Please help us improve our organization with your comments and suggestions.

What is your interest in the UFO phenomenon?

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Do you have any suggestions for future speakers at state meetings?

Any other comments or suggestions?

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