

MINNESOTA MUFON

Newsletter

FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR

The Unseen

This month, I'll continue the summary of Budd Hopkins' presentation at the UFO Symposium in Richmond entitled "INVISIBILITY AND THE UFO ABDUCTION PHENOMENON." You'll recall that last month we discussed the first part of his presentation concerning abduction reports in general and which included a summary of the contribution of some well known researchers. Now we'll take a look at Hopkins' views on invisibility.

In 1990, David Jacobs delivered a paper outlining his contention that in some abductions, the craft, occupants and abductees must all be invisible. While this premise is repugnant to mainstream science because of the lack of tangible evidence, how else can it be explained that so many abductions have occurred in places where something should have been seen?

Budd argued that the Linda Cortile case brought invisibility to center stage. Since childhood, Linda had been abducted many times from the same neighborhood, and perhaps, the same apartment building, but there are no recorded observations until the November 1989 incident. On this occasion, several witnesses reported varied

MINNESOTA MUFON

Meetings

Saturday, January 8,
and
Saturday, February 12,
1994

THE IRISH WELL

1975 University at Prior

St. Paul, MN

Social: 1:00 p.m.

Meeting: 1:30 p.m.

descriptions of the UFO which carried Linda and her son away. One witness described the event in terms of a "spectacular light show;" another thought a movie was being made! The UFO's multicolored flashing lights and the beam radiating from the bottom suggested that the occupants *wanted* to be seen — an especially intriguing thought considering it was in full view of an important political figure. Yet no one saw the UFO arrive — no one saw the aliens enter the building — and no one saw the UFO return to deposit Linda and the boy back into the bedroom.

In the fall of 1992, Budd was on a speaking tour in Australia. He told a story about Linda, her husband, and an overnight guest all awaking with serious nosebleeds from the right nostril,

and after the lecture, he was approached by a young couple.

The man told Budd of a lifetime (42 years) of abduction experiences. Then his wife handed Budd four pictures and asked, "Have you ever seen anything like this?" The photos were well-handled, normal snapshots with one exception — they were all red! It was as if the blue and yellow had been missed in the color printing process. All the other photos from the roll were normal. The photos had been taken in 1978 and the couple did not know where the negatives were.

The first picture showed a playground with their son on a slide. Nearby was another child on a small swing with his father standing by. Two photos were similar views of a bay, sandy turf, and a tree. The photographer had moved perhaps 20 feet between the two shots. The fourth photo was pretty much the same except the photographer had moved still further.

At first, Budd was only mildly interested in the red pictures, until the wife explained their importance. *"The thing about these pictures is that we're supposed to be in them, and we're not! He (her husband) took one of the boys and me, and I took two of him with the boys, and when the pictures came back, we weren't in them. We were standing here (she indicated an area on the photos) with the water behind us but we're not in*

unusual reaction for the children. The playground was only a ten minute drive from their home and the boys always enjoyed going there. However, after that day, no one ever wanted to go back.

The husband said that during his time at the playground all movement seemed to be in slow motion. He felt lost, as though he wasn't there. After the family got back into the car, they couldn't remember where they went.

"We're going up!"

Budd suggested they try hypnosis to fill in the blanks and they agreed. The wife went under first and told of photographing her husband with the boys. She said she "felt funny and things seemed not right. They strolled further and her husband took pictures of her with the boys. Then she said, "We're going up." When asked who was going up, she replied that it was she and the boys who were "going up." Budd asked where her husband was and she replied, He's down there where he was, holding the camera. No one seems to see the big thing up over us.

What then occurred became a standard UFO abduction. She and the boys entered the craft through the bottom. The boys were taken away from her and the usual gynecological procedures followed. She eventually described their descent, all together, in a bright light. She saw her husband down below, his camera still raised, standing where he had been at the beginning of the event. When they were back on the ground, he lowered the camera and normal reality resumed.

Budd put the husband under hypnosis the next day. The Symposium Proceedings contain a detailed record of the session. He described seeing a silver ball about the size of a tennis ball moving around them. He thought it was watching them and didn't know why other people couldn't see it. He started to take a picture and realized his family weren't there. He thought that the ball was taking them up to another larger object. He said that as the three were being lifted up they didn't even look surprised. They disappeared into the brightness of the big object. he remained standing (unable to move) and the smaller ball was still there. He said, "This ball — it's hidden me. It's got me hidden. It does this every time. It hides you."

As the session proceeded, Budd asked him how old he was when he'd first seen the ball. The husband said he thought it was to play with — that it was always there. It used to follow him — it never hurt him. He said that the ball belonged to "that other thing that's up in the sky."

The husband said that when his wife and son came back down he saw them not quite touching the ground. Their faces were frozen — no expression. He felt better, but the ball was still "watching" even after the big object left. Then he heard voices in his head saying "It's okay." He remembered being at his wife's mother's place with many people around and the boys were playing.

Budd summarized the event by stating that all four of them, their clothing, and the camera, had become invisible to the other people on the playground. One might imagine a child

asking, "Daddy, why is that man standing over there with his camera without moving for so long?!" The UFO and the ball were also invisible.

So here we have a *temporarily invisible* camera record the *invisibility* of the mother and sons against a *visible landscape* — the images caught in tones of red on *temporarily invisible* Kodak film! Wow!

Budd Hopkins concludes that invisibility would be easier and safer to employ during an abduction than the "switching off" of hundreds of people for a couple of hours at a public park on a Saturday afternoon. Another "impossible" aspect of the UFO phenomenon has now forced itself into the canon of the possible.

Dick Moss

UFO Stories — Disinformation?

(An excerpt from the June 1993 issue of **SWAMP GAS**, a publication of MUFON, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, CA)

Many of the major stories circulating in ufology today are a direct result of a government disinformation campaign, said speaker Bill Moore at an earlier meeting of the MUFON groups in Ventura and Santa Barbara.

And how does Mr. Moore know this? *Because he was a part of it*, he says. Moore first made this statement during a MUFON

convention in Las Vegas several years ago and expanded on it in many articles since — but it's important when considering many of the darker tales of today's ufology.

For instance, the idea of underground bases at Dulce, NM and other places — and the related grays, reptilians, Nordics, secret treaties and captured craft were fed to Paul Bennewitz to discredit him, Moore said.

To refresh your memory, there appears to have been some considerable UFO activity in the 1980s around the area of the Manzano weapons storage area. Bennewitz, who runs a scientific firm in Albuquerque, photographed and filmed much of the activity. He revealed to researcher Tim Good that he also recorded magnetic activity believed to be caused by the UFOs. This information was included in Good's *Above Top Secret*.

“Disinformation has become one of the first lines of defense when keeping a secret is essential.”

Moore stated the story “was all disinformation, and it was dumped onto a guy named Bennewitz in the early 80s.” Again, how does he know this? Because he was involved in it, he said.

Moore went on to say that disinformation is not a total lie. It has some truth, but enough untruth so it can be easily discredited. He explained, “It's also useful to send people in the wrong direction — away from the truth. Disinformation has become one of the first lines of defense when keeping a secret is essential,” he added.

Bennewitz had indeed stumbled onto something, which may or may not have been related to UFOs, Moore said, and government

officials asked him to keep quiet about it. He refused and started spreading the word about the low-frequency radio transmission that he had detected and that he felt were UFO related.

“They did a number on him, and when they were through, Bennewitz was a mental case,” said Moore.

The obvious question is — how do we know that what Moore was saying about Bennewitz wasn't itself disinformation? Moore's answer to the group was that you don't know. You have to weigh information from him and everyone else and determine if it makes sense.

Moore said that too many people in the UFO field want to prove a theory instead of letting the evidence lead where it may. “The evidence itself is what will give us the answer, not what we want to believe,” he said.

Moore concluded by saying that theories and speculation have their place in ufology, but they must be labeled as such. Belief systems, however, don't have a place in research because as soon as we start believing a theory, we start looking for evidence to support the belief, and ignoring the evidence that does not.

*With thanks to The UFO Enigma
— Nov./Dec. 1993*

“The business of the journalist is to destroy the truth; to lie outright; to pervert; to vilify; to fawn at the feet of mammon; and to sell his country and his race for his daily bread.

*John Swinton, former Chief of Staff
The New York Times*

False Memory

By Bob Seath

I've done a lot of reading about UFO abduction reports and wonder if sometimes the mind plays tricks on some of these well-meaning people who report being abducted. Three recent news items refer to false memory in abuse and criminal cases and may be worth consideration to those of us interested in UFO abduction reports.

A recent television show reported on a study of small children and their reliability as witnesses in sex abuse cases. The study concluded that repeated questions about innocent persons and events lead children to add fictional details — sometimes quite graphic imaginary details — about a simple meeting where nothing actually happened.

In the 12/12/93 issue of the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Ann Landers tackled a reader's comments regarding recovered childhood memories. In her reply she stated, “While some memories of early childhood abuse are real, many accusations are false. Not all dysfunctional adults were sexually abused as children.” Dr. Elizabeth Loftus, professor of psychology at the University of Washington, is quoted as saying “False memories are more prevalent than we think and have become a major problem. False memories are a lot easier to implant than most people realize.” Landers went on to say “Too often the culprits are the therapists who ‘help’ their patients recall incidents they are led to believe have been repressed for dozens of years.”

Recently, Margaret Hapsch, eye witness to the drive-by shooting

recanted her earlier recollection of the incident which helped to convict two men for the crime. After several therapy sessions to relieve the trauma connected with witnessing this brutal murder, Hapsch contacted the media to say that the man who actually did the shooting was *neither* of the two men convicted.

In a *Star Tribune* account of the story (12/10/93), Gary Wells, psychology professor at Iowa State University, stated that the witness may now be having a “*memory experience*” rather than a recovered memory. “It may feel like memory recovery, but there’s no credible evidence that the mind can work that way,” he said. “She didn’t have a good memory in the first place, and she experienced stress as well.” Professor Loftus (quoted earlier) said Hapsch’s memory may have been induced by therapy — the image she has in her mind may be a false memory, and it may have been produced by the various techniques that were used in therapy. Wells said, “It’s not that the therapist is necessarily saying, ‘Now, the person had dark hair, right?’ The patient is going to fill those things in. When you keep working on it over and over again, it starts to feel like a memory.” Both academics have spent years researching the psychology of witness identifications and are considered by their peers to be among key researchers in the area.

As for myself, I’ve never seen a UFO or been abducted... or is *my* memory false?!



A Very Close Encounter!

In November of 1989, an Arkansas deputy sheriff encountered a bizarre situation resulting in his demand that when his story is told, his name and location be withheld. He was concerned that the local citizens, after reading his story, might have serious doubts about his integrity and perhaps even about his sanity! He’s called “Dale” in this report.

As Dale drove his patrol car down that remote gravel road in the wee hours of Sunday morning, November 19, 1989, he had no inkling that he was about to have such a once in a lifetime experience. He only knew that the shift, which had begun the previous evening, was developing into a long night of inactivity. “There was absolutely nothing going on,” he remembers, “so shortly after midnight I decided to try checking out some of the back roads. We have the same problem as they do everywhere else with the local teenagers wanting to slip off somewhere and have a few beers. I decided to go check them out — not to write tickets — we usually just make them pour out the beer and send them on their way.”

At approximately 1:35 a.m., the deputy came around a sharp right angle corner on a narrow gravel road and got a very unpleasant surprise. “That corner is not only sharp, it has brush growing out where it keeps you from seeing around it until you actually make the turn. When I got around it far enough to see down the next stretch, there sat an old Chevy right out in the middle of the road without a sign of a light on it anywhere. It was out where there wasn’t any room to get around it. I almost hit it...I had to slide to a stop on the gravel to keep from [hitting] it. The patrol car’s nose ended up not a bit more than ten or twelve feet from the rear of the car.”

Dale admits readily that his first reaction was one of anger. “I looked up and there were four teenagers standing alongside of the old Chevy, with all four doors open. Two boys on the driver’s side and a couple of girls on the passenger side. There were just standing there, and the first thing that ran through my mind was that they had picked the dumbest place in the world to stop and listen to the radio — you know how kids will do, standing there with the door open and the radio on. But then I noticed something really weird. Even though my skidding to a stop made a lot of noise on the gravel, none of them even turned around and looked at me — they were just staring at something on down the road in front of them. I put the car in park and opened the door so I could stand up and get a better look. My car had turned just a little bit when I skidded on the gravel, so my headlights

weren't pointing straight down the road, but there was enough light that I could just barely make out a dark bulky object of some sort that looked like it was kind of across the road a ways ahead of the other car. The first thing that ran through my mind was that a farm truck had lost control and rolled over on its side, crossways in the road. I immediately reached down and turned my spotlight on and turned it around to shine down in that direction."

"...I hate to say it, but it was just exactly like you would expect a flying saucer to look."

Instead of the serious accident that he expected to see, the beam of the spotlight revealed what Dale referred to as "a scene right out of the twilight zone!" As he began to describe what he saw, his years of police experience took over and he chose his words carefully, as if testifying in court.

"It was dark gray and dull-looking, sort of like galvanized tin or something on that order. The shape was, well, I hate to say it, but it was just exactly like you would expect a flying saucer to look. Two saucers, really, with one of them turned upside down on top of the other. I remember noticing that I couldn't see any joint where the edge was, which really struck me as being odd because it looked like two halves joined together, but it was just smooth, with no line." Dale's emotion as he continued with his description of the object was obvious.

"What really got to me, though, wasn't the looks of the thing. It was what it was doing. It just sat there in the air, not touching anything. It was absolutely motionless, except for a sort of wobbling motion, and not much of that. The bottom of it couldn't have been more than three or maybe four feet about the road, if that much."

He estimated the object as being about 30' across, stating he was fairly certain of that dimension due to the fact that it was right down over the road, giving him something of known width for comparison. He also said that the entire surface was smooth, with no dome or windows.

As strange as that sight was, it did nothing to prepare the deputy for what happened next. About two or three seconds after he shined his spotlight on the object, the light died abruptly. Not only that, but the rest of his patrol car's electrical system went with it. The headlights, radios, and engine all cut off as though some master switch had been thrown, plunging the entire scene into total darkness. "I'm not a bit ashamed to tell you I was scared," Dale said. "Then I heard one of the girls who was standing up by the other car sort of sobbing and she said, 'Oh, my God, it got him, too.' [Dale] That didn't help matters any."

It seems that about three minutes before Dale drove around the corner, the other vehicle had rounded it and the driver had noticed something which appeared to be on the road just beyond his headlight beams. He'd said something to the others and at the same

time, flipped his lights on high beam. They'd seen the same thing as Dale would be looking at in his spotlight beam minutes later, and had also gotten only a few seconds to look at it before their car had gone dark and silent. They had gotten out of the car and just stood there, wondering what to do when the patrol car arrived on the scene.

Dale continued. "I expected to be hearing whatever it was that was holding the thing up, a jet or an engine or something, but there just wasn't any sound at all. Nothing. Not even the normal sounds you hear out in the country at night. One thing, though. You know that ringing you get after you fire a gun or there's some other loud noise? You don't really *hear* it, like it's coming from anywhere or anything, it's more like it's just there in your head. It was like that, my ears were ringing. But there hadn't been any bang or anything to be the cause of it. The ringing wasn't loud, just enough so it was noticeable when it got so quiet."

The abrupt change from the scene being brightly lit by the spotlight to the total darkness left the officer unable to see anything at all for a few moments, but as his eyes slowly adjusted to the change, he could see the vague bulk of the object still hanging close above the road. He walked

"There was this overpowering feeling that we were being watched..."

slowly up to join the four youths standing beside the

other automobile. From this position, he noticed there was a soft, bluish green glow on the gravel of the road directly underneath the object, apparently emanating from the bottom of the thing. It wasn't very bright, just enough to produce an indistinct round spot. Individual stones of the gravel could be seen.

Dale said that the five of them found themselves talking in whispers. "There was this overpowering feeling that we were being watched, even though we couldn't see anybody and there were no windows on the thing," he remembers. "We just stood there like we were waiting for something to happen, but we didn't know what. I tell you, a lot of weird things went through my mind. I was scared, but not because it had really done anything to be threatening. I thought that maybe when the cars shined bright lights on it while it was just minding its own business, (whatever that was), *maybe whoever or whatever was in that might have felt like they were the ones being threatened.* After a while, I was almost wishing some-thing would happen — the waiting was starting to get me."

Finally about a minute and a half after Dale joined the teenagers at their car, something did begin to happen. "The first thing I noticed was that the glow on the ground was slowly getting bigger, like it was spreading out. Then I realized it was because the saucer was beginning to go straight up, real slow. There still wasn't any sound, though, except that ringing in my ears, and when

the thing got to maybe twenty five feet or so in the air, even that began to fade out." It was also at about that point that the five witnesses got their first look at the source of the glow that they had seen on the ground under the UFO. Dale describes what they saw: "On the bottom of the saucer there was a sort of ring of light, about the color of one of those yard lights. It wasn't made up of little lights, the whole ring was glowing. It looked sort of like a neon, but it wasn't like a tube, it was flat, even with the bottom of the saucer." When asked to estimate the size of this glowing circular band, Dale said it was probably about ten feet across, and the ring itself was about a foot wide.

The UFO's slow vertical ascent continued until it was approximately a hundred feet or so above the roadway, by the deputy's estimate. "It was like it just wanted to be sure it was high enough to clear the trees," he speculated. The glowing ring was the most noticeable feature now, centered on a vague round shape silhouetted against the slightly lighter sky. After seeming to pause and hover for a couple of seconds, the object suddenly shot off in apparently horizontal flight. As Dale put it, "One second it was just sitting there, and the next all you could see of it was a bluish-green streak tearing across the sky toward the northwest."

The already shaken witnesses had one more shock coming, however. At the exact same moment as the UFO took off from its hovering position above them, the lights and radios on both vehicles came

back to life as suddenly as they had died a few minutes before. Dale laughed about the result. When the thing had knocked out the kids' car, they had the radio on a rock and roll station with the volume all the way up. I don't have to tell you what happened when it came back on full blast all of a sudden! We all jumped like we had been shot at." Both vehicles started with no problem.

Later, Dale said, "I was always one who took all these flying saucer stories with a big grain of salt, but I know what I saw. And others were there who witnessed the same thing. What I saw was as real and solid as an airplane, and I looked at it in the spotlight from no more than a hundred feet away, at the most."

*With thanks to the UFO
Intelligence Newsletter,
Dec. 1993, Sam Uptegrove,
Interviewer.*

Sat-knapped!

Recently, the *New Scientist* reported that NASA may have the answer to the disappearance of the Mars Observer. This ransom note was received by scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California!

WE HAVE YOUR
SATELLITE 17000
WANT IT BACK
SEND 20 BILLION
IN MORTGAGE
MONEY 700000000
BUSINESS SON
YOU WILL NEVER
SEE IT AGAIN

Source: New Scientist, 25 September 1993

We knew it all along!

UFO study says we're normal, well-balanced!

It's official — just because some of us have seen a UFO or an alien doesn't mean we're nutzoids! An Associated Press report by Malcom Ritter was reprinted in the November 1, 1993 *Pioneer Press* stating that researchers found that UFO reporters scored no worse than other people on tests of psychological health and intelligence. In fact, they appeared to be "very normal," said study co-author Patricia Cross of Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario.

Cross is a psychology graduate student who tackled the study as her master's thesis and reports the work with psychologist Nicholas Spanos and others at Carleton in the November issue of *Abnormal Psychology*.

"Our findings clearly contradict the previously held notions that people who seemingly had bizarre experiences, such as missing time and communicating with aliens, have wild imaginations and are easily swayed into believing the unbelievable," the study said. The study included 49 adults who said they had seen UFOs, 39 members of the general public and 74 introductory psychology students.

Eighteen of the UFO witnesses said they'd simply seen something in the sky. The other 31 reported a more intense experience. Ten said they had seen a spacecraft close-up; ten said they had spotted an alien, seven reported verbal contact with aliens and eight cited telepathic content. Although it was not clear whether a belief in the possibility of extraterrestrial intelligence preceded or followed their UFO experiences, some evidence suggests it came before, researchers said. (Gee, they should have asked.)

Neither Phil Klass nor The Great Randi were available for comment.



News from Nevada

The LAS VEGAS MUFON NEWS, November 1993 issue, reached us via the Seath family — Bob and son, Michael — both sent copies! Mike is the State Section Director for Washoe and Storey Counties in Nevada and very kindly keeps us in touch with what's happening in Area 51 and other interesting stories. This issue contained an intriguing report about a strange implant case in far away Western Australia!

It seems the story was featured in the July presentation of a program entitled "The Extraordinary," an Australian television show about the paranormal. The case was originally incorporated into the UFORA network and disseminated through the UFORA Research Digest, March/April 1993 edition. That report follows.

"Ron" was awakened by a bright, white light. There was a brilliant flash and Ron found himself standing in his pajamas in a car park (parking lot). There were about 30 other people standing around, stiffly, in a dulled or altered state of consciousness. A man in a white coat, different from the others, imparted a telepathic message to Ron, "You have been chosen." Ron then found himself inside a community hall, used for basketball and other sports. There were humanoids in the group. One, 4 feet tall, approached Ron and gave him a cricket bat, 3 wickets and a cricket ball. At this stage, Ron realized he must have had an abduction experience at age seven.

Another humanoid seemed to be "draining" his emotions. Ron panicked and ran to the hall's entrance, lifting the bar to get the door open to get out. There was a sudden flash, a sensation of falling, and Ron found himself back on his bed.

On March 4, 1992, 2:15 a.m., Ron woke up and saw his son (aged 10) in a half sitting position being floated past his bedroom door. Guiding the boy was a misty alien form. Ron jumped out of bed, shouting at the alien as he grabbed his son. There was a flash and Ron again found himself back in bed. Later that day, his son described having a nightmare related to the event as reported by his father.

At breakfast, the son had a coughing fit and coughed up a piece of metal about a centimeter long. This was

analyzed at Curtin University and found to be a very unusual combination of nickel, silver, zinc, copper, cobalt and ytterbium. The initial analysis, said UFORUMs Brian Richards, indicates an artifact of unknown source. However, reassessment has gauged it to be terrestrial, perhaps and electronic probe.

The family, consisting of husband, wife, ex de-facto wife, a 13 year old daughter and son, and a third younger child, *plus a lodger*, have all had UFO sightings and reported seeing apparitions within the house on a regular basis.



The Oklahoma MUFONEWS contained an interesting sighting account coming out of Poland. Back in January of 1991, Mrs. L—B—(name withheld from publication) was waiting at a bus stop in the center of Czestochowa. She stepped on to the bus and felt "compelled" to glance up, and spotted a "ball with a tie" (meaning unsure). It traveled very quickly, and vanished behind some houses. Somehow, this left Mrs. L—B— with a euphoric feeling which lasted all day!

Later that evening, at home, she heard a "rustling" sound from outside a balcony window and saw two individuals there. She wasn't afraid. *She went to the kitchen, and put out some food, two plates, and two glasses on the table. She invited the strangers in and then sat down on her bed. But the strangers remained motionless on the balcony.* She thought they were 1.75 to 1.8 m in height [you do the conversion!] with bodies similar to humans. One wore a one-piece suit and the other wore a cloak and had something "shaped like a pancake" on his head. The clothing was a whitish, silverish color.

The sighting lasted for about seven minutes.



MEETINGS DU JOUR

PARANORMAL GROUP

Saturday, January 22, 1993

The Irish Well
2:00 p.m.

Speaker: Wells Horverid "Possession"
(Don't miss it!)

TESLA SOCIETY

Saturday, January 15, 1993

Pavick Museum of Radio
St. Louis Park

WITH REGRETS...

The Theosophical Society has suspended the public lectures held the first and third Mondays of the month until further notice. Members and friends are being notified of the continuing study groups which will be held in members' homes.

Late breaking news!

The February Paranormal Group meeting is scheduled for

Saturday, February 26, 1993

The Irish Well
2:00 p.m.

Speaker: Arlene Zeismer, "Lay lines and the paranormal aspects of crop circles."