



EDITOR'S NOTE: Early in January I received a package containing information concerning Budd Hopkins "case of the century". With all the controversy that surrounds that case I felt that our readership should be kept informed. This is part one of a two part series reproducing the entire critique as received. Your comments are encouraged.

A Critique of Budd Hopkins' Case of the UFO Abduction of Linda Napolitano

by Joseph J. Stefula, Richard D. Butler,
and George P. Hansen

ABSTRACT: Budd Hopkins has made a number of public presentations of a purported UFO abduction case with multiple witnesses. The primary abductee is Linda Napolitano, who lives in an apartment building on the lower east side of Manhattan (New York City). She claims to have been abducted by extraterrestrial aliens from her 12th floor apartment in November 1989. It is claimed that three witnesses in a car two blocks away observed Linda and alien beings float out of a window and ascend into a craft. One alleged witness was United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. It is also claimed that a woman on the Brooklyn Bridge observed the abduction. Linda has reported nose bleeds, and one X-ray displays an implant in her nose.

To date, Hopkins has provided no full, detailed written report, but he did publish a couple five page articles in the September and December 1992 issues of the Mufon UFO Journal and made a presentation at the 1992 MUFON symposium. We have made use of that information as well as records from other presentations, and we have interviewed the abductee. A number of serious questions arose from our examination. The case has many exotic aspects, and we have identified a science fiction novel that may have served as the basis for elements of the story.

Several prominent leaders in ufology have become involved, and their behavior and statements have been quite curious. Some have aggressively attempted to suppress evidence of a purported attempted murder. The implications for the understanding of ufology are discussed.

Budd Hopkins is the person most responsible for drawing attention to the problem of the extraterrestrial (ET) abduction experience. His efforts have been instrumental in stimulating both media attention and scientific research devoted to the problem. He has written two popular books (*Missing Time*, 1981, and *Intruders*, 1987), established the *Intruders Foundation*, and has made innumerable appearances at conferences and in the media.

Although Hopkins is neither a trained therapist, an academic, nor a scientist, he has involved such people in his work. John E. Mack, M.D., a Pulitzer Prize winner and former head of the psychiatry department at Harvard Medical School, has praised Hopkins' work and acknowledged his indebtedness to him (Mack, 1992a, 1992b). Hopkins has collaborated with university professors in co-authoring an article in the book *Unusual Personal Experiences* (1992), which was sent to 100,000 mental health professionals. He has testified as an expert witness at a hearing regarding the medical competence of a physician who claims to have been abducted (McKenna, 1992). Because of such strong endorsements and impressive affiliations, and because of his untiring work on behalf of abductees, Hopkins has become the single most visible figure in the UFO abduction field. His contributions, positive or negative, will be quickly noticed by those inside and outside ufology.

Last year, Hopkins made a number of public presentations about a spectacular UFO abduction case occurring in November 1989 and having multiple witnesses. The primary abductee was Linda Napolitano, a woman living on the 12th floor of a high-rise apartment building in lower Manhattan (New York City) [Hopkins has previously used the pseudonym "Linda Cortile" in this case]. It is claimed that three witnesses in a car two blocks away observed Linda and three ET aliens emerge from a window and ascend into a craft. Further it is claimed that a woman who was driving across the Brooklyn Bridge also saw the event.

The case has generated enormous interest and drawn international attention. It has been discussed in the *Wall Street Journal* (Jefferson, 1992), *Omni* (Baskin, 1992), *Paris Match* (De Broses, 1992), the *New York Times* (Sontag, 1992), and Hopkins and Napolitano have appeared on the television show *Inside Edition*. The *Mufon UFO Journal* labeled it "The Abduction Case of the Century" (Stacy, 1992, p. 9). Even the

continued on page 6



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I figured the best way to start the first issue of the New Year, is with a bang. Our lead story fits the bill to say the least! Written and submitted by fellow New Jerseyites'. The Stefula, Butler, Hansen article entitled *A Critique of Budd Hopkin's Case of the UFO Abduction of Linda Napolitano* is a blockbuster. The now famous or infamous "Case of the Century" is exposed by these veteran investigators. Their critique will be presented in two parts with the conclusion in next months issue...In the *State Directors Message*, George A. Filer our new State Director explains his plans for the future of our state organization.....Sue Van Slooten tells all of us who could not attend the last North Jersey MUFON meeting, just what we missed..In *Letters to the Editor*, George Filer tells of an interview with a police chief in February of a UFO encounter over Williamsport, Pennsylvania.... Richard D. Seifried, MUFON Director of Investigations for the state of Oklahoma gives his review of the movie "*Fire in The Sky*"...*A Fiction Movie*.....The Fund for UFO Research give us a retrospective view in *1992: The UFO Year in Review*....On page 11 for those MUFON members who attended the Northern New Jersey meeting....the address that you can write too, to get the video you saw *Messengers of Destiny*....In *Investigative Reports*...sightings in Asbury, Secaucus and Carlstadt, New Jersey are highlighted. In *An Inside View*...Tom Benson attended the Metro-DC MUFON UFO Conference held in Washington DC in February and reports on what had transpired including the 1991 Canadian UFO landing (*Unsolved Mysteries*)....Paul Ferrughelli completes his statistical analysis of UFO Descriptions in the latest installment of the National Sighting Research Centers' *UPDATE*. This conclusion compares Long range versus close range UFO sightings....In *The Book Rack*, Dr. Willy Smith of the UNICAT Project presents a hypothetical book review of *Manhattan Transfer* a book yet to be written by Budd Hopkins based on the Linda Napolitano abduction case...a must read....this article is so well writtenthat I'm sure that Arcturus Books, Inc. will be getting some

inquires about it! In *Bits and Piece's* there are two articles...the first concerns *Evidence Points to Secret U.S. Spy Plane* and the second *Astronomic findings casts light on birth of Stars* and asks the question "How Common are Other Worlds?"....If any of our readers are heading to Florida this spring or summer you must check out the blurb on the *Free UFO Museum* in Orlando, Florida....*Upcoming UFO Conferences*... the *July 5th march* on Washington sponsored by Operation Right to Know....and last but not least *The Lighter Side of UFOlogy*..In next issue...the conclusion of the Stefula, Butler, Hansen investigative critique of Budd Hopkin's Linda Napolitano case....an investigation into the MIB's (Men in Black)...and more...Till then....

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EDITOR Paul M. Makuch : STATE DIRECTOR: George A. Filer ASSISTANT STATE DIRECTORS: Northern New Jersey
.....Susan Van Slooten Southern New Jersey
RESEARCH ASSOCIATES: Tom Benson, Paul Ferrughelli
CONTRIBUTORS : Tom Benson, Richard D. Butler, Paul Ferrughelli, George P. Hansen, John F. Schuessler, Dr. Willy Smith, Joseph J. Stefula, the Fund for UFO Research, *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, the Oklahoma MUFONNEWS, *The Star Ledger*, Newark, New Jersey, Susan Van Slooten, *The Wall Street Journal*. EDITORIAL INFORMATION Submitted articles by various writers present the opinions of those authors and do not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the editor, staff or membership of the New Jersey Mutual UFO Network. Submissions are encouraged, but subject to editing, if deemed necessary. Any portion of this publication may be reprinted with credit given to the individual author and the The New Jersey Chronicle. The New Jersey Chronicle is published bimonthly by the New Jersey Mutual UFO Network. Subscription Rates: \$15.00 per year (USA) . Make checks/MO to Paul M. Makuch
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STATE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I'm very glad to have been appointed the new state director for MUFON. I believe this is an important time for the study of UFOs because of the new administration, the accumulation of excellent evidence of a crash near Roswell, New Mexico and new photographs and videos of the craft.

I wish to thank Joe Stefula for his excellent work as the former state director. Joe continues with us as Director of Research. Paul Makuch our fine editor and Susan Van Slooten the Assistant State Director have agreed to continue in their positions. Both have been doing an excellent job. In reviewing the membership in New Jersey I'm amazed at the high level of talent we have available. My personnel goal is to use the many talents and capability that we have to solve the UFO enigma. Frankly, I need your ideas and help to accomplish this task. Some members such as Bob Durant have already put some of his ideas on paper.

Some of our initial concepts are:

1. We need a reporting network within New Jersey to obtain the reports as quickly as possible. We have established a new telephone number that can be use to take calls from eyewitnesses. Our new number is 800-752-8049 Rob Bradshaw from Willingboro has graciously offered to answer the calls during normal hours. We plan on sending announcements of the numbers to the police, emergency, military and the news media. You are invited to publish the number.
2. When sighting information is received we will attempt to notify the closest field investigator to follow up as quickly as possible.
3. We desire to train more field investigators and will start classes as quickly as possible.
4. We desire to publish a NJ UFO book concerning key cases and findings. Twenty chapters with twenty different authors is envisioned. We are interested in obtaining inputs of approximately ten pages in length from our readers.
5. We desire to have conferences and greater contact with the public and news media.
6. We are looking for volunteers to fill key positions such as:

State Section Directors
Public Affairs Director
Director of Training
Counselors and support for Abductees
Director of Fund Raising
Government Liaison Director
Educational Director
Library Director
Typists to transcribe tapes of interviews

Historic Research
Director of Computer Data

I believe UFOs exist simply because I saw one. I'm a retired Air Force intelligence officer and flyer. Our investigation has led us to believe that with the exception of a handful of military personnel, you probably know more about UFOs than your contemporaries in the military. You in fact can educate them to the seriousness of the problem. Further the new administration and its Secretary of Defense Representative Aspen have publicly stated their desire to cut the military by about a third. With the apparent threat from UFOs increasing, you may get a more sympathetic ear from the military than ever before. We have found that if you attempt to make friends with the police, military and media they are willing to listen. I suggest you start slow, first the sightings, then the crash, then tread lightly on abductions using Dr. John Mac, Harvard M.D. and David Jacobs Phd. Temple professor as your primary source of information. People will often believe credentials rather than eye witnesses. I need your help to make any of these plans succeed.

NORTH JERSEY MUFON MEETING A SUCCESS

The January 23rd meeting of North Jersey MUFON was a big success with many new and interesting members in attendance. After the business section of the meeting, we heard from two interesting female members about their abduction experiences over the last several years. These women did not know each other prior to the meeting, but the similarities between their accounts was very striking. We discussed in depth the current cases in New Jersey and found them very interesting. (Please see related articles on three cases in Northern New Jersey.) Paul Ferrughelli, State Section Director, Passaic, distributed his latest update on the ongoing statistical analysis of sightings up through 1991.

After a short break, we then viewed an excellent videotape on sightings in Mexico City, Mexico, brought courtesy of Paul Makuch, State Section Director, Middlesex. This tape was a compilation of over 20 different videos all taken during the total eclipse that took place in the country last year. These have got to be the most exciting videos on UFO ever! What started during the eclipse continued for several months afterward, and turned into one of the most major UFO flaps of all time. Why haven't we heard about it in the USA?

We had one of our best meetings ever, we welcome all those who wish to attend the next meeting to contact your State Section Director. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sue VanSlooten
Asst.State Direct North Jersey MUFON

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....

Dear Paul,

I thought your readers might be interested in this interview. On Thursday, the 21st of February, I called Chief Salvatore Casale of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. The previous week the Chief had a sighting of a giant UFO over his home. I told him that it is often very difficult to get people to believe you about seeing a UFO. He stated, "He was learning real quick." He has been sending teletypes and fax transmissions to the Air Force and they have been very cooperative. He asked, them about flights and were in the Williamsport area and the size of the aircraft. The Air Force explained that C-5 Galaxy aircraft were not in his area and would not fly so low except when landing. We discussed the capabilities of this craft and ruled it out because of its 120 mph stall speed. He felt there was no way for a normal aircraft to fly so low and make it up over the mountains. He stated, "It was impossible for a craft that large to do, that's what stumped me." He indicated that the whole house was shaking so, and he went outside to see what was happening. The craft flew so low that he went up on his roof to see if it was burned by the craft. He told the Air Force it was an unidentified flying object. It was something that I've never seen before in my life. I don't know if its friend or foe, and I'm not saying other than that. The Chief's family and many others in the valley saw it. It was an experience, that he will never forget. He felt, it was something the government is experimenting with, or something from another galaxy. The Chief indicated there were many others in the area who had seen the

craft and that cases were continuing. He is averaging two or three phone calls a night of sightings. He doesn't have the time to keep up with this and do his normal police work. The local newspaper has published several UFO articles.

He never actually saw the bottom of the triangle shaped craft. It came out of the west and came down so low it almost hit the house and the road and then gained altitude. It slowly flew lower down the valley. The only lights he saw were on top of the craft. The Chief would like to see more programs and more articles in the paper to make the general public aware of the phenomenon. A person in authority has to be careful about reporting these things, but because I'm a public servant I feel the public should be made aware of what's happening. If this was the Air Force flying classified experimental craft, what gives them the right to endanger people in our area by flying that low, and not telling us about it. The Air Force told him they have renegade pilots and they don't know everything that's going on either. The UFO was flying at only a few miles an hour, he could walk along side and keep up with it. A jet aircraft will stall out of the sky at less than 120 MPH and it definitely was not a helicopter. It was an unidentified flying object of something he had never seen before. He agreed that the craft looked very similar to the Belgian triangular UFO depicted on Unsolved Mysteries.

Sincerely,
George A. Filer

"Fire In The Sky"...A Fiction Movie

by Richard D. Seifried,
Oklahoma Director of Investigations

The value of the movie, as Travis Walton has indicated, is in the portrayal of the trauma the victim experienced afterward, the gradual acceptance by many that the experience did occur, and most of all, the dramatic disruption of relationships between those involved and the rest of the community.

What seemed very negative to me was the abduction sequence. The UFO hovering over the forest possessed physical characteristics that were foreign to the reality of the actual phenomenon. Indeed, the craft seemed to be going through its monthly menstrual period.

Worse yet, Travis's real experiences inside the craft were quite different from what was portrayed.

Particularly offensive was the apparent filth of the craft's interior. Although the jelly-like substances and membranes of the "cocoon" sequence reflected bits and pieces of real abduction experiences they were grossly overdone to the point of disgust.

Even the Aliens were distorted by the movie-makers. Their inhumane, extremely crude, unsophisticated instruments and treatment of Travis presented a horror beyond human tolerance.

Most, if not all, abductees survive their experiences; many without much anguish, or disruption of their lives. My own personal opinion is that what was shown in the movie could not be humanly experienced without insanity resulting. The

mind would simply shut down or malfunction in some other way in an attempt to survive.

What *Fire in the Sky* has done, I fear, is instill a horror of the abduction experience in the minds of thousands and cause many more intelligent citizens to reject the whole reality of Alien visitations. The movie has not helped those of us who seek the truth. It has championed the cause of debunkers like Phil Klass and closed-minded scientists such as Carl Sagan.

Would I recommend the movie? Absolutely not!

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above article originally appeared in the April 1993 edition of the Oklahoma MUFONEWS.

1992: THE UFO YEAR IN REVIEW

The 45th year of the "UFO Era" has been completed, and the mystery remains. Strange flying objects continue to be seen by average persons and by airline and military pilots. The U.S. Government continues to stonewall. Hundreds of new cases of "alien abductions" were reported. But after almost a half century, UFOs are still the mystery of the age.

UFO SIGHTINGS

The approximate number of UFO sightings during 1992 is impossible to estimate, due to the refusal of most persons to report their sightings because of the fear of ridicule, and because most people have no idea how to report a sighting. There were, at the very least, hundreds of sightings in the U.S. and many more in other countries. But the numbers simply are not available. Of those that were reported to private agencies, most were "low grade," meaning few of them contained much in the way of detail.

With the great majority of sightings being at night, all that could be seen was lights that behaved oddly. This is not enough to enable analysts to determine the source in most cases.

GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY

The U.S. Government continues to insist it has had no interest in UFOs since it shut down the U.S. Air Force's "Project Blue Book" in 1969. At that time, it claimed that no sighting reported to it had shown any evidence of advanced technology, nor of alien origin, nor of posing a threat to national security. Off-the record comments by current military persons strongly suggest that government interest and activity remain very high.

CRASHES AND RETRIEVALS

While no new crashes of UFOs have been reported, the level of interest in old ones (New Mexico in 1947 and Pennsylvania in 1965) remains high. Additional witnesses to the New Mexico activity were found in 1992, and the search continues for bits of wreckage rumored to exist. The current official line is that nothing at all happened in July 1947 near Corona, New Mexico.

"ALIEN ABDUCTIONS"

This is still the most bizarre aspect of the entire UFO subject: the possibility of the many innocent Americans have been taken against their will, subjected to peculiar medical procedures by odd beings, and then returned

to their homes or cars. The total number of such cases is now well over 1,000, with scores more reported in 1992.

An extensive survey by the Roper Organization was released in July, and an analysis of it by some of the top "abduction" investigators and therapists suggest that as many as one percent of Americans may have experienced this phenomenon.

The steady increase in interest among mental health professionals continued during the year, and a major conference was held for them at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June.

Among the projects currently receiving financial support from the Fund for UFO Research are a continuation of the study of a large number of cases by Thomas Bullard, Ph.D.; the expansion of a referral service of assist victims; and the creation of a computer database for future studies.

CROP FORMATIONS

While there is still no solid link between the strange formations found in fields of grain (mainly in southwestern England) and UFOs, the possibility remains high enough to justify continued support of studies by the Fund. Hundreds more formations were found in 1992, including some of the largest and most complex ever. In early 1993, the Fund expects to publish the results laboratory analyses of grain inside and outside many such formations. In England, a contest was held to create a complex formation, and the winner displayed surprising skill in creating some features previously thought to be difficult or impossible by hand.

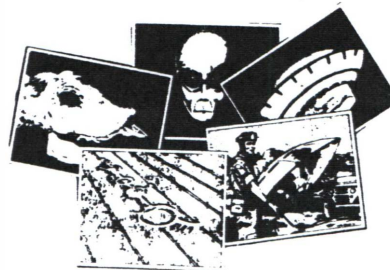
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technical magazine *ADVANCE* for Radiologic Science Professionals carried a discussion of Linda's nasal implant (Hatfield, 1992). We should expect continuing coverage of the affair not only in the UFO press but also in the major media.

In a short article previewing his 1992 MUFON symposium presentation, he wrote: "I will be presenting what I believe to be the most important case for establishing the objective reality of UFO abductions that I have yet encountered" (Hopkins, 1992, p. 20). During his lecture at the symposium he stated: "This is probably the most important case I've ever run into in my life" (tape recorded, July 1992). In his abstract for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Abduction Study Conference held in June 1992 he wrote: "The importance of this case is virtually immeasurable, as it powerfully supports both the objective reality of UFO abductions and the accuracy of regressive hypnosis as employed with this abductee." Because of Hopkins' renown, and because of his evaluation, this case warrants our careful scrutiny.

THE AUTHORS' INVOLVEMENT

The first two authors had learned of the case before Hopkins had spoken publicly of it, and they decided to monitor its progress. They regularly briefed the third author as their investigation progressed. As the affair became publicized, all three became concerned about the long term effect it might have on abduction research.

For several years Richard Butler attended Hopkins' informal meetings organized for abductees and abduction researchers. Butler became familiar with the case during those meetings, and he invited Stefula to a gathering in early October 1991. At the meeting, Hopkins outlined the case, and afterward, Stefula had a chance to chat with Linda about her experiences. Butler and Stefula gave Linda their telephone numbers. She was advised that if she needed any assistance she could contact them. Stefula told her that he had numerous contacts in federal and state law enforcement agencies that could be of aid to her. The same information was provided to Hopkins.

On January 28, 1992, Linda requested a meeting with Richard Butler, and on February 1, 1992, Linda, Stefula and Butler met in New York City, and Linda provided additional details about her experiences (described below). During that meeting, she asked them not to inform Hopkins of their discussions. At the 1992 MUFON convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico in July, both Hopkins and Linda appeared on the podium and presented the case. Stefula attended the conven-

vention and heard the talk, and disturbing questions arose. Some of the statements directly contradicted what Linda had earlier told Stefula and Butler. We contacted Hopkins in an attempt to resolve these matters, but he declined to meet with us, saying that he didn't want to discuss the case until his book manuscript was submitted. Despite his initial reluctance, eventually a meeting was arranged on October 3, 1992 at Hopkins' home, and a few more details the emerged.

SUMMARY OF CASE

In order to compile this summary of alleged events, we have relied upon Hopkins' and Linda's talks from the podium of the 1992 MUFON symposium, on our interviews with Linda, on Hopkins' talk at the Portsmouth, New Hampshire UFO conference, September 13, 1992, and Hopkins' two five-page articles in the September and December issues of the Mufon UFO Journal.

In April 1989 Hopkins received a letter from Linda Napolitano, a resident of New York City. Linda wrote that she had begun reading his book *Intruders* and had remembered that 13 years earlier she had detected a bump next to her nose. It was examined by a physician who insisted that she had undergone nasal surgery. Linda claimed that she never had such surgery, and she even checked with her mother, who confirmed that impression.

Hopkins took an interest in the case because there was a potential for medical evidence and because Linda lived relatively close to Hopkins, which facilitated their meeting. Linda visited Hopkins and discussed her past experiences with him. She recalled some pertinent earlier events in her life but believed that she was no longer directly involved with any abduction phenomena. Linda then began attending meetings of Hopkins' support group for abductees.

On November 30, 1989, Linda called Hopkins and reported that she had been abducted during the early morning hours of that day, and she provided some details. A few days later, she underwent regressive hypnosis, and Linda remembered floating out of her apartment window, 12 stories above the ground. She recalled ascending in a bluish-white beam of light into a craft which was hovering over the building.

Richard and Dan

Over a year later (February 1991), Hopkins received a letter signed with the first names, Richard and Dan. (We have no hard evidence that "Richard" and "Dan" actually exist. In order to avoid overburden-

continued on next page

ing the reader, we will typically omit the word "alleged" when mentioning them.) The letter claimed that the two were police officers who were under cover in a car beneath the elevated FDR Drive between 3:00 and 3:30 a.m. in late November 1989. Above a high-rise apartment building, they observed a large, bright reddish-orange object with green lights around its side. They wrote that they saw a woman and several strange figures float out a window and up into the object. Richard and Dan said that they had come across Hopkins' name and decided to write to him. They went on to say that they were extremely concerned about her well being, wanted to locate the woman, talk to her, and be assured that she was alive and safe. The two also mentioned that they could identify the building and window from which she emerged.

After receiving the letter, Hopkins promptly called Linda and told her that she might expect a visit from two policemen. A few days later, Linda telephoned Hopkins to tell him that she had been visited by Richard and Dan. When they had knocked on her door, introducing themselves as police officers, she was not too surprised because she reports that police frequently canvass her apartment complex looking for witnesses to crimes. Even with Hopkins' prior call, she did not expect Richard and Dan to actually appear. After they arrived and entered her home, there was an emotional greeting, and they expressed relief that she was alive. However, Richard and Dan were disinclined to meet with or talk to Hopkins, despite the fact that they had written him earlier and despite Linda's entreaties to do so. Richard asked Linda if it was acceptable for them to write out an account of their experience and then read it into a tape recorder. She agreed, and a couple weeks later Hopkins received a tape recording from Richard describing their experience.

Some time thereafter, Hopkins received a letter from Dan giving a bit more information. The letter reported that Richard had taken a leave of absence because the close encounter had been so emotionally traumatic. Dan also mentioned that Richard secretly watched Linda. (This information is from Hopkins' oral presentation at the 1992 MUFON symposium in Albuquerque. At the Portsmouth, New Hampshire conference, Hopkins said that he had received a letter from Richard saying that Dan was forced to take of leave of absence. It is not clear if Hopkins misspoke at some point, or whether both individuals took leaves of absence.)

Hopkins received another letter from Dan which said that he and Richard were not really police officers but actually security officers who had been driving a very important person (VIP) to a helicopter pad in lower Manhattan when the sighting occurred. The letter

claimed that their car stalled, and Richard had pushed it, parking it beneath the FDR Drive. According to Dan, the VIP had also witnessed the abduction event and had become hysterical.

The Kidnappings

Linda claimed that in April of 1991 she encountered Richard on the street near her apartment. She was asked to get into a car that Dan was driving, but she refused. Richard picked her up and, with some struggle, forced her into the vehicle. Linda reported that she was driven around for 3 1/2 hours, interrogated about the aliens, and asked whether she worked for the government. She also said that she was forced to remove her shoes so they could examine her feet to determine whether she was an ET alien (they later claimed that aliens lack toes). Linda did remember another car being involved with the kidnapping, and under hypnotic regression she recalled the license plate number of that car, as well as part of the number of the car in which she rode. Hopkins reports that the numbers have been traced to particular "agencies" (he gave no further details).

At the MUFON symposium, Linda was asked if she had reported the kidnapping to the police. She said that she had not and went on to say that the kidnapping was legal because it had to do with national security.

In conversations with Butler in early 1992, Linda had expressed concerns about her personal safety. A meeting was arranged with Stefula because of his background in law enforcement. During the afternoon and early evening of February 1, the three met in New York City, and Linda described further details of the kidnappings.

She reported that on the morning of October 15, 1991, Dan accosted her on the street and pulled her into a red Jaguar sports car. Linda happened to be carrying a tape recorder and was able to surreptitiously record a few minutes of Dan's questioning, but he soon discovered and confiscated it. Dan drove to a beach house on the shore of Long Island. There he demanded that Linda remove her clothes and put on a white nightgown, similar to the one she wore the night of the abduction. He said he wanted to have sex with her. She refused but then agreed to put on the nightgown over her clothes. Once she did, Dan dropped to his knees and started to talk incoherently about her being the "Lady of the Sands." She fled the beach house, but Dan caught her on the beach and bent her arm behind her. He placed two fingers on the back of her neck, leading Linda to believe that it was a gun. He then forced her into the water and pushed her head under twice. He continued to rave incoherently, and as her

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head was being pushed under for the third time, she believed that she would not come up again. Then, a "force" hit Dan and knocked him back onto the beach. She started to run but heard a sound like a gun being cocked. She looked back and saw Dan taking a picture of her (Linda mentioned that pictures from the beach were eventually sent to Hopkins). She continued running, but Richard appeared beside her, seemingly out of nowhere. He stopped her and convinced her to return to the beach house and told her that he would control Dan by giving him a Mickey Finn. She agreed. Once inside, Richard put Dan in the shower to wash off the mud and sand from the beach. This gave Linda a chance to search the premises; she recovered her cassette tape and discovered stationery bearing a Central Intelligence Agency letterhead.

In a brief conversation on October 3, 1992, Hopkins told Hansen that Linda came to him shortly after she arrived back in Manhattan after the kidnapping. She was disheveled, had sand in her hair, and was traumatized by the experience.

Further Contacts with Richard and Dan

During the February 1 meeting with Butler and Stefula, Linda reported that she had met Richard outside a Manhattan bank on November 21, 1991. He told her of Dan's deteriorating mental condition. During the Christmas season, Linda received a card and a three page letter from Dan (dated 12/14/91). The letter bore a United Nations stamp and postmark (the UN building in New York has a post office which anyone can use). Dan wrote that he was in a mental institution and was kept sedated. He expressed a strong romantic interest in Linda. Some of his remarks suggested that he wanted to kidnap her, take her out of the country, and marry her; Linda seemed alarmed by this (she gave a copy of the letter to Stefula and Butler).

Linda also asserted that on December 15 and December 16, 1991, one of the men had tried to make contact with her near the shopping area of the South Street Seaport. He was driving a large black sedan with Saudi Arabian United Nations license plates. During the first incident, to avoid him, Linda reported that she went into a shop. The second day a similar thing happened, and she stood next to some businessmen until he left the area.

The Third Man

At the February 1 meeting, Linda mentioned that Hopkins had received a letter from "the third man" (the VIP), and she was able to repeat entire sentences from this letter, seemingly verbatim. It discussed ecological

danger to the planet, and Linda indicated that aliens were involved in ending the Cold War. The letter ended with a warning to Hopkins to stop searching for "the third man" because it could potentially do harm to world peace.

Linda also related a few more details of her November 1989 abduction. She said that the men in the car had felt a strong vibration at the time of the sighting. Linda also claimed that in subsequent hypnotic regressions she recalled being on a beach with Dan, Richard, and the third man, and she thought somehow she was being used by the aliens to control the men. She communicated with the men telepathically and said that she felt that she had known Richard prior to the November 1989 abduction, and she suggested that they possibly had been abducted together previously. We also learned that the third man was actually Javier Perez de Cuellar, at that time Secretary General of the United Nations. Linda claimed that the various vehicles used in her kidnappings had been traced to several countries' missions at the UN.

At the Portsmouth, New Hampshire conference, Hopkins spoke of the third man saying: "I am trying to do what I can to shame this person to come forward."

Witness on the Brooklyn Bridge

In the summer of 1991, a year and a half after the UFO abduction, Hopkins received a letter from a woman who is a retired telephone operator from Putnam County, New York (Hopkins has given this woman the pseudonym of Janet Kimble). Hopkins did not bother to open the letter, and in November 1991, he received another one from her marked on the outside "CONFIDENTIAL, RE: BROOKLYN BRIDGE." The odd outside marking and the fact that she had written two letters, seem to have raised no suspicions in Hopkins' mind. The woman, a widow of about sixty, claimed to have been driving on the Brooklyn Bridge at 3:16 a.m., November 30, 1989. She reported that her car stopped and the lights went out. She too saw a large, brightly lit object over a building; in fact, the light was so bright that she was forced to shield her eyes, though she was over a quarter mile away. Nevertheless, she claimed to have observed four figures in fetal positions emerge from a window. The figures simultaneously uncurled and then moved up into the craft. Ms. Kimble was quite frightened by the event, and people in cars behind her were "running all around their cars with theirs (sic) hands on their heads, screaming from horror and disbelief" (quoted in Hopkins, 1992d, p. 7). She wrote: "I have never traveled back to New York City after what I saw and I never will again, for any reason" (Hopkins, 1992d, p. 5). Despite her intense

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fear and all the commotion, she had the presence of mind to rummage through her purse to find her cigarette lighter to illuminate her watch in order to determine the time.

Hopkins has interviewed this woman in person and over the phone. The woman claimed to have obtained his name in a bookstore; she called the Manhattan directory assistance for his telephone number and then looked up his address in the Manhattan White Pages. She alleges that she was reticent about speaking of the incident and had only told her son, daughter, sister, and brother-in-law about the event.

The Nasal X-ray

In November 1991 a doctor, whom Hopkins describes as "closely connected with Linda," took an X-ray of Linda's head because she knew about the story of the nasal implant and because Linda frequently spoke of the problem with her nose. The X-ray was not developed immediately. A few days later the doctor brought it to Linda but was very nervous and unwilling to discuss it. Linda took it to Hopkins, who showed it to a neurosurgeon friend of his. The neurosurgeon was astounded; a sizeable, clearly non-natural object could be seen in the nasal area. Hopkins has shown a slide of the X-ray during his presentations, and the implant is strikingly apparent, even to a lay audience. The object has a shaft approximately 1/4 inch long with a curly-cue wire structure on each end.

Other Unusual Aspects of the Case

During our meeting with Linda on February 1, she gave us additional miscellaneous details that might be pertinent. We were told that she believed that she was under surveillance and described a light silver-gray van that had parked near her apartment. She also claimed that she had once been a professional singer and the lead on a hit record, but she had lost her singing voice one day while in the shower. Linda mentioned that she was given to understand that her blood was quite unusual. A doctor had informed her that her red blood cells did not die, but instead they rejuvenated. She wondered whether this might be due to an alien influence; some time later she attempted to locate the doctor but was unable to do so. Linda seemed to imply that she now believed that she was part alien or somehow worked with the aliens.

Linda also told us that she had an agreement with Budd Hopkins to split equally any profits from a book on the case.

INITIAL PROBLEMS WITH THE CASE

There are a number of obvious but unanswered questions that raise immediate doubts about the credibility of the case.

The most serious problem is that the three alleged principal corroborating witnesses (Richard, Dan, and Perez de Cuellar) have not been interviewed face-to-face by Hopkins, although it has been over a year and a half since initial contact with Hopkins and over three years since the abduction.

Richard and Dan allegedly met with Linda and have written letters to Hopkins. Linda has a picture of Dan. Yet Dan and Richard refuse to speak directly with Hopkins. No hard evidence confirms that Richard and Dan even exist.

Though they initially expressed extreme concern over the well being of Linda, the alleged "Dan" and "Richard" waited more than a year before contacting Linda and Hopkins. Why? Furthermore, they contacted Hopkins before they visited Linda. How did this come about? After all, they knew the location of Linda's apartment, so it would seem that they would have had no reason to contact Hopkins. Why did they bother with him at all?

The woman on the bridge said that before contacting Hopkins she only discussed the matter with her son, daughter, sister and brother-in-law. Why didn't she contact other UFO investigators? Why only Hopkins? If there is some unclear reporting on this point and she did actually contact others, can such be verified? Has there been any investigation of this woman such as checking with her neighbors, friends, family, or previous employers? What is her background? Has she had any previous relationship with Linda? These questions have not been addressed, and thus the credibility of the only directly interviewed, corroborating, first-hand witness remains in doubt.

Dan has spent time in a mental institution. Richard suffered extreme emotional distress, forcing him to take a leave of absence from his job. Assuming that these two people actually exist, one must now be careful in accepting their claims (even if offered in good faith). Despite their debilitating mental problems, at least one of them was allowed to drive a car with UN license plates. Are we really to believe that they returned to active duty in a sensitive position (presumably carrying firearms) and were given use of an official car?

Who was the doctor who took the X-rays? We are only told that this person is closely connected with Linda. Why isn't a formal report available? Given the alarming nature of the outcome, why wasn't there an immediate examination? Linda said that the doctor was "nervous" and didn't want to talk about the X-ray. It

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"Critique" continued from page 9

is not clear whether Hopkins has ever met this alleged doctor. Instead, Hopkins showed the X-ray to a friend of his. Some have speculated that Linda may have simply put some small object in her nose and had a friendly X-ray technician assist. We have seen no evidence to exclude this possibility.

Linda claims that she was kidnapped twice, nearly drowned, and further harassed. Yet she refuses to contact the police, even after Hopkins' urging. During the February 1, 1992 meeting with Stefula and Butler, Linda asked if she had legal grounds to "shoot" Dan if he attempted another abduction of her by force. Stefula advised against it and recommended that she go to the police and make an official complaint. She declined. If she was afraid, why didn't her husband contact authorities? The most plausible reason is that if a report was filed, and her story proved false, she could be subject to criminal charges. Linda's failure here raises enormous questions of credibility.

OUR INVESTIGATION

Despite the numerous problems outlined above, we believed it worthwhile to gain additional information because so many people had contacted us with questions. On September 19, 1992, Stefula, Butler, and Hansen traveled to New York City in order to visit the site of the alleged abduction. We found that Linda's apartment complex has a large courtyard with guard house manned 24 hours a day. We talked with the security guard and his supervisor and asked if they had ever heard about a UFO encounter near the complex. They reported hearing nothing about one. We also asked if the police routinely enter the complex and undertake door-to-door canvassing in order to find witnesses to crimes. They said that this was a very rare practice. We obtained the name and phone number of the apartment manager and called him a few days later. He reported knowing nothing about the UFO sighting, nor had he heard anything about it from any of the approximately 1600 residents in the complex.

We also visited the site under the FDR drive where Richard and Dan purportedly parked their car. This was in a direct line of sight and nearly across the street from the loading dock of the New York Post. We spoke with an employee of the Post, who told us that the dock was in use through most of the night. A few days later, we called the New York Post and spoke to the person who was the loading dock manager in 1989.

He told us that the dock is in use until 5:00 a.m. and that there are many trucks that come and go frequently during the early morning hours. The manager knew nothing of the UFO which supposedly appeared only a couple blocks away.

Also in September, a colleague of ours contacted the Downtown Heliport, on Pier Six on the East River of Manhattan. That is the only heliport on the east side of Manhattan between Linda's apartment and the lower tip of the island. Our colleague was informed that the normal hours of operation of the heliport are from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Senior Airport Operations Agent researched the records and found that there were no helicopter movements on November 30, 1989 before normal hours. Our colleague was also told that about six months previously, the heliport authorities had been approached by a man in his fifties with white hair who had made a similar inquiry. That man had asked about a UFO that had crashed into the East River.

The Meeting of October 3

On October 3, 1992, we met with Hopkins and his colleagues at his residence in Manhattan. Among those in attendance were David Jacobs, Walter H. Andrus, and Jerome Clark. During our meeting a number of questions were raised, and some of Hopkins' answers revealed a great deal about his investigations as well as the attitudes of Jacobs, Andrus, and Clark. Linda's statements also told us much.

We inquired if Hopkins had asked the guards of the apartment complex whether they had seen the UFO. He indicated that he had not done so. This is quite surprising, considering that the UFO was so bright that the woman on the bridge had to shield her eyes from it even though she was more than a quarter mile distant. One would have thought that Hopkins would have made inquiries of the guards considering the spectacular nature of the event.

We noted that Linda had claimed that police canvassing of her apartment complex was a common occurrence. We asked Hopkins if he had attempted to verify this with the guards or the building manager. He indicated that he did not feel it necessary. Although this is a minor point, it is one of the few directly checkable statements made by Linda, but Hopkins did not attempt to confirm it.

We asked about the weather on the night of the abduction. Amazingly, Hopkins told us that he didn't know the weather conditions for that period. This was perhaps one of the most revealing moments, and it gives great insight into Hopkins' capabilities as an investigator. If the weather had been foggy, rainy, or snowing, the visibility could have been greatly hampered, and the reliability of the testimony of the witnesses would need to be evaluated accordingly. Even the very first form in the MUFON Field Investigator's Manual requests information on weather conditions (Fowler, 1983, p. 30). We ourselves did check the

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weather and knew the conditions did not impede visibility. But the fact that Hopkins apparently had not bothered to obtain even this most basic investigatory information was illuminating. He claims to have much supporting evidence that he has not revealed to outsiders; however, because of Hopkins' demonstrated failure to check even the most rudimentary facts, we place absolutely no credence in his undisclosed "evidence."

During the discussions, Hopkins' partisans made allusions to other world figures involved in this event, though they did not give names. Hopkins' supporters, who had been given information denied to us, seemed to believe that there was a large motorcade that carried Perez de Cuellar and these other dignitaries in the early morning hours of November 30, 1989. At the meeting, we presented an outside expert consultant who for many years had served in dignitary protective services. He described the extensive preplanning required for moving officials and the massive coordination during the movements. Many people and networks would be alerted if there were any problems at all (such as a car stalling, or a delay in passing checkpoints). His detailed presentation seemed to take Hopkins aback. The consultant listed several specialized terms used by the dignitary protective services and suggested that Hopkins ask Richard and Dan the meaning of those terms as a test of their knowledge, and thus credibility. As far as we know, Hopkins has failed to contact Richard and Dan about that matter.

During the beginning part of the October 3 meeting, Linda's husband answered a few questions (in a very quiet voice). He seemed to have difficulty with some of them, and Linda spoke up to "correct" his memory. He left the meeting very early, even though Linda was under considerable stress, and despite the fact that she was overheard asking him to stay by her side. His leaving raised many questions in our minds.

Linda also responded to questions during the meeting. Early in the discussion, Hansen asked Linda's husband whether he was born and raised in the U.S. He replied that he had come to this country when he was 17. Linda promptly interjected that she knew why Hansen had asked that question. During a prior telephone conversation between Linda and Hansen, Linda had asserted that her husband was born and raised in New York. She acknowledged that she had previously deliberately misled Hansen.

Later in the meeting the question arose about a financial agreement between Linda and Hopkins. Stefula noted that Linda had told him that she and Hopkins had an agreement to split profits from a book. Hopkins denied that there was any such arrangement, and Linda then claimed that she had deliberately planted disinformation.

During the meeting, reports were heard from two psychologists. They concluded that Linda's intelligence was in the "average" range. One suggested that Linda would need the mind of a Bobby Fischer to plan and execute any hoax that could explain this case and that she was not capable of orchestrating such a massive, complex operation. Although these were supposedly professional opinions, we were not given the names of these psychologists.

Ms. Penelope Franklin also attended the meeting. She is a close colleague of Hopkins and the editor of IF--The Bulletin of the Intruders Foundation. Hopkins had previously informed us in writing that Ms. Franklin was a coinvestigator on the Napolitano case. In a conversation during a break in the meeting, Franklin asserted to Hansen that Linda was absolutely justified in lying about the case. This remarkable statement was also witnessed by Vincent Creevy, who happened to be standing between Franklin and Hansen.

Franklin's statement raises very troubling questions, especially given her prominence within Hopkins' circle of colleagues. Her statement appears to violate all norms of scientific integrity. We can only wonder whether Linda has been counseled to lie by Hopkins or his colleagues. Have other abductees been given similar advice? What kind of a social and ethical environment are Hopkins and Franklin creating for abductees? We also cannot help but wonder whether Hopkins and Franklin believe it appropriate for themselves to lie about the case. They owe the UFO research community an explanation for Franklin's statement. If such is not forthcoming, we simply cannot accept them as credible investigators.

In the next issue of the Chronicle, the conclusion of this explosive critique; Budd Hopkins' reaction to this investigation; Are there any literary elements to the story?; The reaction of UFOlogy's leadership; A psycho-social perspective; and the Hansen-Clark communiques.

VIDEO INFORMATION NOTICE

Many MUFON members that attended the Northern New Jersey MUFON meeting in February have requested more information on the video tape that was shown during that meeting, the following is being provided. The name of the tape was:

Messengers of Destiny

copies of the tape and cost information can be obtained by writing to:

Genesis III

Box 25962

Munds Park, AZ 86017



INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS

Sighting Reports in Northern New Jersey

Please note: the names of the witnesses are not the real names.

ASBURY, N.J.: November 27th, approximately 5:40 p.m. Mary was on her way to work with her one month old baby in the car when she noticed a large bright light ahead of her, about 1 1/2 car lengths up in the air above the road. Terrified, she turned her car around and tried to get back to her house as quickly as possible. The light then pursued her all the way back to her house. After arriving home, she ran inside and got her husband out of bed (he was home sick with the flu) to come and see the object. However, by the time he got to door, the object was gone.

Preliminary investigations by Bob Durant indicated it could be a genuine UFO, or it could also have been a 4X4 truck mounted with a spotlight, and some local kids perpetrating a cruel joke. The case looked very promising.

Follow up investigation by Sue Van Slooten with the witness indicated that the witness preferred the 4X4 explanation, (perhaps in an effort to convince herself she did not experience seeing an UFO), however another witness near the area at the same time also reported seeing some strange lights.

In studying Mary's testimony of the incident, a ufological explanation is still very much in the running. If anyone has any information on this case, please contact Sue Van Slooten, 201-895-7257, or Vince Creevy, 908-367-8589, all information will be confidential.

SECAUCUS, NEW JERSEY: December 2, approximately 3:00 a.m. Joan woke up and realized that her dog wanted to go out, something very unusual for this dog. She got up and got dressed and took the dog out into the front yard (usually she would just let the dog out, into the back yard, and would not bother to get dressed). After a few minutes she noticed a bright light with colors high in the sky. She watched the object for a while alone. (Her husband was away at the time). Then she and the dog went back into the house, she being very scared, and tried to go back to bed.

The following week later, she had another UFO experience, this time with very large boomerang shaped object, extremely similar to the type of object reported in NIGHT SIEGE, by Dr. Allen Hynek, and most recently, as reported in Belgium. The sequence of events were similar this time, only she did not let the dog out, and did not bother to get dressed. She was in the front yard again, watching this huge object, when a passing motorist slowed and stopped in the street in front of her house, watching the object as well. When it began to go overhead, the motorist left the area at a very high rate of speed.

Preliminary investigations by Sue Van Slooten indicated no common explanation that indicated that a possible abduction sequence is also manifesting itself. If anyone has any information on this case, please call Sue at 201-895-7257.

CARLSTADT, NEW JERSEY: August 23, 1992 12:30 a.m. Ellen could not sleep and decided to get up for awhile. She went out on her deck to sit for awhile, and noticed a bright star (she is familiar with the constellations) and thought this odd. She went back into the house to get her glasses, and a pair of binoculars. Through the binoculars she saw a round object with white lights, and red lights on the bottom and side of the sphere. Green lights were along the left side. The object turned slowly, changing shape as it did so. Over the course of the next 3 hours, it changed shape 8 times, but usually some sort of round shape was retained. The object also had a dark spot near one of its sides. It was approximately about 1:30 a.m. when Ellen called the Carlstadt police, and spoke with the police Lieutenant on duty. He ended up coming over to Ellen's house (after he stopped off at his own home for binoculars), and the two of them watched the object until she went to bed, at about 3:30 a.m. Also at about 1:30 a.m. she called her sister who lived in E. Rutherford to look at the object, which she did. Her sister drew a picture the next day that looked very similar to what Ellen had seen.

If anyone has any information on this sighting, please contact Sue 201-895-7257

If you have seen anything unusual you may feel need investigating I would like to hear from you.



AN INSIDE VIEW....

METRO - DC MUFON UFO CONFERENCE

By Tom Benson

A large contingent of New Jersey MUFON member attended the METRODC MUFON UFO Conference entitled, "UFOs, the Story of the Century" held on Saturday, February 6, 1993 at the QualityHotel, Silver Spring, Maryland. The Conference will be mainly remembered for three of the main speakers not showing up (Ed Dames because of internal PSI-Tech organization pressure - he's has been making a lot of off-the-wall predictions, thus being low-key means no show); George Filer for health reasons; and Kevin Randle for weather conditions.

After Elaine Douglass welcoming remarks, Bruce Maccabee discussed the Roswell, New Mexico alleged Alien Spaceship report and showed part of the Video available for sale from the Fund For UFO Research where people spoke about what they were told and remember about the incident. Additionally, Bruce discussed the JAL 1987 Alaska case. he said the pilot involved was grounded six months after the sighting. He also mentioned he has one of 100 copies printed of the original Project Bluebook Report No. 14.

Following was a spirited debate on "Should the U.S. Government Publicly Acknowledge the Reality of UFOs" with the pro side being Bruce Maccabee and Elaine Douglass and the con side, Robert Durant (N.J. MUFON member) and Michael Levintow. The audience (very bias) voted for the pro side of the debate.

Bob Oechsler was next on the program and presented an excellent put together slide presentation on, "Images of UFOs in TV and Advertising: the Indocrination of America".

Oechsler was followed by Mark Blashak, MUFON State Director for Virginia. He discussed local cases and the upcoming MUFON Symposium to be held in Richmond, VA on July 2, 3 & 4 which his group is sponsoring.

Elaine followed with a rousing, theatrical, "Women's League of Voters" type speech. She even had her protest poster sign in hand and waved it from the podium, leading a chant. Elaine promoted the "Operation Right to Know" pending demonstration at the White House on July 5th. She pointed out that the Roper Poll indicates that 3.7 million Americans have been abducted. She asks, "does the government have a policy to

cope with the UFO phenomenon over the long time"? Is it paralyzed? She says the abduction phenomenon could bring down the government's constitution and the aliens are pushing for disclosure via cattle mutilations, Gulf Breeze, Circle phenomenon and the Linda Napolitano case (I must add there that all of these references could have solutions separate and distinct from the UFO (Alien/ET) explanation). Elaine strongly recommends that within each possible Congressional District, that a group of 5-20 Ufologists meet with their local representative to call for hearings on the UFO topic (e.g. Roswell, etc.) and also for the group to con-tact the editor of their state's largest newspaper on the issue.

The final speaker was Bob Oechsler with Bruce Maccabee's input. Bob discussed the alleged highly controversial November, 1991 Canadian UFO landing report. Bob said the TV program "Unsolved Mysteries" that highlighted the report, left some facts out, and that the upcoming "Sightings" program would cover more. Some of the facts, Oechsler said were: the woman witness, Diane Labenek didn't go all the way, only 1/2 way out into the fields, thus didn't find the physical evidence he later claimed to have found when he visited the site on May 10, 1992. The site was about 2,000 ft. from the house. Oechsler claimed that plant growth was contaminated with a black, soothy substance, a laboratory analysis he claims indicated to be Titanium. He claimed the site was 50 ft. in diameter and all plant life in the effected area was dead. Oechsler also claimed that Dr. Nathan of JPL (NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory) analysis of the photos was official and not unofficial as later claimed. Oechsler also mentioned the witness to the above sighting, Mrs. Labenek previously was witness to another UFO report in the area in 1989 where a UFO, a nocturnal light crashed. Mrs. Labenek also claimed a lot of low flying helicopters near her house. She has also volunteered to take a polograph test. The flares reported on the ground at the time of the UFO landing are of unknown origin: says Oechsler. He also says, the laboratory analysis of the plants indicated no strontium, a chemical ingredient in flares that ignites "red". He said that the blue strobe light on the UFO is unusual.

Oechsler suspects he knows who "Guardian" is who allegedly made the videotape, placed his "finger-print" on the label and mailed it to him. Oechsler pointed out a possible explanation for the flares, He says the "blonds" (aliens) lit the flares for the landing of the "greys". He says the "Guardian" video has four sections, two with the flares, two without. Regarding the black helicopters flying over the witness' house, the Canadian government denied they were theirs. Oechsler in support said it is only ten minutes flying time from Syracuse, New York.

NATIONAL SIGHTING RESEARCH CENTER



— UPDATE —

By Paul Ferrughelli

UFO DESCRIPTIONS PART 2: LONG RANGE VERSUS CLOSE RANGE UFO SIGHTINGS

BACKGROUND

In Part-1 of the UFO Descriptions Analysis, "Strange Lights or Strange Objects", the UFO sighting date was examined based on the witnesses basic description of a Light/Illumination or an Object/Shape. In Part-2 of this analysis, the UFO Sighting Data will be examined based on the distance of the UFO Sighting Relative to the Witness. This analysis is based on the basic description of a long range or close range UFO sighting provided by the Hynek Classification. The purpose of the analysis is to determine if there is any significant relationship or trend between long range and close range UFO sightings over a (5) year time period. Since all of the UFO contained in the NSRC date base have been categorized based on the HYNEK Classification, (2) distance groups can be easily assigned.

The Nocturnal Light (NL) and Day Light Disc (DD) UFO sightings are those observed at a distance greater than (500) feet from the witness. The close encounter of the first kind (CE-1) and second kind (CE-2) UFO sightings are those observed at a distance less than (500) feet from the witness. Therefore the (NL & DD) type sightings can be classified as Long Range Sightings, and the (CE-1 & CE-2) type sightings be classified as Close Range Sightings.

Since the Close Encounter Sightings offer high quality visual observable data, it is important to examine the relationship and compare them to the long range sightings. Various graphs, plots, and statistical analysis shall be performed and examined to determine the significance between the (2) sets of UFO sighting data.

DATA

The source of the UFO sighting data consists of the 1021 UFO sightings in the NSRC Data Base from 1987-1991. During this time period there were 792 Long Range Sightings, or 77.6% of the total, and 229 Close Range Sightings, or 22.6% of the total. It should be noted that the above breakdown is based on the proximity of the sighting with respect to the witness and not a physical description of the UFO itself.

Figure 1 is a (2) range line graph of the 1021 UFO sightings over a 60 month period from 1987 through 1991.

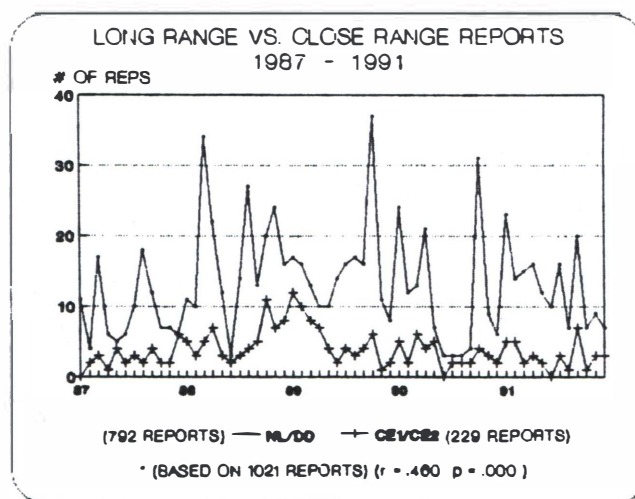


Figure 1

This graph displays the quantity of long range and close range sightings occurring each month over 5 years.

It can be observed that the long range sightings have some pronounced peaks during the months of March 1988, October 1989, and October 1990. There is also constant activity observed between December 1988 through October 1990. There is also an observable lull of long range activity from May 1990 through September 1990. With respect to the close range UFO sightings, there was a high concentration of sightings between October 1988 through May 1989.

LONG RANGE CLOSE RANGE COMPARISON

An important statistic for both data sets is the mean or average, this value provides the average number of sightings for each month. The average value for the (NL/DD) is (13.2) sightings/month. These means value of the long range and close range UFO sightings pro-

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vide a measure of location which is typical of all the sample observations. This measure of location can be thought of a "Center" value of the (2) data sets.

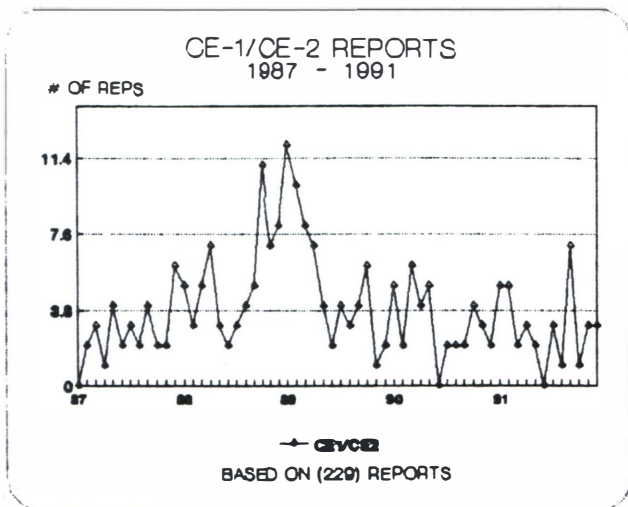


Figure 2

The graph above displays the close range sightings, (CE-1 & CE-2), from 1987-1991 and the Y-AXIS of the graph is incremented based on the average value of (3.8) sightings per month.

It can be observed that from August 1988 through May 1989, those (10) consecutive months were above the average value. Statistically, when (3) or more values fall above or below the average, this could indicate some external influence on the data set. It can be observed that the quantity of close range sightings during this time period were significant, since they were two and three times above the time period is unknown at this time.

Figure 3 below displays the long range sightings, (NL/DD), from 1987-1991 and again the Y-AXIS is incremented based on the average value of (13.2) sightings per month.

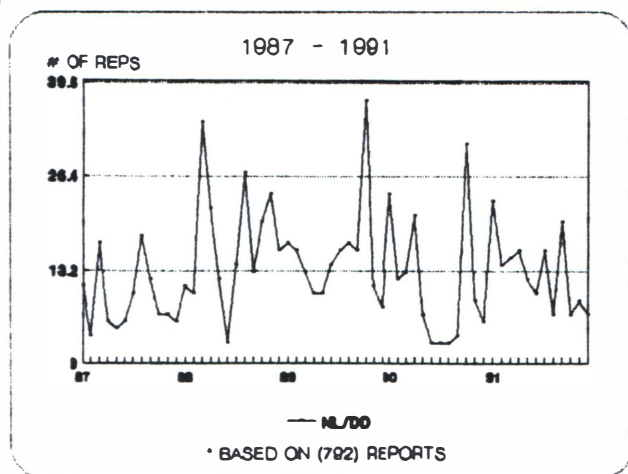


Figure 3

When comparing the "High Concentration" time period of the close range sightings, the long range sightings do not follow the same pattern or concentration above the average value. It should be noted that this analysis is concerned with the apparent stimulus or increase in sightings as opposed to the lull or inactive state UFO sighting activity.

CORRELATION ANALYSIS

Lets observe the annual breakdown by year of the correlation data in the figure 4 table below:

The "Correlation Coefficient" ("r"), and the "T-Test" ("p"), When "r" is greater than or equal to (+/-.500) and "p" is less than or equal to (/05), this indicates a possible trend between the 2 data sets, for our 5 year analysis, the correlation based on the 60 month time period.

Year.....	(r).....	(p)
1987.....	(.083).....	(.798)
1988.....	(.411).....	(.184)
1989.....	(.224).....	(.484)
1990.....	(.589).....	(.044) *
1991.....	(.716).....	(.009) *

Figure 4

In 1990 and 1991 there were strong correlations between the Long and Close Range UFO sightings. Since the high concentration of close range UFO sightings occurred between August 1988 through May 1989, there is no observable relationship between long and close range UFO sightings during the "wave" of CE reports. A Correlation Analysis was done comparing the long versus close range sightings from October 1988 through September 1989. This was the time period of a high concentration of CE sightings. The correlation coefficient "r" was .291 the T-Test "p" was .357, thus indicating NO trend or significance.

OBSERVATIONS

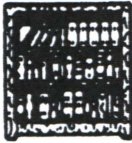
There is NO significant trend or relationship between Long and Close range UFO sightings over the 5 year time period 1987-1991. Like the Part 1 Description Analysis of "Objects versus Lights" (See *New Jersey Chronicle Vol 3, Number 1/2*), 1990 and 1991 DID exhibit Strong trends. Although these were strong trends they DID NOT occur during the WAVE of CE sightings between August 1988 through May 1989.

What can be observed is that there is a noted difference in the fact that simple lights at a long distance do not relate to those close range sightings on the Object type UFO reports.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a hypothetical book review of the Linda Napolitano abduction case submitted to the Chronicle for publication by Dr. Willey Smith.
THIS BOOK DOES NOT EXIST

THE BOOK RACK

MANHATTAN TRANSFER
by Budd Hopkins
William Morrow and Co., 1993
457pp., \$39.85



This book crowns the writing career of veteran researcher extraordinaire Budd Hopkins, a former artist turned hypnotist. This work is the third of a trilogy, in line with the author's specialization in triptychs: but unlike his previous literary work characterized by long titles and doubtful accuracy (1)(2), this piece not only has a catchy name but also proclaims to have finally reached an apparently impossible objective: the unearthing of an abduction case with irreproachable independent witnesses and substantial physical evidence. If this were true, Hopkins would have demonstrated once and for all the abduction tales do no result from mixing the imagination of the alleged victims with the gullibility and lack of scientific expertise of the investigators. Unfortunately, the book doesn't live up to its billing. The story is fascinating, and when the author delivered it in Albuquerque during the 1992 MUFON Symposium, it electrified the audience, creating the impression that a turning point had been reached. The first discordant note was when Hopkins' talk was not to be found in the proceedings, but the co-operative effort of several researchers produced a version that now the book is available for comparison turns out to be rather accurate.(3) This early version, combined with my personal notes, raised my skepticism considerably at the time when it became evident that we had significant contradictions in the narrative, as well as dubious points that did not survive critical analysis. Truly, those rough corners have been somewhat smoothed in the book, but since no satisfactory explanation has been advanced, they still militate against the objective reality of the events. These will be the points to be discussed first if one intends to do an impartial review of **MANHATTAN TRANSFER**.

(A) THE LACK OF DEFINITION OF THE ABDUCTEE

Using pseudonyms has become an understandable tradition in abduction research, as it protects the victims' privacy, although it becomes a questionable practice

when those individuals are paraded in public to titillate an audience and enhance the reputation of the investigator. But this creates an insurmountable difficulty to evaluating is aware, to determine the caliber of a witness we have to know as much as possible about him or her: for instance, age, profession or occupation, standing in the community, family life: in short, how much would be at stake by creating a tall tale. What is true for any UFO case becomes more important for an abduction, when events are totally foreign to daily experience. What we are told about specific abductees is not only vague but often distorted by the original researchers, as if they were afraid that deeper investigations by third parties would discover a skeleton in the closet. That a great deal about the abductee could be disclosed without revealing his identity apparently never crosses the mind of the abduction investigator.

In the present case, we are told that the victim's name is not Linda Cortile, and that she might have been an actress or a model (4) in the past, but she is now an ordinary housewife, a mother of two with a night-working husband of unknown profession. As we observed in Albuquerque, she is fortyish but still preserves her good looks. She is a science fiction fan, who picked up Budd's first book **INTRUDERS** thinking it was of the genre (5). Enough of Ms. Linda, although perhaps she deserves more. The details of her abduction in the middle of the night from her 12th floor apartment in Manhattan are narrated in the book.

(B) THE LACK OF SUBSTANCE OF THE WITNESSES.

The basic and all-significant difference of this case is the existence of independent and presumably impartial witnesses, as Linda herself emphasized to the spell-bound Albuquerque audience.

But who precisely are those witnesses? It is at this point that Hopkins' credibility starts to evaporate, when we learn that the roster is as follows:

(a) Two police officers, identity unknown. All Hopkins has to offer is some audio tape and written communications and a richness of detail which makes their mere existence dubious. As it turned out, they were not real policemen, but agents of some secret agency escorting a very important figure, who remains in the shadows except for a letter written to Budd.

Those two officers, known as Dan and Richard, contacted Budd -- of all persons -- months later because they were concerned about Linda, while if they were indeed secret agents they could easily have determined directly if she was safe. But this is no all: those exemplary intelligence officers kidnaped the abductee in broad day-light, took her to a safe house somewhere

continued on next page

and inspected her feet to reassure themselves she was not an alien.

The story become more and more bizarre as time went by, and the latest news is that Dan is now in a mental institution, apparently a rather unsupervised establishment as he was able to write Linda a rambling love letter (6).

Throughout the saga nobody has seen the alleged officers in the flesh, except, of course, Linda, and the only proof of their existence are a tape and letters, which easily could have been produced by interested parties.

(b) The political figure. At the time of publication the identity of this character still remains in limbo, and although it has been rumored that he was Javier Perez de Cuellar of United Nations fame, as predicted by many he has not come forward. One would not expect that he would, but the whereabouts of a public figure are not so difficult to establish: yet, we have heard nothing of efforts in that direction. Although the author states categorically that he has compared the style in the letter he received with some official document written by the important figure, this is hardly enough to establish any connection.

(c) The former telephone operator. Again, Budd remarks that this person, having some unusual events from the Brooklyn Bridge in the middle of the night, decided to report them to Hopkins rather than the authorities. This indeed boosted the author's ego, but contributes nothing to substantiating the reality of the incident. The testimony itself is suspect. This lady claims (Ref. 3, p.8) that she thought she was seeing a movie being made, but in the same breath confides she was scared. Of a movie scene? It doesn't make any sense. And the UFO did not dive into the East River, as claimed by the "officers", but disappeared over the Brooklyn Bridge.

The most blatant omission is the Mr. Hopkins did not present this woman to the Albuquerque audience. We were told that she had been interviewed twice, we were shown some of the drawings she had submitted (drawn like Richard's using crayons), but the lady was conspicuous by her absence. If she is as described by Budd, she would have been an ideal witness to introduce to the public during the MUFON Symposium; since no excuses were given for why she was not there to clinch Hopkins' claims, there is a strong presumption that she really does not exist.

In short, none of the alleged four eyewitnesses can be pinned down, identified, or questioned by independent parties, a very convenient situation for hoaxers, but hardly constructive evidence to substantiate the reality of abductions.

(C) THE INCONGRUENCIES

By incongruencies we don't refer here to odd events which could be attributed to the very nature of the "aliens", but to the behavior of the characters in the saga, behavior that even by human standards would be considered extraordinary, unusual and unacceptable. Those incidents permeate the book, to the point that one starts to suspect they might have been incorporated in the story just to test the gullibility of the investigator.

(a) The X-rays.

The author repeats in more detail the same story presented during the MUFON Symposium in Albuquerque(7) which implies a close relationship between Linda and her doctor. The abductee reluctantly accepted the taking of an X-ray and went home; the film was not developed right away, and was delivered to her personally by the doctor. I will refrain from emphasizing the absurdity of such a situation, as anyone who has had an X-ray taken knows quite well that following the exposure the technician develops the film just to verify if it is correct while the patient is still there and available. Perhaps Hopkins will be able to find a suitable explanation for this anomaly, contrary to established medical practice.

At any rate, the X-ray is illustrated in the book, and indeed an odd spiral object appears in the film. It is hard to determine what it is, and it could equally well be permanently lodged in the nostril or just temporarily placed there for the purpose of the X-ray.

(b) The reactions of the officers.

The witnesses were near Linda's house, sitting in a car underneath the underpass (sic) of the FDR Drive (8), and introduced themselves first as, two New York City police officers named Dan and Richard. This was soon to be changed and Dan and Richard, who could not find Linda but preferred to write to Budd Hopkins, turned out to be agents of an unnamed intelligence agency engaged in driving a very important person through Manhattan.

The point is that whether police officers or secret agents, their behavior was totally uncharacteristic. They did not lift a finger to help a woman they knew was in distress, they did not report the incident, and did not make direct inquiries to verify her disappearance. True, their immediate duty was to protect the VIP in the car, but it is hardly credible that they accomplished that by staying 45 minutes watching the sky. And after delivering their charge, the behavior of one of their profession would have been to return to Linda's apartment and see what was up, which they didn't do.

continued on page 18

"Manhattan Transfer" continued from page 17

Worse, as the plot thickens, we learn that at a later date Dan and Richard kidnaped Linda, using official automobiles, and abused her in more ways than one. Yet, as Linda herself told the audience in Albuquerque, the thought of reporting this conduct never crossed her mind. In a real life situation, a lawabiding citizen would have sought redress for this abnormal police behavior in the courts. But not Linda!

(c) The witness on the bridge.

This lady thought nothing of what she was seeing, and to quote her words: "I thought they were making a movie, and tell you the truth, Mr. Hopkins, I thought they were making SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS". A very normal situation, even considering the time. Yet, the lady was "absolutely terrified", perhaps because her car and others had stopped in the middle of a traffic lane.

But this woman was a former telephone operator, familiar with what to do under the circumstances. Did she call the police, then or later? No. She chose to report the incident to abduction expert Budd Hopkins -- after a lengthy process to locate him -- by writing to him the following summer.

There are numerous anomalous events described in the book, such as the memorable night during which everyone in Linda's apartment had a bleeding nose, but it is useless to further discuss them. The three examples above will suffice. In short, the richness of detail provided by the author, instead of lending substance to the narrative, only contributes to casting reasonable doubts on the reality of the reported incidents.

(D) THE ABSENCE OF WITNESSES GALORE

All of this happened in New York, the city that never sleeps, precisely at 3:15 AM. There were additional witnesses on the Brooklyn Bridge whose cars were also affected as reported by the telephone operator, while Richard et al. were either driving or parked in a stake-out operation. There were other tenants in Linda's building, yet we have no additional reports of unusual EM effects affecting the lights or the operation of many automobiles -- except those on the bridge. This oddity is explained by the author as a deliberate action of the "aliens" who selected those permitted to see a staged event.

This is a suggestive idea, but logically untenable. If the "aliens" had the capability to selectively block the minds of potential witnesses in a rather large area to fit their purposes, i.e., to stage a sighting for a United Nations leader, why not use this same power directly in the General Assembly? No, it doesn't wash. A much more plausible interpretation, but perhaps not very charitable to the author, is that it was indeed a staged

event, but that it was staged for him by a limited group of persons. Considering the absolute lack of hard evidence, the well known gullibility of the author and how easily the paper trail could be constructed, this possibility can not be ignored.

CONCLUSIONS

It is hard to write a final evaluation of this book, because in the past the author has produced significant contributions, even if this piece of work seems to be the product of an addled mind. The literary skill is still there, and the story is well written and entertaining but lacks substance. The author has failed in his stated purpose of entertaining the reality of UFO abductions, and by padding the text with irrelevant detail (such as the different paper and typewriters of the letters he received from the "witnesses" (9)) he only convinces the reader that the evidence is closely linked to Linda and could have been produced by a limited number of persons. The impression that emerges is that of an obsessed individual -- many would say a charlatan -- spreading his own distorted fantasies and beliefs through abuse of hypnosis, a discipline in which he is not qualified. A sad picture to accept by those who knew Budd in happier days when his critical and analytical qualities were at their best.

I have no doubts that Budd Hopkins is aware of the situation, as in his pre-publication writings (10) he attempts to defuse the critics by casting them all under the derogatory name of "professional debunkers" and elaborating on what those individuals will do and why. Perhaps this is a precise measure of Budd's state of mind, because there is no such a thing as "professional debunkers": only persons with an interest in the UFO phenomenon, many of them, like me, convinced of its reality and importance. But this is hardly a reason to endorse dubious incidents which have "hoax" written all over them.

Dr. Willy Smith

UNICAT Project

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Evidence Points to Secret U.S. Spy Plane

Magazine Suggests Aircraft Has Flown Mach 8 for Years

By ROY J. HARRIS JR.

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
New evidence suggests that the U.S. is operating secret spy planes, possibly cruising as fast as eight times the speed of sound, and that such aircraft may have been flying for over three years.

An article prepared for Jane's Defence Weekly, a British military-affairs journal, suggests strongly that a \$1 billion plane capable of far greater speed than the current world record-holding SR-71 spy plane is indeed in service globally. The speculation is based in part on a trained aircraft observer's recently reported 1989 sighting of a mysterious wedge-shaped aircraft, flying over the North Sea in a formation with two U.S.-built F-111 bombers and a KC-135 tanker.

The description of the plane given by British oil-drilling engineer and trained aircraft spotter Chris Gibson is sketchy—little more, in fact, than an unfamiliar aircraft shape he says he watched from his remote North Sea oil rig for about 90 seconds one hazy August day three years ago.

But in an intriguing analysis for Jane's, made available to The Wall Street Journal in advance of next week's scheduled publication, the stealth technology expert who wrote the article uses the sighting as the missing link in a chain of events he believes may explain a number of U.S. military mysteries.

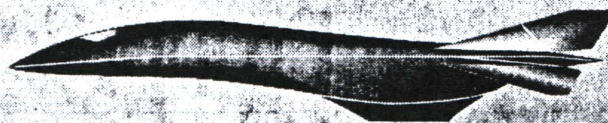
Citing other experts in so-called hypersonic aviation, author Bill Sweetman paints a picture of the hush-hush reconnaissance plane that he believes replaced Lockheed Corp.'s SR-71 Blackbird when the U.S. took it out of service in early 1990. That jet, which holds the official speed record of 2,193 mph, about Mach 3.3, would be a slow-poke compared to the Mach 8 aircraft (5,280 mph) that Mr. Sweetman suggests flew over Mr. Gibson that day in the North Sea.

The Pieces Fall Into Place

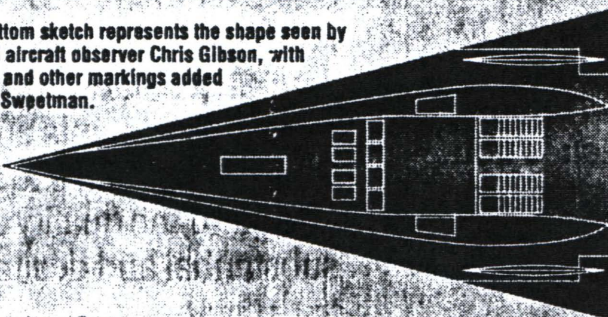
His article proposes that the new plane—rumored for years to be called Aurora because that name mysteriously popped up as an unexplained defense budget line item in 1984 next to the SR-71—is also built by Lockheed, with engines by Rockwell International Corp.'s Rocketdyne division. The Jane's report suggests: The planes cost about \$1 billion each; they first flew in about 1985; and they have been the source of a series of strange earth-

America's Secret Spy Plane?

Top outline, drawn by Bill Sweetman for Jane's Defence Weekly, reflects how some hypersonic aircraft experts say such a wedge-shaped aircraft might look in profile.



The bottom sketch represents the shape seen by trained aircraft observer Chris Gibson, with engine and other markings added by Mr. Sweetman.



Drawing by Neven Telak

quake-like rumbles still occurring in Southern California and other areas of the world.

With "this last piece" of information, Mr. Sweetman says in an interview, "there are so many things that fall into place." The most important, he says, may be the mystery of why the U.S. retired its last SR-71 spy plane in 1990 with the explanation that it would rely instead on satellites to meet the reconnaissance needs once satisfied by the aircraft, believed capable of operations well above 100,000 feet.

The Jane's article, echoing others' suggestions that the statement about satellites was intended as a cover for development of a new spy plane, notes that aircraft have a certain reconnaissance usefulness that orbiting cameras can't match.

"The satellite system is believed to be capable of producing imagery within 24 hours of a request: at Mach 8, however, the flight time to any point on Earth is under three hours," the article says. "Unlike a satellite, the aircraft can be scheduled to pass over a target at any desired time of day," and flies closer to the target.

The 'Skunk Works' Legacy

Lockheed won't comment on any secret programs it has going, and refers questions about reconnaissance to the Air Force. But Lockheed Advanced Development Co., the unit popularly known as the "Skunk Works," long has been considered the shop likely to be producing any future spy planes because it developed the last two generations of U-2 and SR-71 planes in the 1950s and 1960s. Both planes flew spy missions in total secrecy for years before being acknowledged—in the U-2's case only after pilot Francis Gary Powers was

shot down in one in 1960. The California Skunk Works also produced the F-117 Stealth fighter, which also flew secretly before its existence was acknowledged.

The explanation of what he'd seen didn't become clear to Mr. Gibson, a veteran of the now-disbanded Royal Observer Corps of volunteer aircraft spotters, until he recently saw a drawing in an aircraft magazine of a putative hypersonic aircraft design that matched the perfect triangle shape with its 75-degree nose.

"I nearly spat my coffee out all over the floor," says the 30-year-old Mr. Gibson of his reaction to finally seeing a design that seemed to explain what he'd seen three years earlier. In a telephone interview from Houston, where he is attending an engineering training program, Mr. Gibson says that while he couldn't make out much detail of the mystery plane's underside, he easily eliminated all other aircraft shapes that might explain planes of the same size, including F-111s with wings in a swept-back position.

According to the Jane's report, the "perfect 75-degree swept triangle" described by Mr. Gibson corresponded "almost exactly" to designs of Mach 5, or hypersonic, aircraft designed but not built over the past 25 years. Mr. Sweetman took his collected data about the size and shape of the plane and descriptions of unidentified aircraft noise reported from such places as Edwards and Beale Air Force bases in California, where secret planes are often held, and presented them to Paul Cyszk, an aerospace-engineering professor at St. Louis University for an opinion. Prof. Cyszk is quoted as speculating that such a plane could be powered by liquid

methane, which could take it to a maximum cruise speed of Mach 8.

As for selecting Lockheed and Rockwell as the likely makers, the Jane's article notes that "Lockheed's financial figures have indicated a continuing, large flow of income for 'classified' and 'special mission' aircraft." The engine responsible for the strange noises that have been heard in California "is closer to a rocket than to a turbojet," the article says. Lockheed and Rockwell worked together on a losing bid to build the bomber that eventually became Northrop Corp.'s B-2, the Jane's article says. And while it isn't noted there, one industry official earlier this year confirmed that the two companies had been involved in a classified project for years.

Figuring that the aircraft would likely be in very low production—only 50 SR-71s or predecessor aircraft were made, beginning in the early 1960s—the article says that "each reconnaissance aircraft could easily cost as much as \$1 billion." Lockheed reported sales of aeronautical systems totaling \$2.2 billion in 1991, an amount that has steadily fallen from the \$4.2 billion recorded in 1987.

Lockheed Aeronautical Systems spokesman Richard Stadler, a veteran of having to decline comment on past classified programs, says the company won't discuss revenues of any classified programs, but adds that at the Skunk Works, "supporting the F-117 is the largest program we've got now, as far as active programs go."

A spokesman for the Rockwell Rocketdyne division says the company doesn't build engines for any reconnaissance aircraft, although he adds that Rocketdyne does have some classified programs that it can't discuss.

The speculation about hypersonic aircraft flying over California has special interest for that state's residents, many of whom have felt what they thought were small rumbling earthquakes for nearly a year and a half—only to be told by representatives of the U.S. Geological Survey that some peculiar, unreported aircraft were probably responsible. Scientists have referred to the phenomena as "airquakes," and even described the speed and size of aircraft that might cause them. The Jane's article suggests that the speed and size correspond to those of the mystery spy plane.

As an author, Mr. Sweetman has had considerable experience studying secret aircraft, having written extensively on the Stealth fighter before the Air Force disclosed the existence of that program. He has since written a book on the program. His magazine article engages in heavy speculation, of course, calling its findings "a tentative analysis."

When asked about the sightings, a public affairs officer at the Air Force, which for years denied the existence of the plane now known as the F-117, says, "As far as the Air Force is concerned, there is no such program," and satellites are doing all reconnaissance work.

TECHNOLOGY

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1992

Astronomic finding casts light on birth of stars

Trio captures a glimpse of the 'nurseries'

By KATHY SAWYER
Washington Post Wire Service

Astronomers are pushing close to a long-sought but so far elusive goal: Proving the existence of planets around stars other than the sun. And they are finding increasing evidence that the "fodder" for making planets occurs naturally among most typical stars.

A trio of astronomers making creative use of new technology announced that they had captured a glimpse of hundreds of sun-like stars at a previously unseen stage in the first blush of infancy.

It is, they say, an opportune "window" for observation: Just after the stars have emerged from the clouds of dust that would have obscured their birth, but before they are so old that they have wandered far from their home "nurseries," their siblings and the environment that shaped them.

What the research team found is that many ordinary stars like our own sun begin life in small, tight-knit families. They also found that almost all of the stars at that stage are girdled by orbiting disks of dust grains and gas—the stuff from which scientists believe planets like Earth are derived.

The disks appear to be about the size and mass of our own solar system.

"The small families of 10 to 50 stars in this dark cloud represent a hitherto unrecognized mode of star birth, which could be the dominant way in which stars like the sun form throughout the Milky Way," Karen Strom, of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, announced at a gathering of the American Astronomical Society in Phoenix in early January.

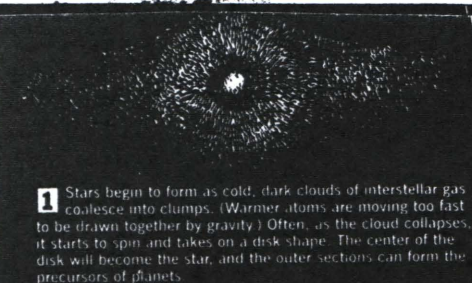
"The high percentage of 'family members' that give off the special glow associated with disks 'suggests that the raw material to form solar systems probably surrounds all sun-like stars at birth,' she said.

The team included Strom's husband Stephen, also of the University of Massachusetts, and K. Michael Merrill of Arizona's Kitt Peak Observatory.

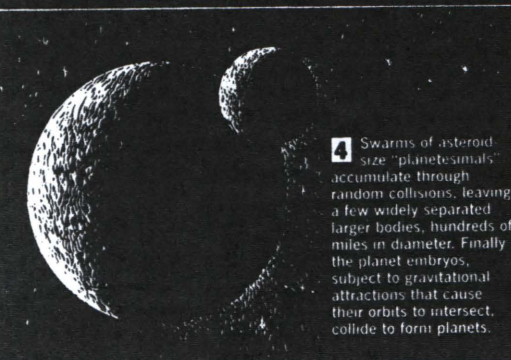
They used new infrared array detectors attached to the 50-inch telescope at Kitt Peak to peer deep into a

HOW COMMON ARE OTHER WORLDS?

For the first time, astronomers have peered inside the nurseries of ordinary stars like the sun. They found that, instead of emerging alone, such stars apparently are born in small "families." Each has 10 to 50 siblings within the astronomically small span of a single light year—about 6 trillion miles. And they almost always wear girdles of orbiting dust and gas that could form planetary systems like the sun's.

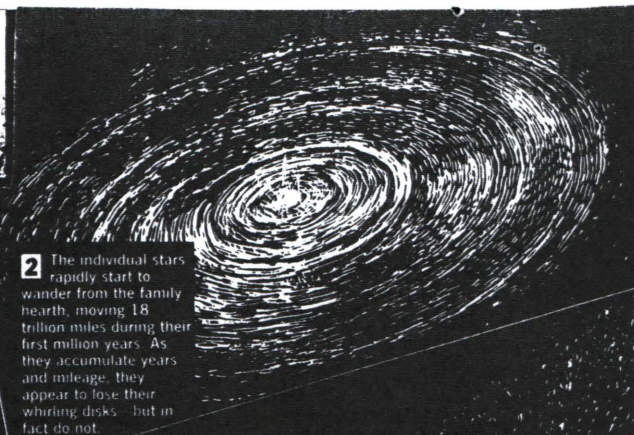


1 Stars begin to form as cold, dark clouds of interstellar gas coalesce into clumps. (Warmer atoms are moving too fast to be drawn together by gravity.) Often, as the cloud collapses, it starts to spin and takes on a disk shape. The center of the disk will become the star, and the outer sections can form the precursors of planets.

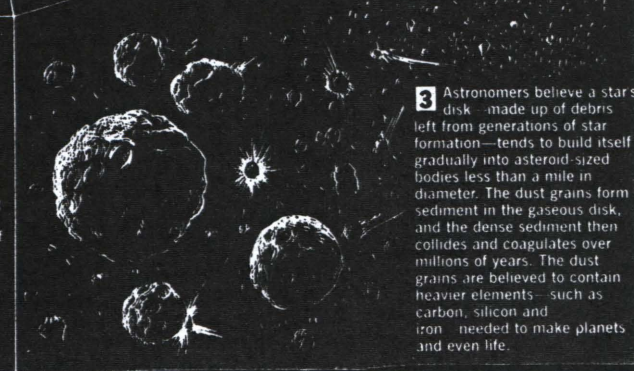


4 Swarms of asteroid-size "planetesimals" accumulate through random collisions, leaving a few widely separated larger bodies, hundreds of miles in diameter. Finally the planet embryos, subject to gravitational attractions that cause their orbits to intersect, collide to form planets.

SOURCE: American Astronomical Society



2 The individual stars rapidly start to wander from the family hearth, moving 18 trillion miles during their first million years. As they accumulate years and mileage, they appear to lose their whirling disks—but in fact do not.



3 Astronomers believe a star's disk—made up of debris left from generations of star formation—tends to build itself gradually into asteroid-sized bodies less than a mile in diameter. The dust grains form sediment in the gaseous disk, and the dense sediment then collides and coagulates over millions of years. The dust grains are believed to contain heavier elements—such as carbon, silicon and iron—needed to make planets and even life.

BY JOHNSTONE QUINN—THE WASHINGTON POST

giant molecular cloud of dark gas and dust about 1,500 light years from Earth in the constellation Orion.

It is in such vast clouds that star formation takes place, as small, dense pockets of cold dust and gas condense out of them and the buildup of gravity causes the pockets to collapse from the inside out. More gas and dust are attracted into a flat disk around the forming star. As that energy is converted into heat, the mass gives off infrared radiation.

Because of the large field of view of the new infrared equipment, the team was freed from the need to aim at a known target—a sure thing—in order not to waste their precious telescope time. So they swung their telescope south of the brilliant and often studied star-forming region of the Orion Nebula to largely ignored parts of the vast cloud known as Lynds 1641.

Past observations had been able to detect only the hot clouds around presumed stellar nurseries, or the older stars that had migrated to the surface of the clouds where they are visible, or the easily detected giant stars being formed in massive clusters, as in the Orion Nebula.

Big stars formed in big clusters tend to remain bound together by

their gravity. However, Strom said, "most stars are not in bound clusters. ... All around us are individual stars." And while their brightness may vary, most stars are of a modest but long-lasting size, like the sun (which is about 5 billion years old and will remain stable for another 5 billion or so).

Astronomers had long believed that stars are born either singly, as most of them appear, or in crowded clusters of hundreds or thousands.

But the new study upsets that notion. It reveals several small, "common middle-class families" of stars—born neither in isolation, nor in hot, rich star-forming clusters, Strom said, but in groups small enough to allow them to escape each others' grasp.

The team's painstaking infrared "map" of the cloud shows 3,000 stars. The youngest appear in seven family aggregates of 10 to 50 siblings each. The siblings in each group reside together within the span of a single light year (a relatively minor 5.8 trillion miles).

With estimated ages of a few hundred thousand years, these stars are as young as any ever discovered.

Like restless young everywhere, the astronomers found, these "starlets" wander rapidly away from their

birthplaces, driven by internal or external forces. "A million years after birth, a typical star will have moved three light years from home," Strom said. Within a few million years, they have moved tens of light years—essentially flying apart.

The astronomers suggest, based on previous observations of circumstellar disks, that the disks don't just disappear; instead, their orbiting dust grains form gradually into objects the size of asteroids, known as planetesimals, which then could collide with each other to build themselves into planets.

A different team from the University of Chicago's Adler Planetarium using the Hubble Space Telescope, recently obtained what they identified as the first real images of disks of "protoplanets" forming around stars within the Orion Nebula.

The team's observations indicate that Lynds 1641 has been giving birth to stars nearly continuously for more than 10 million years. The distribution of the older stars in the cloud has become random, with no clues as to the birth "families."

The findings reinforce the notion that our solitary sun has a few unidentified brothers or sisters wandering through its nearby universe.

THE STAR LEDGER, February 7, 1993

FREE



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HISTORY: In 1947, Kenneth Arnold saw nine disk-shaped objects while flying near Mt. Rainer in Washington State. When reporters asked him what the objects looked like, he dubbed the phrase:

"FLYING SAUCERS"

Two weeks later, a UFO crashed outside of Roswell, New Mexico. The U.S. Air Force announced that it was a flying saucer, but the next day declared it was a weather balloon. Many witnesses, who were involved in the recovery of the object, said it was an extraterrestrial craft and that the government recovered four deceased aliens from the wreckage.

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Confirmed Speakers for Saturday April 17th: Kevin Randle, Howard and Connie Menger, Thomas J. Carey, Rosemary E. Guiley, Dr. Frank Stranges, CDR Graham Bethune USNR. Speakers for Sunday April 18th: Maj. Colman S. Von Keviczky, MMSE. SC, Ret., David Huggins, Howard Menger, Richard Butler, Dr. Frank Stranges, Jim Mosely and Richard Price.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Cost: For both Saturday and Sunday \$100.00 per person or \$50.00 per day if you cannot attend both days. For information more information on conference please call: Pat J. Marcattilio, between 11 am - 2 pm EST at 1-609-888-1358 for information concerning the conference.

MUFON 1993 SYMPOSIUM

UFOLOGY: The Emergence of a New Science

JULY 2, 3 & 4, 1993

Hyatt Richmond Hotel
6624 West Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23230

Confirmed Speakers from foreign countries: Vincente-Juan Ballester Olmos (Spain), Colin Andrews (England), Cynthia Hind (Zimbabwe), Illobrand von Ludwiger (Germany), Hoang-Yung Chiang, Ph.d.(Taiwan). Other speakers on the agenda are John E. Mack, M.D., George Knapp, Linda Moulton Howe, John F. Schuessler, Wesley E. Ellison, Jeffrey W. Sainio and Jorge Martin (Puerto Rico).

There are 350 rooms reserved for July 2 and 3 at the Hyatt Richmond Hotel at a rate of \$62 per night for single, double, triple or quad occupancy. For reservations call 804-285-1234 or FAX 804-288-3961. Information of symposium registration will be announced in future issues of the *New Jersey Chronicle*.

Back to Back: 1993 MUFON Conference, July 5 March on Washington

The 1993 MUFON National conference will take place Saturday and Sunday, July 3 and 4, in Richmond, Va. The Second National March on Washington, sponsored by Operation Right to Know, takes place Monday July 5. Please note: Monday July 5 is a holiday since July 4 falls on a Sunday.

Richmond is about 100 miles south of Washington, D.C. Those participating in the Washington demonstration can remain in Richmond the night of Sunday, July 4, then take the Amtrak train to Washington early Monday morning for the march and rally. Plan your return flight from Washington on Monday.

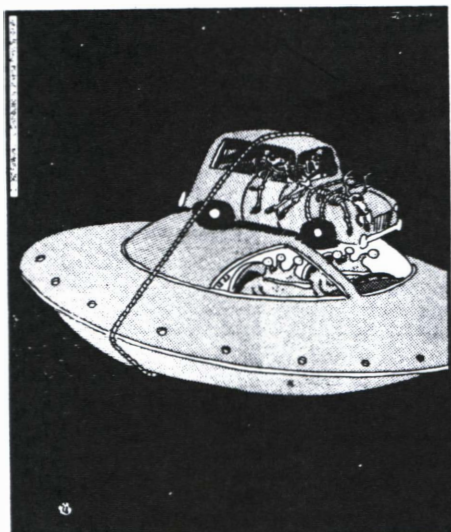
MUFON, as a tax-exempt organization, cannot engage in political action. For this reason, MUFON is not a sponsor of the July 5 March. This event is sponsored by Operation Right to Know.

THE INFORMATION NETWORK

We share stories and information from other newsletters from all over the country. Among them are:

Arkansas MUFON Newsletter
 Arizona MUFON Newsletter
 Citizens Against UFO Secrecy
 Colorado MUFON NEWS
 CONTACT NOTES UFO Forum-Atlanta, Ga.
 Florida MUFON NEWS
 FOCUS-Fair-Witness Project, Inc., Ca.
 Illinois MUFON Newsletter
 LA MUFON Newsletter
 Michigan MUFON Newsletter
 New Hampshire MUFON Newsletter
 New Mexico MUFON NEWS
 North Dakota MUFON Newsletter
 Oklahoma MUFON NEWS
 Operation Right to Know, Washington D.C.
 PASU Data Exchange, Pa.
 SKYWATCH, Ga.
 The UFO ENIGMA, Missouri
 the Ufologist, Palatka, Fl.
 UFO Potpourri, Houston, Tx.
 and especially the
 U.F.O. News clipping Service for providing
 current UFO related stories from around the world!

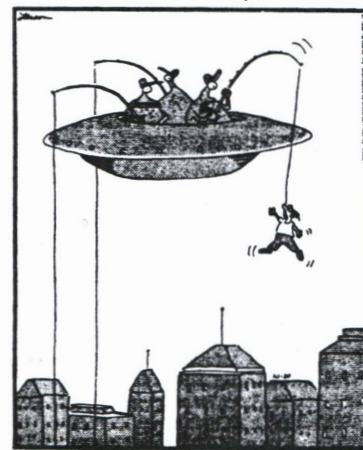
THE LIGHTER SIDE OF UFOLOGY



"I've done it! The first real evidence of a UFO! ... And with my own camera, in my own darkroom, and in my own ..."

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Hard! ... Dang!"