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Fifth Issue!

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TAOS HUM - NOT JUST IN TAOS?

We have been reporting on the Taos hum for several issues. Current news is that a scientific team has been organized to study the phenomenon.

Joe Mullins, a member of the team, commented that the hum may not be just a local phenomenon. Mullins, chairman of UNM's Mechanical Engineering Department, said, "Similar low-frequency hums have occurred in other areas, often close to mountains."

According to the April 1993 *Classified Communications* (C-Com), an independent UFO/Forcean newsletter, there are "hums" occurring in places other than Taos.

In early 1992, residents of Hueytown, Alabama (southwest of Birmingham) reported hearing a loud hum that came and went erratically. It was a low-pitched, steady sound emanating from the surrounding hills. The hum faded away and returned every three days. (*This hum may have been traced to a fan in an underground mine--ed.*)

Also, according to C-Com, a similar hum, called "the noise," has been heard in New Zealand. Younger people can't hear it as well as older people. In some areas of the countryside, the "noise" seems amplified. The noise also seems more intense inside cars with the windows rolled up. The noise seems to come from all directions and seems to be a definite external effect.

Are we talking about an unknown natural phenomenon or one not well understood? Let's look at the matter of "infrasonic sound." Very low vibrations in the infrasonic range (below the normal hearing range) can create a reverberation in solid objects that quickly builds up to intolerable intensity. The length of the wave most dangerous to life is 7 vibrations per second, or 7 Hertz. At 7 Hertz, one has a vague impression of sound and a feeling of general discomfort. At 3.5 Hertz, nothing can be heard directly, but there is a curious incidental effect: Nearby sounds take on a pulsing quality and all sounds in the neighborhood seem to "undulate" rhythmically. These very low air vibrations can cause headaches and nausea (see

Armand A. Laprade, "Sound--A Deadly New Weapon?" in *Delve*, #7).

In Taos in the summer of 1992, a Denver acoustical engineer isolated a steady primary tone of 17 Hertz--just below the 20- to 30-Hertz range that is the low limit of normal human hearing--with a rising "harmonic" reaching up to 70 Hertz (*Albuquerque Journal*, July 5, 1992).

There are many things which could cause a hum. Apparently large, underground ventilation fans can cause a hum as can pumps on sewage treatment plants. Regarding this possibility, Michael Valerio, Taos Water Resources Director, said in July 1992 that no recent additions have been made to the Taos sewage treatment plant.

The Taos hum phenomenon is more than a curiosity since it is causing health problems for many residents. It may be very difficult to determine its cause as there seem to be many variables which will all have to be considered.

Your Newsletter will try to keep you informed of any new developments, but please send us clippings and pass along any news you hear: we don't see everything and appreciate all the assistance you can give us. (*Please include the date and source of your clippings. Thanks--ed.*)

CALENDAR

1. June MUFON Meeting - As of press time, the date and speaker were not yet finalized. Please call 897-2066 for information.
2. May 21-23, Whole Life Expo 1993. Sweeney Convention Center, Hilton Hotel, Santa Fe, NM.
3. Richmar Earthgate Group Workshop, "Earth Change Preparation," will be held on Saturday, May 15, 1993 at the Mid-Town Holiday Inn from 9 am to 5 pm. Cost for this workshop is \$35.

CAN SOME UFOS BE EXPLAINED BY EARTHQUAKE LIGHTS?

by John S. Derr, Ph.D.

The first recorded sighting of earthquake lights (EQLs) dates from 373 BC in Greece. The same report mentions extensive underground rivers, but it has taken over 2300 years and the development of statistical methods to suggest a connection between fluid pressure, earthquakes, and geophysical luminosities. In Denver and Rangely, Colorado, sightings of EQLs correlate with earthquakes correlate with earthquakes and injection of fluid into the earth for waste disposal or secondary oil recovery. In the New Madrid, Missouri area, luminosities are highly correlated with flooding on the Mississippi River and tend to occur 3 months after high water, while earthquakes tend to occur 9 months after high water.

Many reported EQLs bear a strong resemblance to ball lightning and are almost certainly electrical in nature. Low frequency radio emissions, especially in the ULF band, have been shown to precede all moderate-to-large earthquakes in California in the last decade, they accompany the Marfa (Texas) mystery lights, and are probably a general characteristic of tectonic strain.

We suggest, therefore, a connection between fluid pressure (moving through developing cracks as a potential source of electrical energy for the EQLs), geophysical luminosities, electromagnetic emissions from the earth, and earthquakes.

The pattern of occurrence of EQLs and radio emissions may delineate the progress of tectonic strain and so indicate the direction or even location of a future epicenter.

But the EQLs are what may be of interest to those researching UFOs. For example, the Nullarbor Plain, southern Australia, UFO sightings occurred a few days before the largest known earthquake series to strike the great artesian basin. An object shaped like an egg cup was reported to pursue a car on the Nullarbor Plain. A few minutes later, crewmen on a tuna boat to the south in the Great Australian Bight, reported that they were buzzed by a UFO. The story was broadcast on National Public Radio the next day, and John Derr commented informally to his colleagues that, with such spectacular reports, there ought to be an earthquake. Two days later, a series of major earthquakes (three measuring M 6.3, 6.4 and 6.7, plus many aftershocks) began in the Northern Territory of Australia, 1400 km to the north of the sightings. Intraplate earthquakes of this magnitude are so rare that it is difficult to assign this correlation to chance alone.

One person's noise can be another person's data. Using only a few simple assumptions, Derr and his colleagues "have found that the central body of reports

of UFOs appears to be geophysical luminosities which are earthquake precursors."

If you were able to attend the March meeting, you saw Dr. Derr's presentation of charts and graphs that broke UFO sightings into groups and used J. Allen Hynek's strangeness scale to partition the data further. He showed us how the ball-lightning-like UFO sighting component of the data compared to the sequence of earthquakes in the six-state Central US region. Simple statistical methods showed highly significant correlations. Control data sets showed no significance. "Clearly," Dr. Derr wrote, "we are compelled to accept the hypothesis that [these kind of luminosities, the ball lighting types] and earthquakes are correlated in this region in this time period. Further analysis shows that the luminous phenomena tend to precede the earthquakes by a few days to a few months. We also observed that many of these LP occurred at times of record flooding of the Mississippi River."

Dr. Derr showed us graphs and data from other areas of the country, like Colorado and Washington, as well as further afield (Canada, Egypt, Japan). In his paper, he admitted:

"Much work remains to be done to understand how electrical energy is generated by stress prior to earthquakes, transmitted to the surface, projected into the air, and then transformed into a visible plasma. Clearly, we are far from having a link-by-link chain of mechanisms from initial strain to reported luminosities." He does feel, though, that "most" UFOs reported to be like ball lightning "appear to be related to the injection of fluid, the accumulation of stress, and the release of seismic energy, at least in all the areas we have analyzed... Many of the least-strange UFO phenomena... may in fact be unexplained conventional phenomena [stars, planets, satellites]. At the other end of [the Hynek-inspired] scale, we make no claims for the most strange... except to say that they do not fit our model."

In any event, the sighting of EQLs may become a tool for predicting earthquakes.

John S. Derr completed his Ph.D. in Geophysics at the University of California, Berkeley in 1986, and joined the USGS in 1974, working in seismology with the National Earthquake Information Center. He has or is working with data collection projects and has published numerous articles on seismology, geophysical luminosities as earthquake precursors, and data collection systems. (Portions of this article used material from the Abstract of the Presentation Dr. Derr and his colleague, Michael Persinger gave to the First European Meeting, Society for Scientific Exploration, Munich, Germany, August 7-8, 1992; the presentation was entitled "Hydrological Anomalies Preceding Earthquakes and Luminous Phenomena.")

ISABELLE KINGSTON ON CROP CIRCLES

British psychic and crop circle researcher Isabelle Kingston presented a fascinating lecture on April 6, 1992 at the Sandia Church of Religious Science in Albuquerque. The evening was sponsored by the Society of Layerists in Multi-Media.

A clairvoyant and clairaudient from a family of psychics descended from Edward III, Isabelle became involved with crop circles in early 1980 when she was "told" to move to Wiltshire to be part of "something really special—to prove we're receiving assistance from the unseen and to link that consciousness with the world."

Isabelle began receiving information about Silbury Hill and the area where crop circles were appearing. In 1987 she was told she would get a sign. One night she saw a huge orange ball accompanying her car. The orange ball identified itself as "the Watchers." Her car began to vibrate and the dials went crazy. The orange light stopped over Silbury Hill and then disappeared. Not that morning but the morning after there was a formation in a field near her home. After this incident she began to work with these energies, channelling information and investigating circles with all the major crop circle researchers, including Colin Andrews.

Isabelle showed slides of crop circles and told of her experiences in them. She feels that the crop circle phenomenon is a positive interaction between many forces, including plant devas, involving cooperation, camaraderie, and transformation. "Scientists are being changed," she said. "And scientists and psychics must get together. In ancient times they were one and the same. Now it's beginning to happen again."

Crop circles are a doorway to other dimensions, Isabelle stated.

She believes dolphins can sense other dimensions and are perhaps communicating with the "Watchers."

The actual crops that are harvested from crop circles go into the food chain and, Isabelle feels, this creates a homeopathic remedy for mankind. She suggested with a smile that "Perhaps the affected wheat will go into the lager that 'soccer crazies' drink and have a calming effect on them."

Regarding the nature of the crop circle energy, she said it feels like it is coming from above sometimes, and sometimes from below.

She said she knows that the images produced in the crops are important. They are seen and go into our subconscious and we change. "Is something being awakened by these symbols and signs?" she asked. "Our ancestors, the old ones, are in our genes. We are receiving messages and these old symbols are crating a change in ourselves. There is an opening of psychic abilities now. We can link with the Sky Father and Mother Earth and Her children."

On the following day, Isabelle hosted a special workshop entitled "Are Crop Circles Speaking to You?" Your newsletter editor also attended this workshop, excited and curious to learn more about Isabelle's psychic interpretation of crop circles and to understand something of her methods. The morning was spent looking at slides of crop circles with the idea of choosing those that seemed "special" or "meaningful" to us.

Isabelle spoke further about how these formations represent a coming together of science and the psychic levels and how the *visual* element of this phenomenon is so important. It is real and when people see them they have to receive the message whether they like it or not. These images create changes in people without their being aware of it. Even scientists change due to being in the formations! "They become enlightened," she said.

After lunch we were given dousing rods and Isabelle showed us how to douse each others auras, noting how one's aura extends out a certain distance but can become "larger" if "healing" energies are sent to that person by the dowser.

Isabelle then put us in groups according to which crop circle formations were our favorites. Sitting close and meditating, we visualized the specific formations and then shared our impressions with each other and then with the group. Some of the impressions received were surprisingly personal yet corresponded to findings published by crop circle researchers. Isabelle speculated that this was possible because the "energy knows what's going on and is always one step ahead of us with a great sense of humor!"

(Note: Isabelle Kingston is one of the contributors to Crop Circles, Harbingers of World Change, edited by Alick Bartholomew [Gateway Books, 1991]. This beautiful volume has many fine crop circle photographs, illustrations and articles, and presents a wide range of possible meanings of the crop circles.)

—Carolyn Duce-Ashe

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A NEW PARADIGM FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ASTROLOGY - Part I

by Norman A. Foster

I think that it was Victor Hugo who said that "There is no power so strong as that of an idea who's time has come." So may the power be with me in this endeavor to cast aside the fear of never being able to record the efforts of my research. A special thanks has to go to "God, the supreme being, and to my Gang of unseen Friends." Add to that the "Wonder of my Swinging Stone" when it comes to its input at times of frustration. Now to acknowledge my affinity for wading into areas where Angels fear to tread.

Hypothesis: At the time of the birth event, a unique set of energies are cast over the planet earth for that individual. These energies are represented as harmonic lines that can be located geographically and are available for the lifetime of that person. The relationship of these harmonics to the network of earth energy grids, allows each of us to find our common connection with the planet earth.

It is my belief that the energy alignments (positions) of the planets at the exact time of birth influences the potential for future actions of the individual. Also, those positions when plotted on an accurate cartographic illustration can be used to identify geographic locations of significance for each person. The individual may elect to use or to ignore the energies available to him for the original alignment.

That use may include establishing, expanding, and understanding himself, his family, his own relationships to people, to the earth and earth's energy grids. Before a person can successfully harness his personal energies from his birth planet grid, he must understand which planets supply the energy and where the energy concentrations occur. It is easiest for most people to understand these concepts after they have been visually transcribed into geographic localities on recognizable world maps.

A new 21st century astrological paradigm will include identifying one's potential for experiencing an extraterrestrial encounter. The signatures will be similar to that of a near-death experiencer. My research indicates a recurrence of these experiences in cycles throughout the individual's life. It is interesting that people who have had encounters will mate with persons from the harmonic of the Sun, but a harmonic of either Venus or Mars will be located near 7½ degrees of longitude to either side of where they met and/or where they were born. I am encouraged to reveal this information at this time because of a recent publication by Kenneth Ring, Ph.D., as part of his *Omega Project*, subtitled *Near-Death Experiences, UFO Encounters, and Mind at Large*. Some of the

commonalities that I have seen are that in the case of either experience, a life change will occur that includes change of marital status, increased sensitivity and an awareness of the need to be ready to help the world community through the impending transition.

The above are from a proposed book entitled *A New Paradigm for the Twenty First Century Astrology*, coauthored by Norm Foster, astrologer, owner and operator of AstroBio, located at 1405-E San Mateo NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. (This article will be continued in our next issue...)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The NM MUFON NEWS publication deadline for submitting ads, articles, clippings, cartoons, etc. is the *10th of the month*. Special arrangements and breaking news can be discussed with the editor.

2. Want to advertise? We are accepting advertisements. Currently, the rates are: Business card size (3.5"x2") only \$5 per month. Quarter page: \$10; Half page: \$20. Full page: \$40. Call Carolyn at 897-7075 for information or to place an ad.

3. *CONGRATULATIONS* to Maria Rowlette, who has recently been named Co-State Director for NM MUFON. We thank Maria for all her past and present work and acknowledge the important work she is doing in making in this organization a success.

4. Best wishes to Jan Wilson on a long-awaited and worked-for Graduation!

5. Rosemary Ellen Guiley, Director of the Center for North American Crop Circle Studies, plans to be in New Mexico in the week of September 19. She and Richard Rowlette, MUFON State Director, are arranging for her to talk to us.

6. Stanton Friedman's article should continue in the next issue (breaking news permitting!).

REMOTE VIEWING AND PSI TECH, INC.

What is *remote viewing*? The term remote viewing (RV) describes a psychic process very like clairvoyance--seeing at a distance. Although clairvoyance has been around a long time and seems to be a natural gift, RV must be perfected through training.

The Stanford Research Institute (SRI) did intensive studies and documented many successful experiments with RV during the 1980s (see *The Mind Race*, by Targ and Puthoff). SRI experiments used two people, one to send the information and one to receive it. While these experiments were going on at SRI, researchers in the USSR were also doing experiments (see *Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain*, by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder). There are other institutes which have looked into remote viewing as well,

including Stephan A. Schwartz' Mobius Group, which has investigated many ancient archeological sites.

Ingo Swann, known as the West's greatest natural psychic, worked at SRI. He developed an advanced method of RV using only one viewer. This method is copyrighted by Ingo Swann and is the method used by Ed Dames and Psi Tech, Inc.

When Dames gets a contract he assigns it a number. The six viewers who work for Psi Tech get only that number to work with. The viewers sit alone a room with a pen and a stack of white paper in front of them. They make notes and especially *drawings* of what is viewed. The viewer doesn't analyze what he or she sees but only records it. Psi Tech has professional analysts (scientists and technicians) who then interpret the data and develop a report which is given to the client.

According to Dames, RV can be learned by almost anyone, but meditation or practicing other forms of mental discipline (like martial arts) may make it more easy to learn to remote view.

It is *not* a trance state, as in some forms of meditation; rather, it is a form of *heightened concentration and readiness*. Two important aspects of Psi Tech's RV training are emotional detachment and suppressing the imagination. In other words, the remote viewer is trained to gather pure data.

The two things that are reported to be never exact in RV are dates and numbers. Why is this? Perhaps it has to do with the nature of time and the interaction of time and free will. Also, a remote viewer can go to a location anywhere in time or space and view it in minute detail, but may not be able to say just *where* that location is.

What are some of the claims made by Psi Tech about RV? Ed Dames offers a 100-percent money-back guarantee on the information which is reported to the client. This report is based on data seen by most or all of the viewers and determined to be exact. Other less-exact data may be given to the client but with a lower percentage of guaranteed accuracy. Psi Tech's remote viewers must be consistently very accurate--or they are fired.

Want to learn how to remote view? Read Ingo Swann's *Natural ESP* and start practicing. Or, in 1995, you may be able to enroll in a RV school in Albuquerque, possibly run by Ed Dames! Dames says he only teaches children now--they learn faster and are better at it. It's also interesting to note that he says each generation of remote viewers is much better than its teachers... seems like RV may be a part of our future whether we like it or not. Start learning about it: maybe we'll soon be *doing* it.

--Carolyn Duce-Ashe

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FROM OUT OF THE BLUE!

4 April 93

1550 California Street
Suite 6 L
San Francisco, Ca 94109

Dear Carolyn:

Thanking you for your recent communication,
and with best personal regards,

Jacques
Dr. Jacques Vallee

→ And thanks for the issue of
NM MUFON News!

Carolyn,

Please start my subscription to MN MUFON News and you may begin with Issue #4. (I have issues 1 though 3). I have included an article on lightning that appeared in Discover (April 1993, pg 10). I remember reading about a cosmic ray trigger for lightning at least 10 years ago.

Enjoy your pub
E. T. (Ed) Tyson
Alamogordo, NM

Dear Carolyn:

Thanks very much for your letter in reply to mine. I trust March 12th passed without significant occurrences.

I support of your publication, I am enclosing a money order in the amount of \$12 for a subscription.

Will be interested to hear if "anything" occurs between Santa Fe and Taos in the next few weeks.

Looking forward to being in touch with you again.
Best Regards,

Tom Adams, Paris, Texas

Dear Carolyn,

Thanks for another very interesting issue of NM MUFON News. I appreciated your very kind comments

concerning the Ozark UFO Conference and I'm glad you apparently felt that it was worth the trip. That was the worst weather we've had for any of the conferences, but I suppose everyone's luck runs out eventually!

Looking forward to all future issues and let me know if I can be of help in any way.

Yours truly,

Lucius Farish

Plumerville, Arkansas

UPDATE: MUTILATIONS IN ALABAMA

We've heard numerous reports of the mysterious cattle mutilations on Sand Mountain, Alabama since October 1992. To date about 30 carcasses have been found (one as recently as April 6, 1993).

Alabama police officer, Ted Oliphant, reported that investigators have determined that the mutilations are *not* due to predator attacks, satanists or covert tests by official agencies.

The carcasses show classical mutilation attributes: neat surgical cuts and removal of body parts such as tongues and teeth, eyes, anus and genitalia. Also, typically, no blood is found on or near the dead animals and there are no tracks or signs of struggle found.

A strange powder found on one of the cows was analyzed and found to contain titanium, silicon, aluminum and oxygen, Oliphant reported.

Also included in the mystery are black, unmarked helicopters, and UFOs. According to Oliphant 95% of the cases involve reports of helicopter with red, green and white or blue and white lights. The town of Fyffe, near where some mutilations have taken place, was proclaimed by the Alabama state Senate to be the "UFO Capital of Alabama." Many UFOs are being seen now and have been tentatively associated with the mutilations.

Linda Moulton Howe has been in Alabama investigating the mutilations, collecting samples and working on an upcoming documentary film. Your newsletter staff heard Linda's up-to-the-minute report on the Alabama mutilations at the Ozark UFO Conference on April 3, 1993. Linda showed raw footage of the mutilated cows and interviews with farmers and veterinarians in Alabama.

The FAA is apparently participating in the investigation as well, due to the unexplained presence of the low-flying unmarked helicopters.

COLORADO MUTILATIONS RESUME, BRIGHT LIGHTS SEEN

According to reports in the *Albuquerque Tribune* (April 15, 16, 1993) mysterious cattle mutilations, which

began in the late 1960s and seemed to stop in the 1980s, have resumed in the San Luis Valley and the neighboring valley west of Trinidad, in southern Colorado.

These mutilations appear to have the same strange and unexplained characteristics of classic mutilations: lack of footprints, vehicle tracks or any sign of a struggle; selective "surgical" removal of certain parts of the animals; and a lack of witnesses.

"No tracks, no footprints, no signs of anything that could have killed them," said Costilla County sheriff Billy Maestas. "We didn't find bullet holes or cartridges or wounds."

In addition to mutilations there have been numerous reports of bright lights seen in the same area. In November, 1992, one observer "got up about 3 o'clock in the morning and saw a bunch of lights overhead. There must have been 15 or 16 of them. They were in a kind of semicircle, and there were four lights moving around in the center of the circle. And there wasn't a sound in the sky."

In early December, 1992 two other observers said they awoke in the pre-dawn hours to find a bright yellow-orange light shining through the bedroom windows.

It was not reported whether helicopters have been seen in connection with the mutilations or the mysterious lights. These phenomena are occurring just north of the New Mexico border and residents in Chama, New Mexico have been alerted by Colorado officials on several occasions.

STICKY BUSINESS-- A MUTILATED PORCUPINE

The *Rio Rancho Observer* (April 21, 1993) reported that a porcupine was found dead and skinned of its pelt. The carcass was found by a construction worker on April 13 in a portable toilet on a construction site.

"Officer (Kenny) Maher, of Animal Control, was suspicious of possible occult crime when he saw the animal's skin and legs removed", the police report states.

The animal's paws were removed and it was entirely skinned including the head. No signs or insignia of occult worship were found on or around the body.

The body was in the chemically treated toilet water for at least 24 hours. This prevented further analysis of post-mortem injuries.

Since porcupines are not one of "satanists" favorite animals, it was concluded that the animal was possibly trapped and skinned for its pelt and the carcass dumped.

THE VIEW FROM HERE:

An On-going Column by NM MUFON Members

by David A. Crossley

Part II

Q: *Could the UFO abduction scenario be a result of some Government experiment in mind-control or telepathy, or perhaps a fabricated illusion to conceal something else?*

Examination of the abduction literature shows a body of evidence that is heavily contaminated with intentional fraud (the Travis Walton case), totally unreliable witnesses (the "Linda" case), and wildly insupportable claims (Hopkins: ... 10 million or more Americans have been abducted but don't remember it). The "missing fetus" cases have, without exception, been called into question under close investigation, in that no case known to me has a convincing chain of evidence of pregnancy, abduction and nonpregnancy. Authors like Hopkins

and Strieber have had their remarkable claims accepted into UFO lore without scrutiny (except by each other). On several occasions skeptics like Klass have challenged them to put their "best case" on display for analysis. Each time this has been done, the case has disintegrated.

Before ufologists start spending time on abduction explanations, at least one rock-solid case is needed to take to the lab. Too many side issues are impeding serious investigation. Several tabloids have continuing, very large rewards for the best abduction case, an offer which sends the frauds into a feeding frenzy. Also, the reliability of hypnotic regression has convincingly been discredited, particularly when used as the only information source. There are apparently many reliable and sincere individuals who assert the abduction experience, without hypnosis, bribes or prompting from Hopkins. These (often less spectacular) cases should be examined in preference to those which make better press but weaker science.

Your newsletter staff finds David Crossley's argument well reasoned. Sometimes, though, skeptics become debunkers, and debunkers can be identified using the following guidelines.

THE VARIETIES OF DEBUNKERITIS: A PARTIAL LIST

The following was retrieved from the MUFON bulletin board, which got it from ParaNet Information Services.

Compiled by Jerome Clark, December 1992.

Debunkeritis: The inability of some leading self-described "skeptics" to bring rational discourse to the debate on UFOs and other anomalous claims.

McCarthy's disease: An irresistible compulsion to intimate that ufologists may be harming America by doing thing that America's enemies also seek to accomplish, such as make the extraordinarily irresponsible claim that "our government cannot be trusted" and that it sometimes "lies" and "falsifies," just as the Soviet Union has charged. Further symptoms call for the sufferer to express his outrage "as a patriotic citizen" and to speak of Nazi Party meetings in discussions of meetings of ufologists, as if to imply the two were somehow comparable. The sufferer may also threaten to sue when someone reveals that sufferer has expressed such sentiments; see Bully's disease, below.

Snooper's disease: A helpless inability to resist (1) investigating the personal lives of those with whom

the sufferer disagrees; or (2) encouraging others to do so; or (3) bringing personal matters otherwise deemed irrelevant into debates on issues related to UFOs or like phenomena.

Apocalyptic's disease: The strange view that popular interest in anomalies and the paranormal threatens not only science, which most would regard as a hugely powerful entity in any modern society which depends on sophisticated technology for its economic survival, but also the continued existence of civilization and democracy. Further symptom: The belief that those who hold unconventional views comprise such a clear and present danger that hundreds of thousands of dollars must be raised as rapidly as possible to construct a Taj Mahal of debunkeritis near Buffalo, New York.

Party-Line disease: Utter failure to understand that "scientific investigation of claims of the paranormal"—or anything else—requires vigorous internal debate, criticism, and policing, not just the bashing of persons who perversely hold views one does not like; nor does it require emotional and desperate defenses of allies even in the face of brazen, occasionally even criminal, misconduct. Within the UFO-debunking subcult, for example, sufferers compete to see who can express more absolute agreement than the next with the dictates of the subcult's leader, even (or particularly) when he is exhibiting symptoms of McCarthy's disease, Snooper's disease, or other afflictions. A related symptom: Sometimes, when the dictate in question is so outrageous that it cannot be specifically defended,

either the sufferer's allies will stonewall rather than dissent or they will attack, typically without mentioning the dictate at issue, the individual who has complained about it; see, for example, *Skeptical Inquirer*, Summer 1987, p. 334.

Crackpot's disease: Inability to write without significant, sometimes total, recourse to **bold** or **enhanced** type and *italics*, underlined, or CAPITALIZED words, or--frequently--combinations thereof in the same phrase or sentence....!

Bully's disease: Tendency to threaten those with whom one disagrees with legal suit when all else fails

to silence them. One prominent debunkeritis sufferer hurls or hints at such threats so often that the total may be impossible to calculate.

Demonologist's disease: The conviction that those who criticize an organization with which you are associated are "evil." This last word is not a paraphrase. It is an exact quote from a pronouncement of a leading debunkeritis sufferer.

Stroker's disease: The pathetic need to belong to an organization whose purpose is to continually assure its members, associates, and subscribers of how rational they are.

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For reporting UFO sightings and animal mutilations: Peter Limone, 884-2199.

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