

Minnesota MUFON Journal

Issue #80 November/December 1999

Minnesota MUFON Leadership Shifts

Dick Moss (former State Dir. of MN MUFON) is now Assistant State Dir. and Bill McNeff (former Assis. State Dir.) is taking over the State Directorship as of Oct. 1999. The reason for the change is to free Dick up (now that he has retired from teaching) to start new sections in other areas of Minnesota where there are few or no members/ investigators. Bill was State Director before Dick took over, so he is the obvious choice and should offer good leadership. He is also located closer to the current group, which makes him more accessible.

Good luck to Dick and Bill in their new roles!

MICHAEL LINDEMANN TELLS IT LIKE IT IS

By Bill McNeff, MN MUFON State Dir.

Michael Lindemann held the interest of about 93 people at the Hopkins House on Oct. 9 with his presentation on "Real Scenarios of Alien Contact". First he told us, Governor Ventura is terrific, an unconventional person who would probably be an ally [of the UFO research community]. Lindemann said "I will approach the subject from the standpoint that UFOs can and probably do represent extraterrestrial intelligence. The idea of panspermia, that life came to earth in the form of microscopic creatures from space, is gaining adherents. Water is everywhere in the visible cosmos, and water is needed for life, as we know it. Tens of millions of snowball sized comets hit the earth every day. There is water on Mars, even at the equator. The Cydonia pictures show ice in a crater at 40 deg. latitude on Mars. Europa has water and ice, and is a prime candidate for the possibility of life. Is the existence of extraterrestrial life being kept secret? It won't be for long! But the revelation of ET reality must be done with out crashing life styles, the economy and religion. This will not be easy. A discussion is going on, MUFON is not a part of it - but it will burst the walls.

Lindemann outlined Contact Scenarios after first describing a rating system for them. Each will have a: 1) Speed of Impact -- slower is better, 2) Manageability -- Can the government body nominally in charge of this retain some control?, 3) Strangeness - Does the discovery conform to our present paradigm? To our religious expectations? Is the life in question like us or very different? Or is it off the chart - "high strangeness?" How will it affect us?

Scenario One: Fossils, Signs and Signals

Fossils can be evidence of extraterrestrial life. The Mars meteorite has been compared to Columbia basalt fossils - 100nm objects were found in

Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., November 13th
&
Sat., December 11th

1:30-5:00pm

Roseville Community Center
2800 Arona Street, Roseville,
MN 651-415-2100

Behind Centennial Methodist
Church on the corner of C2
and Arona.

PARK FREE!

The building is designated as
non-smoking.

See map on back cover

Note: This building has no
special security or elevators,
so you can come and go as
you please and smoke
outdoors, providing more
freedom than the old location.



both. Cilia are seen in the objects Columbia basalt. [Cilia are hair-like projections microscopic life uses for propulsion.] Next are "signs and signals". There are the possible artifacts on Mars - the "Face", the "City", etc. Here on earth there are "out-of-place" artifacts. If there are really artifacts on Mars, they will affect our philosophies. The "Face" on Mars is surrounded by the "helmet" on three sides - straight sided, 1500 feet high and a mile long. If it is an intelligent artifact, there is not a lot of other "artifact stuff" there. The "pyramids" haven't worked out well. The "Face" is like a "flag"; where are the "planters"? (At that point, Bill McNeff mentioned a recent scientific study, which indicates that there is a very small probability that a geometric arrangement of "domes" found on Mars is natural in origin.)

Now astronomers have found all these planets around other stars. They found one big planet at a distance from its star between that of Mars and Jupiter. We will launch space telescopes to look for planets. Our sun is very much like other stars, therefore, per astronomer Seth Shostak, many other stars are "homes to life".

Scenario Two: Life (but not Intelligent Life)

Life forms may be found in the ocean on Europa. The speed of impact: Moderate. Strangeness: Moderate. We can handle it.

Scenario Three: Intelligent Life.

The Drake equation for the number of technological civilizations in our galaxy is: $N = R \times f_p \times n(e) \times f(l) \times f(i) \times f(c) \times L$

But all of the factors except L boil down to unity so that $N = L$, where L is the average lifetime of a technological civilization after radio is developed. L is about 50 years as a minimum, but could easily be as much as 10,000, which means there could be about 10,000 other technological civilizations in our galaxy. But many civilizations may not use radio, which means they are missing almost everybody! Philip Morrison thinks there should be beacons. Frank Drake and Jill Tartar assume there are 50 or more tech societies in our galaxy but they never come face-to-face. They assume "because we don't have interstellar travel, no one else can!" I will go into space soon -- MIR proves we can live in space for years. Space Tourism is the coming thing - buy stock in the space tourism companies! My alma mater,

Stanford University, has backed a space tourism company. The present ticket price is \$95,000 per person, and there are people willing to pay this. Bob Bigelow lately founded Bigelow Aerospace to go to the moon and build hotels there. The Japanese will open a moon hotel in 2017. Our next home will be Mars. When he was President, Bush said "Let's go to Mars". His committee came back with a price tag of \$400 billion - the plan died. But there are lower cost ways to travel in deep space: The Ion Drive, solar powered, high velocity. NASA is looking at Breakthru Propulsion Physics:

- 1) Faster than light travels
- 2) Motion without propellant
- 3) Abundant On-board Energy.
- 4) Hydrogen Ram-Jet
- 5) Zero-Point Energy (there was a recent scientific symposium in Texas on this.)

Can ET get here? The NASA developments listed above lend credibility to the idea. It should not be ruled out. Astronomer Shostak says "An alien probe or craft may enter our solar system and attempt a contact with us." This leads us to a sub-plot of Scenario Three: Arrival: Denial. An ET spacecraft arrives & the government lie about it. Make no mistakes: they will lie when they think it is in our best interests. In 1942, Hitler's U-boats were operating off of the east coast, and sent about 300 ships to the bottom, and the government covered it up. Whenever national security is at stake, this happens. Would they lie to you about ET arrival? Of course!

It's becoming more and more difficult to deny ETs presence. (Lindemann told us he was in a room recently [presumably discussing ET] where all agreed to keep all identities secret.) Then there is the recent report by French military and government officials supporting the reality of UFOs and asking "What must we do?" The French report summarizes some of the best UFO cases: Iran, Kasputin-Yar, Trans-En-Provence., Valensole Lavender Case, RB-47 Case (Jerome Clark: "Arguably the most important case in history."), Lakenheath (Dozens of UFOs over base for 5 ours, jets scrambled).

Scenario Four: The Watchers

ET has been around for thousands of years, but is not interfering in our society. The impact of revealing this would be moderate. They are sitting on this, but they

will tell you about life on Mars in a heartbeat, or SETI success. These are non-threatening. Most space scientists believe we are not alone. Once we are not alone, we enter into an extraordinary time, one of getting to know other beings. We must prepare for other life forms. There are enormous treasures to be gained from this life. They may be our teachers and guides.

ETs may be here already. Shock has been dealt with, but with final contact comes danger to human beliefs. The Brookings Institute made a study of this, and told John F. Kennedy, "Don't tell!" But we will know soon: there are far too many cracks in the edifice. We are forced as a culture to embrace these questions - we are in the moment of impending contact! The risks and benefits cannot be overestimated. But in a larger sense, even contact is just the latest chapter of life on earth. We will always find this planet is a glorious jewel. We are the envy of the cosmos - a good planet is hard to find and, we've got one. This should make us better stewards of the earth.

Reporters Note: I don't know about you, but I really appreciated Lindemann's viewpoint. I feel he is a very careful and intelligent commentator. In the next issue, I will try to summarize the Question and Answer period that followed Lindemann's main presentation.

Walt Andrus, MUFON Nat. Dir., to Retire

Effective July 16, 2000, Walt Andrus will retire as MUFON's International Director after serving for 30 years. Article IV Corporation Officers, Section 1, paragraph (d) of the MUFON Bylaws states: "In case of a vacancy in the office of International Director, the Deputy Director of Administration shall succeed to this office, thereby vacating the office of Deputy Director of Administration." (MUFON Bylaws, March 1982). John F. Schuessler (Littleton, CO) is the reigning Deputy Director of Administration and a founding member of MUFON in 1969.

Dan Wright moved that the MUFON headquarters is moved to the Denver area by Sept. 1, 2000, which was approved by the MUFON Board of Directors. At the request of Carolyn McNellis, the Board selected a committee to submit by Jan. 15, 2000:

- (1) a 5 year long range objectives plan for MUFON
- (2) revise the existing bylaws
- (3) consider an organizational restructure.

The transition will be accomplished in a well-planned, professional manner without disruption in service to MUFON members or the organization. Everyone in MUFON will benefit with the leadership in the hands of John F. Schuessler, who is far more qualified in education and industrial management than Walt.

UFOIN - A new start for British ufology

From: Jenny Randles <nufon@currantbun.com>

Some of the UKs most experienced investigators today launched a bold initiative. They have banded together under a common name - UFOIN (UFO Investigators Network) in an attempt to professionalise ufology in Britain.

UFOIN is a very different kind of UFO network. It is not a membership group. It is not seeking to replace existing groups. It will operate without bureaucracy, committees or rulers and free of all politics. Its most basic principle is a commitment to openness in all that it does. Its decisions will be taken by a vote of all team members. Its actions will be open to public scrutiny. Its publications and files will be accessible to all participants for research purposes. Anyone who works with UFOIN will feel part of a team, not apart from team leaders. Indeed every UFOIN participant has equal status.

UFOIN will be run by investigators for investigators and with 100% of its resources devoted to this task. Nothing will be spent pandering to enthusiasts, putting on lectures or printing magazines. UFOIN will exist purely to conduct objective, in depth investigations to well honed scientific principles. It will also conduct new research that will seek to answer basic questions about the UFO mystery.

College offers Internet UFO Class

From: Tom Bell tombell@jal.cc.il.us, 9/11/99

The following is information about one of the all-internet classes that John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois is offering in the fall. "UFOs: An Alien Connection?" will examine the history of the UFO phenomenon and speculate on the possibility of alien life. It's a continuing education course, taught totally on the Internet. The class utilizes threaded discussion boards, web pages, graphics, audio, video, live chat, etc. We expect to have students from all over the United States and in several countries from

around the world. The cost for the 7-week class is only \$15.00. The class starts Monday, September 13. Registration continues through September 17. Website: <http://instruction.jal.cc.il.us/ps999/>

There will be students with all different levels of knowledge about UFOs, so whether you are just interested or have a great deal of knowledge, or maybe you've had a sighting or experience, you can be a valuable addition to the class. Lots of different viewpoints and ideas will be expressed. Because the class is continuing education, there are no grades or required papers; it's really meant to be a rewarding experience, lots of fun, and a great way to communicate with others who have an interest in the same subject. We'll discuss the probability of alien life, Roswell, Area 51, alleged government conspiracies, international sightings, cover-ups, close encounters, alien abductions and lots of other subjects.

This is the first time we have offered this class. However, for the past year, we have been offering classes on the Internet about the History of Rock and Roll, and the Beatles with a great deal of success and participation by students on several continents. We expect to have the same success with this class.

Fear Fighter 'Extinguishes Anxiety'

Source: BBC News Online: Health, 9/14/99
http://news.bbc.co.uk/low/english/health/newsid_446000/446058.stm

A Walkman-like device that could defeat fear by passing electricity through the brain and re-tuning cells is going on sale in the UK. The compact machine could help people who suffer severe stress and anxiety over things such as exams, interviews or flying. The manufacturers say it can also help people suffering from insomnia or depression. Trials have so far shown that it produces at least a 25% improvement in up to 80% to 90% of patients with such conditions.

Psychological baggage

The Alpha-Stim is based on a prototype built by American neurobiologist Dr. Daniel Kirsch 17 years ago. However, while Dr Kirsch's device was the size of a suitcase, its modern-day counterpart can fit in the palm of the hand. It is described as a "cranial electrotherapy stimulator", and comes in a slim blue and white plastic container. Two electrodes clip on to

the earlobes. Once switched on, it passes a current through the brain for 20 minutes to an hour, depending on the setting. After continued use it can be switched on for shorter periods. The Alpha-Stim is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration in the US as a medical treatment.

'Fashion accessory'

Nick O'Hare is managing director of the London-based medical equipment company Osbon Medical, which will distribute the Alpha-Stim in the UK.

"At first glance it looks just like a personal stereo," he said. "You can slip it in your handbag or clip it on to a belt. Its not necessarily meant for people with extreme problems, although it will help them too. It's for anybody or everybody who wants to feel less of a stress victim."

"You can put it on at breakfast every day before going to work, or whenever you need it. The effect is hard to describe - you feel sort of lightheaded and 'cleaner'. It gives you clarity and makes your thoughts more organized." He said he used the Alpha-Stim to overcome claustrophobic panic attacks on the London Underground, while his wife uses it to overcome her fear of flying.

Relevant Stories:

Taking the anxiety out of impotence (14 Sep 99 | Health)

Therapy by CD-Rom (11 Apr 99 | Health)

Stress causes small babies (15 Jan 99 | Health)

Internet Links:

Alpha-Stim Research Review

Electromedical Products International

Freedom from Fear: A personal tale

[Editor's Note: This sounds like a major step in the creation of the ultimate bio-soldier: the Terminator.]

Marcel's Last Words on Roswell Crash

By Robert Scott Martin, Staff Writer, 9/30/99

http://www.space.com/area51/marcel_990930.html

According to a previously unknown 1981 interview, Jesse Marcel, the Roswell Air Force Base intelligence officer who transformed UFO history when he recovered pieces of an unidentified object in the desert, maintained to the end of his life that the object was no weather balloon.

Linda Corley, who interviewed Marcel five years before his death, closed the 1999 National UFO Conference with a largely impressionistic portrait of the man's last years in Houma, LA, where she still lives. Corley contacted Marcel after a college professor told her class to interview "an interesting person." The resulting four-hour conversation between Marcel, his wife, Viaud, and Corley took place around the Marcells' kitchen table on May 5, 1981, and was recorded on an inexpensive student cassette player. One of the most significant details to emerge from the discussion, believed to be Marcel's last in-depth public statement on the Roswell affair, was the fact that Marcel firmly denied having seen alien corpses in the wreckage. "Had there been bodies of aliens in the debris, I would have picked them up and brought them in," Corley quoted him as saying.

The absence of corpses flies in the face of orthodox Roswell crash mythology. Stanton Friedman, author of *Top Secret/MAJIC*, *Crash at Corona* and other UFO exposes, has previously stated that other sources told him that both debris and bodies were recovered from the crash site, and the possible existence of alien passengers in the crashed object has been one of the main factors fuelling the Roswell industry. Theoretically, of course, Marcel could simply have been unaware of any alien bodies, which may have been taken away before he toured the wreckage. However, this is unlikely. Why would a super-secret effort to recover any bodies before Marcel arrived on the scene leave the strange wreckage behind? Why not take everything?

Not a balloon

Even in the absence of aliens, Marcel remained convinced that the wreckage was not, as the Air Force has since maintained, part of a downed top-secret balloon. "The material was unusual," Corley said he told her. "It couldn't have been a balloon. It was porous, it couldn't hold air." To the best of Marcel's knowledge, the military kept all of the strange metallic fabric that predominated the debris, along with the structural elements that looked like wood but didn't burn.

He had little patience for either the original explanation that the "flying disk" recovered from Roswell was part of a weather balloon, or the official story of a highly classified Mogul spy balloon that emerged later. The infamous photograph of Brigadier

General Roger Ramey displaying the wreckage was unquestionably a fake, he said, staged later "strictly for the press."

"Publicity is not what I want"

Significantly, Marcel does not come across in the Corley interview as a man making up an outlandish story to get attention and possibly money as well, as skeptics have claimed. "Publicity is not what I want," she quotes him as saying. "I feel like I'm a nobody and I'm going to stay a nobody - talk about these things and they get a net after you."

Nor was he a "true believer" interested in spreading his story to win public support for the UFO cause. "I became disinterested" with UFOs, he said. "There's something wrong with me—I'm still curious, but I'm not reading."

Patriotism, silence and their rewards

Marcel described himself as a young man to Corley as being extremely ambitious, "like ten cats on a hot tin roof," a characterization borne out by more than 8 years of active military duty. Still, he left the army at a relatively young age in 1950, whereupon he learned he had received a "stealth promotion" to the rank of lieutenant colonel in December 1948. The file explaining the promotion had been misplaced, he told Corley.

Corley now says Marcel felt unable to tell her everything he knew about certain subjects, quoting him as saying, "I left the service, but remain loyal to the country and a vow I took to keep my mouth shut." That very vow may explain why he called her a few weeks after the interview in a "frantic" mood to tell her that everything he had said had been a lie. He insisted that she not release the information to the press, and so she kept the interview out of the public eye for more than a decade, not even turning it in as part of her school assignment. "My heart really went out to him because he sounded so scared," she said.

Even Memorex fades

Instead, she kept the tapes on the shelf, unplayed but preserved as a testament to the possibly "unique information" they held. By the time Stanton Friedman heard of the interview and asked Corley to release the tapes, they had already decayed and were of dubious use to him.

“It seemed I had waited too long,” she said. Instead, the faded recordings forced her to transcribe the interview herself, she said, using her likewise transitory memories to fill in the gaps. She also made use of a new cassette player that “cleaned” the tapes during playback.

Although Friedman returned two of the three tapes to her in 1995 and the third in 1996, Corley held back on releasing the material until Mrs. Marcel’s recent death, she said. Working with the tapes evidently stirred a profound wave of nostalgia in Corley, as she waxed rhapsodic about the feeling of listening to the innocent and enthusiastic voice of her girlhood after all the years. She framed the afternoon with the Marcells as an almost holy moment, an event somehow set outside time by her own proximity to the golden age of flying saucers and the catastrophic interruption of Roswell.

Corley named the trees in the Marcells’ backyard, showed slides of the suburban house and the elderly couple slouched over their kitchen table. The event has so ingrained itself in her emotional makeup that she has spent apparently vast amounts of time and energy doodling the “pink and purple” marks—often called an example of some alien alphabet in the literature—in various patterns and color schemes.

Earnestness or artifice?

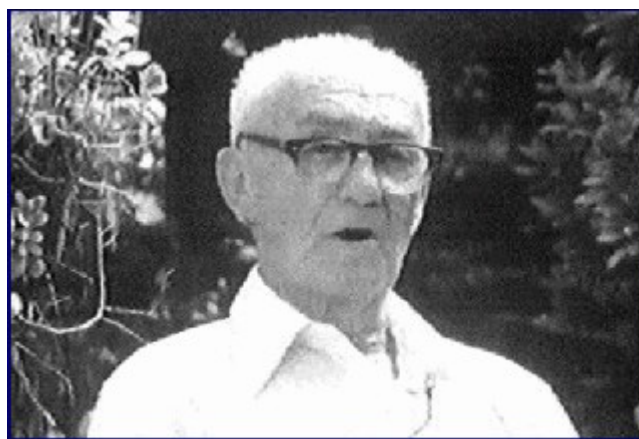
If Corley can exude such apparent yearning and personal attachment to a hoax, then her hoax is one of extraordinary complexity. Her somewhat formal public speaking style and outsider’s willingness to retrace details that are common knowledge in the Roswell field may be the marks of an authentic novice thrust by circumstance into the eye of Ufology, or they may be only an artful mask designed to draw attention away from an interview that never took place. What motivation could she (or, in theory, Friedman) have in going to such extreme lengths to sugarcoat a hoax?

Her prepared speech—of a dozen NUFOC speakers, she is the only one I remember reading from pre-written sheets—wandered down blind alleys of recollection with all the apparent earnestness of the college psychology paper that it was once meant to be. Would a brilliant deception of the kind required to fake such earnestness even stoop to such a pose? Complicating the issue is Corley’s newfound desire to

publish a book -- presumably to at least a small material gain—containing her transcripts of the tapes, which are of course sadly no longer readily useable by independent researchers.

The book will reportedly focus on Marcel’s patriotism and his recollections of his own golden youth at the dawn of the saucer age, but the question of why she would make the material available for wide release now after letting the tapes fade for so long remains to be adequately answered. Until that answer emerges (or more independent parties evaluate the tapes), her story must sadly remain at least a little suspect.

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Jesse Marcel, Sr.

[Editor’s Notes: For the record, Marcel never saw the bodies because he was at the DEBRIS site (Brazel’s ranch), not the CRASH site. Recovering the audio from a cheap tape done in 1981 would be easy with good pro audio equip. - I could do it myself. I have old music tapes dating back to 1980 that still sound reasonably good. All you need is a little filtering and some dynamic expansion. Voice only tapes are easier yet. I think the hoax allusions here are a little overblown. It’s not like you are relying strictly on her memory, and the material presented is consistent with other interviews. The real issue is whether you choose to believe Marcel or not.]

MN MUFON hosts Beyond Boundaries Lecture 11/19/99 - 7PM

We will have Joyce Murphy talk on Friday, Nov. 19th, 7:00 PM and will charge \$4 at the door to cover room costs, etc. The meeting will be at our usual MUFON

meeting room in Roseville. Below is a little info on Beyond Boundaries and Joyce Murphy.

I was a state section director for two counties here in Texas just a few years ago and a MUFON investigator. We have many MUFON members on our expeditions and Ruben Uriarte, northern Cal. director is our research director for BB - so we work together often trying to get this information out to the world - our research is in countries other than the U.S. where we travel in person to investigate only very current or ongoing phenomenon - and from the real people of the area - not from investigators or book authors who have never left their easy chairs to find their material.

We share the stories via the newsletter and slideshow with the idea of "this is what we found in this country, turned it over to local researchers for further investigation, and thought the stories were interesting enough to share with you" - and people everywhere have kept me up till 3am talking and discussing the phenomenon. I have no answers for anyone - only more questions - and there is nothing to sell - the most that anyone might do is go on one of our unique expeditions someday.

Joyce Murphy

BIOGRAPHY - Joyce L. Murphy

Joyce L. Murphy, president and founder of Beyond Boundaries UFO / ET / Paranormal Research Org., is now regarded as being an excellent source of international information on current phenomenon. She organizes and leads expeditions all over the world where current UFO / ET / Paranormal events are occurring, traveling with a primary team of qualified scientific investigators to gather the available data and networking closely with local village researchers in acquiring the information directly from the sources. These unique and exclusive research findings are shared with the interested world via the Beyond Boundaries newsletter and website. Since the Beyond Boundaries headquarters has become a huge databank of such information, much of it being tangible evidence such as photos and videotapes, TV and movie interests frequently contact this organization for their unique show material.

Joyce and her research expeditions have been the subject of several TV programs, film documentaries, magazine articles, and Joyce is known as the catalyst

around the globe by professionals in the industry wanting to connect with the grassroots sources of this pertinent and timely information. Joyce and the Beyond Boundaries expedition teams have worked in the field with such well known Ufologists as George Knapp, Linda Moulton Howe, Robert Dean, Colin Andrews, and Marc Davenport in producing conference lecture material and film documentaries. A group of Australian physicians recently completed such an expedition with Joyce to uncover stories for their contactee work in Mexico.

Joyce serves as roving correspondent for the Sightings on the Radio Show with Jeff Rense and has produced many 3-hour radio shows broadcast live from wherever her expeditions have traveled throughout the world. The guest of several TV shows in many countries, subject of major news articles, subject of private consultation by senators wanting to know more about the subject, and guest of countless radio talk shows Joyce is not a novice to what the news and entertainment media want from her expeditions.

Joyce Murphy's educational and professional background includes two Bachelor of Science degrees, one in mathematics, which provided the interest which began her career in researching the fractal geometries of the English crop formations several years ago. She was a public school teacher and most recently owned a travel agency, which afforded her even greater opportunities to travel to the four corners of the globe, traveling with such notables as Lawrence Blair of the Ring of Fire Series in the Indonesian islands, Australia, and New Guinea. Any paranormal subject has been covered in great depth by one expedition or another led by Joyce.

Joyce now is a fulltime investigator of the phenomenon, manages an international database, publishes an award-winning newsletter, and leads several expeditions per year on meaningful quests worldwide.

www.beyondboundaries.org, jmurphy@beyondboundaries.org
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Field Investigator Update: Nov., 1999 By Craig R. Lang - FI Coord.

This month's field investigator update will again focus on a summary of some key cases, this time cases being investigated jointly by Wisconsin and

Minnesota MUFON. Since September, some new cases have emerged there. In addition, several cases which we had investigated over the last couple of years in western WI have seen some additional activity.

Foremost among the Wisconsin events are the sightings in general area of Menomonie, WI. These occurred in the approximate time frame of 9/16/99. The primary event, and several possible correlated sightings. The event was described in Friday, September 17, 1999, Pioneer Press (summarized for this article). The witness described the object as hovering near his farm at approximately 4AM. He observed it for an hour, and noticed it reappearing just before dawn. The object hovered and moved in an erratic motion, sideways back and forth, alternately shooting high up in the air and then descending, hovering down just above the treetops. The appearance of the object was described as characterized by red, blue and yellow flashing lights. The witness called the Dunn county sheriff, who sent a deputy out to investigate. This deputy also observed lights. He was unable to identify them, but "thought that they may have been helicopter or northern lights". According to article several other prosaic explanations, including Venus, were offered, which have all been vigorously disputed by the farmer. This sighting is currently under investigation by Chad Lewis of WI MUFON, who has interviewed the key witnesses and is continuing to follow up on corollary information.

Subsequently, the following update comes from Chad: The paper did not report the whole story regarding the objects seen on 09/16/99. When the Sheriff's officer responded to the call, he stayed and watched the object for approximately 10-15 minutes. During this time, he had stated that he had never seen anything like this before. He was so intrigued that he left to try and find the location of this object. The witness reported the first object to be 1/4 of the way up the horizon. The object was reported in the SE sky. The weather conditions of the evening were clear with no fog in the area. The witness also reported that he has seen planets many times before, and stated that this was unlike anything he had ever seen either. The gentleman watched the object for nearly 40 minutes, until it seemed to just vanish. During this time the object would change color from red to yellow to green at a very quick rate. He also reported that the object would shoot up into the air

and fall back down at rapid speeds. The object also hovered over his farm area for several minutes at a time. When the witness called the sheriff again to report the second object, also seen in the SE sky, the sheriff's office said that they would look into it and never contacted the witness again. The witness watched the second object "hover" over his farm area for nearly 10 minutes. The second object was yellow and in the shape of a triangle. This object also seemed to just vanish. Neither object made any sound that could be heard by the witness. There was also no smell reported. The sheriffs' office has not returned any of my calls.

Chad also provides the following report, which he is currently investigating:

At 10:00 PM on Thursday September 16th, a woman was taking a break from work and looked up to the sky and noticed a ball of light rapidly changing color from red to blue to green. After watching this object for only 5-6 seconds, it shot off out of the woman's sight. When asked, the woman said this was not a "shooting star" as she has seen plenty of those before. She also stated that the object shot off very fast. The object was seen in the Western part of the sky. The witness stated that the object was very low and had no sound to it.

In addition, to the above case, there have been the suggestion of possible events which might be related to past reality anomalies (see accompanying article). Craig Lang and Chad Lewis have been investigating these related events. These will be described in future editions of FI update as the situation develops.

There has also been the additional appearance of two crop circles, also in WI. One is quite likely a hoax, while the other, in Verona, WI just southwest of Madison, was investigated by Chad Lewis and Casey Holt. Casey's summary appears as follows: It [the crop circle] was found in a field of tall grass which might be a variety of timothy grass by the looks of it. The ring diameter was about 96 feet and the lay was in a counterclockwise swirl and going outward from the ring in the 3 offshoot spokes. As of Oct 10th, 1999 a significant amount of upright reorientation of the plants in the downed area might indicate that it was formed at least a few weeks before that.



Please check the MN MUFON website for details on these and other cases. In addition, the WI MUFON website, can also be found by following the links from the MN MUFON website.

If you know of any information that might bring to light any sightings or encounters, or have any further information on events discussed in this column, please contact Craig Lang (ph: 612-560-1532, e-mail: crang@mm.com, or contact Minnesota MUFON through our webpage at: www.mnmufon.org). You can also check the website for current sighting reports and the results of completed investigations.

For those wishing to become a field investigator themselves, classes are conducted approximately three times a year, as sufficient interest is indicated. If you are interested, and feel that you have the necessary time, energy, and objectivity to be a UFO investigator, please contact Craig Lang. If you have not already done so, you also will need to join MUFON as a field investigator trainee and purchase the MUFON field investigators manual.

We always need more investigators in our effort to better understand the UFO phenomenon. Those who seriously take up the study of UFO events, will always find a trail of challenge and mystery to follow. Happy investigating...

Reality Anomalies in CE4 Cases

By Craig R. Lang, FI Coordinator

(Note: This article is a summary of a talk which was given by the author at Minnesota MUFON in March of 1997. It is being repeated here due to the recent re-emergence of some of the cases originally described in the talk.)

In past articles, books and lectures, we have seen many references to UFO sightings and encounters where a transformation of the experiencer's reality

takes place. In his book "Dimensions" Jacques Vallee describes such events as events of the fourth kind. Two types of this form of event are most worthy of note: Anomalies of the Fourth Kind (AN4's) and Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind (CE4's). Anomalies include events such as out of body experiences, etc. Close encounters include, but are not limited to, UFO related abductions.

In an event of the fourth kind, the experiencer finds him/herself in a domain removed their normal perception of reality. This can be either a minor event, such as some aspect of the environment that doesn't quite make sense. Or it could be a somewhat larger scale event, such as a case in which an experiencer notes that the environment has suddenly become very quiet, accompanied by a powerful sense of unreality. Finally, there is the large scale reality transformation, such as a remembered UFO abduction or out of body experience. This article will examine some of these reality-transformation phenomena, and suggest a possible way in which we might perhaps understand them slightly better.

Physical/Mental Duality

In some of the most intriguing CE4 cases both psychological (dream-like) aspects, and suggestions of a concrete physical event both exist. These superimposed physical/mental aspects of the phenomenon are prevalent within many events of the fourth kind. Often, there will be a very well defined UFO sighting, perhaps observed by multiple witnesses, with possible physical traces. Cases of this nature are well documented in the literature (Budd Hopkins: Missing Time, Intruders, Witnessed). There are also cases of this nature on the MN MUFON website. In addition, there are many cases in which the dreamlike quality of the event is very notable. In some cases, these two aspects are superimposed. However, this physical/mental superposition so characteristic of reality anomalies, is seldom discussed. In the process of some of our work, we have observed several degrees of reality anomaly, as described above. What follows are some examples of each.

Small anomalies are those in which some aspect of the environment "doesn't make sense". For example, the witness might observe an ordinary object which seems to be doing impossible or illogical things. In one case, an experiencer described to me how, as she

and a friend were driving across Northern Minnesota, a "red traffic light" followed their car for many miles. The event began as their car initially accelerated from a traffic light early into their journey. Subsequently, they noticed that the red "traffic light" was still present behind them after some distance. This light "followed" the car through a number of turns and was observed by both witnesses for many miles during their trip.

In another such case, which both Minnesota and Wisconsin MUFON were both involved, was one in which a well defined close encounter (CE4) occurred. Upon her "return" from the event, the experiencer remembered watching lights depart above her house, observing them through her kitchen windows which were opened outward. On subsequent inspection of these windows, it was observed that it was not possible for the window to open in the manner in which she remembered.

Another class of small anomaly cases involves one or more persons in a group observing an object - while others in group can not see it. There are many cases in the literature of this type, including several on our website. Characteristic of these, however, is the fact that the witness(es) who do perceive the object may frequently give very similar descriptions of it to an investigator, suggesting that the witness(es) observed the same object. The object is sometimes described as a "very obvious" (often a close encounter of the first kind, or CE1) by those who perceive it. In addition, those who don't perceive it are often in a situation where "they couldn't possibly miss it" if the object were actually visible to them. This class of events poses the question of what allows one person to observe a phenomenon, while others in nearly identical circumstances do not.

Larger anomalies are those which affect the overall reality of the experiencer, but do not remove the experiencer from the environment. Often the experiencer will describe it as "the world is wrong...". The most commonly described of these phenomena is what Jenny Randles termed, "The Oz Factor". Often on the entry phase of an abduction experience - be it an abduction, a contact, or some other event - the environment seems to take on an eerie "Twilight Zone" character. Sounds in the environment seem to be absent - none of the expected frogs, crickets, etc, can be heard.

Another type of related event is what was recently described by Budd Hopkins and others, as "spontaneous invisibility". In such cases, the experiencer is able to very clearly perceive the object or entities. However, others are not able to perceive them, nor are they able to perceive the experiencer. In one case, which the author investigated this year, the witness, who was with several friends, observed an object hovering over a nearby school. When he attempted to bring the UFO to the attention of several of his companions, he found himself unable to get their attention. This continued for several minutes, despite several obvious tries by the experiencer to get "in the face" of his companions.

The third, and most profound type of case is that of the full reality transformation. Typical of these is one case which is documented on the MN MUFON website, in which an entity appeared in a ball of light to the witness, who was lying in bed. The experiencer was then drawn into the ball of light. While there, the experiencer observed that interior of the ball of light was considerably greater than what could be accommodated by a room of that size.

In another case, the primary witness and his girl friend were driving westbound on I94 from Wisconsin into St. Paul. They suddenly found themselves on a portion of the highway which appeared to be wrong. Thinking that they had somehow become lost, they exited and decided to try to figure out where they were. They both felt that the exit was somewhat like a stage set that was partially completed. Was this the entry stage to a CE4? This case has not been thoroughly investigated yet, so the resolution of this is not clear.

There are several possible ways in which we might be able to understand reality anomalies: One possible way, suggested by Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs, is to ask whether such anomalous perceptions might actually be screen memories for another event. Most memories of reality anomalies are remembered under conscious recall, and are not hypnotic. While the literal accuracy of memories from hypnosis can not be assumed, hypnotic regression can often resolve many reality paradoxes. Often these turn out to be entry scenarios into a classic abduction. This is a current area of research, and much work by Hopkins (Intruders), Jacobs (The Threat), and others, would suggest that this is the case.

Another view, however, is that these reality anomalies are not an illusion, but instead are indications that a true physical/ mental duality actually exists. This is somewhat the view taken by Jacques Vallee and others in the non-ETI school of UFOlogical thought. However, whether real or illusion, reality anomalies are truly signs of a deeper mystery. If this mystery can be cracked, it might well lead us to a vastly deeper understanding of both the UFO/ CE4 phenomenon, and perhaps of reality itself.

Skepticism vs. Debunking

by Joel Henry, Ed., FI MN MUFON

The difference between skepticism and debunking is an important issue, ESPECIALLY in Ufology. One needs to address the differences between them in order to determine their validity.

SKEPTICISM is simply a healthy level of doubt about subjects that are so bizzare they violate our views of the universe and where proof is limited or questionable. A UFO investigator who is not a skeptic to some degree is likely to be easily hoodwinked by charlatans, manipulators, liars, or cheats. Outright acceptance of an idea without some meaningful evidence would be foolhardy. Faith is a concept reserved for belief in GOD. The idea is to reserve judgement until the requisite proof is availed. Each skeptic will have his or her own personal level of skepticism based on experience, education, personal wisdom, and beliefs they hold. (Hopefully, a minimum of personal prejudices.) Example: Minnesota MUFON's Field Investigations Coordinator Craig Lang.

DEBUNKING pretends to be skepticism, but is extremely prejudiced, and denies ideas outright that don't fit the debunker's personal belief systems. Debunkers act as if they are saving a brain dead world from the forces of evil and dishonesty. And like the Catholic church of old, they are ready to effectively "burn anyone at the stake" who proposes ideas on their debunk list. They are not concerned with the facts. They routinely ignore information, bad mouth those that don't agree with them, and promote the idiotic pretense that anyone who might give an idea a chance is a fool, moron, social outcast, or mentally unstable. Debunkers are as dangerous to the public as the people they pretend to protect the public from (i.e.: charlatans, liars, cheats, etc.) They promote

themselves as a public service, but only serve their own agenda. Example: Philip Klass.

It should also be mentioned that it is all too easy for one to cross the line between skepticism and debunkery when we apply our emotionally vested attitudes and beliefs to the equation. It's a balancing act that needs to be checked and re-checked. We are all potential debunkers if we fail to look closely at both sides of an issue with a sense of fairness without bias.

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