

CASE BRIEFS: EXPLORATIONS & REVIEW

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THOUGHTS ON BROTHER CARL: Propagandist Extraordinarius

By Virgil Staff, State Director, MUFON No. California

In the *Parade Magazine* of December 3, 1995, Carl Sagan has again done what he apparently does best. In "Crop Circles and Aliens: WHAT'S THE EVIDENCE? Who profits when almost all of us are gullible?," Sagan has shown the approach to truth that has been so dear to him for so many years. This is one of his best pieces of art and perhaps, better than most of his other writings, it shows his approach to truth and to the scientific method generally.

It is of interest that over the years he continues to publicly consider a subject that he rejects, and that has so little known relationship to his own field of astronomy. So that is should be understood that when we read one of his gentle diatribes, it can be with knowledge that he has little more actual academic preparation for what he is discussing than would be true for a geologist or a paleontologist, or possibly even a garbage man or janitor. Should it turn out to be that anomalous phenomena are indeed lurking out in the various places in the heavens, then it may be understood that Sagan really should know about this. Since he continually comes up with negative approaches on the subject, one might wonder about the constancy of interest and why he continues, year after year, to distort known data available to everyone. That the *Parade* article is pure disinformation will not be discussed here in any detail. Various MUFON newsletters have done some of this recently, as has Bruce Maccabee in the January, 1996, issue of the MUFON UFO Journal.

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CASE BRIEFS

CASE 1 (A): THE PERILS OF KATHLEEN: Part IX

By Virgil Staff, State Director
MUFON No. California

On one occasion, on one of the big ships, they lay Kathleen down on an examination table and then pushed the table into a cylinder. "This exam table seemed to go right into this cylinder. It spun me rapidly around to where I got physically sick and regurgitated. I got from the aliens that they were extracting body fluids this way. They held something up to my mouth as I

regurgitated...and they took a urine sample. I was so sick. They took me off the examining table and put me in an area where there were a bunch of people lying on the floor - really sick like I was. The animal parts table was in the same room" with the cylinder.

"The spacecraft was moving at a real high rate of speed and we were really bouncing around through the air as with a lot of air turbulence. I was hanging onto some kind of metal beam"

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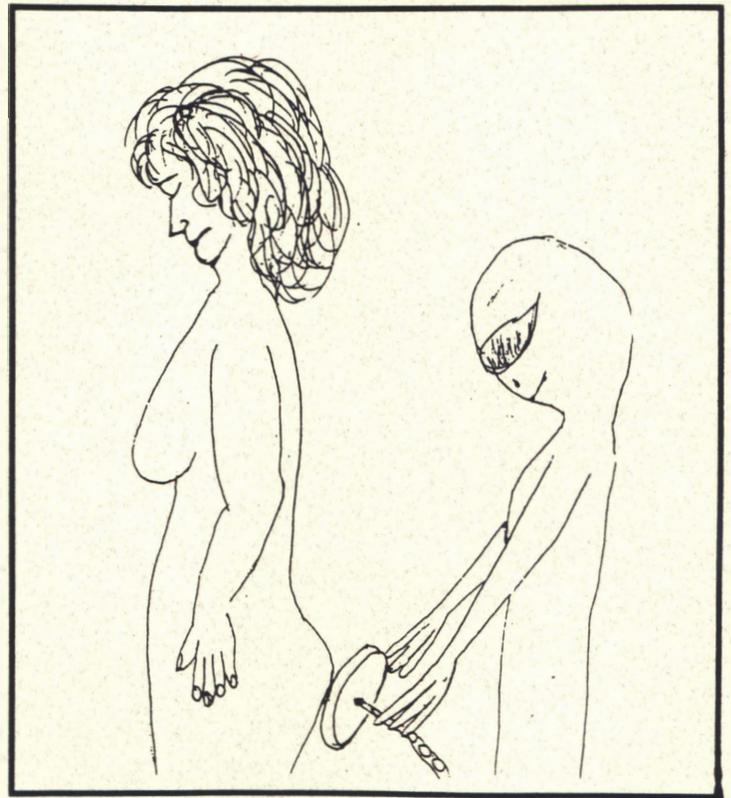
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running along the floor. Kathleen says the ships normally are steady and solid in flight like when one is in a large building, or presumably, like when being on a battleship.

"We were so sick. They started picking us up off the floor and moving us over toward one wall. We seemed like a feather or a bubble. They would pick us up - used two at a time" with "one standing nearby. They got me by the arms: lifted me up and moved me over. I think maybe they could pick us up because of the lack of the force of gravity. If they wanted to move you around, they

could float you around like the astronauts - throw us up in the air and guide us to where they wanted us.

"We were so sick. They lined a whole bunch of us standing up against this wall - men and women - I don't recall any children. I was so heavily nauseated and sick. This is in the big ship. They did all this probing - put a probe up my nose 'till I could feel this burning at the bottom of my brain just above the sinuses. They probed us all over. This was the medical exam. Then they did the sexual experiments - the insemination. They went into the vagina for the insemination. Everyone was naked. They stuck up a long rod device that looked like stainless steel with a little light on the end. The rod was over a foot long - probably one and one-half feet long and made out of metal, with an orange red-light on one end. The width was just slightly larger than a pencil. When they stuck it up into the vagina area, it seemed like it was going up as far as the waistline." This information was all based on regression "of what had seemed like a dream."



At the time that they had lined everyone up against the wall, lights were directed against everyone. The lights were approximately **one foot** in diameter and possessed a yellow glow that felt "warm and healing. The more the light shined, the

faster they got rid of the nausea." In clarification, in one room they placed her in the cylinder. Then following the whirling operation, the beings moved her to another room where various naked bodies, with all their nausea, were lying on the floor. They then stood everyone up and turned the lights on those present. At some time, while on the ship, they were given the physical examination.

The room with the alligator tail she terms the Reptilian Room. Here she watched them removing a sample, off the tail, that was two to three inches long and one to two inches wide. Kathleen recalls seeing a reptilian type aboard. In this case, she got only a profile view and could see only one eye. The reptilian was between 5'10" and 6' tall and had red skin and a yellow eye. Later, in regression, "one of these reptilian beings was standing beside me on the examining table, and he had seven claws on each hand. I didn't see the feet." The claws were "more like a cat's claw with some curve. The claw itself was one and one-half inches long. The hands were webbed with seven finger-like things on it. I counted seven claws on one hand. It was quite wide. His paw was wider than my hand: seven inches wide or better." Regression showed one of these tall reptilians standing beside her there on the examination table. She thinks she may have been in pain. The reptilian placed his hand on her arm and told her telepathically: "Be calm. There's nothing to fear." The pain immediately subsided.

CASE 1 (B): THE PERILS OF KATHLEEN

"I Just Kind of Cursed Everything"

By Virgil Staff, State Director

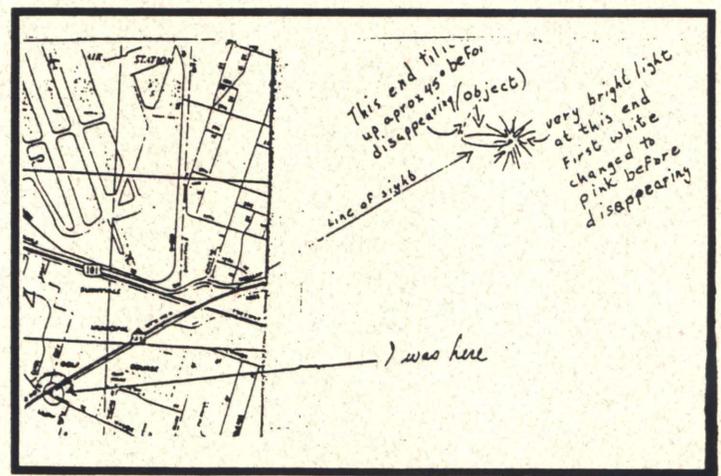
Kathleen normally sleeps with something on. "A couple of times I went to bed without clothes and didn't realize it was subliminal programming by the aliens. I remember awaking one morning with my bathrobe in bed with me. I recall some sticky substance on my body - patches of it - and on my fingers. There was a huge blotch on my arm and leg. The bathrobe had it on it and there was some on the sheets. It was like going to bed with a lot of sticky hard candy. It had that same consistency like when you take a piece of hard candy, suck on it for a minute and then set it in a dish." The sticky consistency had no color and was clear. "When I woke up I didn't understand why I was all sticky. I did not keep candy in the bedroom. I woke up and couldn't figure out what I

had gotten into. I had blotches of stuff all over me: the bedding, the sheets and the bathroom were messed up. I just kind of cursed everything and took all the bedding - went and threw it in the washing machine. Then marched myself to the bathroom and had a bath. I don't think I had a gown on that night." It may be understood why her puzzlement might have been considerable since "this was before I knew of my abduction experience."

CASE II: THE SUNNYVALE CIGAR October 17, 1992 (13:20 hours)

By Virgil Staff, State Director

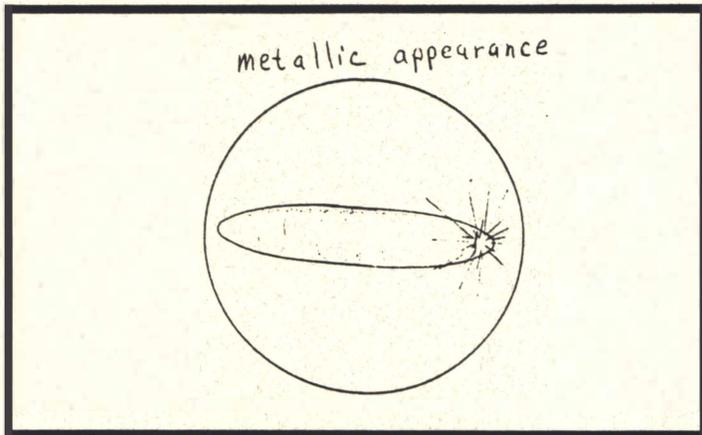
Lisa Marie Reynolds fancied the air show at Moffett Field would be a delightful way to spend an agreeable afternoon. There were thousands of people in the area, and she finally found a vacant lot near the intersection of Maude Avenue and Highway 237. The show had already commenced when she climbed out of her car and walked toward some tumbleweeds growing in the lot. "I was walking over to an area where I could get...a better view of the planes...All of a sudden I happened to hold my binoculars up to the sky and I saw a UFO.



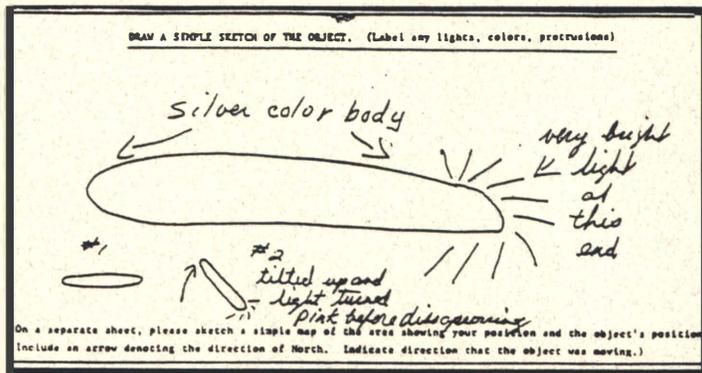
I looked away from the binoculars to see if I could see it with my naked eye, and I could just barely see it. It was like a teeny little speck, and there was no clouds in the sky so it was like way up there high.

"It was like a cigar shaped one and it was silvery looking, and on one end of it, which I assume was the back end, it was lit up very bright white." The cigar "was stationary and wasn't moving. I looked at it for just a minute or so, and I

kept looking away from the binoculars to see if I could see it with my naked eye. It was still a little teeny speck, so I looked back in the binoculars. I've got a zoom thing on my binoculars.



All of a sudden I started getting tones in my ears. I felt like I was in some kind of danger. It was a really weird feeling. And then I saw the thing tilt upwards about forty-five degrees and it (the light) just absolutely turned from bright white to bright pink like one of those red flares. And the thing disappeared in a flash.... I don't know if anybody else saw it or not. One probably would not have noticed it with their naked eye.



"Right after it disappeared, I happened to look down, and not quite three feet in front of me, lying on the ground, was a chromium-looking cylinder that looked similar to one of those little fire extinguishers you keep in your kitchen. It had a plaque on it with some numbers and some writings, and then on the bottom, it looked like it had a circle of electrical prongs. In the center of that circle it had what looked like a RCA jack. On the other end, it tapered and then had about a one inch thick or three-quarter inch thick threaded bolt coming out of it that was about three or four inches long. And on the end of that it had what

looked like a lead doughnut. I picked the thing up and turned it over, and it had a big yellow and black decal on the other side of it that said: 'Danger - Radioactive Material.'

"And I thought: 'I wonder if that has fallen off of one of those airplanes?' So I quickly went and put it in the trunk of my car because there was a bunch of kids playing around it there. And I didn't want them messing with it. ...Well, I waited and kept watching the planes and finally saw a CHP officer on his motorcycle coming down 237 on the other side, and I waved him down and told him I had something that I had found over there that looked serious. And he said: 'Well, what is it?' I said, 'Well, I don't know what it is,' And I opened my trunk and showed it to him. He called the Sunnyvale Fire Department, and they came over with two trucks: one of them was a hazardous waste thing. And they came out with a Geiger counter and the thing was leaking gamma rays.... They quarantined off my car, and they put a big circle of those orange cones around it. They finally, after radioing in and talking to different people, picked it up with a vice-like thing and put it down in some kind of container.

"They said gamma ray radiation was not particle radiation, so that there wouldn't be any residue when it was removed. They said that it looked like it was waste radiation from some medical facility. Now let me tell you something: 'That did not get there by accident.' What the fire chief told me: He said that a lot of those places that have waste radiation - see it costs them a lot of money to have that disposed of - they just dumped it. Well, anyway, he said that they were going to try to figure out where that came from because its got numbers on the thing.... I think it's going to get swept under the rug, so do you know what I did? I called Channel 11 News last night and they're going to come out and interview me next week. I'll take them over there and show them." In fact, when Lisa later spoke to various people in the Fire Department, no one admitted to ever having seen this radioactive canister.

"I'm going to follow-up on it because I believe that the visitors were warning me that I was in danger - that I was standing next to radioactivity. So I don't know if anybody else saw that ship or not, but I sure did. And I had a good look at it."

Lisa was a contactee, as she termed it, and she believed that she was in regular contact with what she called the "ETs." She believed that she was being taken away several times a week. Most of her friends, who greatly respected her, were also

contactees. She had a close relationship with one or more beings, and perhaps, as she believed, she had been warned by them.

Lisa called the State Director on the following day and it was from this conversation, and later ones, that the above data was gathered. The elongation occupied what appeared to be about two inches of the field in her Tasco binoculars. She estimated that this was approximately one-quarter of the field in the binoculars, or perhaps less. She guessed that its elevation was 75-80 degrees and maybe two miles high. After "tilting to 45 degrees, then boom, it was gone." While it was being watched, the "rear end kind of stayed in the same position," Lisa's location was at approximately 37 degrees, 23 minutes, 43 seconds North Latitude and 122 degrees, 3 minutes and 11 seconds West Longitude. Field bearings show line of sight to be 328 degrees, with a declination calculated at approximately 15-2/3 degrees. Field bearing plus declination would therefore be approximately 343-2/3 degrees.

The irreparable misfortune of this investigation was that the case was turned over to an investigator for the county who really should have done the work. There were a number of items we needed to know, including the actual specifications on the binoculars. A number of contacts were made with the field investigator, but nothing happened. Lisa was killed in an automobile accident on Christmas morning 1994. So concluded the pursuit of supplemental insights.

CLASSIFICATION

Hynek Classification:	DE2
GEPAN Classification:	Type C
Arthur Bray Classification:	Class 2
Berliner Strangeness Scale:	3
Berliner Credibility Scale:	3
Berliner K/U Factor:	9
Speiser Strangeness Factor:	S3
Speiser Probability Factor:	P4
Hynek Rating:	S+P-7
Vallee Classification (1965)	Type 3
Vallee SVP Credibility Ratings:	S-3, V-2, P-2

TOOTIN' OUR OWN HORN!

Did you know that Case Briefs not only has readers throughout the United States, but we have subscribers in Europe and Australia as well!

ARTICLES

Introduction to Fyffe, Alabama Part IV

By Ted Oliphant, III
Training Coordinator, MUFON No. California

Donna Saylor lives in Grove Oak, just a few miles west of Fyffe, Alabama. Donna and her husband manage a cattle ranch, owned by a member of the country music band "Alabama." It was Donna's sighting of a "Crescent shaped object spewing sparks" that resulted in a phone call to Fyffe police sending Chief Garmany and Assistant Chief Works towards Gilbert's Crossroads.

One morning not long afterwards, Donna woke up at 3:00 a.m. She could see light coming upstairs. She got out of bed and headed downstairs where she found the living room light on. Her son, James, age two, looked up at her, "Honey, what are you doing up?" James explained that he had been outside walking in the front yard. Donna checked all the doors and windows and found them all double locked the way she had left them before she went to bed. "James, all the windows and doors are locked, honey. You couldn't have been outside." Growing weary of this discussion, Donna just rolled her eyes and picked up her son in her arms to take him upstairs. As she touched his legs she found his feet and ankles were sopping wet, just as if he had been walking in the dew moistened lawn.

One morning thereafter, Donna and son Jim were baking cookies when he asked "Could we bake some cookies for the doctors?" "What doctors?" asked his mom. Jim explained that a red light had come to his window one night recently. It was the doctors.

Early one evening during the February 1989 wave, Chris Watkins, a high school student, and his mother, were driving home through Gilbert's Crossroads. A multi-colored flying saucer flew directly over them. It shook Chris up quite a bit, and he called his father, Rev. Roger Watkins, who was out of town preaching a revival. While Chris was on the phone, his mother took off in the car in search of the UFO they had just seen. Rev. Watkins headed home immediately to be with his family.

Four years later, in February 1993, the multi-colored flying disk returned near Gilbert's Crossroads - this time over the Watkin's cow

pasture. It was 3:00 a.m. Rev. Watkins and his wife were in bed when what sounded like a freight train or a tornado enveloped their two story farm house. Rev. Watkins raced towards the window overlooking his pasture. Sitting at fence level, above the pasture, "was the illuminated disk right out of a science fiction movie. It had differently colored lights around it's rim, moving in opposite directions."

Chris "thought Jesus had come for me and my parents." He thought it was "the Rapture" as he watched the flying saucer ascend above the farmhouse. None of the Watkins could sleep the rest of the night. Finally, when the sun started to rise, they all assembled in the living room. The water and fish had shaken out of the goldfish bowl. Whatever had shaken the Watkins had shaken their fish too. The family dog was missing. It never came home.

At the church, whose congregation he had multiplied, word got out about what had happened at the Watkins' home. The elders of the church didn't like it. When Brother Roger agreed to an interview with documentary producer Linda Moulton Howe, the church people told him not to do it - that it wasn't "anyone else's business." Soon rumors started flying and Rev. Watkins got bit on the hand. Soon he was forced out of the church. Definitive betrayal - stereotypical hypocrisy - courtesy of the congregation of the Rainsville First Baptist Church. Rev. Watkins bought a Christian radio station a half hour south of Fyffe. He told me he wants to be an evangelist. I think he's got a story to tell.

Getting back to Fyffe, I had started spending a lot of time with the local police department. After awhile I was spending most nights riding in patrol cars, interviewing the local cops and doing my usual sky watch. I made friends fast and before long I was offered a job as dispatcher for the police and fire departments. When I wasn't out with my camera or in a patrol car, I fielded calls from the local community and found myself in an excellent position to know where and what was happening. I put a scanner in my car and eventually one local police chief lent me a walkie talkie so they could contact me if they were seeing anything. I also put a powerful CB radio in the car so I could talk to the locals. This eventually paid off, several times, so I put a more powerful police radio in as well.

One night I followed the fire department to a small blaze near the Monsanto Highway. After videotaping the firemen at work, somebody told me there was somebody hailing me on the radio.

It was Keith, an off duty fireman who was nearby in Groave Oak, on his CB radio. He said that something large with big red and blue lights was just at telephone pole level and had just flown over his truck. I jumped in my car and headed in the direction he reported. Within a minute I found an object illuminated the way Keith had previously described it. It was moving away from me faster than I could gain on it. I couldn't tell it wasn't an airplane, I couldn't tell it was. I followed it for a few more seconds before it left my sight. I drove to Keith's house and he showed me where he had seen it up close. He said it looked like a big box, like a trailer from an eighteen wheeler, or maybe a box car, but it was silent and illuminated unlike anything he's seen.

Soon I was able to increase the number of hours I spent dispatching and riding along with the cops; learning about them and how they do their jobs. I was getting addicted to them and how they do their jobs. I was really fascinated. I asked one of the patrolmen if they thought I could get a job policing if I put myself through the police academy. They told me to ask the chief. With the mayor and city counsel's blessings, they paid my tuition until I graduated from the academy in February, 1992.

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"Brother Carl," continued from first page...

When Immanuel Velikovsky produced a series of studies in which he raised doubts about the stability of the solar system, he shook portions of the scientific community to depths they have not presently forgotten. Velikovsky challenged various notions worshipped by astronomers. And since they, never up to now, have learned to cope with his findings, they pursued the evaluation of Velikovsky's work with great hatred, and did so in what they undoubtedly considered the very best scientific methodology. Sagan was one of those who took it upon himself to protect the vested views pontificated by himself and others.

C.J. Ransom, in *The Age of Velikovsky* (c. 1976), discusses various aspects of Velikovsky's work, and of his critics. In this tome, Sagan receives the opportunity to show his respect for the scientific method that he always lets us know he so admires.

(1) "At a NASA news conference in 1973, Sagan spread a fabricated story to the effect that Velikovsky 'explicitly' predicted that frogs would be found in the atmosphere of Jupiter. It is impossible to see how Sagan might have reached this conclusion from an ethical examination of Velikovsky's work." (p. 114) Ransom then goes on to show that Velikovsky had not even intimated the above view.

(2) After indicating a number of examples of how Sagan was incorrect in his judgment, Ransom comments: "Sagan repeatedly backed the wrong assumptions and claiming it as fact can possibly be understood as a misguided attempt to advance science, but it is easier to believe that the advancement he has in mind is personal, instead of scientific, when he fabricates and perpetuates falsehoods about opposing theories." (p. 127)

(3) "According to the *Sky and Telescope*, the Martian surface relief deduced by Sagan and Pollack was quite 'uncorrelated with the actual Martian topography.'" (p. 131) This is of interest considering Sagan's purported concern for facts. In consideration of his writings on anomalous phenomena, perhaps he is not always constrained by the evidence.

(4) Concerning Sagan's paper "An Analysis of *Worlds in Collision*," presented at the AAAS Annual Meeting of 1974, Shulamit Kogan describes various of the sneaky approaches employed by Sagan in attempting to convince his audience. On page 36, Vol. VI, No. 3, of *Kronos*, he writes: "Therefore, even though Sagan knew that no grazing or impact collision was ever described in *Worlds in Collision*, he took the high improbability of an impact collision (leaving in a few factors he admits should have been corrected) and then unabashedly raised it all to the 5th and 6th powers on the basis of 'If the probabilities are independent....' The results were allowed to appear in the scientific journals without any qualification. Is this an example of the 'scientific method?' Will scientists stand behind such methods?" (p. 36-37) Well, in fact, most of them did.

(5) A study of Sagan's "An analysis of *Worlds in Collision* in *Scientist's Confront Velikovsky*, edited by Donald Goldsmith (c. 1977) indicates that Sagan likes to play with numbers, but that these numbers frequently do not mean anything. Sagan is a juggler. Moreover, he shows the astronomical literature supports just any view, so that Velikovsky cannot possibly ever have been first or original.

(6) C.J. Ransom discusses the participants in the 1974 AAAS meeting, and he shows that Sagan was devious and highly unethical. Various inconsistencies in Sagan's presentation "led Dr. Robert Bass to make some inquiries of Sagan after the talk.

"Bass asked Sagan how he had made the probability calculations without using a particular mathematical process. Sagan gave three answers. One reply was to the effect that it was unfair for Bass to ask such complicated questions, since Bass knew more about the subject than did Sagan. Another reply was that Bass should talk to Mulholland since Mulholland also knew more about the subject than did Sagan. The third reply was that Sagan had assumed that the events were independent. Concerning this last point, Bass remarked: 'This Sagan assumption is so disingenuous that I do not hesitate to label it as either a deliberate fraud on the public or else a manifestation of unbelievable incompetence or hastiness combined with desperation and wretchedly poor judgment.'"

(7) Sagan stated: "My conclusion will be that where Velikovsky is original, he is very likely wrong; and that where he is right, that idea has been pre-empted by earlier workers.' Whether this lie was original with Sagan or was fabricated by an earlier worker, it is flatly untrue; yet it was quoted in almost every news account of the meeting.... His failure to attempt to document this statement was perhaps due to a realization that it was not possible. *Pensee* stated that 'such an effort to discredit another scholar's work is highly unethical and deserves investigation by the official AAAS committee on ethics.'

"Although Sagan's statement is catchy and quotable, it is much more accurately applied to Sagan's own work. When it is pointed out that Sagan has an extremely poor record, he defends this by saying that it is scientific to be open-minded and willing to change one's mind. He leaves the impression that it is better to be wrong so you can change and prove you are 'scientific' than it is to be right and have people wonder about your status. If being wrong is scientific, then Sagan is certainly scientific." (p. 226, Ransom) My own impression is that he sometimes functions a bit like a snake oil salesman.

"Sagan is a popular humorist who is with the laboratory for Planetary Studies at Cornell University. His paper contained nothing which furthered scientific debate. However, his paper was presented exceptionally well, and his charisma added to the effectiveness of the presentation. Most of the audience did not know and, because of his captivating delivery, did not care that many of his points were irrelevant, incorrect or misleading. His entrancingly arrogant delivery exuded the air of a great evangelist who had come to lead people along the true uniformitarian path. Unfortunately, many in the audience were taken in. (The reaction of people in this manner is why many states have passed laws which give one three days to cancel a contract made with a silver-tongue door-to-door salesman.)" (p. 224)

In terms of what we have just considered of Sagan's approach to truth with Velikovsky, and according to his approach to anomalous activity on the Earth, as one might note in *Parade Magazine*, it might be instructive to consider various avenues of this approach. Let us consider what he is telling us. A careful reading of the article tells us that essentially, he is telling us that he has learned about how science works, and of course this includes "rigorous standards of evidence." But we have already learned, earlier in this paper, that over the years Sagan has not felt this approach to be a limiting factor. When he tells us on page 12, that "everything hinges on the matter of evidence," it can be presumed he wishes us to believe that this is his approach. This in spite of our possessing no evidence to so believe. He places himself above the great mass of citizens by stating: "No witness's say so is good enough." One can presume that his reading of an instrument or a table takes him outside the bailiwick of a witness. But the mass cannot be trusted. "People occasionally misunderstand what they're seeing." I might ask: "So what?" The presumption is that he does not have this failing. Certainly Sagan is the supreme egoist. He remarks: "Essentially all the UFO cases were anecdotes - something asserted." This means that witnesses cannot be trusted. And crop circles: they are created by Doug Bower and Dave Chorley and various copycats. What is the evidence for this Mr. Sagan? There isn't any, so that more and more we get views of the quality of the scientific evidence that he writes about. If the reader will consider paragraph 4 on page 10, concerning the interpretation of evidence, it seems more and more evident that this notably applies to himself.

MUFON SACRAMENTO NEWSLETTER

Congratulations and good luck to Cindy Siegel, MUFON State Section Director for Sacramento County and Vickie Martinez, Editor, for their newly created *MUFON Sacramento Newsletter*. For more information, contact Vickie at 916/ 944-0909 or E-mail: Vickie9359@aol.com.

Since Sagan's views are in line with the establishment views we have been offered since the 1940's, one can only wonder who Sagan is really working for. What is he trying to cover and why? W.J. Brown once wrote in *Truth Magazine*: "...the established orthodoxy's are more than orthodoxy's. They are interests: and the interests have at their command immense power of suppression." It could be argued that Sagan writes solely to fan the ego. But it is at least equally interesting that his views may well be those that someone wishes aired. Certainly he must be their

darling. Is it likely that he will ever change? Probably not soon. Max Planck has been quoted as saying: "New scientific truth does not triumph by convincing it's opponents and making them see the light, but rather because it's opponents eventually die."

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL UFO REPORTING CENTER IS GUEST ON "DREAMLAND"

By Laura Steiger, *Case Briefs* Editor

Peter Davenport, who took over as Director of the National UFO Reporting Center (NUFORC) two years ago, was interviewed on the Sunday, March 3rd edition of Art Bell's "Dreamland" radio show. During the three hour show, Mr. Davenport shared some interesting facts and several cases that he has compiled through the NUFORC. Among them:

- The hotline is manned 24 hours a day, and they are "absolutely swamped with reports" and hope to have 2-4 lines and a designated facility soon.
- Current "hot spots" are Michigan, Oregon (especially in the Portland area) and northern California.
- Davenport stated that he has been pleased that the FAA has been cooperating with NUFORC's investigations.
- A big misconception the public has is that airline pilots don't see or report sightings. Davenport stated that nothing could be further from the truth. While a curtain of silence has been evident in the past, there are signs that it is changing. Pilot sightings are occurring with much more frequency than in the past.
- The hotline will often receive calls from observers all along the path of a UFO as it crosses the country.

RECENT SIGHTINGS:

(1) Early one summer evening, the center received 12 different calls from the Whidby Island area, reporting a cluster of bizarre objects that were visible in the sky for approximately 5 minutes. In a matter of moments, the formation disappeared beyond the horizon of the Olympic mountain range over 50 miles away. To the shock and amazement of observers on the ground, each object remained clearly visible even at that great distance, leaving viewers shaking their heads at the apparent mammoth size of the crafts, which must

have been thousands of feet in length to have remained visible from so far away.

(2) A tubular-shaped black object with no wings, no visible engines and a long tapering nose was sighted streaking over Seattle last year. Several minutes later it was sighted over Coos Bay, Oregon, then 12 minutes later over Eureka, California.

(3) On July 22, 1995, NUFORC received a call from an observer in Santa Cruz, who reported that a cluster of several strange objects was heading in a northerly direction. The crafts scooted along the skies of northern California to Redding, where they were seen by 15 family members from the porch of their home. They stated that they saw a silver, cigar-shaped object that was about 100 feet long. There was no noise evident and no vapor trail, and it was flying along towards Lake Shasta at about 150 miles per hour. All family members watched as another one followed the first, at a distance of appx. 1/4 mile. Then another, and another followed (4 total), each keeping the same approximate distance from the other and remaining in a straight line until they disappeared from view.

On an interesting note: One listener called in to ask what about recent sightings in Mexico. Davenport said that he did not keep abreast of them, but that Ruben Uriarte, of MUFON No. California, was "doing an excellent job of keeping the lines of communication open there!"

The NUFORC Hotline number is (206) 722-3000. It should be noted that it is not a toll-free line.

MUFON introduced a hotline last year. The **TOLL FREE** number is (800) UFO-2166 (800/836-2166). For further information, turn to page 23 in the February, 1996, issue of the MUFON UFO JOURNAL.

And a note from the State Director, Virgil Staff...

The National UFO Reporting Center in Seattle was organized and operated by Robert Gribble. The Center was initiated in October, 1974, and discontinued in July, 1994. During these years, Mr. Gribble went to tremendous personal expense, both in funds and in the employment of his time. As the years passed, a sophisticated network of connections was developed that enabled UFO witnesses to make contact with the Center from almost anywhere in the United

States. When a report was received, and on the very day that it was received, Mr. Gribble either forwarded that report to Seguin, or in many cases, he almost immediately telephoned the report into a state director in order to make an immediate investigation possible.

After the Center was discontinued, Peter Davenport acquired the Center's telephone number. Mr. Davenport is a talented and distinguished looking gentleman. Unfortunately, it appears that the Center shortly lost its importance to field investigation. The hotline number remained the same, but cases were no longer reported to Seguin, or to the state directors. Consequently, incidents reported on the hotline were seldom investigated.

The only way that a case can normally be investigated is for the report to be handled by an investigator who can visit the witness/es and discuss the incident in detail. Since this no longer generally takes place for hotline reports, the cases go uninvestigated. The witness may call in believing that he or she is contributing to the sum-total of knowledge, but it would appear that no one profits from this other than Mr. Davenport. Since his cases generally cannot be personally investigated from Seattle, his knowledge of what is happening must be inherently faulty. When he speaks of what is happening around the country, it should be remembered that he is speaking generally of cases that have not been locally investigated. Such information is essentially worthless. To ultimately remedy this situation, MUFON has established it's own hotline which is available to the public through the 800 directory under the listing of "UFO."

TIDBITS

FIELD INVESTIGATOR TRAINING SESSION WITH LINDA MOULTON HOWE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 28th
Central Bay Area Location to be announced

Ted Oliphant, III, Training Coordinator for MUFON No. California, has announced that the next training session, originally scheduled for May 4th, has been changed to Sunday, April 28th. The session will be conducted by the world famous, Emmy Award winning journalist and investigator, Linda Moulton Howe.

Reservations are mandatory, and the fee of \$20 must be paid in advance. Make your check, money order or cashier's check out to "Promotion" and mail it to:

Ted Oliphant, III
1512 Webster Street
Alameda, CA 94501

If you have any questions or comments, you may reach Ted at: Phone: (510) 865-4339 or Fax: (510) 486-0684.

PBS SHOW *NOVA* DISAPPOINTS MANY

A recent edition of the PBS science program "*NOVA*" profiled the phenomenon of UFO Abductions. Viewers who are well-informed on the subject, found many inconsistencies and a careless disregard for the facts stemming from the apparent lack of scientific research by *NOVA*'s writers and producers.

Carl Sagan, demigod of the debunker, was once again interviewed and presented as the omnipotent voice of reason. Sagan, an astrophysicist, spoke yet again on a subject (psychology) that is well outside his area of expertise.

Many local MUFON members regard the edition as a slick and harmful piece of disinformation not worthy of the usually respected *NOVA*. Upset viewers are encouraged to write to *NOVA* to express their disappointment:

NOVA c/o WGBH
 125 Western Avenue
 Boston, MA 02134

Look for further comments in our next issue.

OPUS HOSTS BUSTY TAYLOR

World Renown Crop Circle Researcher, **BUSTY TAYLOR**, spoke last January at an evening event hosted by OPUS in Los Gatos. Busty reported on the amazing variety of crop circle formations that appeared last year, in a interesting presentation that was accompanied by many exciting slides. If you missed this excellent evening, keep your fingers cross. He is hoping to return next year.

SUMMER SKYWATCH CAMPOUT

Clear Lake State Campground
"Kelsey Creek"
Weekend of August 9th - 11th

The San Francisco Chapter is once again inviting all northern California MUFON members, their families and friends to our 2nd Annual Summer Skywatch Campout. Slated for the weekend of August 9th - 11th, the skywatch will be held in the Kelsey Creek Campgrounds on the south shore of Clear Lake, the site of much recent UFO activity. Sites are available for \$16.00 per night (maximum of 2 tents/8 people.

Animals are allowed, but discouraged. Please call the campground directly for specific information about pets. Requirements are strict (i.e.; leashes, proof of vaccinations, etc.).

Laura Steiger has reserved four sites together and has space to sell. If you would like to be close to the group area, please call her immediately at (415) 775-4579. She may have sites still available.

State Park campground reservations are available through Destinet (800) 444-7275 and campsites must be paid for at the time the reservation is booked. For further information about the campground, please call the Clear Lake State Park Office at (707) 279-2267.

STRUCK WITH WANDERLUST?

BEYOND BOUNDARIES TRAVEL is putting together several UFO Research Expeditions to various international destinations, which include nightly CSETI watches. A trip to England and Scotland to watch for crop circles is set for July 22nd to August 3rd. A trip to Japan - with Bob and Cecilia Dean - is planned for June 18th to July 8th to see the Grand Opening of the UFO Museum. A trip to Peru is planned for later this year. For more information call 800/259-8747.

MEDIA CORNER

TELEVISION & RADIO

"Sightings" is aired on KPIX Channel 5 at 4:00 p.m. every Sunday afternoon. Keep your eye on your local television listings, 'cause this seems to jump around quite a bit!

"The Extraordinary" is usually seen at midnight on Sunday evening/Monday morning on KTVU Channel 2.

The Learning Channel periodically presents two interesting shows: "UFO" and "Out of This World." Check your local listings.

UFOAZ is shown on alternate Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. on Viacom Cable Channel 53 in San Francisco.

Art Bell's "Dreamland" is still airing Sunday evenings 7 - 10 and has grown to 176 stations nationwide! Listeners in the Bay Area can catch *Dreamland* on 560 a.m. KSFO.

EVENTS

MUFON Bi-Monthly Bay Area Meeting

Usually held on the third Sunday of odd numbered months. The next meeting will be Sunday, March 17th at 1:00 p.m. at the Church of Divine Science, 1540 Hicks, San Jose. \$3.00 donation is requested. Featured speaker is Dr. Eugene Lipson, M.D., of OPUS, who will discuss various aspects of Ufology including pediatric abductions.

OPUS, The Organization for Paranormal Support & Understanding is hosting an evening on April 11th in San Francisco with Scott Mandelker, Ph.D., author of the newly-published, *From Elsewhere: Being ET in America*. For more information call Jaime Cid, the San Francisco Coordinator for OPUS at 415/ 865-0137 (\$5.00 donation suggested)

THE WHOLE LIFE EXPO - San Francisco

This year's Whole Life Expo will be held the weekend of April 26th - 28th at the Fashion Center in San Francisco. Guests include Whitley Streiber, Dan Wakefield, Bob Frissel, Tricia McCannon and several other UFO-related speakers. There will be a UFO panel discussion on Saturday. For further information call 415/ 721-2484. The Whole Life Expo is seeking volunteers to man the expo in return for workshop passes.

STAR KNOWLEDGE UFO CONFERENCE AND

SUNDANCE Conference: June 12th to 15th; Sundance: June 17th to 22nd. Registration is \$100 before June 1st, \$125 after. All day pass is \$30. Guest speakers include: Standing Elk, Thomas Banyaca, Wallace Black Elk, Robert Morning Sky, Robert Dean, Barbara Marciniak, Darrell Simms, Leo Sprinkle, Richard Boylan, Marilyn Carlson, Robert Frissel, Georgio Bongiovanni, John Mack, Whitley Streiber, Gordon Michael Scallion, etc. Conference will be held at Yankton Sioux Reservation at Marty, South Dakota. Information: 540/ 349-1750 or 605/ 384-5152. Conference travel information: 800/ 734-0264.

The Northern California *Case Briefs: Explorations and Review* was established as a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information. The opinions and observations expressed by contributing writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern California Chapter of MUFON, MUFON International, Inc., nor the editorial staff of *Case Briefs*. Articles, news items, reviews and event information for possible publication may be submitted to: *Case Briefs* Editor, MUFON Northern California, P. O. Box 7668, Landscape Station, Berkeley, CA 94707-0668. Please include your name, mailing address and phone number on any submitted items. Those who wish to submit their articles on diskette (Microsoft Word for Windows or compatible) instead of typed pages, may do so. Upon prior request, diskettes will be returned to the authors, in the packaging in which they are received.

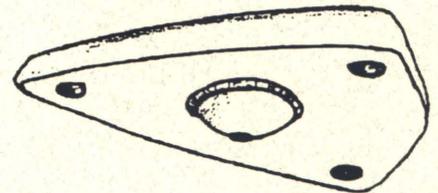
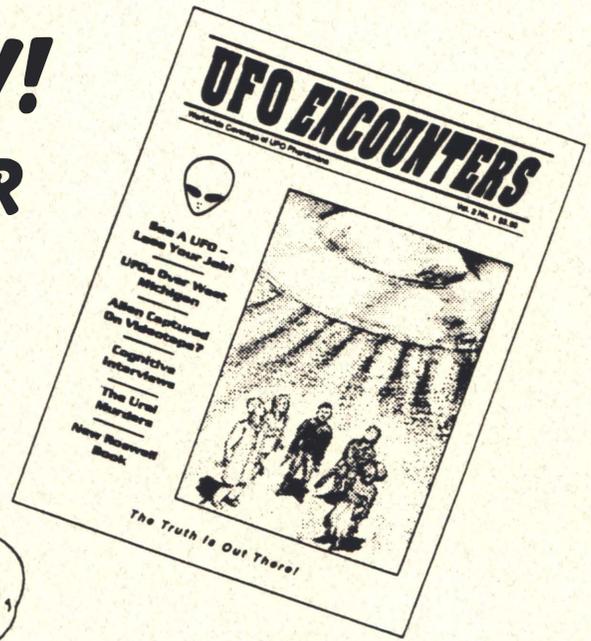
NEW SHOW ON CHANNEL 44

A new show on Channel 44 (UPN) KBHK, known as "PARANORMAL BORDERLINE" will regularly appear every Tuesday from 9-10 in the evening.

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