

The UFO Enigma

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THE CHINA EXPERIENCE - AT NOVEMBER UFO STUDY GROUP MEETING

By Margaret Myers

The UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc. met on Sunday, November 12th at the Boatmen's Bank Building to hear Dr. Peter Phillips talk about his experiences in China. Dr. Phillips, a Washington University professor of Physics, recently returned from a trip to China. Dr. Phillips briefly outlined changes made in China since the feudal system to the cultural revolution in 1976. Previously, the Communists had an imperialistic view of anything psychic, but after the cultural revolution, things opened up somewhat and psychic and other unusual events started appearing in their newspapers. In the years following the cultural revolution in 1976, things have more or less settled down and the Chinese are more open to discussing and publishing paranormal and other unusual happenings.

Dr. Phillips discussed some genuine powers he had seen in children, such as being able to hold a folded piece of paper to their forehead and being able to discern characters or writing that was hidden from them on the paper. He was particularly impressed with two sisters, whom he referred to as the Wong sisters.

Also discussed was Katherine Kuhlman, the charismatic healer whom many have seen on television. He explained that everyone

who had been touched by Katherine Kuhlman during her healing service immediately dropped to the floor and that two men were present specifically to catch the people so they would not be injured as they fell. When asked what the experience was like, people say the whole room is obliterated in a great blaze of light and they immediately became disoriented causing them to fall backwards. Dr. Phillips said that some people are so sensitive to this energy that they can transmit it to another person.

STUDY GROUP MEETING IN DECEMBER

The next meeting of The UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 2:00 p.m. at the Boatmen's Bank Building at 75 West Lockwood (Corner of Lockwood and Gore across from our old meeting place) in Webster Groves.

This being our Christmas meeting, members are encouraged to bring cookies and holiday snacks to share during the social part of the meeting. Because of the limited space at our new meeting location, this will not be a potluck dinner as in the past. Also, there will be no gift exchange.

The December meeting will feature Joe

Palermo, who will share some video highlights of the Show-Me UFO Conference held recently in Earth City.

Also, Joe Palermo and Alex Horvat are working on video and audio tapes of this event. If you want to be first on the list, call (314) 947-4116 or write:

MUFON/MISSOURI
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LIBRARY CORNER

By John Roppolo

The motion picture version of Communion by Whitley Streiber has, as most of you know, been released this past month. It is the opinion of your humble librarian that the book version is superior to the film, and of course, it is available in our library. Also available is Streiber's follow-up book, Transformation, which delves further into his relationship with the "visitors".

As a side note, Streiber's most recent book, Majestic (not presently available through the Study Group Library), is NOT a nonfiction book. Rather it is based "loosely" upon Majestic 12 information uncovered by Friedman, Moore and Shandera; but Majestic is actually a suspense novel -- definitely a work of fiction.

Also of note in our library -- UFOs And IFOs by Gardner Soule may be of some interest to both the field investigator and the casual reader. This 1967 history reviews several cases of unusual aerial phenomena, and details how they were classified as either identifiable or unidentifiable. The book also offers tips for what to do "if you see a UFO", and concludes with anecdotes and quotes from the late Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

Please visit the library table before the Sunday Study Group meeting or during the break period. There will be no Archive / Library meeting at the Roppolo's in December, since the "usual time" would be in conflict with the Christmas Holiday period. So in the meantime, Merry Christmas from the Archive & Library Committee.

PARAPSYCHOLOGY GROUP EXPLORES GEOMANTICS

By John E. Schroeder

Marjorie Sherrill was featured at the November 1, 1989 Parapsychology Committee meeting. Her topic "Exploring Geomantic Applications" was drawn from her report on the book Sedona, Sacred Earth by Nicholas Mann. Sedona, AZ, at the end of Oak Creek Canyon, attracts many psychics. Energies in the area produce four vortices which increase the powers of some psychics, but prove overwhelming to others who leave. (One member in the party accompanying Marjorie apparently induced poltergeist types of manifestations while in the Sedona power spots.)

Geomancy is the study of the "earth spirit", interrelating flora, fauna, physical formations, spiritual forces and adjoining influences. Geomantic investigators establish "lay lines" according to the Chinese "ying-yang" dichotomy. Ying, for example, might be the site of an underground river surfacing; whereas Yang, representing the dragon, might be the strong rock ridge which limits the water's flow. Exceptionally strong energies would emanate where the two - Ying and Yang - intersect. Power spots - water, rock, wood, fire and metal - either work in conjunction or oppose each other. The "lay line" flows through such strong power spots as a straight line which intersects "vortices" and may delineate designs.

Nicholas Mann indicated that animal, bird and human configurations (or easily defined natural shapes on maps) mediate other physical formations and spiritual energies. (This concept has its parallel in Native American "Shamanism.") The "Bird" and "Hollow Log" from an ancient Indian flood myth are apparent to Geomancers near Sedona. Hopi legends seemed to coincide with Mann's readings. His "lay lines" keyed to natural formations including "spiral" outcroppings charted a pentagram - the symbol in many ancient temples around the world and consistent with Hopi mythology.

One formation called the "Camel's Head" instead reminded Marjorie and another tour member of a reptilian humanoid similar to tiny UFO occupants. As a power spot, the formation was not communicating consistently to all the

psychics present.

Nicholas Mann, after completing his Geomantic research of Sedona's environs, overlaid his map of all the geophysical structures with the symbols evident from the "lay lines." A Pentagram, Hexagram and Flying Eagle proved to be contiguous designs. Mann's geomantic theory suggests that everything in the Sedona area is powerfully and harmoniously balanced to make its support of life continuous. Humans, intent on altering earth structures for financial gain or heightened productivity, may threaten this tenuous balance.

In the "Sharing Period", those attending read excerpts from clippings donated by Frank Brown.

Walter Palmer told how a psychic named Langster read a prisoner's mind, identified him as the one who had murdered his mother, described the circumstances and lead police to the hidden murder weapon.

Jane Reed shared a humorous piece telling how the Mason family saw a black and white "Ghost Cat" on several occasions which - claimed the truck driver father of the family - "must be keeping away the phantom mice."

Ernie Joyce's tidbit cited Barry Downing's question, "Should Christian ministers convert Aliens?" Some theologians said, "Yes" because evil was so pervasive on earth, Aliens would soon fall victim to sin and need Christ's redemption. Others considered Aliens "angels", either already permanently sanctified or permanently at enmity with God.

Warren Bartling cited "proof" that our spirits can travel out of body and report distant scenes or events. Warren related personal experiences and those of a friend who could travel out-of-body at will.

Marjorie Sherrill quoted a parallel book to Mann's The Earth Spirit which told about the "black spirit dog" seen to run a certain "lay line" of power consistently. She also read an article claiming a ship lost seven years before in the Bermuda Triangle had reappeared with all passengers intact at the point of its disappearance. Those aboard - during hypnotic regression - claimed that they had been examined, poked and prodded by aliens on a space ship.

A similar "time warp" anecdote related that a German plane, reported missing on the Russian front in 1942, landed in

Russia in 1989 piloted by a skeleton in tattered remains of a Luftwaffe uniform.

Eleanor Schroeder read an article about the Egyptian pyramid which, since 1940, had claimed 200 lives including that of an adventurous English youth in 1989. Some state that Pharaoh Cheops' curse caused the deaths but police state the foolhardiness of those who disobey laws against climbing the pyramid was to blame.

John Schroeder noted that a Sidonian style reed ship, coated with cement, was located on Mount Mahser Dagi (Doomsday Mountain) by explorer David Fasold. In his book, The Ark of Noah, Wynwood Press, 1988, Fasold compares the size, tiers, construction and location of the vessel (17 miles from Mt. Ararat) with the description of the biblical "ark" which kept the human race alive after a global deluge.

At the next Parapsychology Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 6, John Schroeder will explore the parapsychological implications of some of Whitley Strieber's UFO alien experiences, especially from his book, Transformation, the Breakthrough.

AN UPDATE FROM JOAN LAURINO

EDITOR'S NOTE: At the time of the Show-Me UFO Conference last month, we were not sure Joan could make it or not since she lives in San Francisco. When Joan did show up and we met her in person for the first time, it was obvious to us that nothing short of a 9.0 earthquake would dampen her spirit! Thanks for coming Joan - it was great finally meeting you.

October 11, 1989

Dear Editor:

I thought that the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis would appreciate an update on the Martha Throne case following her Unidentified Friendly People incident on the grounds of the 1986 Sonora MUFON Symposium.

I kept a chronological record of her experiences as they might intersect with other significant events. It now appears that a possible medical miracle may have

taken place after the recent CE-III, but we are not sure.

First, lets review the last three years during which paranormal and UFO related activity touched her home. The latter half of 1986 involved a mixed bag of "high strangeness."

One November morning at approximately 3:00 a.m., her daughter, Twila, suddenly woke up and observed a thin blue beam of light piercing through the kitchen and aimed at the old stove. The stove and refrigerator operated poorly for about 5 years and threatened to go on the fritz. Martha did not observe the "blue beam" since she remained asleep. The anomaly didn't last very long and Twila drifted back to sleep. However, during the late morning hours, it was discovered that both appliances worked beautifully and seemed to be free of defects! Today, the stove and refrigerator are still operating smoothly, but the two ladies are absolutely stymied for an explanation other than to attribute this mystery to the blue light.

On many occasions, Martha had noticed small, white, circular objects darting in and out of nearby trees at late hours. Her trailer is situated in a woody region above Phoenix Lake with several other trailer-homes; however, we are unable to obtain independent witnesses due to the fact that this particular UFO activity is SILENT and would NOT attract attention. Neighbors throughout these scattered homes have their shades down and stay indoors, thus making it handy for UFOs to come and go as they please.

Martha Throne's recent experience took place on July 30 around 11:00 p.m. She had returned to the bedroom when a medium sized lighted craft caught her attention as she laid down on the bed. It floated down from tree top level towards her trailer. Here, a good view was obtained. The 12 foot (approximate estimation) craft of silvery metal was elongated and curved at the edges. A black band appeared in the middle. As the ship neared the window, it slanted in Martha's direction where she noticed two tiny figures at a control panel. Martha is unable to give more specific details of the "pilots" since the craft maneuvered with split-second swiftness to make a sharp turn over the property.

The unique beauty and grace of the

silent craft left Martha to gasp in astonishment. She felt no fear, but a overall positive attitude of good things to come.

To recall Martha's emotions during her 1977 abduction whereby her husband remained in suspended animation, the alien beings indicated that no harm would come to her. Martha now recollects. "I truly felt their sincerity. I believe that if they're not going to hurt me, I'll just relax and observe everything I can and learn ... and that's just what I did. Of course, the beings knocked me out two or three times as if I wasn't supposed to see too much, otherwise I missed nothing," she chuckles. I believe that her heroic attitude had won her favors. Mr. Throne who remembers the initial UFO contact, never was the same after the event and passed away some years later.

Since 1982, Mrs. Throne had been suffering from reoccurring malignant tumors needing frequent surgery. Her personal physician and other members of the hospital staff regard her highly and administer the best possible care. Recent medical tests have discovered a cancer free condition. Totally clean! In as much as the physician expressed amazement over the turn of events, we cannot solely attribute Martha's healthy condition to the UFO sightings or the recent CE-III. It is only empirical data. Unequivocally, this overall representation of UFO activity does indicate other interests in us humans no matter what the age preference. For those researchers who have "tunnel vision", not ALL alien beings are interested in making hybrids!

Mrs. Throne continues to question these striking events; however, it is proved to her satisfaction that the strangeness of the entire sequence of happenings have been in her favor. Thus, the experiences of one abductee can awaken the intellect and for awhile, put aside what ever is on your mind.

Joan H. Laurino
4340 Kirkham Street
San Francisco, CA 94122

CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN CAMBODIA - 1971

By Peter A. Bostrom

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third and final part of this series. If anyone would like a copy of the entire series, please contact Ken Hanke through the UFO Study Group.

BOSTROM: Is this about all you can remember?

JOE: Well, that's the problem. If we really sit down and try to pressure ourselves through it, you get confused. I talked to a couple of fellows that were involved in it and they have the same kind of problem. Slowly but surely, things emerge and over the years more and more has come up. It was years before I ever had a desire at all to talk about it. Not because it was frightening, because the "firm" told us not to or that they were going to place it under the national security end, but because I absolutely had no desire whatsoever to talk about it.

BOSTROM: Do you remember any other details such as how they entered the craft?

JOE: It was like a section slid down. Like it just created itself on the side and slid down.

BOSTROM: Do you remember a ramp?

JOE: It slid down and it tilted down to the ground and had a stair on it and formed a ramp for them to walk right up with steps on it.

BOSTROM: Did it look like they were walking on steps?

JOE: It had steps on it because they were stepping and it wasn't like they shuffled up the ramp. Their gait was very smooth, almost unerring and they covered a lot of ground in a little bit of time. But the main problem is like I said, if we sit down and try to really go through the details and think hard about it, I end up almost with an anxiety attack. Whatever it was that they did to bury those things is pretty permanent. Over the years, I still occasionally have nightmares about it. I wake up in a cold sweat and I'd remember for awhile. It's frustrating. I find myself angry because I don't know what the heck they did to us.

BOSTROM: Do you know one or two of the people and can you get a hold of them

today?

JOE: Yes, there's five or six I could get a hold of. Most of them just refuse to talk about it at all. Two of them I know still work for the "firm". They are active so they're not going to talk about it. Bill suffers from delayed stress syndrome and when he came home, he was never the same.

BOSTROM: Has someone contacted you lately on this?

JOE: I still have some friends with the "firm". I did some work for them after I was discharged from the service. One of them called me on a very friendly basis just as a friend.

BOSTROM: What is the "firm"?

JOE: When you hear people involved in security. I'll let you in on a little secret here. They never call a certain agency of the government the company. They like to call it - that's referred to as the "firm". Again, what we were with was literally a front for that agencies' military part which we are not supposed to have one of. It had one. Recently, there have been little leaks about that. I did find out that a few weeks after we had our incident, there were at least two more. One of which, some fellows were pinned down and two of those little fellows stepped out of the woods. One of them threw a small object out between them and the Phaphet Lao that had them pinned down. They described it as a "darkness grenade" instead of a smoke grenade. It put up enough of a partition of darkness that they were able to escape and they came back. Regardless of how tight security is on a base like that, everybody more or less sleeps in the same bed. Many things get out. These guys came back and immediately came down - what the hell did they do to you guys when you saw that thing and they went through the same procedure. Recently, I was talking to a good friend of mine who was in Thailand with the Air Force and we were talking about it and laughing about the fellow from the "firm" calling me and he said what happened when I told him and he looked at me and said "oh you boys" because he'd heard about the incident and people took it either with great hilarity - it was the funniest thing they had ever heard - or quite a few people were scared and we never did find out what Uncle Sam had determined about it. I can well

imagine what they determined about it. We were all on drugs or swamp gas, but they never released that information to us.

BOSTROM: Did you hear of any other cases like that in the region?

JOE: There was quite a few. They were always seeing them. Even back in World War II in Burma. They had Foo Fighters. Fellows kept seeing them follow along the aircraft. The only thing I can say is whoever or whatever these humanoids are, is they are very interested in our work here.

BOSTROM: What did the guys that saw the smoke bomb say about the craft?

JOE: They didn't see a craft. All they saw was the fellows that we had seen - some of the smaller ones.

BOSTROM: They just appeared there?

JOE: They heard a noise out in the jungle and these two fellows came in. They heard it over the gunfire so evidently whatever it was - was very, very loud. These fellows peeked out - looked around - looked at them and they could see them clearly. They turned to each other and whatever discussion they had - one of them reached up and threw a small object and they said it was small enough - it couldn't be any smaller than a tennis ball and it went off with a loud pop. Not an explosion, but a pop. It's just like a dark gas. It came up like smoke does but it was darkness and they looked at each other and said, "What the hell is this" and one of them said, "I don't care, lets get out of here". So they high tailed it out. It took the Phaphet Lao back far enough that they couldn't pursue them. They'd never seen anything like that and neither did we.

BOSTROM: Did they take their clothes to check for residue?

JOE: They did that several times. They took our fatigues. Other than that, one of the most interesting things about this - our memories were never exactly the same. Whatever they did, it altered our memories - affected it with great permanence, but there is no such thing as a total block. Those things come in surges. I know that up to that point in time, I've always been fascinated with the idea - had always wanted to believe in it, but never really saw enough that really made me believe that there was any such things. Whoever or whatever, I'm convinced that they're not present

populace of this earth.

BOSTROM: You don't care about my recording this?

JOE: No, I have no problem with it at all.

FOOTNOTE:

"Joe" has returned to active duty with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

EARTH CITY ENCOUNTER: THE SHOW-ME UFO CONFERENCE

By Alex Horvat,
Missouri/MUFON P.I.O.

"An idea properly cultivated becomes a relished reality."

While the above quote can't be attributed to anyone other than the writer of this article, it certainly describes in a nutshell what happened with the recent UFO conference held in Earth City on Saturday, October 21.

The idea, courtesy of Bruce Widaman, Missouri/MUFON's State Director and cultivation done by the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis. Ken & Helen Hanke, John & Peggy Roppolo, Walter & Myrtle Palmer, Spencer Wolling, John Schroeder, Cliff Stewart, Dave Rapp, Bruce Widaman and Alex Horvat to name a few.

The public relations efforts to get the word out was greatly aided by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, KMOX, KYKY-98FM, WGNU and KSHE-95. Mentions in MUFON Journal and St. Louis Magazine, The Lake St. Louis publication, "The Times" also had a noticeable effect.

The draw, of course, was the speakers. In order to create a little suspense, two mystery guests were inserted in the lineup. The first mystery guest and speaker was to be author and well known ufologist - William Moore. Moore chose to drive the distance and apparently suffered an auto breakdown that kept him away.

While there may be some that attempt to infer other reasons for Moore's no-show, if we are to exemplify our desire to make conclusions based on facts, rumors

and personal opinions must be set aside. After all, is not one Phil Klass enough?

Fortunately, our last speaker of the evening, Stanton T. Friedman volunteered to fill the gap. In retrospect, considering the content of his impromptu message, it made good sense.

Well known nuclear physicist and ufologist, Friedman addressed the philosophical side of the UFO enigma. This contrasted greatly to the more factual slide show display he would give later in the evening.

While not a question and answer session, Friedman's experience has taught him what objections people have to acknowledging the reality of UFOs. Questions like "How could they get here from there?" or "How could something this big be kept a secret?" The opportunity to promote the evening session was quite obvious and quite well done. However, for those that witnessed both sessions, the difference between the two was apparent.

Explorer, adventurer, the real life "Indiana Jones" was next to the podium. David Hatcher Childress, author of five books on lost cities and ancient mysteries plus three books on the ancient or lost sciences.

Now, how does this relate to UFOs you ask? Childress maintains that the real history of the people of this planet can't be drawn with an angled upward line. Instead, "History is like a roller coaster, it has peaked at times and then slid downward due to geologic cataclysm or war."

During these peaks, mankind has achieved a technological capability far beyond what we presently think. The possibility that flying machines or "vimanas" as they were called were developed in ancient India during the reign of the Rama Empire. This could be evidence that some UFOs in ancient history could be attributed to such development.

In the event you've yet to read one of Childress's books, you're in for a treat. The lost city series allows the reader to share in the adventure without enduring the rigors of the expedition. From chewing qat in Iraq to searching for the lost city of Paititi, you'll acquire a broader appreciation for the mysteries and majesty of our humble planet.

Following a lunch break, Robert Oechsler would offer a way to correlate

the physical enigma of UFOs with photos (slides and video too).

The original slides from Gulf Breeze, the Chesapeake Bay incident and new video shot in Japan in July, 1989 were shown. Called the "Hamasaki video" (named after the man who shot it obviously) showed a Saturn shaped object with a square ring around it. Dr. Bruce Macabee analyzed the video and called it "An identified UFO," in other words, this was a real UFO, not one of ours. This particular craft also matched the 1975 Lindstrom photos from Hawaii.

While video and slides were not lacking, neither were a few thought provoking rhetorical questions posed to the audience. Oechsler asked, "I wonder if the various alien species, presumably behind the technology of these machines may also be part of an indoctrination program of sorts?"

Movie examples such as the classic, "The Day the Earth Stood Still" and of course "Close Encounters of a Third Kind" come to mind.

More examples were forthcoming from the commercial vein. Corona Beer, Minolta Cameras, Levi Straus, Coke, Pepsi, Tropicana OJ, Epilady, Edy's Ice Cream, Bordens Elmers Glue and Levi's Cotton Dockers all have an alien theme to help push their product. In fact, the cotton dockers even opens up with the line, "We've been host to EBEs for 40 years."

So that our children know what is going on, Oechsler relates, "Gumby was abducted by little grey aliens, it seems they needed his D.N.A. because their race was dying." A few chuckles from the audience punctuated the remark but subsided as Oechsler continued, "Kids are seeing aliens come out of the sky and they might need your D.N.A. for vitality." A thought that may have caused a few parents to raise their eyebrows.

The next speaker was certainly no stranger to digging into the UFO enigma. In fact, Ted Phillips has probably dug up more dirt on UFOs than anyone. The internationally recognized leader in examining physical trace cases, burn rings, landing sites, etc., Phillips has now upped the total to 4,127 sites in 65 countries.

The ability of the soil to absorb moisture after exposure to one of these craft was duly noted. In the event you've yet to see Phillips on the documentary "UFOs

Are Real," you should get a copy if you can. A demonstration of this effect can be seen.

It was obvious in watching the way Phillips was treated that he had earned the respect of the UFO community.

The three sessions were scheduled with a minimum of a one and a half hour break in between each to allow time for eating and visiting. At least 25% of those attending came from well outside the St. Louis metro area. It was encouraging to hear that the comments from those attending were so positive.

Publicity, personality and people mixed well to fill the room for the evening session. John Schuessler began with his presentation titled, "15 Million UFO Sightings and Still Counting." Previously billed as the second mystery guest "Snowbird", Schuessler's lengthy UFO background gave the audience more to ponder. Reporting on the little known "Project Stork" for example. This project was a UFO study out of Batelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio. Between 1947 and 1952 they studied 3,200 cases under Air Force sponsorship. In 1955, results were made public and 22% still remained unidentified according to Schuessler, "after careful consideration in spite of having sufficient information."

The main thrust of Schuessler's presentation was the December 29, 1980 encounter of a strange airborne vehicle by Betty Cash, Vicki Landrum and her seven year old son, Colby.

This East Texas encounter left the group very ill within hours. Cash developed huge water blisters on her face and by January 3rd, had to be hospitalized at a Houston hospital for burns. Both women would lose substantial amounts of hair and Cash, 52 years old at the time, would be in and out of hospitals for the next several years.

Due to the nature of the burns, "every conceivable test that could be done was," said Schuessler. This would be very important to future research and statements about the case. Other than the burns Cash was healthy, but within three years she developed cancer, later had a double mastectomy, vision problems and a heart sack inflammation.

Debunkers would claim, without looking at the facts of course, that Cash had cancer previous to the encounter. As we

know too well, facts are of little consideration when scattering misinformation.

Schuessler indicated that Cash and Landrum had dozens of cancerous skin tumors removed over the years after being exposed to the radiation near the vehicle.

Cash reported counting 22 or 23 helicopters buzzing near the vehicle as it flew across the path of their vehicle. Schuessler and others who have investigated this case lean strongly to the belief that this could have been a very top secret Air Force experiment, possibly with technology learned from encounters with alien technology.

While Cash enjoyed success in business as a restaurant owner prior to the incident, her health and stress over this affair would curb future planned expansions.

All three would continue to suffer from this dilemma in a variety of ways and all pleas to the government to recognize their claim of injury would be denied.

When one discusses serious UFO investigations and the government cover-up with anyone knowledgeable on the subject, it would not be long before the name of the next speaker would come up. Nuclear physicist and nationwide lecturer on UFOs and the official cover-up, Stanton T. Friedman.

Friedman's confidence and knowledge of the subject firmly drive home his conclusions. Which is just how Friedman begins many of his presentations with the following conclusions: 1) The Earth is being visited by extraterrestrials in controlled spacecraft. some UFOs are alien. (Usually, Stan will indicate how many times we should underline "some") 2) The subject represents a Cosmic Watergate. 3) None of the arguments made by a small group of noisy negativists stand up under careful scrutiny. 4) Many of his colleagues in science and journalism have grossly neglected the subject and are ignorant of the relevant data. 5) This is the biggest story of the millennium and it's being ignored.

Indeed, as this writer has asked the following question of many of our top news people, "If what we are saying about UFOs and ET is true, would not this be the biggest story you could cover?" Invariably, they all answer "Yes." However, when asked, "Why is no one investigating the data associated with the phenomenon and

government evidence available to the general public?" It is at that point that I get a smile or smirk and a blank stare ... but rarely an intelligent answer.

With a background and practical experience working on many classified projects, Friedman relates what he learned. "I worked on nuclear reactors that were used to operate jet engines. It worked! But the project was canceled," as Friedman so eloquently puts it, "The operation was a success but the patient died."

One such engine was about six and a half feet in diameter and produced 4.4 BILLION WATTS of energy! Certainly sounds like it would be useful in space travel.

While the final results are still pending from Friedman's MJ-12 investigation, he did supply background on the documents and attempts to verify them as authentic.

The well known Betty and Barney Hill abduction was covered (Friedman was the technical consultant on the movie made about the abduction), also the Roswell Incident was explained and updated due to the September 20, 1989 NBC-TV "Unsolved Mysteries" episode on the subject. Friedman reported over 100 new leads and high ranking officials that came forth to confirm the information he had uncovered. At this time, some of them have refused to go on camera regarding such happenings. This probably is due to the possible loss in benefits and as many have said, "They (the military) really put the fear of God in you about security matters."

The manner with which Friedman addressed the UFO myths is most exemplary. By illuminating the dark corners of mystery with facts, the UFO enigma becomes easier to understand. Particularly when it comes to why journalists and scientists are reluctant to jump on the UFO bandwagon. Friedman cites four reasons:

- 1) Ignorance of the relevant data.
- 2) The laughter curtain - fear of ridicule. Sightings are common, reports are uncommon and good investigations are rare.
- 3) Ego - If aliens are visiting planet Earth and not making an appointment with "ME" (meaning certain scientists, journalists and politicians), they can't exist.
- 4) Almost complete unwillingness to use our technology to understand UFOs and saucers.

Certainly there are other objections, but the answers to them are readily available and should be used when challenged. As Friedman would put it, "stop being an apologist UFOLOGIST."

The panel discussion at the end of the conference demonstrated that no one was apologizing for anything. The vast majority of a crowd of 300 stayed on after the brief break as the open panel commenced at about 10:00 p.m.

Joining the speakers on the panel were Walt Andrus, International Director of MUFON, Leonard Stringfield, author of Situation Red, and Larry Bryant, whose patience and determination in pursuing suits against the Department of Defense and the U.S. Government is well respected.

At first slow to start, the audience grew to relish the opportunity to question the panel directly. "How could they keep this a secret?" or "Why doesn't somebody sneak out photos of this stuff from Hangar 18?" or "What about the subordinates that served with these UFO security outfits, why don't they talk?"

The questions heated up when a resident of Boone County (Missouri) came forward. An emotionally charged young man seemed infuriated with UFO related problems in his community. Namely, cattle mutilations and possible abductions. Saying that a lot of people in his area wanted answers and that is why he came to the conference, drew our attention. However, when asked to give his name, address, etc., this individual chose to withhold it.

Last but certainly not least, a man rose from the crowd claiming to be an ex-NSA analyst (what he analyzed he didn't say). His concern was over the sociological, economical and other impacts such a revelation of this data would have on the public.

That could be a whole seminar or conference in itself, but then maybe it will be.

One thing is for sure is that the information exchanged by our local organizations and the speakers before, during and after the presentations will help us in research and our ability to understand and educate those interested.

Calendar

December 1989

Wed. Dec. 6 - Parapsychology Committee Meeting at the Schroeder home, 4991 Miami St., St. Louis, MO (7:30 p.m.)

Sun. Dec. 10 - UFO Study Group Meeting at the BOATMEN'S NATIONAL BANK at 75 West Lockwood (corner of Lockwood and Gore - across from the Farm and Home Savings and Loan building), Webster Grove, MO. (2:00 p.m.)

Tues. Dec. 19 - St. Charles UFO Committee at the Bonanza Sirloin Pit, 1215 South Duchesne St. Charles, MO (7:30 p.m.)

EDITORIAL

Have you ever noticed that every month we keep seeing the same bylines in your newsletter? "The UFO Enigma" has been very fortunate to be supported by a few very dedicated people who write the articles you read. No one gets any monetary payment for the time spent writing these articles, but you can help me pay these good people. Simply put, if you enjoy reading an article in this newsletter,

tell the author the next time you see them. Without their help, there is no way this newsletter could be published.

What we are trying to do with "The UFO Enigma" and the Sunday Study Group meetings as well as the Parapsychology, St. Charles Research and Library / Archive committees is very simple - to educate and inform the public. We are really not interested in entertainment, but education.

You can play a part by becoming "pro-active". Pro-active simply means getting involved. Pro-active is investigating sightings, not simply hearing about them. Pro-active is helping the Library / Archive Committee to organize it's material and USING our library. Pro-active is contributing to this newsletter by writing articles. "What can I write about?" you ask? Articles can be anything from book reports to sighting reports to library research. Any member is welcome to come visit the library any time they wish. Just call me at (314) 831-0413. You see, it's in my basement.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist or an English major or a college graduate. You just have to GET INVOLVED and become PRO-ACTIVE! Look around at some of the "big names" in ufology. They are made up of artists, policemen, business people and laborers. The difference is that they are involved.

Please have a safe and happy holiday season.

Kenneth Hanke, Editor

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