

The UFO Enigma

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1989-90 OFFICERS

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HANDLING PHYSICAL EVIDENCE - SUBJECT OF JANUARY MEETING

By Ken Hanke

The next meeting of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis will be held on Sunday, January 14th 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.

At the January meeting, Forest Crawford will talk about handling physical evidence in UFO investigations. Forest is the Vice President of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis as well as the MUFON Assistant State Director for Illinois. There have been numerous UFO sightings in northern Illinois in the last few months involving "angel hair". While Forest will not be able to talk about certain specifics because of ongoing investigations, there is a lot he can and will talk about the general pattern of cases, the physical evidence (angel hair) that has been retrieved and how the evidence has been handled.

Forest has even promised to bring a sample of the "angel hair" for people attending to see. If you have never actually seen "angel hair" before, this meeting promises to be well worth attending.

Many UFO investigators have a general idea of how to handle physical evidence in

general but how many know exactly how to handle such material in a professional manner that minimizes possible contamination. You may be surprised at how complex the simple preservation of such evidence can be.

DECEMBER MEETING FEATURES CONFERENCE VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

By Margaret Myers

The UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis, Inc. met on Sunday, December 10th at the Boatmen's Bank Building. After a brief outline of the purpose of the organization, John Schroeder, President, introduced the Officers for 1989-90. This was followed by Frank Brown's short but entertaining review of UFO related articles in various "supermarket rags". Vice President Forest Crawford then briefly discussed trace findings in Gulf Breeze, where the diametric measurements of circular markings on the ground there were identical to the size of similar circular markings on the ground there were identical to the size of similar circular markings reported in England. He also briefly discussed a South Carolina sighting on Halloween night of mysterious orange lights in the sky, which were

recorded on a video camcorder. The tape will be thoroughly examined by Bruce Macabee for authenticity, and Forest promised to show it at a future meeting if he can get a copy of the tape.

After a brief refreshment break, the meeting continued with Board of Director member, Joe Palermo, presenting segments of the video tape he made at the October 21st Show-Me UFO Conference, which he produced and edited for Channel 20 cable network in St. Charles. Joe suggested the possibility that we are being prepared for the idea that "aliens" exist and are visiting us, and enumerated some examples of several television commercials which seem to be aimed at subliminally effecting our acceptance of that fact, as well as certain statements made in recent years by President Reagan.

Palermo postulated that the evidence is overwhelming that we are being visited by intelligent alien space visitors; that there appears to be a Cosmic Watergate and that certain groups have known since 1947 (starting with events that reportedly took place at Roswell, New Mexico), that we have been visited by someone from outer space. He believes that none of the arguments against the probability of "alien" visitors stand up under careful scrutiny and that colleagues have been grossly negative in the treatment of the subject, especially in regard to the current Soviet studies. Joe suggests that we are dealing with the biggest story of this century, yet it is being buried for some reason. Joe Palermo is to be congratulated for the excellent job he did in producing and editing this tape. At some time in the future, these tapes will be available for purchase. People interested in purchasing one of these tapes should contact Joe Palermo in care of:

The UFO Study Group of
Greater St. Louis, Inc.
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THE ARCHIVE ALCOVE

By Peggy Roppolo

The Library and Archive Committee did not meet in December. We took a well earned rest. The meetings will resume in January on the third Sunday of every month. The dates are January 21, February 18, March 18 and April 15. The second half of the 1989 - 1990 year will be concerned with putting articles in chronological order. The categories are as polished as is possible with the growing collection. The regular Sunday meetings in Webster Groves will again offer a book raffle and to start the new year off right, an attendance drawing for the movie "The Day The Earth Stood Still" will be held.

We'll see you there!

STRIEBER'S "TRANSFORMATION" TO PSYCHIC POWERS

By John Schroeder

The Parapsychology Committee met December 6 for a review of Whitley Strieber's bestselling book Transformation, Avon Books, NY, copyright 1988. In the sharing section, Walter Palmer spoke highly of the book Cosmic Catastrophes which adduces paleontological and geological evidence for abrupt and drastic changes in the earth's environment, fauna and flora due to unpredictable catastrophes. Research and hypotheses go beyond Immanuel Velikowski's theories and Physicist Hapgood's deductions. Walter recommends it.

Marjorie Sherrill called attention to Arizona psychic, Tuella's prediction of multi-layered, simultaneous existence in which a parallel earth -- it is claimed -- will carry a livable environment into another dimension as it travels through space to distant suns. (One potentially may capture the errant earth within its gravitational field and establish a stable orbit for a new age and new life.)

John Schroeder elaborated on Whitley Strieber's theme for Transformation, that the author was in a war for his life

force, for his very soul. While Strieber claimed to be a Christian in a mainline church, he expressed no initial knowledge of Christianity beyond an ethical stance, no concept of Christ's resurrection and life after death, no belief in angels or the existence of the human soul. In fact, later claiming true objectivity, he aligned himself in the same class with scientists who were atheists and agnostics. As a result, his stated theology is "New Age", closer to the teachings of Ouspensky and Gurdjieff than Jesus Christ. He claims that painful trials and frightening demonstrations induced by aliens, demons, angels or fairies helped move him past fears and faults to a higher level of personhood and character. His convoluted logic leads him to conclude that evil produces good, so we are to appropriate (as inferiors) the superiority of the hurtful aliens because their pain produces growth in us.

He apparently increased his parapsychological potential. After his abduction described in his previous nonfiction Communion, he heard voices of "The Masters" which gave him directions and warnings (most of which proved false but -- he thought -- taught him valuable lessons); helped him successfully experience telepathy; moved him to practice meditation with resultant "out-of-body" experiences; and claimed the ability to levitate. The transmedium messages, telepathy and out-of-body incidents were chronicled; but nothing except aliens causing him to levitate during abductions met that criterion. His levitation, rising to the ceiling, observing his sleeping body, moving through window glass and screen to psychically touch a flower outdoors, is apparently an "out-of-body experience" because he wills his return to his cold, aching, sore body. Again, this painful event convinced him he had a soul, so Strieber counts it positive and not negative.

Similarly, he is ordered to give up sweets; but is not able to withstand the allure of chocolate candy and Oreo cookies. Aliens appear to a friend's mother, who -- dying of diabetes -- demonstrates the alien's cause-to-effect lesson. When these "fright" methods fail to change Strieber's unwanted behavior, the aliens -- in dream context "not real, Whittie" -- lash him unmercifully; and --

when this excruciating agony is not deemed enough -- begin to torture his son in the other room. Whitley, weeping, pledges to give up sweets (mentally comparing this with Christ's desire that His disciples fast to gain spiritual power) and keeps his promise. (See, bad is good!)

A false prophecy given by the alien that Strieber would die on one of two unexpected trips to visit his mother in Texas leads him through extreme psychological torture exquisitely described. Again, the lie produces positive truth, since he feels he has conquered his fear of death and has become more amiable in relation to aliens whom he feared.

In dream or trance states, Strieber is taken to a vast city on the edge of a desert under a yellow sky. He terms it "The Golden City" and "Magnificent City where truth is known"; but it is built on dead gray sand and has a black cube library of knowledge to which he is denied entry; and has no living creature or plant in it. (This is his glimpse of "Jesus' Father's mansions"?) Again, he sees three children playing in a field of yellow flowers "where all the sins of the world are buried."

Another example of "bad is good, establishing an essential balance in life" involves tall, Nordic blonde aliens in nonwoven white "faerie cloth" who demand that he tell causes for the dissolution of the British Empire and applaud his lies as "learned." From this show of arrogance, he ironically learned humility and resolved that his writing in Transformation would be as accurate as he could give it or as truthful as the mind-bending, manipulating aliens would allow. They had come to earth because they "saw a glow." Certainly, they would not dominate us sadistically. (That's his thesis.)

One real find in the book is Dr. Keane's phonetic transliteration of Betty Andreason's alien comment from its ancient Gaelic into English, "The living descendants of the Northern peoples are groping in universal darkness. Their (My) mother mourns. A dark occasion forebodes when weakness in high places will revive a high cost of living; an interval of mistakes in high places; an interval fit for distressing events."

Another demonstration which gave Strieber insight into the alien's character (They disintegrated the moon before his

eyes) led him to believe they would never use their power in so wantonly destructive a way. John Schroeder's parapsychological dreams led him to the opposite conclusion. When he was interviewed at Scott Air Force Base about 15 years ago by a Captain sent from Pentagon assignment as a "weapons' expert", John explained alien technology which could mechanically induce molecular disorientation. Hearing this, the obviously frightened officer ended the interview with his statement, "My God, if they have that, they could imbed an eight ounce piece of metal in the moon and shake it to dust in thirty seconds."

Schroeder concluded with his opinion that the creatures Strieber described showed the demonic characteristics ascribed to Satan in the Bible, "The Father of liars ... a murderer from the beginning ... who (defeated in a space war by Michael and good angels loyal to God) fell like dragon from heaven, (to wreak destruction on earth.)"

Earnie Joyce, after a refreshment break, told of his tour through Scott Air Force base which boasts 24 generals, but only four service persons to man it's global air-sea-land rescue operation.

The January Parapsychology Committee meeting will be postponed to the tenth of the first month in 1990. Warren Bartling will give a short review of "The Energy Machine" purportedly describing utilization of electromagnetic energy in unique ways potentially impacting our construction of a flying saucer. Marjorie Sherrill hopes to have a psychic demonstrate "unknown tongues" with interpretation and "automatic symbolism" with explanations. The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., January 10 at the Schroeder's home, 4991 Miami St. in St. Louis. Please call 352-3058 for more information.

THE GREENVILLE SIGHTINGS

By Forest Crawford

Dear Editor,

This letter is to report an unfortunate set of events that have led to a possible significant case. The case is

that of Gina Jones and her husband from Greenville, South Carolina. The story was first aired on November 17, 1989 by "CURRENT AFFAIR" and involved video taping five orange lights in the night sky on October 31st. During the video taping, part of the Jones' house was visible and something moved past the bathroom window. The Joneses did not even discover this until they viewed the video tape later. The "CURRENT AFFAIR" program also mentioned MUFON as being the largest UFO organization in the world and said we were sending a representative to review the tape.

Upon hearing this, I decided to call the State Director of South Carolina, Richard Koffman, to get the scoop on the case. He had not heard of the case. At this point, I realized that something was wrong. I gave Richard all the information from the TV show and we agreed to stay in touch. About a week later, I was talking to Bob Oechsler and asked if he knew if the tape had been sent to Dr. Bruce Macabee or himself. He said that he had seen the segment but knew of no tape being sent. At this point, it became a personal obsession to find out what was happening.

I called Richard back and he still had not found out anything so we agreed to keep trying. I then called the radio station WFBC in Greenville. While awaiting a call back from them, I called "CURRENT AFFAIR" Producer, Merrill Pollick. Ms. Pollick was very professional and cooperative, and was very glad to help in any way. She informed me that she had spoken to Gina the day before. Gina was wondering why she had not heard from MUFON yet. I told her that was why I was calling and she explained that they had heard about the story through the radio station and put together the segment. She called Walt Andrus to inform him of the case and the segment to be aired but Walt was out of town. Before Walt could get back to them, they aired the show. This finally explained why the show was aired before we really knew about it.

Ms. Pollick gave me Gina's phone number and asked me to keep her informed because they may do a follow-up after MUFON's examination of the video tape. I promptly called Gina and apologized for the delay. I talked with Gina and her husband several times over the next few days and found them both to be intelli-

ST CHARLES RESEARCH COMMITTEE

By Ken Hanke

gent, articulate people. A combination of caution and objectivity reflected genuineness in their wanting to understand what they had experienced.

I believe these characteristics were reflected on the "CURRENT AFFAIR" segment. She did not jump to conclusions and came across as sincere and believable. Any MUFON field investigator would have been proud of her attitude. I also feel that the "CURRENT AFFAIR" staff and especially Merrill Pollick should be congratulated for presenting this case in an objective fashion with some theatrics and very little laugh factor. Showing the airport tower while mentioning MUFON's world acclaim was a very nice touch.

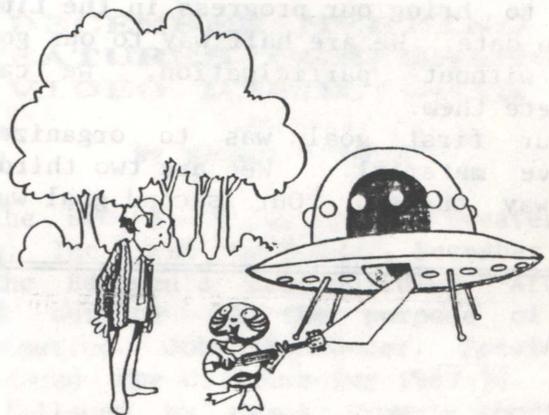
No one should be embarrassed by the breakdown of communication. An unfortunate set of circumstances will occasionally cause this to happen. Nor should I be patted on the back because I was only doing what I feel is part of my responsibility.

Every MUFON member, and especially MUFON officers should accept the personal responsibility to keep the lines of communication open. This is what makes us great and can make us greater. If we hope to continue growing as a significant contributor to the UFO enigma, communication is vital.

By the same token, no one should be ashamed to call someone to ask for help or advise in any situation. We are a team of professional UFO researchers - not single egos elbowing each other for position. Just as it took teams of professionals from secretaries to aeronautical engineers to put together the Space Shuttle and put the shuttle in flight, so will it take our combined efforts to understand this most significant phenomena. But I am only reflecting the feelings of other well respected ufologists like Marge Christensen, Leonard Stringfield and John Schuessler to name a few. Remember, if you're curious or unsure - just call.

Members attending the last St. Charles Research Committee on December 19th had quite a surprise awaiting them. It seems that the evening before the meeting, Committee Chairman Bruce Widaman received a message that the Bonanza Sirloin Pit - meeting location of the St. Charles group - would be closed for "remodeling"... for the next month or two. Bruce got to work and contacted all of the regular attendees he could. We ended up meeting a few doors down the street at Ken's Pizza. To make sure that people knew where to go, Bruce waited out in front of the old meeting place to direct people interested in the meeting to the new location.

As we go to press, Bruce has not secured a new meeting location. Indeed, it seems that all Bonanza's in the area have suddenly shut down for "remodeling". Bruce indicated that there would be a St. Charles Research Committee meeting on January 16. For information on where the meeting will be, please call Bruce Widaman at 946-1394 or Alex Horvat at 947-4116.



"I bring Earth a message from Alpha Centauri,
and it goes something like this..."



.. AND REMEMBER, NO
BUMPER STICKERS!..
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AN
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING
OBJECT.

THAVES 5-25
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Calendar

January 1990

Wed. Jan. 10 - Parapsychology Committee Meeting at the Schroeder home, 4991 Miami St., St. Louis, MO (7:30 p.m.)

Sun. Jan. 14 - 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. Jan. 16 - St. Charles UFO Committee at 7:30 p.m. Call Bruce Widaman at 946-1394 for location.

GUEST EDITORIAL

I like the start of a new year. It is an opportunity for us to take stock of where we are and how much closer we are to our goals. With this in mind, we would like to bring our progress in the Library up to date. We are half way to our goals, but without participation, we cannot complete them.

Our first goal was to organize the archive material. We are two thirds of the way there. Our second goal was to

establish a viable circulation department. The organization is easy, it is my form of relaxation. Unfortunately, a library does not thrive on just the acquisition and organizing of material. Without circulation, the collection can quickly grow stale and it is at this point that the library needs your help. Please request material. Without requests, the library cannot grow properly.

Thank you,

Peggy and John Roppolo

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