

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Vol. VI, No. 1

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## NEW YORKERS EXPERIENCE CONCENTRATED FLAP

Within a 50-mile radius of Syracuse, New York residents have reported many UFO sightings during the period, November, 1977-May, 1978. Sighting characteristics include objects that shook a house, were tracked on radar, apparently caused electro-magnetic (E-M) effects, paced cars, lit up surrounding areas, frightened witnesses, and produced possible physiological effects.

UFOR is indebted to Robert Barrow, Syracuse, for information on the reports. Barrow personally investigated the March 30 and April 29 sightings and sent a report to UFOR, dated May 31, 1978.

The sightings apparently began in Plymouth, about 50 miles southeast of Syracuse, on November 23, 1977. Thomas Colledge, a veal farmer, had crawled into bed at approximately 12:45 a.m. when he and his wife, Mary, heard "a tremendous roar." Looking out of a window, they observed an arrowhead-shaped object "about the size of a house." The "brightly glowing" UFO was an estimated 80 feet long and 50 feet wide.

"By the time I could get a good look at it, the whole house was shaking....," Colledge related in the May 21, 1978, edition of *The Syracuse New Times*. "I can definitely say that it wasn't any type of aircraft I've ever seen.... It lit up my entire back yard. I thought it was going to crash into my barns, but it went right over them, putting out a mercury vapor lamp in the process."

Mrs. Colledge said the UFO hovered "for a few seconds" and "was covered with flashing and streaming red and white lights." She added the lights appeared to "form a cross as it drew away."

"It looked like one of those old Delta wings that the Air Force [AF] was trying to develop after World War II," Colledge continued. "It was silver or metallic in color. Red lights were turning around it. I could see an orange glow coming out of what looked like circular turbines on the back of it."

The strange craft, visible for 20-30 seconds, "moved in a straight line over a nearby hill," and "the loud roar could still be heard a few minutes afterwards."

Ten minutes later -- at the other end of town -- Mr. and Mrs. Tom Travers and their teen-aged son were watching television when they heard an "extremely loud noise, like an entire squadron of AF jets over the house." They saw and described apparently the same object the Colledges witnessed. Travers observed it from a slightly different angle, however, and explained what he saw.

"I saw what looked like two or three rows of windows running around the front of it," he said. "They were lit up from the inside by what looked like some kind of fluorescent light.... The thing was as big as my house -- maybe 80 feet from front to back. It looked like a solid mass to me, and it was shaped like a manta ray."

The couple's son ran outside "in just enough time to watch the mammoth UFO pass over their house." He said it was "triangle-shaped. It was way louder than a jet. The bottom had two gigantic white lights shining down from the front of it. I could see reddish-orange flames coming out of the back of it."

The witnesses felt the object "was looking for something" since it "never went higher than about 150 feet and traveled slowly."

There were a few other area sightings during the next several months, but it was not until the end of March that the UFOs returned *en masse*.

At about 10:15 p.m., March 30, Joseph LaBella was traveling west on Pompey Center Road in nearby Pompey in his 1976 Ford LTD. He observed an "unusually brilliant" light "in the distance behind him." At first, he thought it may have been a car with one headlight functioning or a motorcycle. He noticed "some static" on his FM car radio as he unsuccessfully attempted to dial in a station.

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"Looking up and around in amazement, he instantly noticed, in a field on the driver's side, at a distance of 30 to 50 yards, an object pacing his car....," Barrow stated in his report. "The object seemed... about the size of a train's boxcar (40 to 50 or 60 feet long, 10-20 feet high) and had lights in abundance. There was a row of many bright white lights along the side in the middle (going across). The top and bottom each had rows of duller blue-white lights in a panel, going all the way across.... Suddenly, the UFO ascended so fast that it caused its lights to blur (the lights reminded him of a Christmas tree)."

The badly frightened witness sped home after a brief stop at a shopping center to get "his bearings."

His parents found him "very upset and in need of coffee and calming words."

Six days later -- shortly after 10 p.m., April 5 -- Dennis Kiteveles, a police dispatcher, and his family observed a revolving, oval-shaped object with red, blue, green and yellow flashing lights around the middle over Baldwinsville. It hovered above the woods, "appeared to rock back and forth and at times would move in a rectangular shaped pattern," stated the *Syracuse Herald-Journal*, April 6, 1978.

Mrs. Kiteveles said "a passenger plane passed under the UFO as it made its approach to Syracuse." The couple's son "saw two flashes of white light come from the UFO and arc to the ground... At the same time, the lights in the home went out."

According to a Niagara Mohawk spokesman, "there were two brief, consecutive interruptions in power at 10:15... along the company's 115,000 volt line between the Long Branch substation north of Liverpool and Mortimer substation just south of Rochester." A New York State Gas and Electric Power Corporation spokesman said "some 3,000 homes in the Jordan-Elbridge area... did lose service briefly." Both utilities are tied into the Mortimer substation.

The pilot of the incoming aircraft said "he observed the power blackout but did not see the UFO." A police helicopter crew "observed the two flashes of light... and the temporary blackout."

Controllers at Hancock Field said "an unidentified blip" appeared on their radar screen.

On the evening of April 6, Baldwinsville was again visited by a UFO. Just after 7 o'clock, William Colton and Robert Waltz were driving home "when they observed a bright ball of white light" heading "west at a high rate of speed when it suddenly stopped in mid-air and remained motionless."

A few minutes later, "the light went out and a series of red, green and blue flashing lights came on," the *Herald-Journal*, April 7, 1978, reported. The men said the object "suddenly disappeared."

Around an hour later -- at the opposite end of the county -- six boys and two girls were riding bicycles in Southwood "when three lights appeared in the southern sky." The UFO hovered over the Southwood water tower hill, "lighting it up 'like daytime...'" before it quickly disappeared."

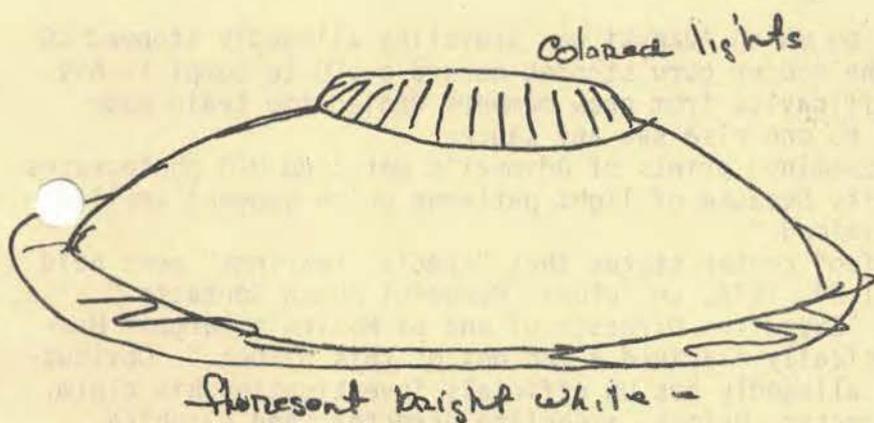
The following evening, Paul Cunningham and four friends observed a UFO "as large as 'an airliner'" and "outlined in orange" over Onondaga Hill, near Syracuse. (See photo, left). Cunningham snapped a photograph with his Polaroid camera. A policeman also reportedly saw the UFO, the *Syracuse Herald-American*, April 9, 1978, stated.

At 1:12 a.m., April 29, a married couple (who wish to remain anonymous) were driving in Syracuse when they had a "feeling" there was something overhead. Looking up, they "saw a roughly L-shaped antenna-like structure..., and it paced them at 55 m.p.h. for about a minute."

"The object sported lights," Barrow wrote in his report on the incident. "It looked like an upside down L... and had a top light of bright white (constant), a center blinking red light and a bottom bright light of white. The man states he had a feeling that his stomach was 'pulling towards the roof of the car.' The UFO sped off to the south and, at a distant point..., stayed in one spot yet moved back and forth... The object was perhaps 4-5 car lengths long. The long section was about 50 feet long and the shorter, extended... at a 45 degree angle towards the longer piece, was about 25 feet long (described as looking like a pencil and half a pencil)."



UFO Photo by Paul Cunningham, Onondaga, N.Y., April 7, 1978



UFO Sketch by Debbie Ballway, near Cazenovia, N.Y.,  
May 3, 1978

(Courtesy: Post-Standard)

Shortly before midnight the following Wednesday -- May 3 -- Debbie Ballway and Bobby Barrows observed a round, flourescent UFO with colored lights at the top "and a bright white light on the bottom" that emitted "a humming, whistling sound" approximately a mile south of Cazenovia. (See sketch, left). The huge UFO approached from the south. Then it slowly flew over Ms. Ballway's car "and sped away to the north." She heard "a shshshshshing sound," according to the *Syracuse Post-Standard*, May 12, 1978.

The witnesses said "it took the object... between three and five minutes to move what appeared to be less than 200 yards. Then it picked up speed tremendously and disappeared."

### ET FROM GUADALAJARA -- FACT OR FANTASY? (An Editorial)

There are reports circulating that "high-ranking United Nations officials have joined top scientists in a secret investigation of an incredible and startling report" from an unnamed medical doctor who allegedly examined a being from another planet, according to *The San Antonio (Texas) Star*, April 16, 1978.

The paper states that Charlotte Blob and Thomas Heiman, of the UFO Education Center, Valley Center, Calif., investigated reports that a UFO 600 feet in diameter "settled over a small mountain" near Guadalajara, Mexico, in October, 1976, causing E-M effects to automobiles in the vicinity. Then a being claiming to be from the alien craft walked into the clinic of a Mexican doctor with "impeccable credentials" and asked for a physical examination.

"I was shocked at the appearance of the being," the doctor reportedly stated. "His features were the same as a regular human with average height and weight -- but his skin was as white as milk. The only hair was black strands on his head. When the patient stripped, I discovered that there was not a single hair anywhere else on his body, not even a follicle. He insisted that humans on this planet were very low on the scale of evolutionary development, and that we had yet to discover three more planets in our solar system."

Bertrand Chatel, reportedly head of the UN's Technology Applications Section, said "it is the only UFO case we're probing," but "further scientific evidence" is needed. Dr. J. Allen Hynek was quoted: "It is very significant. The people at the United Nations are taking this seriously."

Now, for some facts:

1) Dr. Hynek has denied uttering the quote cited above.

2) Charlotte Blob and her center associates are devout disciples of the late George Adamski, well known to serious UFO researchers as a probable hoaxter. The editor of this newsletter, while vice president of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), examined a letter composed on Mt. Palomar stationery signed by "Prof. George Adamski." Fact: Adamski never received a university or college degree -- at least not from any credited institution -- and was never associated with Mt. Palomar. In a fact sheet entitled "George Adamski -- 'Pioneer of Space,'" NICAP makes the following points:

a) In 1949, Adamski published a book entitled *Pioneers of Space -- a Trip to the Moon, Mars and Venus*, an acknowledged fictitious work describing telepathic Venusians, "ethereal" women, "radiant" men and "a religious hierarchy of noble beings who inhabit the planets" that appeared "later in the allegedly factual books," including *Flying Saucers Have Landed* and *Inside the Space Ships*.

b) On December 1, 1958, a train on which Adamski was traveling allegedly stopped 20 miles outside of Kansas City, where the saucer guru stepped aboard a UFO to complete his journey to Davenport, Iowa. Fact: affidavits from crew members denied the train made the unscheduled stop, as claimed, and no one else saw any saucer.

c) NICAP photographic analysts examined prints of Adamski's detailed UFO photographs "and are skeptical of their authenticity because of light patterns which suggest small details rather than the large objects claimed."

3) A sheet circulated by the "education" center states that "special hearings" were held at the state capitol in Sacramento on April 24, 1978, on "UFOs: Peaceful Human Contacts." Speakers included Dr. Leopoldo Diaz, M.D., "Executive Director of one of Mexico's largest Hospitals, who personally interviewed and physically examined a man not of this planet." Obviously, this is the unnamed Mexican doctor who allegedly has UN officials investigating his claim. Other listed speakers were Blob, center director; Heiman, associate director; and Haruhisa Koyama, of the center's Japanese division. UFOR is awaiting further word on these "hearings" -- whether or not they actually occurred, who was involved, and the results, if any.

4) Alice K. Wells, who supposedly "inherited Adamski's copyrights following his death in 1965," has filed suit against Blob, Heiman and the center for violation of her copyrights on Adamski's books and photographs, stated the *San Diego (Calif.) Union*, February 19, 1978.

5) Literature circulated by the center boldly exclaims: "PEACEFUL SPACECRAFT ARE VISITING EARTH. THESE CRAFT CONTAIN MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, ENTIRE FAMILIES OF THE MOST NOBLE AND BENEVOLENT HUMAN BEINGS. WORLD-WIDE DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE PROVES THEY HAVE COME IN PEACE..."

These, then, are the types of people with which the UN is allegedly dealing -- hardly paragons of scientific virtue. There is always that one chance, of course, that the doctor's story is true, but, judging from past experience, UFOR feels the chances of it are somewhat akin to someone being struck by a meteorite while walking along a crowded Manhattan sidewalk.

Ordinarily, we choose to ignore the nuts, kooks, sensation-mongers and con men (women) who occasionally crawl out of the woodwork to expound their incredible, undocumented claims. Most of the time their stories provide humorous chuckles and head-wagging, but their claims have also done incalculable harm to serious investigations into the phenomenon. Many people, including scientists who may have been disposed to delve further into the subject have been "turned off" by such antics and have concluded UFOs are nothing more than unsubstantiated reports by unreliable, fast-buck artists.

UFOR hopes the claim the UN is investigating *is* true. If not, any hopes that the world body will even consider a serious investigation of the subject could be dashed for many years to come. A UN statement that the claim cannot be verified could well signal a permanent red light to efforts by scientific groups and individuals to study the subject. Years of careful, well-documented and researched work could be destroyed by one such incident. An additional sad fact is that, if the story is not true, even such a prestigious body as the UN is not immune to the fantasies expounded by such cults. If the story is true, however, we will gladly eat crow. Meanwhile, we will lay in a plentiful supply of salt.

UFOR wishes to thank Mrs. Idabel Epperson, Los Angeles, for her assistance.

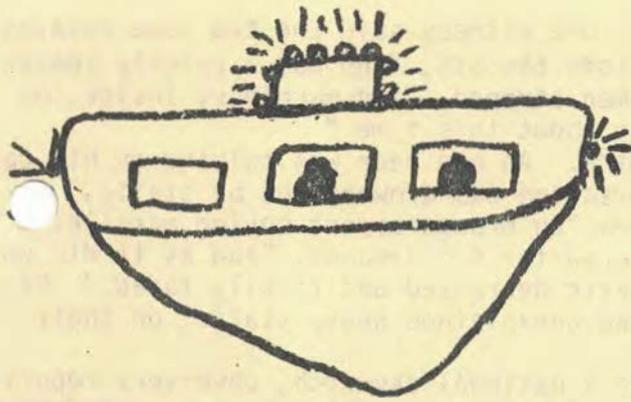
#### MAN SEES POSSIBLE OCCUPANTS IN MARYLAND

Maryland residents reported sightings in April. John Lutz, head of Odyssey Scientific Research Association (P.O. Box 1282, Baltimore, Md. 21239), investigated the following incidents and sent reports to UFOR.

At 4:30 a.m., April 23, Mr. and Mrs. Charles White were driving about 18 miles east of Cumberland when they spotted an oval-shaped UFO approximately 50-60 feet long and 20 feet high. It hovered over a ravine around 500 feet east of Route 40 and was about 550 feet below the car level and an estimated 250 feet "above the bottom of the ravine."

The witnesses stopped and placed a red emergency flare on the road to avoid a possible collision with another vehicle. Then they "watched in amazement" as the UFO rose slowly to an altitude of approximately 1,000 feet, then flew east, "slowly gaining altitude and was lost to sight after passing over [an] adjoining mountain."

The Whites stated the object first looked "like new sand-blasted gray cast iron, rigid, possibly metal, whose outline appeared luminous, but fuzzy, or indistinct as it slowly rose into the air." It was "sky blue" in color and became brighter as it gained altitude. No sound was detected.



Sketch of UFO, near Baltimore, Md.,  
April 25, 1978

(Courtesy: John Lutz)

state highway patrol car containing Trooper Joel Connelly. The lawman also saw the object, which now appeared as a brilliant "star" resting "directly under the moon and between two smaller stars." Connelly then drove onto McCormick Avenue "and turned his patrol car's bubble on, but the strange 'star' never approached."

Connelly arrived at his barracks 12-15 minutes later, "but when he looked up towards the moon and stars again, he noticed that the moon and [the] two smaller stars were there, but the bigger one in the center... was gone."

#### GALLUP POLL REVEALS "SOLID MAJORITY" BELIEVE UFOs REAL

In a nationwide survey conducted in early March, "57% of those aware of UFOs believe they are real, while 27% doubt their existence," according to top pollster George Gallup, writing in the May 25, 1978, edition of the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Comparable figures for the poll taken in 1973 were 54% and 30%, respectively.

Gallup added "that as many as one American in nine (11%, or a projected 13 million people) has... seen... a UFO." Among the witnesses, "opinion is overwhelming (90%) that UFOs are the real thing. But even among those who have not seen a UFO, believers far outnumber disbelievers." The pollster also said that those with college educations and "younger people, as well as those living in the Far West, are most likely to have sighted a UFO and to believe in their existence."

Ninety-three percent of the adult population have "heard or read about UFOs." More than half -- 51% -- believe "we are not alone in the universe while 33% hold the opposite view."

#### 1977 UFO FLAP IN ENGLAND

Great Britain "went through a major UFO flap" in 1977, according to Bryan M. Hartley, Lancashire, England, an official of some of that country's top UFO organizations, in a letter to UFOR. UFOR is indebted to Hartley for the following reports (included in capsule form but with all pertinent and known information intact), compiled from various editions of *Northern UFO News*.

- January 5. 9:45 a.m. Wrexham. Two unidentified teenagers observed four discs approaching. They grabbed an instamatic camera and snapped two color photographs before the objects "disappeared into low cloud."

- January 27. 4:45 p.m. Bridlington. While traveling to work, three women spotted two UFOs. One hovered "in a mist or cloud" over a factory while "the other floated down very low... and hovered." The second object "then turned and flew over a wood-yard, hovered again, flew away once more and disappeared into low cloud." The oval-shaped UFO had windows emitting bright light surrounding it, "with a dark grey underside and top." The women could see "a corridor and a far wall" inside the windows or portholes. Also, "there seemed to be an object attached to

the back which was a jack or lift made out of aluminum." One witness said the top dome rotated. During the sighting, the observers felt cold, developed sore throats, "and had a prickly sensation in their eyes." A watch belonging to one of the women stopped, "and machinery inside the factory over which the object hovered stopped temporarily about this time."

- February 4. 2:25 a.m. Near Basford, Staffordshire. An engineer was talking on his car radio with a colleague 50 yards behind when "their conversation was drowned out by static," including hissing and high-pitched sounds. The engineer saw "an orange object moving parallel with the road, traveling west." The UFO stopped and hovered for 4-5 seconds, "and as it did so the static increased." As the object sped away, "the static decreased and finally faded." Officials of the Stafford Police headquarters said "they had unexplained heavy static" on their radio sets at the same time as the sighting.

- February 27. 12:23 a.m. Stoke-on-Trent. During a national skywatch, observers reported seeing "a broken silvery line followed by a red disc of light" about twice the size of Venus. Minutes later, the group experienced "some feelings of apprehension. Then the garage roof began to vibrate in a wave-like motion. This lasted for two minutes, then there was a break and it resumed." The watch was abandoned an hour later because of "growing feelings of fear."

- March 12. Near Withernsea, North Humberside. The crew of a lifeboat sailing to the northwest observed "a glowing object which hovered over the boat for several seconds before shooting off to the southwest at a tremendous speed."

- April 15. 6:55 p.m. Alsager, Cheshire. A teenager, his father (a former Royal AF pilot) and mother watched "a silvery diamond craft with stubby wings." Approximately three minutes later, the stationary object "was enveloped in a grey mist. Out of this came three smaller discs which slowly grew smaller." The father saw the larger UFO "split into two small 'dots' which flew away."

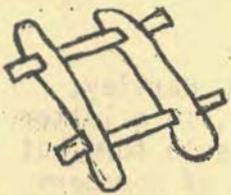
- May 19. About 12:55 p.m. Saltaire, Yorkshire. Three school students were preparing to photograph a teacher when "a silver squat cigar shape appeared and moved slowly westwards." A single picture showing a disc "with a flat bottom and a dome on top" was taken. Nearby Yeaddon Airport reported no aircraft in the vicinity at the time.

- June 6. Durham. While driving his motorcycle, Mark Hensgall "saw two purple objects looking like full beam lights on cars. They seemed to pace his motorcycle for a short distance and then they vanished." A Jaguar was about to pass Mark, "and at the same time a brilliant light" engulfed the cycle and the car. The light was "purple and oval in shape with sharp edges." The witness "noticed that power was draining from his bike." Mark slammed on the brakes, but the cycle kept moving forward and over a hill. He felt a searing heat, and "his wet driving suit began to steam." Stopping, the witness discovered "that the petrol tank and sides of his bike were very warm." The Jaguar also lost power. Then "the object vanished suddenly... and power returned to his motorcycle." When Mark returned home, his mother "noticed that his face was flushed and red," but "this effect quickly passed. The brakes of the motorcycle were checked the next day and found to be so worn as to need resetting. Mark also commented that his jacket was stiffer after the event than before."

- June 21. 4:50 p.m. Newcastle. Leslie March and others spotted "a craft composed of tubular formers in parallel and two cross bearers fore and aft." (See sketch, left). The "tubular formers... seemed to be made of metallic chrome and the cross bearers shaped like aerofoils. The object flew overhead and was silent. The only noise heard was the motion of airwaves."

- June 29. Evening. Sheffield, South Yorkshire. Keith McCormick observed a pyramid-shaped UFO in the northwest. It emerged "from behind a cloud (which it illuminated) and hovered for about five seconds." Nearby, a dog "suddenly began to behave oddly and barked furiously. The object then accelerated away to the horizon at a terrific speed and was lost to view" in less than 20 seconds.

- September 9. 8:30 p.m. Nantwich, Cheshire. Four witnesses watched "a white light which changed colour to red, yellow and green." It zig-zagged up "and then moved away at an angle before disappearing." Forty-five minutes later, "a similar object appeared." Approximately three minutes later, it "shot out a brief light beam of a diffuse nature to its rear" which "lit up clouds similar to lightning. After 10 minutes the object vanished as if switched off."



UFO Sketch, Newcastle, England, June 21, 1977

(Courtesy:  
Northern UFO  
News)

UFOs -- A THEOLOGICAL VIEW  
(Book Reviews)

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Books combining UFOs and religion usually leave much to be desired. *UFOs -- God's Chariots? Flying Saucers in Politics, Science, and Religion*, by Dr. Ted Peters, is an exception, but the author's premise that, since "God is the origin and destiny of the entire cosmos, the alpha and the omega of all things," extraterrestrial (ET) beings "are saddled with the same basic religious concerns that we have," is speculative at best. Peters lumps many UFO sightings into three models: (1) "interstellar diplomat"; (2) "research scientist"; and (3) "celestial savior." The CE-III case of Police Officer Herbert Schirmer, Ashland, Neb., December 3, 1967, "has strong implications for the political model," as does the S/Sgt. Charles L. Moody abduction report near Alamogordo, N.M., in September, 1975. The Pascagoula, Miss., abduction of October 11, 1973, contains elements of the "celestial savior model." Peters said he traveled to Pascagoula and interviewed Charles Hickson, who "indicated that he has been contacted subsequently by ET beings" and plans to go with his family and "their space escorts to a new and better world beyond the sky." Hickson also indicated the ETs implanted some monitoring device in his body to "continually watch over him." The author finds the theories of Erich von Daniken "preposterous" and advocates the need to examine the possibility that he "is engaged in deliberate fraud." Generally, the book is thought-provoking and several notches above the general run of UFO works currently at bookstores.

[Ted Peters, *UFOs -- God's Chariots? Flying Saucers in Politics, Science, and Religion* (Atlanta, Ga.: John Knox Press, 1977), 192 pgs., \$7.95, notes].

It had to be -- UFOs and sex. In *UFO Encounters of the Fourth Kind*, Art Gatti asks the question: "How many of us -- and who -- were actually sired by, or even born of, the non-human Others?" None -- if you consider this cut-and-paste rehash of UFO reports with sexual overtones as any sort of indicator. Gatti states that there are "men placed in human cultures with an *extra something* given them by fathers -- and sometimes mothers -- who were perhaps millions of years more advanced. And that secret ingredient created the heroes and messiahs of our history and legend." Take the great Israeli psychic, Uri Geller, for instance. Since Geller claimed to have derived his extraordinary psychic gifts from ETs and since he allegedly sexually enslaved the sister of the President of Mexico, the author indicates Geller is just one of many "who are priming the human race toward a development that conforms to their purposes... an ongoing 'making' of man in their image and likeness." Even the fact that Ray Stanford, director of Project Starlight, and his twin brother joined the late George Adamski's commune when they were both only 14 and encountered "spaced-out groupie types" engaged in some far-out sex is used as some sort of evidence. Also, there's Truman Bethurum, Howard Menger and Chief Frank Buckshot Standing Horse, all of whom had liaisons with women from outer space. Some of the more serious reports are discussed, including the Antonio Villas-Boas encounter in Brazil in 1957, but so are demons apparently preparing for a "blatantly sexual" Armageddon. There is also a long "how-to" section on astral travel, but how this fits into the work's premise escapes this reviewer. You, the reader, should save your money and time, and Uri Geller should sue.

[Art Gatti, *UFO Encounters of the Fourth Kind* (Zebra Books, Kensington Publishing Corp., 21 East 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10016, 1978), 191 pgs., \$2.25, paperback, introduction].

UFOs TRACKED ON RADAR DURING EARTHQUAKE

On the evening of February 16, personnel at a radar installation observed "five round, glowing objects" that "appeared to hover, then zip back and forth at incredible speed" over desolate Shemya Island, part of the Aleutian chain, according to an unidentified crew member of a C-141 AF plane flying nearby. The crew members apparently did not see the objects.

"We had landed our cargo and had taken off on the return flight when we got a call from the controller on Shemya," the airman stated in the April 7, 1978, edition of the *Tacoma* (Wash.) *News Tribune*.

The tower controller informed the C-141 crew that UFOs "followed you out." They "changed color from red to orange to violet" and "moved faster than any aircraft." Then "unidentified 'blips' appeared on the base radar screens. They also appeared to hover, and would disappear and reappear suddenly."

While the objects were being seen and tracked, "an earthquake shook the island" and appeared strongest near the highly classified 'Cobra Dane' radar installation. When the ground stopped moving, the glowing objects were gone and the radar screens were clear."

The Alaska Air Defense Command confirmed the incident in a report: "On the evening of Feb. 16, 1978, there was an earth tremor measured at 4.0 to 4.2 on the Richter scale that shook the Cobra Dane and other facilities on Shemya AFB, located near the tip of the Aleutian Island chain.

"As the tremor occurred, some Shemya personnel ran from buildings and thought they saw bright lights hovering over the island.

"A check of the Shemya radar verified that there were unidentified blips on the radar screen."

The AF launched an investigation and came up with a "logical explanation": "The investigators concluded that (a) the bright lights were actually planets that appeared to move because of clouds passing between them and the observers, and (b) the unidentified returns on the radar screen were determined to be due to high waves in the surrounding ocean."

#### MEMPHIS POLICEMEN WIN ANNUAL ENQUIRER AWARD

Five S.W.A.T. team police officers from Memphis, Tenn., have been awarded a total of \$7,500 by the *National Enquirer's* "Blue Ribbon Panel on Unidentified Flying Objects for providing the most scientifically valuable evidence on UFOs in 1977," according to the June 13, 1978, edition of the weekly tabloid.

At around 3:30 a.m., May 17, 1977, the lawmen spotted "a giant, metallic, triangular UFO 'as big as a football field.'" When one of the officers "attempted to get a closer look at it through the scope of a rifle, the UFO suddenly shot out of sight at phenomenal speed."

The panel -- consisting of Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, University of Wyoming psychologist; Dr. James Harder, engineering scientist at the University of California at Berkeley; Dr. John L. Warren, physicist at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, N.M.; and Dr. Willard P. Armstrong, former assistant dean of the engineering and applied sciences department at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. -- awarded \$3,000 each to Officers Jerry W. Jeter and Troy L. Todd, and \$500 each to Officers Michael L. Davidson, John R. Birdsong, and Forrest E. Bartlett.

Meanwhile, the paper is still offering \$1 million "for positive proof that UFOs come from outer space and are not a natural phenomenon." Final judges for the big prize will be Francis Bergan, former New York Court of Appeals judge, and Emilio Nunez, retired New York State Supreme Court associate justice. Aside from this, the largest annual award for best UFO evidence the paper offers is \$10,000.

#### OBJECT APPARENTLY CAUSES HOME TO VIBRATE, INFLICTS BURNS

Mrs. Lisa Harrison was watching television at about 3:30 a.m., May 13, in Kerman, Calif., when she heard "a strange noise... and the home began to vibrate." Rushing to her front door, "she saw two lights moving southward at tree-top level."

"The noise was really loud -- a loud whirr," the witness stated in the June 5, 1978, edition of the *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*. "There were vibrations -- not like an earthquake but more like a vibrator. And then I saw this white light and behind it was a red-dish light... It was big... I knew it wasn't an airplane or a helicopter... I watched it go out of sight [toward the south]."

Nanette Pallesi, Mrs. Harrison's next door neighbor, heard a humming sound like "the air conditioner was going berserk." The noise stopped "after a minute or two," and Mrs. Pallesi "tried to fall asleep."

Meanwhile, downtown, Police Officer Manuel Amparano "spotted a glimmering light southwest of town." He thought, at first, it might be a fire, but, as he drove closer, he saw a round UFO "about 30 feet in diameter" hovering approximately 100 feet over a cotton field. The white-orange light suddenly "zipped off to the southwest."

Later that day, Amparano "checked into the emergency room at Fresno Community Hospital for treatment of first-degree burns on his face, neck and hands." According to a report in the May 21, 1978, edition of the Van Nuys, Calif., *Valley News*, the officer "filed a workman's compensation report for injuries suffered 'while watching a UFO.'"

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The next edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* will be ready for mailing around September 15, 1978.