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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: A Fake 'Whitley Strieber'.....

From: [magnus@io.com](mailto:magnus@io.com) (Bruce Lanier Wright)  
Date: Sun, 22 Dec 1996 16:07:54 -0600  
Fwd Date: Sun, 22 Dec 1996 17:23:49 -0500  
Subject: Re: A Fake 'Whitley Strieber'.....

An astronomer on the forteana list discusses H-B... Bruce W.

>Whitley Strieber insisted:

>> >My position has not changed regarding this matter. In the Japanese  
>> >photograph, the star field behind both the comet and the object is  
>> >streaking. This because the 'scope is following the comet. It is also  
>> >following the object, which is not streaking either.

>> >For all the shrill denials, the physics of the photograph remain clear:  
>> >object and comet must be traveling together. No amount of clever  
>> >"debunking" can change this elementary reality. Whether the object will  
>> >still be visible when the comet returns from its journey behind the sun  
>> >is anybody's guess. But it was there when that photograph was taken.

>After reading this I went back to Art Bell's web page and took a closer look  
>at the Japanese photo that Strieber is referring to. First off, the comet  
>and the object, the two brightest objects in the photo, are over-exposed.  
>This would have been obvious right after the CCD image was taken, so who-  
>ever took this image should have gone right back and made a better image  
>right then. That we've only got this lousy image tells us something, I  
>think.

>Second, either the object is elliptical or it's streaking. It looks  
>like it's extended in a slightly different direction than the starstreaks,  
>but it's overlapping the comet's coma which could effect the image that way,  
>particularly with the over-exposure. Starstreaks in each image are all the  
>same shape. The brighter the star, the larger the streak, but it's an  
>exact scale-up. The object isn't quite the right shape, but the ratio of  
>length in the streaking direction to width in the perpendicular direction  
>is just about right. An unfortunate coincidence if the object is real and  
>not a distorted star image.

>So, I think this image is probably showing a distorted star image next to  
>the comet....

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