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Location: [Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1997](#) -> [Jan](#) -> 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations' - Persinger?

## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations' - Persinger?

From: **Greg Sandow** <GSANDOW@prodigy.net>  
Date: Wed, 08 Jan 1997 10:49:37 -0500  
Fwd Date: Thu, 09 Jan 1997 13:14:28 -0500  
Subject: 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations' - Persinger?

Corl Ribl=E9t writes, after watching a Discovery channel show on alien abductions:

=20  
> A neurobiologist was shown researching the influence of electromagnetic  
> fields on the brain. Using a helmet than can generate specific fields,  
> patterns and intensities he noted that people reported specific=  
experiences  
> with particular fields such as; feeling the presence of a person while  
> alone in a room, traveling through tunnels, white light, being suspended  
> in mid air, all commonly reported in abduction cases.

Was this Michael Persinger?=20

If so, his hypothesis is built on a staggering series of assumptions and guesses. He hasn't at all demonstrated that tectonic processes generate the kind of electromagnetic fields that could account for the effects he's demonstrated in the lab.=20

Nor has he shown why these effects could cause abduction imagery, as opposed to hallucinations of other kinds.=20

And then, of course, there's the coherence of abduction stories, as demonstrated by Eddie Bullard in a pioneering 1987 study (and never refuted, to my knowledge, despite claims to the contrary).=20

I've seen Persinger on TV, and he struck me as something of a crackpot, despite his credentials and some impressive research into the conjunction of earthquakes and UFO reports.

Greg Sandow

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