

Earth



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Earth



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## UFO UpDates Mailing List

### Re: 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations'

From: **Chris Rutkowski** <rutkows@cc.UManitoba.CA>  
 Date: Wed, 22 Jan 1997 09:16:23 -0600 (CST)  
 Fwd Date: Wed, 22 Jan 1997 23:01:14 -0500  
 Subject: Re: 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations'

> Date: Tue, 21 Jan 1997 10:00:52 -0500  
 > To: UFO UpDates - Toronto <updates@globserve.net>  
 > From: "Steven J. Powell" <sjpowell@access.digex.net>  
 > Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Re: 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations'  
 > >Subject: Re: UFO UpDate: Re: 'Electrically Induced Hallucinations' - Pe  
 > >From: Pat Parrinello <pparri@republic.net>

> I don't know why so many people make so much out of Persinger's work, its  
 > very tentative and far from complete. There's positively a magnetic field  
 > association with UFOs and there's positively a relationship between eologic  
 > activity and subsequent UFO sightings. These are interesting but they  
 > really don't prove anything yet.

That's true, although if you saw the Discovery Channel's program which highlighted Persinger's work (and any other program which featured him), it was implied that this was the best theory since sliced bread (pardon the metaphor). Further, Persinger isn't refining his theory at all; he's just going further and further afield and no longer even citing any criticisms of the TST. Finally, Persinger seems convinced that the EM fields \*are\* the explanation for UFOs.

So, the reason skeptics are excited about Persinger's work is that it's a way to explain the bizarre aspects of UFO reports (and all other Fortean) without invoking aliens or metaphysics. The reason ufologists are getting excited is because Persinger's work is getting so much attention despite its weaknesses.

It's like the discovery that garlic has \*something\* to do with the reduction in the numbers of cancer cells in the body. Does that mean we should abandon all other leads or studies unrelated to garlic? No; we file it and devote some energy to investigating it, but remember the limitations of research.

--  
 Chris Rutkowski - rutkows@cc.umanitoba.ca  
 (and now, also: Chris.Rutkowski@UMAlumni.mb.ca)  
 University of Manitoba - Winnipeg, Canada

Search for other documents to/from: [rutkows](#) | [sjpowell](#) | [pparri](#) | [chris.rutkowski](#)

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