

UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Vol. IV, No. 8

October - November 1975

AIAA SYMPOSIUM PROBES UFO MYSTERY

An in-depth look at the UFO phenomenon was conducted by scientists at an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) symposium in Los Angeles, Calif., on September 27. Entitled "Hypotheses Concerning the Origin of UFOs," the symposium was dedicated to the late Dr. James E. McDonald. Speakers included Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astronomy professor at Northwestern University and director of the Center for UFO Studies; Dr. Robert M. Wood, a physicist with a major aerospace corporation; Dr. Jacques Vallee, principal investigator on a commuter network project; Stanton T. Friedman, nuclear and space physicist; and James M. McCampbell, who has been involved in test facilities for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and nuclear power plants.

"The working premise of the symposium is that UFOs do exist," stated Dr. William F. Hassel, symposium chairman. "Given this premise, one has a phenomenon which invites investigation."

Hynek, author of *The UFO Experience* and long-time chief scientific consultant on UFOs for the Air Force (AF), told the gathering that "we are much farther down the road in establishing the facts we need hypotheses for than we were even a few years ago." He added that "those engaged in trying to elicit a picture out of the present scientific jig-saw puzzle are all too apt to assign to the wastebasket the UFO facts -- which merely disturb their peace of mind and their concentration on their own particular game.... And it seems clear to most of us that UFOs don't obey the rules of the present day scientific game."

According to Wood, the extraterrestrial hypothesis (ETH) "has the greatest consistency with the reported data base." He said "the ETH is consistent with a deeper layer of understanding of science than our science models now happen to possess, but that repeatability, experimentation and logic are indeed the ultimate arbiters in research."

"In the case of UFOs...", Vallee remarked, "it is especially important to keep in mind that an hypothesis may well be proven true while an apparently contradictory hypothesis is also proven true.... *The UFO phenomenon is the product of a technology that integrates physical and psychic phenomena and primarily affects cultural variables in our society through manipulation of physiological and psychological parameters in the witnesses.... To test more fully the hypothesis that UFO phenomena are both physical and psychic in nature, we need much better investigations, a greater upgrading of data quality, and a more informed analysis not only of the object being described, but of the impact of the observation on the witness and his social environment.*" (Italics original).

In the longest and perhaps most straightforward analysis of the symposium, Friedman said "the evidence is overwhelming that Earth is being visited by intelligently controlled extraterrestrial [ET] vehicles."

"I deduce the ETH because there is so much evidence that the best sightings (perhaps 20% of those investigated) are of objects with definite size, shape, texture, protuberances and other characteristics indicating that they are manufactured...", he stated.

Friedman addressed himself to the question as to why ET beings have not directly communicated with man on any full-scale basis.

"Aliens must be concerned about their own safety," he explained. "There are many reports indicating that Earthling response to an encountered alien is anything but friendly.... Would any sensible civilization trust any earthling representative to use technology wisely if they had a look at any sociological evaluation of this planet?... The primary activity of the governments on this planet seems to be a kind of tribal warfare.... Until we become a real space-faring power able to keep [the ETs] from coming and going as they please, why in

UFO Research Newsletter, Vol. IV, No. 8. Published monthly or bi-monthly by UFO Research Associates (UFOR), 1230 N. Horn Ave., Apt. 408, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069
 Editor: Gordon I.R. Lore, Jr.
 Business Manager: Martha D. Lore
 Subscription rates (12 issues); \$7.00 (U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$8.00 (foreign, surface rate); \$11.00 (foreign, air mail). Single copies: \$.60 (U.S., Canada and Mexico); \$.80 (foreign).

the world (or out of it) should they negotiate or talk to us? To learn how to make a mess of a planet? Any advanced civilization wanting information about this planet, the people on it, the resources in it, would do far better obtaining its own data from instruments, from sample selection, and from specimen gathering."

The nuclear physicist contended that, from the early 1950s to the closing of Project Blue Book in late 1969, the AF project "was an unwitting (usually *very* unwitting) public relations cover operation for one or more other much more sophisticated highly classified efforts to obtain useful scientific data about UFOs." He threw some of the blame on the

shoulders of Dr. Hynek, saying Hynek "is definitely not a boat rocker and, despite many years of awareness of the professional inadequacy of the USAF effort at Blue Book, did not speak up until after the program was in its death throes." He indicated that, while Blue Book Reports 1-12 -- stamped SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL -- have been declassified, Report No. 13 not only exists (contrary to some opinion) but, as of 1971, "was still classified as TOP SECRET."

McCampbell stated that "*UFOs emit copious amounts of electromagnetic [EM] energy of very high frequency.*" (Italics original). He also admitted "the observational data on the UFO phenomenon appears as a gaping hole," but clearly indicated this lamentable fact should not preclude a continuing investigation.

SOUTHWEST SIGHTING REPORTS

Jet aircraft that buzzed a UFO and a sighting by a military intelligence officer high-light sighting reports, most from the Southwestern U.S., since March.

At about 8 p.m., March 7, Mrs. Marie Martin; her two children, Christine and Julia; and a neighbor, Mrs. Alice Howard, observed an "upside-down, saucer-shaped" object that was "seemingly translucent" over Albuquerque, N.M. The UFO "appeared to contain a centrally located, revolving, bright orange-colored light and a red blinking light atop a dome-like structure." It had 12 square-shaped holes around the base.

Mrs. Martin first saw the object through her window, then called Mrs. Howard, who did not observe the dome. The witnesses watched as the UFO flew from east to west over the city. At one point, four small jet aircraft were seen "buzzing" the object.

Three months later -- 11 p.m., June 8 -- a military intelligence officer who is also a licensed commercial pilot and his wife (who wish to remain anonymous) saw "a large, brilliant, orange ball... about half the size of a full moon" for 35-40 minutes just north of El Paso, Texas. A green band was seen around the middle and "a red band outlined the upper hemisphere of the object."

The UFO, first seen at a 45-degree angle in the west, hovered for about 30 minutes. Then it began moving slowly westward and disappeared over the horizon.

Mrs. Kathy McKee and her husband, Walter, were traveling on the San Bernardino Freeway, near West Covina, Calif., on the evening of August 8 when Kathy observed "a group of six or eight lights in the southwest sky at an elevation of 30 to 40 degrees." The tight group comprised two rows of three to four brilliant yellow lights each. They were seen for about 10 seconds. As they "faded from view," they changed to a reddish color.

At 11:45 a.m., August 26, Mrs. Virginia Cline and Karen McDonough were driving on Highway 17 in Los Gatos, Calif., when they saw a "very beautiful object straight ahead." Stationary at first, the silver-red, hexagon-shaped UFO "began to rise."

"I would guess that it was approximately three miles distant when we first saw it..." Mrs. Cline stated in her report. "Then, in a short period of time (about 15 seconds or so), it had come toward us, over us and behind us..."

As the object approached the witnesses, "it seemed to be flashing." The UFO also appeared to "rock from side to side."

(We wish to thank Bruce J. Kennedy, of UFOR's New Mexico Subcommittee; Walter H. Greenwald; and Paul Cerny and Larry R. Johnson, Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) investigators, for submitting the above reports to UFOR).

A black object resembling a "giant bird" that "appeared to be tossed out of [the] top of a thundercloud at approximately 20,000 feet" was observed at 3:54 p.m., July 18, over Shippensburg, Pa., by Roger Snyder.

"As the object fell," Snyder said in his report to UFOR dated September 30, 1975, "I had... a feeling it was in trouble. There had been lightning in the storm cloud."

The UFO fell "so low as to be blocked from view" by a large maple tree. Then the object leveled off and accelerated "to many times the speed of sound" toward the south. It passed "within 500-1,000 feet of [a] small single engine plane."

When the witness returned home, his neighbors, William Burkhart and Susan and Cindy Plasterer, reported they also saw the mysterious craft as it circled, then disappeared behind a house.

UFOR'S NEW MEXICO SUBCOMMITTEE

UFOR's New Mexico Subcommittee, headquartered in Albuquerque, is building up an impressive list of professional consultants and prospective members. Active members of the subcommittee, founded in October, 1974, include Malcolm Macht, an electronics engineer; Bruce J. Kennedy, knowledgeable on military aircraft, ball lightning and investigative techniques; Lee H. Skinner, a computer programmer and analyst; and David Foster, a former U.S. Army helicopter crew chief, and his wife, Patsie.

Professional consultants include Dr. Alan Y. Pope (see story, below); Donald Engdahl, photography instructor with access to a photo laboratory; an astro-geologist who is also a consultant to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); an astronomer; a laser scientist; an engineer and expert on EM effects; and a meteorologist.

The list of prospective active members is also impressive. It includes a geophysicist and private pilot; a retired military pilot; a retired staff instrument designer, special instruments and communications technician who is familiar with radiation effects and aircraft design and performance; a federal stock cataloguer for the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA); and a mail and file clerk for the DNA.

NEW MEXICO SCIENTISTS AIR UFO VIEWS

Two prominent Albuquerque, N.M., scientists have granted exclusive interviews to UFOR.

Dr. Alan Y. Pope is director of aerodynamics at Sandia Laboratories and supervises a staff of 100 scientists. He is a top expert on both domestic and foreign aircraft and is an aerodynamics consultant to UFOR's New Mexico Subcommittee.

In an interview with Malcolm Macht, Pope stated that, in his opinion, the existence of UFOs is "not an hypothesis of any kind" -- they are real, solid objects of probable ET origin. He said there is "no way you can throw away the testimonies of... thousands of people" who have seen UFOs and added he has a strong feeling that, within the next 10-20 years, ET beings "will come out and openly contact us."

In speculating on how spacecraft can visit Earth and why they are here, Dr. Pope indicated UFOs may "accelerate faster than [the speed of] light" and are probably able to overcome the force of gravity. ET beings may be surveying Earth for scientific purposes -- or they may be here "simply for entertainment" or sightseeing excursions, much like Earth beings taking an African safari to study the wildlife, he said.

Pope, described as one of the world's top aerodynamics experts, took such self-styled UFO authorities as aviation writer Philip J. Klass and astronomer Donald H. Menzel to task for debunking the subject and completely disregarding "the testimony of hundreds of people." He also described the news media's handling of the subject.

"Newspapers have just plain ruled that UFOs are not news," he remarked.

The scientist said the Betty Hill star map case, as drawn by Dorothy Fish, is "a prodigious accomplishment" and is "the strongest case I've ever seen in my life on any subject at all." The chances of drawing such an accurate star map and getting a perfect match with astronomers, he stated, are one chance in 20¹⁵.

Pope also praised the work of Dr. J. Allen Hynek and his colleagues at the Center for UFO Studies and said that several scientific laboratories around the country are studying the UFO phenomenon.

While Dr. Charles Hyder, a University of New Mexico astrophysicist, believes "the necessity to prove beyond a doubt" the existence of UFOs "is paramount," he does not think more money should be spent on the subject unless it can be determined that UFOs are of ET origin. He has no doubt there are highly advanced life forms in our own galaxy, but whether or not they are visiting us "is a question."

In an interview with Bruce Kennedy, Hyder said he maintains "a loose skepticism" about UFOs. He indicated pilot reports may be the best category of sightings worthy of closer scrutiny.

Hyder admitted seeing a UFO over White Sands Missile Proving Grounds in New Mexico. He saw a metallic object "under control" that could "turn on a dime." Such maneuvers, he said, are "a hard thing to pull."

SOUTH AFRICA SWAMPED WITH UFO REPORTS

UFOR has received additional details on the rash of sighting reports over Rhodesia, South Africa, earlier this summer. (See *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. IV, No. 7, p. 7). Trevor Kitchen and a girl friend were driving from Ft. Victoria to Blit Bridge on July 13 when they saw a UFO which followed them.

Two nights later -- July 15 -- David Burgess, a Khami Prison official, and a friend were driving in the vicinity of the prison at 8:30. They observed an object 2-3 kilometers (km) from their automobile.

"It was orange, almost circular, but with a flattish bottom and round at the top," Burgess remarked. "It appeared to be stationary, but, when we came out of a dip a few minutes later, it had disappeared."

Thirty minutes later, a second prison official saw the same or a similar UFO in the same area. The following evening -- July 16 -- Mr. and Mrs. C. Rossiter, their three children, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Lombard watched "a bright, round, silver object 4 km north-east of the prison."

At about 1:50 a.m., July 19, Arthur Jones witnessed a round UFO emitting a "quivering orange glow" that was "about the size of a large house" over a Salisbury shopping center. He saw "a kind of trap-door on the top of the object."

"After several minutes, the trap-door suddenly closed and the object moved away over the treetops," Jones stated.

The objects were seen over Salisbury again on July 20 and, by the 23rd, reports emanated from the suburban areas of Avondale, Greystone Park, Mabelreign, Mandara, Marlborough and Northwood.

Just after 7 p.m., July 26, John Clark, of Macheke, had a terrifying experience with a brilliant UFO that appeared at treetop level near his home.

"I went round the side of the house and, when I was about level with the bedroom window, a terrific bright light came on top me," he said. "At the same time, I was thrown to the ground. The cat was with me. It screeched and ran off. I went straight down and I couldn't move. I was paralyzed, but wide awake. I tried to move my head and fingers, but I could not. I even tried to roll over. I could see the reflection of the light in the bedroom. It was just as if there was a searchlight inside the room, it was so bright. I don't know how long I was lying there... I was feeling absolutely rotten on Sunday."

That same evening, Tony Alexander and a friend were followed by a UFO as they drove from Marandellas to Rusape.

On the evening of the 28th, a police car chased an object for 15 km.

"We received a telephone call which informed us there was a UFO over Warren Hills [outskirts of Salisbury]," a police spokesman related. "The report was passed to a police 'B' car, which was on patrol. The patrol officer and constable... reported that they could see the object over Warren Hills about 150 meters above the ground. When first seen, the object was stationary, but, as the police car approached, the object started to move away in a westerly direction. The crew followed the object for about 15 km. But the UFO moved off fast, becoming smaller and, eventually, they lost sight of it."

Meanwhile, Wing Commander Roy Simmonds, member of the Rhodesian Parliament, requested that Minister of Transportation and Power Roger Hawkins investigate the incidents.

"I agree with him that this is no joke and is a matter that must be treated with some degree of seriousness," Hawkins opined.

Hawkins added that, if multi-witness reports were investigated immediately after their occurrence, "valuable information might be gained."

(Sources: the July 18, 25 and 29, 1975, editions of the *Rhodesia Herald*; the July 19, 1975, edition of the *Bulawayo Chronicle*; and the August 1, 1975, edition of the *Natal Daily News*).

"BORDERS OF SCIENCE" COURSE AT SUNYA CONTINUES

For the fifth time, a UFO course entitled "Borders of Science" will be presented this Fall and next Spring at the State University of New York at Albany (SUNYA). In a letter to UFOR, Dr. Robert F. Creegan, SUNYA philosophy professor and instructor for the course, said the enrollment for the Fall sessions exceeds 200 students.

"The principal module of the course is the UFO problem," Creegan wrote, "and practically all of the minor modules involve closely related problems such as interstellar communication, theory and theories of the nature of time."

In partial preparation for the course, Creegan visited Great Britain, France and Canada to interview international UFO experts. Among those the philosopher-scientist interviewed in England was Gordon Creighton, member of both the Royal Geographic Society and the editorial board of the *Flying Saucer Review*. In Paris, he met with Pierre Guerin, astrophysical research director of the National Research Center of France and UFO lecturer. Creegan also reviewed the "non-meteoritic sighting file" of the National Research Council of Canada's Upper Atmosphere Division and met with the division chief; Dr. A.G. McNamara, in Ottawa, Ontario.

Creegan added that, due to academic and research pressures, he has resigned from the *National Enquirer's* scientific UFO Blue Ribbon Panel, but "he follows its activities with a high level of interest."

93% OF MENSA GROUP INTERVIEWED BELIEVE IN UFOs

A whopping 93% of those questioned in the French branch of Mensa International -- the organization composed of people whose intelligence quotients (IQs) are in the upper 2% -- believe that UFOs exist. Three hundred and thirty two of the 357 members who responded to a poll taken by Mensa member Daniel Auduc gave this opinion and 76% "say they are willing to support new research in the phenomenon," according to the *National Enquirer*, June 10, 1975.

As a result of the poll, Auduc said, the French branch is "now setting up a committee to establish a UFO research program... during the coming years."

Auduc added that more than 40 of the members who responded said they saw UFOs and 48% said they would accept an ET's invitation to board a saucer. Fifty-two percent believe UFOs are ET.

RADAR TRACKING AND COVERUP HIGHLIGHTS OLD REPORTS

A military report coverup of a UFO that was tracked on radar at speeds between 5,000-10,000 m.p.h.; a sighting by an aviation expert that the AF has listed as an "unknown"; an object that passed under an aircraft; another that paced a "camper" and emitted a light beam to the ground; and a witness who chased a UFO at speeds up to 85 m.p.h. were characteristics of sighting reports from five states during a 23-year period -- October, 1950 - October, 1973. Witnesses included pilots, control tower operators, a former aviation mechanic, police, military personnel and a board member of a prominent medical center. We wish to thank Walter H. Greenawald, aerospace engineer, and Bruce J. Kennedy, of UFOR's New Mexico Subcommittee, for submitting the reports to UFOR.

Five of the sightings emanated from California.

On the evening of October 5, 1950, Capt. Cecil Hardin was at the controls of the California Central airliner which had just taken off from the Hollywood-Burbank Airport. Jack Conroy sat in the copilot's seat. Five minutes later -- at about 8:00 -- they were between San Nuy and San Fernando and ascending at approximately 4,500 feet altitude when they saw a UFO estimated to be 85 feet long with 6-8 brilliant, blinking lights along the top.

"[The UFO] appeared to be large, quite speedy and pretty close -- perhaps 500 feet away," Conroy stated in the March 16, 1975, edition of the Van Nuys *Valley News & Green Sheet*.

Hardin added the flying craft "was traveling at terrific speed and the thing that was really odd was that it didn't appear to have any fuselage. We also felt no propeller wash as the object passed under our left wing."

Daniel M. Vucurevich is chief of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) tower operations at the Hollywood-Burbank Airport. He has had nearly 40 years of aviation experience, including FAA control tower work in the Midwest.

Sometime after 10 p.m., September 27, 1973, Vucurevich and his wife; Cliff Curry, chief of production operations at the General Electric plant in Van Nuys, and his wife and daughter observed a disc "with a series of lights around the edge" over Granada Hills, stated Greenawald in his report to UFOR. There were 12 white, red and green blinking lights and the object was seen in the north-northeast.

Ralph Garcia, on duty at the Burbank tower, observed the lights through binoculars.

Between 9 and 10 p.m. during the Fall of 1956, the U.S. Army Air Defense Command tracked a UFO off the Southern California coast. The main witness, an aerospace engineer, was, at the time of the incident, an Army SP/3 in charge of the second shift operations control room, San Fernando Valley Missiles (NIKE) Battalion, Birmingham Hospital, Van Nuys, 865/551 AAA Missile Battalion, one of the units which tracked the object. The center monitors the coast from San Francisco to San Diego and up to 100 miles out to sea.

The AF in San Francisco alerted the center that the UFO was off the coast and "all local Army NIKE units swung into action." The object was determined to be 40-50 miles off-shore at an altitude of 10,000 feet and traveling between 5,000-10,000 m.p.h.

Cover-Up Alleged

"The non-com alerted his duty officer, a lieutenant, that night," Greenawald stated in his report to UFOR. "The next day the base commander, a colonel, briefed all the involved enlisted men and they were told not to discuss the incident and that it resulted from anomalous radar signals from both the AF and Army equipment. Any trace of the event was also removed from the second shift logbook."

Jack Thompson -- his wife asleep on the seat next to him -- was driving near Ripon at around midnight during the Summer of 1968 when he observed "a bright white light... traveling very fast, keeping pace with his camper." The light ascended, then descended "much faster than an aircraft." As he traveled the next several miles, Thompson saw three lights on his right and left "zooming in rapid maneuvers and pacing the camper."

Thompson awakened his wife, but only one of the lights could be seen then. The object suddenly "'turned around' and headed toward them..., growing in size and intensity. Then it began sending a steady bluish-green beam or 'cone-shaped' light toward the ground." The witness stopped his vehicle as "the light continued its passage toward them, swooping down slowly over the highway." It emitted a "whistling sound."

Thompson left the camper and saw the cigar-shaped UFO pass low over the highway. He said it was "huge," about 40-50 feet long and the searchlight-like beams covered an area of 30-40 feet in diameter. The object had two cigar-shaped "engines" 20-30 feet long on either side. It "disappeared by suddenly putting out the light beam."

The witnesses drove another 80 miles -- to near Roseville -- and, after they retired at a rest stop, were awakened by "a loud whirring noise." They saw a dark "blob" that "gradually disappeared into the darkness."

Thompson is a firearms instructor at the Los Angeles Police Academy. Ann Druffel and Donald F. Weitzel investigated and analyzed the report for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON).

At 9:55 p.m., October 16, 1973, Michael Newton stopped in Thousand Oaks. Another car containing an unidentified airline pilot was behind him. Both saw "a strange glow" to the northeast that was "steady and moving in a straight line towards our position" at an estimated speed of 1,500-2,000 m.p.h. The object was about 30-50 feet in diameter.

"During the time the object approached our position, I was conscious of a luminous, blue-green light growing in size in level flight over the ground," Newton remarked in his

report. "As it came in front of us, we briefly made out an elongated disc with the blue-green light a steady glow in back and a more brilliant white and orange-tinged light about halfway down the front side.... As the object moved off to our left, it changed speed for the first time. It seemed to hover for five seconds and then went into a powered 45-degree climb. Now all the lights were in the rear of the object and the green became a pale, luminous blue. With no sound as power was applied, the blue enlarged to the shape of a pear in back of the craft for some five seconds and then it was gone."

Carl L. Hawk, a retired technical illustrator, is also a private pilot and a former U.S. Navy aviation mechanic on board aircraft carriers. He is a past president of both the Experimental Aviation Association and the Albuquerque Inventor's Club. At 10:45 a.m., April 23, 1952, he and a friend, Marvin Harvey, were walking between two buildings on Sandia Base (now Kirtland AF Base), near Albuquerque, N.M., when they saw a black, rectangular, wing-like object "with a bright yellow inverted 'V' on its bottom" flying from east to west. In a report to Bruce Kennedy, Hawk said the UFO was about "the size of a medium size aircraft" and was traveling "at least 1,000 m.p.h."

The AF listed the sighting as "unknown." In a letter to Hawk dated January 7, 1954, Capt. Charles L. Dewees, director of intelligence, 34th Air Division (Defense) at Kirtland, said: "It is not often we get a report from a person so well qualified to render a completely objective and unbiased opinion."

Lawrence H. Cafer, executive secretary and member of the Board of Trustees, City of Hope National Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif., was driving near an AF base outside St. Louis, Mo., with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Cafer, and sister, Patricia, at 2:00 on a summer afternoon in 1953 when they observed a disc that appeared to reflect the sunlight.

In a report to UFOR, Cafer said the saucer hovered over the base at first, then took off with "rocket-like speed" toward the northeast and disappeared.

It was about 6:30 a.m., New Year's Day, 1951. Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Sowell observed a "light gold" UFO 40-50 feet in diameter that looked like "two saucers joined at the edges" north of Oak Grove, La. (See sketch, left). Traveling from west to east, the object had rectangular windows "at the edge where the two halves joined." About one-quarter of a mile past the witnesses' home, the mysterious craft "started to make a turn to the right, ultimately making a turn to the left and going back on the course that it approached from."

"To do this the UFO made a 270-degree turn and then a 90-degree turn to the left," Greenawald wrote in his report to UFOR.

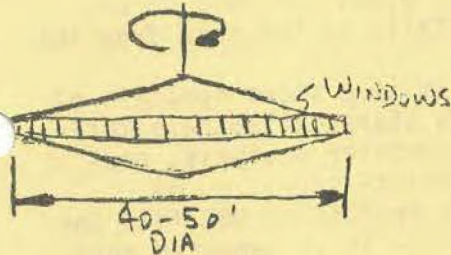
Mrs. Sowell said the object darted like "a hummingbird."

"During the 270-degree turn, the UFO tilted on its side enough so that the top surface... could be seen...", Greenawald explained. "After it came back to its original course, the UFO was observed for only about one minute, after which it climbed quickly out of sight at a 45-degree angle within several seconds."

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Batt were driving near Huntsville, Ala., at 8 p.m., on or about September 14, 1973, when they observed blinking lights "estimated to be the size of a small airplane" approximately 200 feet high to the left. It had six "steady, glaring and bright" red and "two blinking green lights." The UFO drifted north at first, then accelerated. Batt chased the object at speeds up to 85 m.p.h. A few miles further on, Batt stopped the car and saw an additional object to the northeast. Both UFOs "drifted away."

UFO FILMS HOPEFUL SIGN (Television Reviews)

Maybe -- just maybe -- American television producers are beginning to discover there is a whole new rich, hitherto untapped vein of both documentary and dramatic source material in the UFO subject. Two recent, made-for-television UFO films seem to reflect the apparent



Sketch of UFO Seen Near Oak Grove, La., January 1, 1951

(Courtesy: Walt Greenawald)

trend of TV moguls to begin presenting the subject in an objective, unbiased manner -- a not wholly laudable turnabout since the "modern" UFO era spans nearly three decades and television has hardly been a pioneer in fair and accurate reporting of the subject. But, better late than never: there are signs of change.

The long-awaited film of John G. Fuller's *The Interrupted Journey* -- reentitled *The UFO Incident* -- is not only the best UFO film ever made but also one of the best made-for-TV movies. In one way, at least, it is unique: it combines the most authenticated and well-researched UFO abduction incident on record with a story of subtle emotional and psychological impact. Certainly more than any other UFO film -- and more than most films on *any* subject -- it paints a finely-etched portrait of two people whose bizarre encounter with ETs triggered a psychological trauma that ultimately forces them, through hypno-analysis, to break down their barriers, allowing them to love each other -- and understand and cope with the unknown -- more fully. In short, it is a UFO love story -- and it is all true. Indeed, the producer, Joe L. Cramer, and director, Richard A. Colla, have gone to meticulous lengths to preserve that truth.



Estelle Parsons as "Betty Hill" and Friend

James Earl Jones, perhaps the finest black actor around today, is superb as Barney Hill. Not unlike his performance as the prototype of famed boxer Jack Johnson in *The Great White Hope*, his acting ranges from heights of dramatic outbursts against the unknown forces (ETs) that threaten his tight, pent-up control to that of a tender, loving husband to his white wife, Betty. Academy Award winner Estelle Parsons is slightly less believable -- but wholly effective, nonetheless -- as Betty Hill. Barnard Hughes (TV's *Doc*) plays the role of Dr. Benjamin Simon, the Boston psychiatrist who elicits the strange details of the case from the Hills via hypnosis, with consummate, veteran skill.

The perfect -- and startling -- clincher at the end of the film is a short synopsis of the star map drawn by Betty Hill in 1964, showing a diagram of twin stars called Zeta Reticuli that were unknown at the time. Recent discoveries, aided by computer analysis, however, have shown the drawing to be accurate. (See New Mexico Scientists story, p. 3).

Anyone seriously interested in the UFO subject who missed this engrossing NBC film the first time around should make every effort to see it when -- and if -- it is repeated next Spring.

UFOs -- Past, Present and Future, from the book by Robert Emenecker (see *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. IV, No. 5, p. 8), provides further evidence the U.S. government may be in the process of slowly "lifting the wraps" on the UFO subject. To see such AF personnel as Maj. Hector Quintanella, former head of Project Blue Book, and Col. William Coleman practically admit that certain UFO cases bear the stamp of ET probes is a revelation in itself. Such sightings as those by the Apollo and Skylab astronauts, the Chiles-Whitted Eastern Airlines and Coyne helicopter cases are recounted with surprising and welcome objectivity. Rare films of the Samford press conference in Washington, D.C., on July 29, 1952, are shown, as well as Dr. J. Allen Hynek's uneasiness before the microphones when he proffered his now-famous "swamp gas" explanation for the Dexter-Hillsdale, Mich., sightings in March, 1966. No less surprising is Col. Coleman's confirmation of the Top Secret "Estimate of the Situation" -- in which the AF concluded that UFOs are probably ET probes.

The Sandler Institutional Film was narrated by three top motion picture and television veterans -- Burgess Meredith, Rod Serling and Jose Ferrer.

This edition of *UFO Research Newsletter* was delayed so we could include a review of *The UFO Incident*.

UFO Research Newsletter, Vol. IV, No. 9, will be ready for mailing on or about December 15, 1975.

Please be sure to send in your change of addresses.