

# UFO RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

A REPORT ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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## PROJECT BLUE BOOK FILES DECLASSIFIED; HYNEK STUDIES EVIDENCE

The files of Project Blue Book were officially declassified on July 5. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies and former long-time chief scientific UFO consultant for the Air Force (AF), has been scrutinizing the evidence.

There are 12,600 UFO reports containing about 140,000 pages for a 22-year period -- from 1947 to 1969, when Project Blue Book was closed down.

"The Air Force couldn't explain more than 700 of the 12,600 cases," the astronomer remarked in the August 16, 1976, edition of *People* magazine. "Some of the most intriguing are those the Air Force claims it had identified but actually hadn't."

Hynek thinks the Freedom of Information Act may have played a large part in forcing the AF to publicly release its information.

"Literally dozens of requests for UFO information were filed under the law's provisions," Hynek continued. "That may have put sufficient pressure on the Pentagon to release it."

The top UFO scientist said "the Air Force was under orders from the Pentagon to debunk UFOs. Project Blue Book should have been called Project Debunk. The attempt was a failure, and one reason the Air Force classified the material was to cover its mistakes."

Probably not even Hynek, who had access to much of the Blue Book files for two decades, knows just what this declassification means. We do know that a squad of AF personnel spent months editing the reports -- presumably with the purpose of deleting both witnesses' names and sensitive information relating to national security -- before they were consigned to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., for public perusal. Just how "sanitized" the reports have become is anybody's guess, but one thing appears certain: the massive files should keep serious researchers busy for a long time to come.

## ENQUIRER INCREASES UFO AWARD TO \$1 MILLION; WALTON CASE GETS \$5,000 NOD

The *National Enquirer* is now offering a cool \$1 million for positive proof that UFOs are extraterrestrial (ET). This is 10 times the tabloid's previous \$100,000 award offer and 20 times the paper's original \$50,000 offer. The *Enquirer* has also doubled its annual award for best UFO evidence to \$10,000.

Before you start dreaming of becoming a millionaire overnight, however, your proof had better be solid. Reports in contention for the award will be screened by *Enquirer* editors and officials of the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (APRO) and the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP). The most promising case or cases will then be submitted to the paper's UFO Blue Ribbon Panel of scientists, according to the July 13, 1976, edition of the tabloid. If the panel unanimously agrees that a particular sighting constitutes hard-core proof of ET visitation, it will recommend payment and turn the case over to a stiff analysis by a two-man judicial review board "for final judgment." The board consists of Tom C. Clark, former U.S. Supreme Court Justice from 1949 to 1967 and U.S. Attorney General from 1945 to 1949; and Francis Bergan, Associate Judge of the New York Court of Appeals from 1963 to 1972. Both men must agree the proof is solid before the \$1 million check will be issued.

Anyone wishing to submit evidence may mail it to: UFO Reward, *National Enquirer*, Lantana, Fla. 33462.

Meanwhile, the \$5,000 award for best UFO evidence of 1975 was shared by participants in the Heber, Ariz., UFO abduction case of last November 5. (See *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol. I, No. 9, p. 5). Travis Walton, who was allegedly abducted on board a UFO and held there five days, was awarded a \$2,500 check. The six other witnesses shared the remaining \$2,500.

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#### NORAD OFFICIALS ADMIT TRACKING AND CHASING A UFO

For the first time, officials of the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) have admitted they tracked a UFO on radar and scrambled two F-106 fighters to intercept it.

It all began at about 3 a.m., November 11, 1975, when residents of Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, observed bright lights that hovered, then "suddenly shot straight upward at tremendous speeds." Police officers and others observed the lights until 7 a.m. Witnesses included Maj. Robert Oliver, commanding officer of NORAD's radar base at Falconbridge, Ontario. The observers said the UFO was cylindrical and was "tra-

veling in circles." At one point, the object ascended from 26,000 feet to 45,000 feet altitude at a tremendous velocity, stopped, hovered, then sped up to 72,000 feet. In all, several UFOs were observed at various times.

The mysterious craft "was tracked intermittently on radar for six hours." The jets were scrambled from Selfridge AF Base, near Detroit, Mich., at 10:45 a.m., but they did not intercept the UFOs. Jets are sent up in response to a UFO sighting "only if we have something that indicates a chance of making a possible interception," Lt. Col. Brian Wooding, director, 22nd NORAD Regional Control Center, stated in the *National Enquirer*, August 3, 1976. Capt. Gordon Hilchie, public affairs director of the center, admitted that "this is the first time that NORAD has been on the record as saying, 'Yes, we saw this so-called UFO at the same time people outside were saying they saw it too.'"

#### FRIEDMAN LECTURE SCHEDULE GROWS; PUBLICATIONS OFFERED

Stanton T. Friedman, nuclear physicist, is the "only space scientist known to be devoting full time to UFOs," and his lecture schedule is steadily growing. (See *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol IV, No. 10, p. 4). He has given illustrated lectures at more than 300 colleges in 46 states. Below is a partial list of his upcoming lectures through November.

September: 7, 8 p.m., Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark.; 13, 8 p.m., New Mexico State University, Las Cruces; 17, 8 p.m., Yavapai College, Prescott, Ariz.; 20, 8 p.m., Husson College, Bangor, Me.; 22, 8 p.m., Iowa State University, Ames; 23, 8 p.m., Thomas College, Waterville, Me.; 24, 8 p.m., New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark; 26, 7:30 p.m., Upsala College, East Orange, N.J.; 27, 2 p.m., Indiana State University, Evansville; and 28, 11 a.m., Solano College, Suisun City, Calif.

October: 4, 7:30 p.m., University of Washington, Seattle; 5, 8 p.m., Centralia Community College, Centralia, Wash.; 6, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., East Washington State University, Cheney; 13, 8 p.m., American University, Washington, D.C.; 15, 8 p.m., Macon Junior College, Macon, Ga.; 19, 8 p.m., Oregon College of Education, Monmouth; 20, 8 p.m., Lee College, Baytown, Tex.; 22, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Tarrant County Junior College, Northeast Campus, Ft. Worth, Tex.; 26, 8 p.m., College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, Minn.; and 28, 8 p.m., Tarrant County Junior College.

November: 11, 8 p.m., East Tennessee State University, Johnson City; and 16, 8 p.m., Williamsport Area Community College, Williamsport, Pa.

For further information, contact Friedman at 31628 Trevor Ave., Hayward, Calif. 94544, or call collect 415-471-0160.

Among other UFO publications not generally available, Friedman is offering for sale two works of particular note: *Proceedings of Symposium on UFOs*, sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Los Angeles, Calif., Sept. 27, 1975, 150 pgs., illustrated, \$6.25. (See *UFO Research Newsletter*, Vol IV, No. 8, p. 1). This excellent compilation of one of the largest UFO scientific symposia ever held includes papers by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Dr. Jacques Vallee, James McCampbell, Friedman, and others. The second publication is *The Zeta Reticuli Incident*, by Terence Dickinson, 32 page full color reprint of the original December, 1974, *Astronomy* article on the work performed by Marjorie Fish on the

Betty Hill star map and subsequent letters and comments, \$2.50 (was \$4). The price for five or more is \$2, and bulk prices are also available. A special combined price of only \$8 is offered for both the AIAA papers and *The Zeta Reticuli Incident*. Checks may be mailed to UFORI, POB 502, Union City, Calif. 94587.

HEFLIN PHOTOS LABELED "FRAUDULENT"; ORIGINAL INVESTIGATORS RESPOND



UFO Photos 1 and 2, taken by Rex Heflin, Santa Ana, Calif., August 3, 1965.

Meanwhile, Project Blue Book -- until late 1969 the official government organ "investigating" UFO reports -- officials labeled the photos a "hoax" and indicated Heflin had photographed a model "saucer." NICAP officials issued a press release calling for California

A series of famous UFO photographs taken by an Orange County, Calif., highway inspector 17 years ago have been called "fraudulent" by a UFO organization official. (See photos, left). The original investigators strongly refuted the charge. One of the investigators, Mrs. Idabel Epperson, Southern California State Director for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), supplied the information on the controversy to UFOR.

Briefly, the facts of the case are these: at approximately 12:30 p.m., August 3, 1965, Rex Heflin, an employee of the Orange County Highway Dept. and a former police officer, was driving his department-owned truck in Santa Ana, Calif., when his truck "*radio went completely dead.*" (Heflin's italics). Then he saw a hat-shaped object he estimated to be 30 feet in diameter. Grabbing the Polaroid 101 land camera beside him, he snapped four photographs. The first three pictures showed clear, precise images of the objects and the fourth a vapor ring apparently left behind by the UFO.

The photographs were subjected to intense scrutiny. Among the analysts were the chief photographer for *The (Santa Ana) Register* and personnel from the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station. Heflin was intensely questioned by NICAP investigators and military officials, including Capt. Charles F. Reichmuth, of the AF Space Systems Center, Los Angeles.

lawmakers in Congress to examine the photographs. Congressman James Utt said NICAP "should be heard out on their request for congressional appraisal of the situation," and U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna berated the AF for being "insulting to persons whose motives are well meaning."

Some months later, University of Colorado UFO Project Coordinator Robert J. Low said he was highly impressed with Heflin, and his photographs were among the best.

The controversy over the photographs did not end there. At MUFON's 7th annual UFO symposium in Ann Arbor, Mich., on June 12, William H. Spaulding, of Ground Saucer Watch, Phoenix, Ariz., labeled them as "fraudulent" and said they "may have been produced by means of an aluminum 'pie plate' suspended by a thread from a fishing rod balanced on the roof of Mr. Heflin's truck (photos 1, 2, and 3) and a photomontage (photo 4: the so-called 'smoke ring')." (Source: letter from David A. Schroth to David Branch, June 28, 1976).

Schroth, a charter member of the UFO Study Group of Greater St. Louis and a staff member of MUFON's *Sky Look* magazine, was concerned. Photo number one is included on the UFO Study Group's "fact sheet," and Schroth wanted comments from the former members of NICAP's Los Angeles Subcommittee who were so closely involved with the investigation. John Gray, an aerospace engineer, was the first to respond.

"Although I have not read his comments," Gray wrote in a letter to Schroth dated July 29, 1976, "my initial reaction was that Mr. Spaulding must be taking up the cudgel of Dr. Condon [director of the Colorado Project] in attempting to discredit the whole UFO phenomenon through the debasement of the strongest cases. It would seem that Mr. Spaulding has become victim of the same pitfalls encountered by previous skeptics of this particular sighting -- namely, unfamiliarity (or gross disregard?) with the intrinsic peculiarities of the images in the photos.... As one of the original NICAP field investigators involved in researching this case, I have only the highest regard for Mr. Heflin. Having the privilege of becoming more acquainted with him in the ensuing years, I cannot conceive his character as ever permitting the perpetuation of a hoax."

#### *Main Investigator Responds*

At the time of the Heflin incident, Mrs. Epperson was head of NICAP's Los Angeles Subcommittee and, as such, was deeply involved in the ensuing investigation. After hearing the Spaulding charge, she was hot under the collar. Mrs. Epperson said six photographic analysts had studied the pictures and "pronounced them to be *authentic*": (1) Clay Miller, chief photographer for *The Register*; (2) Ralph Rankow, former NICAP photographic analyst; (3) Joe Carson, a Los Angeles photographic expert; (4) Don Berliner, former NICAP staff member and aviation writer; (5) Adrian Vance, former photographic analyst for MUFON; and (6) Dr. A (who requests anonymity), of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., who "is responsible for a computer type of photographic enhancement that resolves obscure details in a photo."

"At first, [Dr. A] was extremely reluctant to become involved -- he said the pictures looked like a 'straw hat!'..." Epperson wrote in a letter to Schroth dated August 10, 1976. "I phoned Dr. A every few weeks for a period of several months. Finally he agreed to examine the photographs. Before long the situation was reversed -- it was not I who was phoning him; it was he that was phoning me. With the type of equipment that he had to work with it was only natural that he should discover much more detail that had not been visible to the others."

"This is unearthly," Dr. A told the NICAP investigator during one such telecon.

"Why?" Epperson asked.

"There is a shimmering around it."

The NICAP official asked if the shimmering could have been caused by the UFO being in motion.

"It doesn't have anything to do with motion," the scientist responded.

In another telecon, Dr. A said "the object had a dome and that the black band around it was 'particulate matter'" -- smoke or smog and particles.

After further investigation -- including a talk with Heflin, his supervisor, and the Newport Beach, Calif., police chief, who said "Rex Heflin is the last man on this earth who would perpetrate a hoax" -- Dr. A "was completely convinced" the photos "were real and not a hoax."

"Strangely enough," Mrs. Epperson continued, "some of Heflin's strongest support can be found in the original *Air Force Report* (marked FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY) giving a detailed account of their investigation and a three and a half hour interview with Heflin by Capt. Charles F. Reichmuth..."

According to the *Air Force Report*: (1) the "small, narrow, rotating beam of light" on the object was clearly seen on the photos by "officials in the G-2 office at El Toro"; (2) Heflin's supervisors gave him a clean bill of health; (3) the AF investigating officer "determined that an experienced man could easily take three photographs within a 12-second time period" and that Heflin "is not attempting to perpetrate a hoax."

Yet the AF indication was that Heflin *did* perpetrate a hoax!

Heflin's case is supported by a series of sightings around the same area during the same time frame.

- August 3, 1965. Daytime. Santa Ana Freeway. Mike Boehm and a surveying crew saw a landed "disc" that "suddenly took off." (Source: letter from C.E. (Bud) Miller to Idabel Epperson, November 10, 1973).

- August 3, 1965. Huntington Beach. Greg Oliver observed a UFO over the city, according to the August 4, 1965, edition of the *Garden Grove* (Calif.) *News*.

- August, 1965 (first week). About 9 p.m. Sherman Oaks. Mrs. Erla Johnson, her daughter, Mrs. Bobbie Gordon, and her young son saw a UFO emitting a "blinding light" that illuminated them "like a huge sun lamp" and that caused the boy to cry, stated an article by David Branch and Robert B. Klinn in *The Register*, August 1, 1973.

- August, 1965 (first week). Santa Ana Freeway. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Joseph and numerous other motorists observed a brilliant disc approximately 45 feet in diameter with a domed top that hovered over high tension wires. It moved about 60 feet, then returned to its original position. (Source: taped interview with witnesses).

- August 11, 1965. Around 9:15 p.m. Westminster. Maureen Marshott, George-Ann Gaetjens, and Linda Topper were parked at a drive-in when an enormous, brilliant disc with 5-10 lights "drifted real slowly across the sky." The UFO was an estimated 30-70 feet in diameter, said an article by David Branch and Robert B. Klinn in *The Register*, July 25, 1973.

- September 4, 1965. Near the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station. John Silva was piloting a Piper Cherokee aircraft when he and two passengers chased a saucer with an exterior like "polished aluminum" that easily out-distanced them, according to *The Register*, September 22, 1965.

In conclusion, Mrs. Epperson said "this latest attack upon Heflin (11 years late) with no attempt to check with the original investigators seems very curious."

[Editor's note: the Heflin pictures were subjected to perhaps the closest scientific and photo-analytical scrutiny of any UFO photographs ever submitted. Investigators' files on the case are immense and reflect the painstaking care taken by the former NICAP officials to resolve the question of their authenticity. As far as UFOR is concerned, despite the Spaulding charge, the Heflin pictures still remain among the best -- if not *the* best -- ever taken. Spaulding or someone else will have to present a far more convincing case if we are to be persuaded the incident is a hoax and that Heflin is anything but the honest, reliable individual all his friends and associates believe him to be].

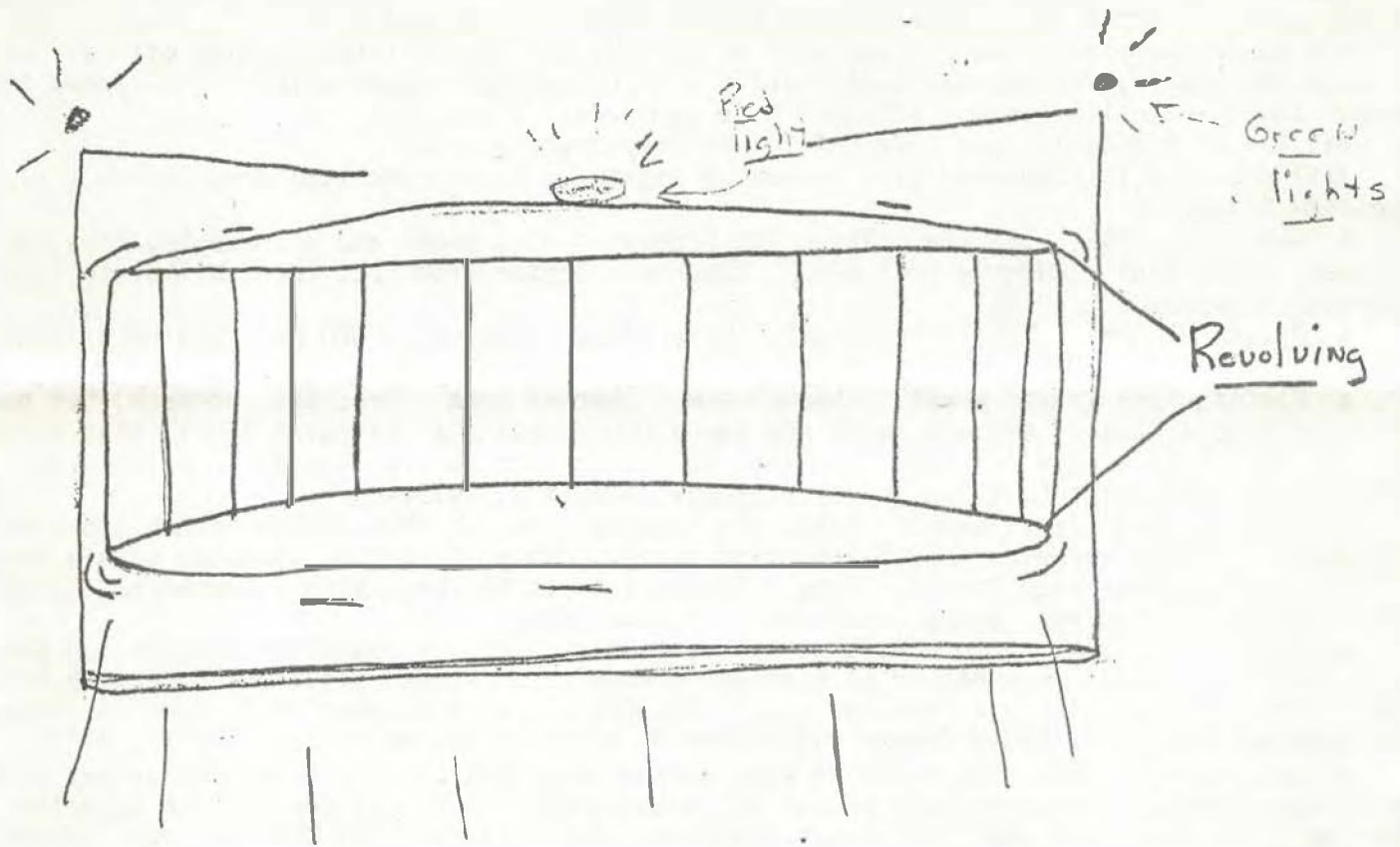
#### UFOs SEEN OVER CALIFORNIA, MARYLAND

UFOs were observed by residents on both the West and East Coasts during the summer.

At 10 p.m., June 25, Ellen Roberts, her sister, Jo, and daughter, Laura, observed a large, white, glowing UFO about 60-80 feet long and 40 feet high that "hovered over the car for about five minutes, flew over and then went off to the side and over a nearby mountain." (See sketch, p. 6). The witnesses were driving on Highway 680, between San Jose and Concord, Calif.

"My daughter saw it first as it approached on our left and said, 'what is that?'" Mrs. Roberts stated in a letter to UFO investigator Paul C. Cerny, July 20, 1976. "I just glanced at it, saw a bright light and thought it was a helicopter with a spotlight, took a second look and couldn't believe my eyes. It seemed to glow with an inner light and we

could see every detail quite clearly as it wasn't that high up... As soon as we got home I told both the girls to draw a picture of what they saw and I did the same.... We observed it for about 10 minutes altogether."



UFO Sketch by Ellen Roberts, near San Jose, Calif., June 25, 1976

While Mrs. Roberts observed the object as depicted in the sketch above, Jo's sketch showed a more elongated rectangle with three tiers. The green lights were at both sides at the top, and the top and bottom tiers were black. The larger middle tier appeared to be separated into 5-6 panels with revolving red and white lights. Laura perceived the three-tiered UFO as being even more elongated. The top two tiers were separated by the two green lights on either side while the larger bottom tier appeared separated by about seven panels with the revolving red and white lights in each panel.

Donna Hodge and several others spotted a triangular-shaped UFO "with a large white light that changed to green and red at various times, seemingly when the object changed directions" over the local airport in Chico, Calif., at 10:10 p.m., July 4. According to the July 6, 1976, edition of the *Chico Enterprise-Record*, Ms. Hodge said they watched the object until about 11 p.m. and, at times, it "moved at incredible speeds."

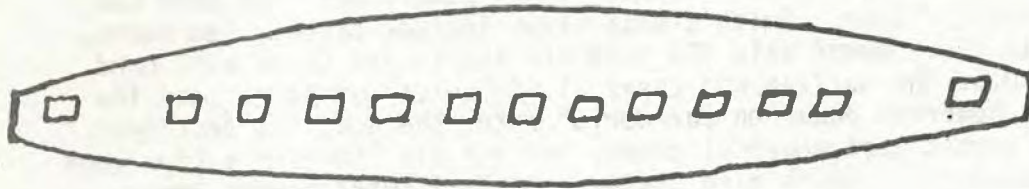
More than 24 hours later -- shortly after midnight, July 6, stated the same edition of the *Enterprise-Record* -- David Birdsong, James Francis, Rich Stewart, and Patrick Harrison observed an object with two bright lights on its front and "red lights on all four corners" near Gridley, Calif. The alien visitor "was said to have a large, blunt front end, tapering to the rear to another blunt protrusion."

After they watched the object for several minutes, Birdsong reported, "it hovered for a few seconds and then departed at a 'rapid speed.'"

Residents in and around the Mt. Airey section of Maryland -- near Baltimore -- spotted UFOs late on the evening of July 25 and early the next morning, stated John Lutz, president, Odyssey Scientific Research Association (P.O. Box 11282, Baltimore, Md. 21239), who investigated the sightings and sent a report to UFOR.

Among the witnesses was Mrs. Mary Collins, who observed a bright object with a brilliant blue light. It "appeared to be disc-shaped with windows and a blue ray that angled towards the ground."

A man claiming to be an AF officer but who refused to divulge his name said he saw a "definite UFO" near Woodsboro that was moving toward the north-northwest about 35 feet above the ground. The witness said the white object, which "glided over nearby pastureland," was around 60 feet long and had "two blue rays" -- one on the center of the UFO and the second on the rear. It also had "three windows with glaring blue-white lights."



UFO Sketch by Mrs. Diane Hickling, Mt. Airey, Md., July 25, 1976

At 11:15 p.m., July 25, Mrs. Diane Hickling saw a white, oblong-shaped object that was brilliantly "lit up in front with two faint blue lights" on the rear. (See sketch, left). With her son and daughter, she watched as it flew toward the northwest at low altitude.

Half an hour later, James Dandro, of Troutville, observed a white cigar with pale blue lights emanating from windows. The UFO was 50-60 feet long and flew over his farmyard.

At 12:10 the following morning -- July 26 -- Sgt. Storer, of the Maryland State Police Barracks B at Frederick, was driving near Creagerstown when he spotted a UFO "with flashing blue and red lights" in the eastern sky.

#### FAMED GHOST HUNTER TURNS TO UFOs IN NEW BOOK (Book and Record Reviews)

It was probably inevitable that famed ghost hunter and psychic researcher Hans Holzer would finally get around to publishing a book on UFOs. *The Ufonauts* -- while irritatingly inconsistent and even incorrect in some details and containing some questionable documentation -- is a highly readable account of UFO occupant and abduction cases. And -- surprise! -- Holzer has *not* joined the growing number of scientists and other researchers who believe UFOs may be psychic manifestations of some sort. He says that, "in all the years of my own research and literally thousands of cases I have become familiar with, there isn't an ounce of evidence" to support the theory that UFOs "are the result of psychic awareness rather than objective observation" and adds that, except for some secondary or peripheral characteristics, "nothing about the sightings of unidentified flying objects has the remotest connection with parapsychology." He cites radar reports, the Mantell case of 1948 in which an Air National Guard pilot met his death while chasing a UFO, and others as evidence against parapsychological involvement. Rather, he concludes with a statement rather reminiscent of the contactee claims of the 1950s and 1960s: "I think that our alien visitors are not bent on destroying us, but in their own way, consider themselves the potential saviors of mankind from its own destructiveness." Rather disturbingly, the author says he has taken a second look at the contactee claims of George Adamski, Howard Menger, Orfeo Angelucci, "Dr." Daniel Fry and others and found them not all that lacking without mentioning the fact that most of these people have proven to be frauds, liars and con men. Holzer does get into the claims of the more reliable "contactees" -- the Hills, Herb Schirmer, etc. (see below) -- but his details are oftentimes sparse and his "documentation" questionable (i.e., he relies too much on the "evidence" supplied by not-too-reliable individuals). The work is hardly a paragon of scientific virtue; nor is it merely another cut-and-paste job replete with wild, unsubstantiated theories. It is even commendable these days for one aspect alone: the author believes UFOs *are* straightforward ET probes unclouded by assertions of psychic phenomenon or demonology.

[Hans Holzer, *The Ufonauts: New Facts on Extraterrestrial Landings* (Greenwich, Conn.: F. B. Roth Publications, Inc., 1976), 304 pgs., \$1.75]

Gimmicky UFO books continue to flood the paperback market. *UFO Trek*, by Warren Smith, is no exception. The main thesis here appears to be that UFO contactees, in general, are not frauds, but dupes in some ET game aimed at an eventual takeover of our planet. Silent contactees -- Betty and Barney Hill, Herb Schirmer, and others who have been submitted to regressive hypnosis as a result of a loss of time in connection with their sightings -- "represent a possible danger to our society; they're apparently programmed to follow certain patterns, or instructions.... They are programmed to become agents for UFO occupants" and do "crazy, irrational things." The author indicates numerous policemen, judges and lawmakers are UFO agents. According to one source, UFO agents in the past may have been Jesus Christ, Buddha and Mohammed. Those ET agents who "misued" their powers may have been Genghis Khan, Attila the Hun, and Adolf Hitler. Smith's interviews include psychic Ted Owens, who claims to be in contact with ETs. Owens said ETs told him Russia and China will band together to try to destroy the U.S. "by nuclear and chemical-biological warfare," and the Orientals "will become the most powerful power on our world" after the U.S. "is destroyed." African blacks will become the second most powerful group, and the ETs "foresee a time when the white race is almost non-existent." Smith also claims a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) source told him that "UFOs are real, and they represent an advanced technology from another planet" much like our own, but an ice age is forcing them off their planet, and they are eyeing earth for a possible take-over through inter-breeding, etc. Another of the author's interviews was with Bob Geyer, of the Church of Jesus the Saucerian, who believes the Devil is behind all this. Jesus, of course, will return to earth in a UFO. As in most books of this gimmick genre, the writing is amateurish and the "evidence" merely theory.

[Warren Smith, *UFO Trek* (Zebra Books, Kensington Publishing Corp., 380 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017, 1976), Paperback, 253 pgs., \$1.75]

Throughout modern UFO history, record producers and companies have seemed loath to offer documentary LPs dealing with the UFO subject in a straightforward manner. But this began to change in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1966, RCA Victor released an album by the late Frank Edwards entitled *Flying Saucers - Serious Business*, in which the famed writer-broadcaster narrated portions of his best-selling book of the same name. The same year, "Long John" Nebel released *The Flying Saucer Story* through the American Music Library. In 1974, Bob B. Blue, of Long Beach, Calif., researched, produced and narrated his LP, *Are UFOs a Reality?* While the album tended to sound a bit amateurish in spots, it was still better than anything else available at the time. Now, there's a new LP record presently catching many ufological ears. Without a doubt, *UFOs: The Credibility Factor* is the best documentary UFO album ever to gain national release. This is a professional package in every detail and includes the paperback book, *Beyond Earth: Man's Contact with UFOs*, by Ralph and Judy Blum. John Newland -- of TV's hit series *Alcoa Presents* -- narrates this lengthy presentation, which is full of opinions and interesting commentary from a variety of UFO authorities such as Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe, Rep. J. Edward Roush (D-Ind.), Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Stanton T. Friedman, Dr. David R. Saunders, and astronauts James McDivitt and Gordon Cooper. Donald Flickinger, a U.S. Treasury agent who investigates UFOs, tells of his experiences. A veteran police officer describes an important UFO case from 1975. A retired U.S. AF major recalls a dramatic case; Maj. Larry Coyne (re the famous "Coyne case" of 1973) outlines his own UFO incident. We also hear from a knowledgeable radar expert, Dr. Robert Wood. Perhaps the most intriguing portions of this recording, however, feature Betty Hill and Herb Schirmer, who recount their respective incidents as UFO abductees. These lengthy sessions in themselves may well be worth the price of the record. For UFO researchers tired of purchasing and stockpiling the endless procession of UFO books -- often anemic and repetitive -- that appear year after year, this document-in-sound will be a pleasurable alternative.

-- Guest review by Robert Barrow

[*UFOs: The Credibility Factor*, narrated by John Newland (Terre Haute, Ind.: Columbia House Records, 1975), No. 1 P-6422, \$5.98, record, \$6.98, eight-track tape]

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