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Directors Report

A STUDY OF "SCOOP MARKS"

By William I. McNeff, Minnesota MUFON State Dir.

BACKGROUND

Scoop marks, tiny circular indentations in the skin, have been observed on some people who suspect or believe that they may have been abducted by aliens.¹ Many abductees also suspect that aliens have implanted some type of small object at various locations in their bodies.² There is a theory that encasing an implant in a small piece of skin will prevent rejection by the body.³ Researchers who interpreted the Roper Poll results conservatively estimated that at least 2% of the population appear to have been abducted.⁴

This paper represents the observations of a teacher, working as a substitute teacher in various Minnesota schools. I have known this person for over twelve years and believe her to be an intelligent and reliable individual who is very familiar with the abduction phenomenon. For obvious reasons, her name and school affiliations are not revealed in this article. Her observations are presented below:

OBSERVATIONS

Although this is not a scientific study, I would like to share some of my observations made while substitute teaching at some of the area schools. For instance, one recent assignment involved teaching an 8th grade World Geography class at a school for the gifted and talented. There were six scheduled classes containing a total of approximately 160 students of mixed ethnicity. Each class was given an open book research test on the Middle East, and as I began to pass out the tests for the first class, I noticed how many of the students' faces contained scoop marks! The marks appeared in the middle of a cheek (usually the right cheek) or on the forehead. After observing this in the first class, I looked carefully at each of the students in the remaining classes (as unobtrusively as possible) and was amazed to see how many kids had the same marks.

The scoops - *all perfectly round "cut-outs"* - were of different sizes, with the smallest the size of the head of a pin to the largest that appeared to be about a half inch in diameter. This larger mark appeared on the right cheek of a boy of Hispanic origin. He had a dark, olive-type complexion with no other markings whatsoever. The vast majority of the scoops seemed to be about one-fourth inch in diameter. Most of these kids had otherwise, smooth, flawless complexions. I must emphasize that I wasn't even thinking about these marks at the beginning of the day, but the subject made its way to my recognition because so many of the kids had scoops.



Minnesota Mufon Meetings

**Sat., May 10th
&
Sat., June 14th
1:30-5pm**

**New Brighton Family
Service Center
400 - 10th St. NW
(located 1/4-mile S.W.
of Hwy 694 and 35W.)**

PARK FREE!

**The building is
designated as
non-smoking.**

**See map on back
cover**

**(Note: This building
has no
special security or
elevators,
so you can come and
go as
you please and
smoke
outdoors.)**

These marks are so precise that they could be described as "cookie cutter perfect". Many are so obvious that they are seen upon a first glance. The interior of the scoop is flat - not rounded inside (as with an ice cream scoop indentation). *On absolutely all of them, there is a perfect, flawless, distinctive sharp rim.* This sharp rim is what makes the mark so noticeable. When viewed from an angle, light hitting the mark actually casts a tiny interior shadow.

By far, most of the scoop marks appear on the cheek (usually the right cheek) but may also be seen on the forehead above either eye. I've noticed a few marks between the eyes, above the nose, but these have been infrequent. Last year, I observed *four* marks on the otherwise flawless skin of a Latino girl about ten years of age - one on her right cheek, two above her right eye, and one, which was larger than the others, was between her eyes. All displayed that same "cookie cutter" precision.

Another interesting aspect of the students I've observed is that the marks appear on those who seem to be the *most intelligent and or physically attractive*. I'm now beginning to look at the *behavior and social maturity* of these kids. This is a real "wild card" because some with scoop marks, while extremely intelligent, have definite behavioral problems. It is my feeling that these kids desperately need to be challenged. They question everything, take objects apart to "see what makes them tick" and are generally restless and needing something to constantly occupy their time. If not given the opportunity to absorb themselves in something they can get "lost" in, they often end up diagnosed with "attention deficit disorder" and are put on Ritalin or else start to self-destruct because of antisocial behavior. (I can say, without reservation, that the kids are *pushed hard* at the Gifted and Talented School. I had a third-grader in one class who was taking 7th grade science and 8th grade mathematics.)

Some argument may be made that these marks could be made as a result of chicken pox, measles, acne, etc. However, *pock marks and acne scars are irregular* as opposed to the crisp, perfect scoop marks. Usually, in my normal teaching day, I am too busy to even think about scoop marks...until I run across a child with one or more scoops that look *exactly* like the marks I've seen on other kids and in the *same* place on the face. Then, I'm taken aback for a minute and I think, "Oh boy, here we go again." It reinforces my thinking that *something* is

going on here. This cannot possibly be coincidental. I find it hard to believe that all of these kids had chicken pox that left scars that all looked alike in the same couple of spots on their face! On one 10th-grader, I noticed both acne scars and a scoop mark on his forehead - each type distinctively different.

I would say that roughly 1/4 of 100 to 115 kids or about 1 in 4 kids in the gifted and talented classes had scoops, some with multiple scoops. In regular classes, I don't see nearly this number. I'll see a kid here or there in a class who has one or multiples. Oftentimes, these are younger kids - under 10 - who have not yet gone through puberty, so there is no possibility of them having had acne.

I began collecting and documenting my observations and afterward, took "second looks" at each student in an effort to recheck my original findings. This required me to be especially discreet! Since these classes took place in the Gifted and Talented computer lab, where the students would normally be facing a monitor, I deliberately stopped at each desk to ask a question or otherwise engage them in a short conversation. This required them to look directly at me and allowed me to do a *fast* scan of each face.

THE DATA

Italics indicate those students having marks that may be scoop marks but circumstances did not allow for closer examination. Categories refer to closest area where the marks appeared. (See charts on page 9 & 10.)

It is interesting to note that most of the scoop marks are located on the cheeks of these students. I felt it was important to record the ethnicity of the students simply to show that the occurrence of marks can be seen in all races. That some ethnic groups seem to be represented more than others can only be attributed to the enrollment factor for that particular class.

There were 5 basic scoop sizes that I saw:

- 1) Smallest: 1/16" or, more accurately, about 1/2MM. (Fairly rare)
- 2) Next biggest: 2 1/2MM (Most common)
- 3) This one is about 3/16" or 1/2CM (Next most common)
- 4) Next, 1/4" to 5/16" (Pretty rare)
- 5) 1/2" (I've only seen this once)

About half way through my observations, I began to record the sizes of the scoops, but because that data doesn't cover all of the students, it is not included here.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS

I just saw a 3rd grade African-American boy: very smart (they were doing preliminary testing and he had gotten all answers right), and he was extremely well-mannered. He had obviously not gone through puberty. He had no blemishes or marks whatsoever on his young face... except for two absolutely identical, perfectly round small holes on either side of his nose on *both* cheeks. I checked this child twice, then a third time. I am here to tell you, this was a sight to behold! These two holes were *exactly* in the same place on each cheek, were the exact same size, and were (obviously) both equidistant from the bridge of his nose.

My observation of scoop marks is not limited to students. I have an acquaintance who knows of my interest in this subject. She mentioned that her seven year old son is in the gifted program in his school. As she was talking, I noticed that she had a nice, crisp cut, perfectly round scoop mark on her right cheek!

My own ten year old nephew in San Antonio, who is in the gifted program in his school, also has scoop marks. The boy's mother is my sister - and she has three scoop marks on her right cheek and eye area. I've talked with her now and then about the UFO situation but I don't know if she would believe that there might be a connection between the ETs and these marks.

And finally, I have one scoop mark myself, on my right cheek. (See page 10 for chart with heading "CLASS"). Article concludes on page 10.

The Day the Earth Stood Still – Some Thoughts on Why They're Here ©2003 by Craig R. Lang, Field Investigator and CE4 Researcher

[CL Note: This article is adapted from my web log on the New Civilization Network (www.newciv.org) The result of this post has been a rather extended and fascinating dialog, with people of many views participating. We also held a similar discussion at the last MUFON meeting, where an extensive dialog on the topic of the alien agenda occurred. I

think you will agree that this is a truly fascinating topic, and I invite you to read on.]

As a UFO researcher, I am often asked my view on why I think "They" are here. My answer is always "I don't know". I believe that we know very little about close encounters. Yet some late night thoughts came to mind while watching the classic movie: "The Day the Earth Stood Still"....

As I sat up late last night, watching this classic film, it again struck me just how prescient the movie seemed to be - just how far ahead of its time it was. The movie was made during the earliest 1950's. Back then, World War 2 had just ended. We had the red scare, the start of the cold war, McCarthyism, and the general darkness of humanity as we entered the Korean War. For a moment I felt glad that we had moved safely beyond that time. Then during a commercial, I briefly surfed over to CNN. And I realized that we really hadn't advanced very far at all. Certainly it was not as far as I had imagined only a moment before.

I wondered, is the movie right? Are we a danger to the cosmic neighborhood? And might "They" be here to fix the problem in their own unique and very alien way? If I were an ET visiting Earth, what would I think of humanity these days? What would I make of the US "liberation" of Iraq? Would I try to understand the geo-politics behind it? Would I understand the economics? Would I care? As I switched the channel back to the movie, I wondered whether to a "small gray", landing on Earth in 2003, it might look much as it would have looked to Klattu in 1951.

What was so prescient about this movie was the reason that Klattu was here. It was a warning for humanity that our warring ways presented a potential danger to our cosmic neighbors. And if we didn't shape up, cosmic society would have to destroy us.

Occasionally, as I do hypnotic regressions with experiencers, I hear things which lead me to speculate about the reason that "They" are here now. What arises is often a scenario not too far away from the movie:

- Earth society in the late 20th and early 21st century is one who's primary occupation is war. Our biggest expenditures of resources are for military activities. There is no unified Earth society,

and there is deep division among peoples of the world. We have a lot of dirty laundry to hide.

- Human society has developed the capability for destruction on a planetary scale. Indeed, several times during the cold war, we nearly "achieved" just that.

- Physics has progressed to the point where star travel just might be closer than we think. Initiatives such as NASA's Breakthrough Propulsion Workshop, could very easily bear fruit in our lifetimes. Various Gravity Modification experiments might just work. And other "forbidden technologies" might already exist in secret government labs or inventors' garages. And if any of these efforts should pan out, the neighbors might soon find we primitive humans out among the stars.

- I can imagine how the neighbors must therefore be watching us very closely. To them, the idea of a star-faring humanity is probably a very scary proposition. To some being out there somewhere who keeps tabs on such thing, warlike primitives (us) traveling among the worlds of the galaxy is probably an awful thing to behold.

In "The Day the Earth Stood Still", the alternative to peace was destruction by "them". Yet, if that were actually the case, I suspect that we wouldn't be reading newsletters, or staring at computer screens. We would probably be ash lumps on a sterile world. Instead, perhaps the cosmic powers-that-be have a more subtle agenda. Be it for good or ill, it would have to be much less overt than the military paradigm in the movie. It must be, because we are still here.

Yet, perhaps our military paradigm is exactly why they're here. Their purpose might not be to fix our problems - or even to interfere at all in our affairs (the prime directive) - but to prevent us from becoming their problem. How they might accomplish this? We can only guess. But I often wonder if this might be the core motivation behind the UFO abduction phenomenon.

Perhaps, as Budd Hopkins and David Jacobs speculate, the reason that "the little gray guys" are here is actually genetic in nature. But rather than David Jacobs view (that the purpose of the phenomenon is genetic exploitation) - what if their purpose is pacification. What if they are actually

trying to civilize us - to calm us down before we venture out and meet the neighbors?

In short, to prevent humanity from threatening them, perhaps the best solution to the "Master Breeders from the Heavens" would be to breed a better humanity. If your view of "them" is favorable, this would be a new humanity, with a more spiritual or enlightened viewpoint, and more civilized behavior.

Or, if you view "them" unfavorably, this would be a more docile humanity - more willing to do the will of "them".

In the end, I wonder if earlier attempts at contact simply didn't work. If Zachariah Sitchin is correct, then perhaps they've tried that already - and maybe we're just too primitive. So from their point of view, perhaps the only solution to the problem is for "Them" to breed a better "Us". And in the end, we can all wonder whether this New "Us" will be a good thing for humanity. Only time and research will tell...

A NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER SECRECY NEWS (from the FAS Project on Government Secrecy) 3/26/03

President Bush signed a new executive order on national security classification policy that will defer the April 17, 2003 deadline for automatic declassification of millions of 25 year old documents until December 31, 2006, while making a number of other adjustments to the current classification regime.

Most remarkable, from Secrecy News' point of view, is what the new order did not do: It did not alter the basic structures of declassification that were introduced by the Clinton Administration and that have yielded around a billion pages of declassified historical documents in the past seven years.

As previously noted, the order does include several changes tending in the direction of greater secrecy. These include a presumption of classification for foreign government information; expanded authority to reclassify declassified information; new authority for the CIA to reject declassification rulings from an interagency panel; and elimination of the instruction to classifiers not to classify if there is significant doubt about the need to do so.

As deplorable as these steps are, however, they seem unlikely to have a major impact on disclosure policy. Foreign government information was already rendered statutorily exempt from the Freedom of Information Act in the 2001 Defense Authorization Act, so classifying it is gilding the lily. Reclassification of declassified information still requires a written finding from an agency head, and so is unlikely to be carelessly or frequently invoked. As for the interagency panel, in almost every one of the cases where it has voted to declassify CIA documents, the CIA representative to the panel concurred in declassification. And the former injunction not to classify in event of significant doubt was a rhetorical flourish that never had operational meaning.

A deeper problem with the order is that it is predicated on a hierarchical information model that no longer corresponds to the way information is used inside and outside of government. In practice, most useful information does not flow top-down in a pyramid shape, but every which way in a network. Imposing the traditional classification structure on a webbed information environment is a recipe for dysfunction.

A copy of the new order, signed on March 25, may be found here:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/bush/eoamend.html>

The transcript of a White House background briefing on the new order is posted here:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/news/2003/03/wh032503.html>

See also "Release of Documents is Delayed" by Dana Milbank and Mike Allen, Washington Post, March 26:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A29446-2003Mar25.html>

and "Bush Orders a 3-Year Delay in Opening Secret Documents" by Elisabeth Bumiller, New York Times, March 26:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/03/26/politics/26SECR.html>

Could Peer Review Be Wrong?

By Robin Peek

Information Today, Vol.20 No.4, Apr. 03

<http://www.infotoday.com/IT/apr03/peek.shtml>

[NOTE: For those unfamiliar with the concept of peer review, it is the skeptical analysis of articles

submitted to science journals for publication in order to insure the accuracy and validity of the information being presented. The UFO subject has received very vicious and prejudicial peer review if not outright dismissal. Joel Henry, Ed.]

Seriously questioning the validity of the peer-review process is like debating the merits of a holy grail. We've been conducting peer review for so long (more than 200 years, by some estimates) that it, well, just has to be good. Or as Martha Stewart might say: "Peer review. It's a good thing."

But two scholarly societies are now asking if peer review is in fact such a good thing. As the discussion about finding alternative ways of distributing research has intensified over the past few years, it's not surprising that peer review itself would eventually come under scrutiny. And two U.K. groups, the Cochrane Collaboration and the Royal Society, are suggesting that there's a need to examine the value of peer review and to determine whether its methodology should be systematically revised.

The motivation for this inquiry is concern that the public is losing faith in peer review's ability to create a gold standard for evaluating research quality. Last year in the U.S., there were several instances of significant peer-review failures. The most startling was revealed last October when the work of Bell Laboratories' Jan Hendrick Schon came under scrutiny. Schon published 25 papers over the past 3 years. Of those, 16 have been declared to be false. This finding caused the prestigious journal Science to withdraw eight of his papers.

Cochrane Review

In January, Cochrane published "Editorial Peer-Review for Improving the Quality of Reports of Biomedical Studies." According to the organization, this study was conducted because "the knowledgebase of peer review has traditionally lagged far behind its acceptability and use as a quality-assessment tool." Cochrane claims that assumptions about the use of peer review for objective decision making have "rarely been tested." In addition, it says that the need to "prioritize information sources is crucial since there are over 20,000 biomedical journals published globally."

Cochrane, founded in 1992 in Oxford, U.K., is an international organization that "aims to help people

make well-informed decisions about healthcare by preparing, maintaining, and ensuring the accessibility of systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions."

The report began with an initial look at 135 studies on the effects of peer review in biomedicine. However, the Cochrane reviewers found that only 21 offered credible data. They concluded that "given the amount of resources invested in peer review and the common assumption that it improves such outcomes, the lack of research documenting improvements is striking." In addition, many of the studies show that the "well-researched practice of concealing the identities of peer-reviewers or authors, while laborious and expensive, appears to have little effect on the outcome of the quality-assessment process."

So it's not surprising that the Cochrane reviewers argue, "A well-funded and coordinated effort involving several sectors of the scientific community is required to improve our understanding of the effects of peer review." They claim that such a study "would best be coordinated by a scientific council ... with the specific aim of scientifically assessing the quality of peer viewing." Until a study is undertaken, the reviewers caution that "we are not confident in the present system" of peer review.

Because the peer-review process is so deeply entrenched in the research system, this fascinating study would be a formidable undertaking. To many, defending the process is like upholding the American virtues of motherhood, baseball, and apple pie. But since Schon was able to slip past Science's venerated quality-control mechanisms more than a half-dozen times, it's appropriate to ask if traditional peer-review practices can still be applied in an environment that offers so many publishing outlets and places so many demands on the reviewers' time.

Royal Society Working Group

Shortly after the release of the Cochrane review, the Royal Society, the U.K.'s leading research institution, announced it was going to examine best practices in peer review. It has set up a 10-member working group to oversee this process. Heading up the inquiry is Patrick Bateson, provost of King's College as well as biological secretary and vice president of the Royal Society. He believes that "peer review is an imperfect process."

In a February interview in *The Guardian*, Bateson argued: "Scientists are under enormous pressure these days, and many are reluctant to give the time to [peer review]. Sometimes what happens is that the paper gets passed to a graduate student who then delivers a damning critique." He stated further: "We are all aware that some referees' reports are not worth the paper they are written on. It's also hard for a journal editor when reports come back that are contradictory, and it's often down to a question of a value judgment whether something is published or not."

The Royal Society Working Group has established an aggressive time frame for generating two reports by September. One of the committee's charges is to determine best practices for peer review and consider alternatives such as naming the referees. This system might make referees more responsive and responsible (and perhaps more polite).

A second report aims to help the public interpret scientific results. This could be a particularly compelling document if the working group concludes that the existing peer-review system is in fact fundamentally flawed. It would place the Royal Society in the awkward position of trying to calm public fears about the trustworthiness of scientific research while calling for essential changes in the very framework that underpins it.

If the Royal Society does call for new best practices for peer review, it will be interesting to see how or if the research community embraces them.

Field Investigator Update: November/December 2002 By Craig R. Lang - MN MUFON FI Coordinator

[Note: This article is from last year and was not able to be included in the last issue, but is information not yet printed in this journal. Joel Henry, Ed.]

Fall is upon us. For many, the chill weather of October and November means more time indoors, and less time outside with their eyes on the sky. Yet paradoxically, in the last month or so we have begun to see an increase in the number of sighting reports from the general public. These have come to us through the National UFO Reporting Center,

the Minnesota MUFON website, and personal correspondence with investigators.

The following are some sightings which have come to our attention in the last month. We are beginning investigations of these and other events which we have recently received. I hope to have more to say on these in upcoming FI Updates.

Dick Moss sends this report from Long Prairie, of a sighting which was recently e-mailed to him. The time of this event was only a couple of days before this article was written.

Subject: lights

Date: Mon, 21 Oct 2002 19:50:47 -0500

Hi Dick,

[Have there been] any reports of strange lights in the sky tonight? I was traveling west of Long Prairie tonight about 6:45 and saw 5 or 6 slightly scattered bursts of white light- like the white wing light of a plane only much brighter and scattered too far apart to be on a plane. They also disappeared unlike a plane.

The following report was filed with the National UFO Reporting Center, and written up in Filers' Files:

SAVAGE -- The witness reports, he observed a delta-shaped object in clear skies at 1:22 AM on October 14, 2002. The object had three soft white lights at the vertices which shone downward. The delta shaped object was about 40 feet in width and there were no other discernible lights or characteristics. It was flying southwesterly at 150 knots, at 1500 feet AGL. It made no sound even though the witness was close enough to hear if it had jet engines. It flew a straight and level course for about 5 seconds, then rolled right to a 45 degree angle which caused the downward lights to shine brighter. After a second, the object then rolled left back to a straight and level position. There was a dark sky with a few visible stars. This object did not conform to any recognizable aircraft lighting or flight patterns and was far too low for a normal approach to the airport. Thanks to Peter Davenport.

Bill McNeff also sends the following summary of a case he calls "The Lake Elmo Triangle":

A year ago, in October 2001, a female witness was driving east on 10th St. in Lake Elmo towards

Manning street. Her teenaged daughter was asleep in the back seat of the car. This was shortly after the witness had gotten off work at 8:30 PM. This is an area that has few lights so she could see the sky clearly. In the east ahead of her she saw a very bright light, which she assumed was an aircraft. As she drove on and it came closer, she said that it was very big. She slowed down and noticed another aircraft flying parallel to the big craft, but this craft had no lights. She went past a gas station and the Cimarron Trailer Court. The object was moving down and was getting close over the trees, which are big cottonwoods. She slowed to 20 mph and rolled down her window but heard nothing. The car approached Oakland Jr. High School. There is also a house and a pond at this location. Now she could see that instead of one bright light there were six bright lights spaced regularly and forming a V shape. The lights were so bright she could not see the object which she assumed they were a part of. The tops of the trees were lit up. The object appeared to hover over this spot for about 2 minutes. The lights had the intensity of baseball field lights, and she estimated the object was the size of a baseball field. This led to the question, "Was there a baseball field at this location?" She said there is not.

When she got to the intersection of 10th St. and Manning, she noticed workmen working on the underground lines. These workers showed no signs of having noticed the UFO. She did not stop and talk to the workers, but instead made a left turn and headed north on Manning. She was "pretty well freaked out" by this sighting. Two nights later, she called the Lake Elmo airport and the Washington County Police, but neither had any reports.

She said that two nights before she had her sighting, her mother was driving with a friend and saw a similar or identical object. The witness typed her report into NUFORC, and noticed a similar report in California.

This witness is very familiar with aircraft, as she and her husband are aircraft enthusiasts and attend the Oshkosh fly-in every year. He was in the Air Force. It is obvious that she made some careful observations of the unknown objects and the area.

Lake Elmo was [also] the scene of one of the best cases I have investigated, which occurred about 10:00 PM on December 25, 1988. This was at a small lake just west of Manning Ave. and about a mile from the Oct. 2001 Lake Elmo sighting. It

involved two bright orange lights hovering at about 60 feet elevation over the frozen lake and was witnessed by about a dozen people in two houses on the west side of the lake. The object left a melted area on the ice and a row of holes in the ice, which led out over the lake to the east. The holes were about 3 feet apart and began as small dinner plate size in the melted area, and diminished to nothing as the trail was followed to the east.

Feedback from “The Awakening”:

The last few days since the article “The Awakening” was published in the MUFON Journal, have also brought considerable response from experiencers all around the country. Several experiencers have described frequent paranormal activity associated with the UFO encounter phenomenon. The following are two fascinating excerpts from e-mails sent by experiencers: *[CL Note: These have been edited and/or paraphrased to safeguard the witness’ anonymity]*.

One experiencer, from New Mexico writes: “I just read your article in the MUFON Journal. I am an abductee with more than abductions going on.... “ The letter continued on to describe apparent contact, abduction and paranormal events which have accompanied this person throughout her life. In it, she described interference and harassment by what she described as government personnel. She also described adverse health effects from her encounters.

Another experiencer wrote:

“I just read your article in the MUFON Journal. I am a “perceiver” *[CL Note: Has frequent UFO and paranormal sightings, as defined in the article]*. I also get incredible paranormal photographs, of which I have one or two hundred that I have taken over the past two years. There are definitely intelligent life forms out there that most people deny/cannot perceive. I have worked with one of the original developers of the digital camera, who has tried to analyze many of my photos for camera anomalies, but he cannot find camera errors. (I use digital cameras).

“I also have two friends who are experiencers and perceivers, and we three have regular sightings from two different areas of town, so things can get pretty interesting here!”

This MUFON Journal article appears to have stirred up interest in an area which has been largely

ignored by many close encounter researchers. The correspondence between UFOs and the emergence of psychic, spiritual and paranormal effects in the experiencers’ life is as old as the phenomenon itself. Yet it remains one of the biggest mysteries in this enigma-shrouded domain. It presents us with endless paradox, dangling important clues in front of us, yet seeming to defy the laws of physics. It seems to be taunting researchers who are trying to scrape together the beginnings of an understanding. Yet, while spiritual/PSI awakening may be one of the biggest mysteries within the phenomenon, I also believe that it could be a key to the mystery – perhaps our path to the core of the enigma.

If you have an account of sudden psychic/spiritual emergence, maybe caused by, resulting in, or synchronistic with, UFO-related experiences, I ask you to please contact me with your accounts. Your anonymity is assured, and your account will be a tremendous aid to research in this puzzling area of study.

In addition, if you have any further updates on events discussed in this column, or know of any information that might bring to light other sightings or encounters, please contact Minnesota MUFON through our website: www.mnmufon.org, or contact Craig Lang- phone: 763-560-1532, website: www.craigrlang.com, or e-mail: crlang@craigrlang.com. Also, please stay tuned to this column in each newsletter as we discuss more local and regional sighting cases.

With each event, the opportunity to become involved in UFO studies continues to expand. For those wishing to become a field investigator themselves, classes are conducted as sufficient interest is indicated. We try to hold classes approximately three times per year, and hope to hold the next one this winter. If you are interested, and feel that you have the necessary time, energy, and objectivity to be a UFO investigator, please contact Craig Lang. If you have not already done so, you also will need to join MUFON as a field investigator trainee and purchase the MUFON field investigators manual.

We always need more investigators in our effort to better understand the UFO enigma. And for those who decide to pursue study of the UFO phenomenon, mystery will never be in short supply.

First Hour - 5th Grade, 26 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead
Asian	M	X	X					
Asian	F			X	X			
Caucasian	M				X			
Caucasian	M				X			
Asian	M		X					

Second Hour - 4th Grade, 28 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead
Caucasian	M		X					
Caucasian	M		X					
Asian	M		X		X			
African Amer.	F		X X		X			
Caucasian	M	X			X			
Asian Eskimo	F		X					
African Amer.	M			X				

Third Hour - 3rd Grade, 24 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead
Asian	M	X						
Asian	F	X		X				
Caucasian	F	X	X					
Caucasian	M	X						
Caucasian	F		X					
Asian	M	X						
Caucasian	M		X					

Fourth Hour - 2nd Grade, 19 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead
Asian	F	X					X	
East Indian	M	X						
Asian	F	X X						
Caucasian	M		X					
Guatemalan	M	X						

Fifth Hour - 1st Grade, 19 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead
Asian	M				X			
African Amer.	F	X						
African Amer.	F		X					

Sixth Hour - 6th Grade, 28 Students

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead	Nose
Asian	M								X
Caucasian	F		X						
Caucasian	F	X							
African Amer.	F	X X							
Caucasian	M						X		
Caucasian	F				X				
Caucasian	M		X						
Asian	M		X						
Asian	M				X				

First Grade, 16 Students (Separate class from First Grade as listed above)

Ethnicity	Gender	L Cheek	R Cheek	L Eye	R Eye	L Eyebrow	R Eyebrow	Forehead	Nose
Caucasian	M	X							
Caucasian	F								X
Caucasian	M		X						
Caucasian	F								X
Cambodian	M		X						
African Amer.	F				X				

Class	# Students per Class	Students w/Scoop Marks	Students with Possibles
1st Hour, 5th Grade	26	5	1
2nd Hour, 4th Grade	28	5	2
3rd Hour, 3rd Grade	24	6	1
4th Hour, 2nd Grade	19	4	1
5th Hour, 1st Grade	19	3	0
6th Hour, 6th Grade	28	8	1
Hour n/s*, 1st Grade	16	4	2
TOTALS:	160	35	8

- **Hour not stated**

To sum up, out of 160 children, 35 or about 22% had "definite scoop marks". Add in the "possibles" and possibly 27% had scoop marks. If having a scoop mark is generally an indication of abduction, the 22% figure may be compared with the estimated figure of 2% of the general population from the Roper study. This initial study indicates that it is possible that gifted children may be abducted at an order of magnitude higher than that of the general population.

In science, replication of observations is necessary before a trend or a phenomenon can be considered established. It is hoped that other professionals will carefully conduct their own observations and publish the results.

William McNeff is a MUFON Field Investigator and State Director for Minnesota. He has a BSEE degree.

References:

1 *Witnessed* -- Budd Hopkins - p. 145

2 Op. Cit.

3 *The Aliens and the Scalpel* -- Roger K. Leir - p. 157

4 *Unusual Personal Experiences - An Analysis of the Data from Three National Surveys* - The Roper Organization - Bigelow Holding Corporation -- p. 9

WI MUFON Anouncement by Nick Roesler, WI State Dir.

Wisconsin MUFON has a new Assistant State Director, Bill Olinger of Madison, WI. He will be replacing Matt Sloan of Appleton, who is vacating the position due to the impending birth of his second child. Bill Olinger's email is REDECHO123@msn.com.

First UK Crop Circle reported by Paul Vigay Crop Circle News - 24th April 2003 www.cropcirclesearch.com

I've just uploaded details and an aerial photo of the first crop circle to appear in the UK. Located in Privett, Hampshire, it's a figure '8' shape inside a circle and in oilseed rape.

Thanks to Lucy Pringle for telling me about it and David Russell for providing a good quality aerial photo.

It has also come to my attention that the formation was actually discovered last Sunday, but certain people decided to keep it secret, so that they could presumably have a monopoly on photographs. Therefore, I only heard about it yesterday. It's a shame that some people have to stoop so low as to try to keep formations to themselves, presumably in the hopes of getting a 'scoop' on it. This goes against the message of the circlemakers, who provide the crop circles for the benefit of *everyone*.

To this end, I will endeavour to keep as up to date as possible with reporting, and I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the dedicated people around the country who email me details of any new crop circles.

Please, keep the reports coming in, even if you think someone else may have already reported it. If a formation is not in the database at: <http://www.cropcirclesearch.com/database/> then chances are that I don't know about it.

And don't forget that you can search the database from your mobile phone or PDA by visiting the pocket crop circle research portal at: <http://www.cropcirclesearch.com/mobile/>

Lastly, if you wish to reply to me personally, please email: pv@cropcirclesearch.com rather than reply to these 'news alert' messages, as they get routed back to my server and may not be spotted immediately (as this machine normally has no monitor attached, and runs unattended from under my desk!).

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MN MUFON WEB PAGE

<http://www.mnmufon.org> - Joel Henry, Webmaster

**MUFONET: 7.237mhz Sat. at 7:00am CST,
Bob Shultz, Net Control**

National MUFON Hotline

To report UFO news, sightings, etc. call 1-800-836-2166

**Go to: www.mnmufon.org/mmj.htm for back issues of
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