

MINNESOTA MUFON

Newsletter

From the State Director

For me, the most "unexpected" presentation at the 1997 MUFON Symposium in Grand Rapids was made by **Warren P. Aston**, who operates the Bountiful Travel and Tour Agency in Brisbane, Australia. Aston has been researching UFOs for twenty years and made several trips to the U.S. to study the case that I will summarize here. By today's standards, it seems like the event described must have been impossible, but Aston qualifies many issues raised by thoughtful comparisons with later data. He makes the point that those who have concentrated on sightings over five decades have collected enough evidence to convince anyone of the reality of UFOs. But, he also notes that we must not overlook the possible value of any particular case, especially when the credibility of the witness is high. Believing in the integrity of his subject, **Udo Wartena**, and the lack of deception and fraud during his investigation, he concludes that this event actually occurred and, on its own merits, decisively answers questions about UFOs. It is an interesting addition to testimony on UFOs, and we have only Mr. Aston to thank for it. He titled his presentation *An Analysis of the 1940 Wardena Case*.

Udo Wartena, age 37 and of Dutch descent, operated a mining

claim near Townsend, Montana in May 1 of 1940. While he was working that day, he heard a droning sound. After climbing to higher ground, he saw a hovering object like the usual "pair of soup plates" resembling stainless steel. His estimate of its size was 35 feet high and 100 feet in diameter.

A stairway was let down from the craft and a "man" descended and walked toward Udo, who went to meet him. The "man" was described as nice looking, wearing light gray coveralls and a circular cap of the same material. He shook Udo's hand and speaking slowly, as though he had to "pick" his way through the English language, he apologized for not knowing anyone was in the area. He asked if it would be okay to take some water from a nearby ditch and Udo agreed. A hose was lowered from the craft to take in the water.

The man asked Udo if he would like to come aboard, and Udo went willingly. He described the interior as having indirect lighting and upholstered benches around the sides of the walls. An older man was in the room, and Udo described both the aliens as having snow white hair, and skin that appeared to be almost translucent. They claimed that they were 600 and 900 years old, knew over 500 languages, and were in the process of learning English. Aston assumed that many

MINNESOTA MUFON Meetings

Saturday, May 9
and
Saturday, June 13
1:30 – 5:00 PM

**\$2.00 Speaker Fund
Donation Requested**

Science Museum of MN
Computer Education Center

**Firstar Center
5th & Minnesota Sts.
19th Floor
SEE MAP ON COVER!**

PARK FREE
Ramp entrance is on
Minnesota St.
Proceed to 5th Level

*Because this is a secured building, to gain entrance, **please be at the ramp door between 1:15 and 1:30 PM***

The next admittance time will be at the 3:00 PM break.

The building and ramp areas are designated as non-smoking.

of these languages must have been those of aliens from other worlds.

Aston said that he had put together this story from two handwritten and one typed account by Udo himself, and from verbal recollections told by close friends and family members who had heard about the incident. (Udo did not tell his wife about the encounter for 30 years.) One member of the family said that Udo explained that hydrogen extracted from the water was the fuel source for the craft.

Udo described the outside rim of the ship as having two flywheels that turned in opposite directions. It was explained to him that the flywheels gave the ship its own gravitation and overcame the pull of the earth and planets. The alien told Udo that they use the gravitational pull of the stars and planets to ride on — gliding as you would when you sail on ice. The rings, he said, develop an electromagnetic force and which enabled them to travel faster than light. The alien also claimed that they used starlight to charge batteries in case of an emergency.

Udo asked the man why they had come to earth. The alien said that, since they look very similar to human beings, they were able to mingle with us, gather information, and leave instructions to give help where needed. Considering that this exchange between Udo and the alien was made in 1940, it indicates long-term alien surveillance *prior* to 1940.

When Udo questioned him about Jesus and religion, the alien's reply was that they would like to talk about these things, but could not. They were not to interfere in any way.

When the craft had sufficient water, the aliens asked Udo if he was interested in going with them. Udo said that although it would be interesting, it would inconvenience too many people for him to suddenly disappear. Later Udo remembered that a couple of years earlier, a man who lived nearby had vanished without a trace and he wondered if the man had a similar experience with a craft and actually left with its occupants.

Sometime during the encounter, Udo underwent a medical examination.

Udo...did not perceive his experience in religious terms. It was just a meeting with men who looked like us who happened to be from another planet.

Just before departure, the aliens suggested that Udo tell no one about the incident, explaining that he would not be believed, but that he could relate the experience in years to come. When the ship left, it rose straight up into the air and disappeared. Somehow, Udo had lost his strength and was unable to walk for about two hours.

Aston reaches the conclusion that in cases where UFOs are seen taking on water, we can assume they are using it as a fuel source for nuclear energy. My own understanding is that research is mainly concerned with fusion using the heavy isotope of hydrogen called deuterium, which comprises only 0.015% of the hydrogen atoms on this planet. This means that *one*

of every 6666 atoms of hydrogen in H²O is deuterium, or only *one* of 3333 water molecules has a deuterium. If we had 1000 gallons of water and could harvest all the deuterium, we would get about 2.3 ounces of it. Somehow, that doesn't seem like much. I have seen a vial of nuclear fuel that could supposedly power a freight train across the U.S. — UFOs would have to store huge quantities of protons and/o deuterium to get enough energy to travel between the stars. This would be especially true if they are in the habit of going close to the speed of light — or *faster*, if you can believe the impossible.

Aston admits that our physics does not predict any mechanism by which rapidly rotating rims can overcome gravity. Spinning objects generate the gyroscope effect which creates a resistance to turning, or tipping.

Aston nominates Udo Wartena as the first "contactee" of whom we are aware. There are a handful of reported cases prior to 1940 where humanoids were seen, but there was never any communication. Udo's aliens arrived in a physical spacecraft. Aston says that every other pre-1952 contact case relied on astral travel, teleportation, or some kind of psychic device to meet with aliens.

Most later claims of contact with involved beings from Mars, Venus, and the Moon. Udo's aliens, however, claimed to have come from a far distant planet. Many contactees told of communication by telepathic means and received metaphysical messages with a religious context. We see none of this in Udo's account — they had a

non-interference policy when it came to religious and cultural matters. Although Udo was a religious man, he did not perceive his experience in religious terms. It was just a meeting with men who looked like us who happened to be from another planet.

There are impressive correlations of this incident to later UFO encounters. The shape and dimensions of the craft, the taking of water, the age of the aliens, the claim of faster-than-light travel, a brief medical exam that was given to Udo, and EM (electromagnetic) effects that he felt are similar to many later experiences.

Warren Aston ends his discussion by putting forth the idea that nanotechnology has a relevance to UFO research. Nanotechnology is the anticipated ability to manufacture anything through the control of matter at the molecular level. He believes that this is a major aspect of alien technology. Some examples of the connection between nanotechnology and UFOs are as follows.

☆ Storage of information at a molecular level implies that advanced technology can be extremely compact. If a super-computer smaller than a human cell were developed, placed in the head, and interfaced with the brain, an almost omniscient being might be created.

☆ An object could be built as a single seamless piece rather than assembled with parts. UFOs are often described as being without seams or joints.

☆ We could be made to absorb almost 100% of what we eat,

recycling what we normally excrete and generating needed nutrients.

☆ We could bring other organisms up to our intelligence or create new biological organisms. Aston speculates that Bigfoot creatures start to make sense in view of nanotechnology. These advances are probably not millions of years into the future — many may only be a few hundred years in the future.

Aston said that Richard Feynman and Dr. Vannevar Bush advanced these concepts as early as the 1940's. Bush is, of course, considered to be one of the first members of MJ-12. These concepts would enable him to more fully understand the Roswell craft, which Aston believes was intentionally crashed by aliens.

In closing, it should be noted that Aston believes that there are many kinds of aliens. Some are dimensional and some live on other planets. Udo Wartena just happened to encounter one particular type.

This two-page summary is greatly paraphrased along with some personal comments. The original account is thirteen pages and contains many more details and interpretations. The reader is encouraged to obtain a copy of the *1997 Symposium Proceedings* from MUFON and study the entire text of all presenters.

Dick Moss

'Net-ed by Candy Peterson
In defense of science...

*Excerpts from an article by
Mark Cashman*

The trouble with a lot of folks in the UFO field is that they think acceptance of their wildest speculation by science should be quick, automatic, and complete. Science doesn't work that way. Because science is a cohesive whole, with each part based on the previous, claims which will (or are perceived as having the potential to) disrupt major sections of that edifice are not going to be easily accepted — and when thousands of workers across decades of work have helped to build that edifice, the self-correcting processes of scientific inquiry make it much less likely that "they" are wrong that that a single voice asserting claims contrary to, or different from that knowledge might be wrong.

In the case of UFO sightings, I am confident that, contrary to the opinion of many scientists, the evidence for UFO existence is strong. I am also confident that UFO data does not require changes to existing science so much as it requires extension and addition to the knowledge of science. Contrary to the opinions of some, UFO behavior *does not* seem to violate the laws of physics — at least not in reliable cases. It does baffle our understanding of engineering and technology in a number of ways, and it seems to produce effects which we have done very little research to reproduce, and which are therefore puzzling. But they are not "magic," any more than most things on the frontier of scientific understanding are magic.

*Mark Cashman is an author of SF novels and creator of **The Temporal Doorway** located at:
www.geocities.com/~mcashman*

NEWS RELEASE from the McClendon News Service

By Sarah McClendon, White House Correspondent

Sarah McClendon, dean of the White House Press Corps, issued this news release on March 30, 1998. McClendon's interest in UFOs since 1947. She served as a public information officer in the Women's Army Corps during WWII, and afterward, in 1944, as a rooking reporter, she was assigned to cover Franklin Roosevelt. Ten presidents later, McClendon is still covering the Whitehouse, cranks out a weekly syndicated newspaper column, a biweekly newsletter and a weekly radio commentary which airs on 1,200 stations. At 85 years of age, she continues her fight for "the people's right to know." Ed.

Washington, D.C. — Unidentified Flying Objects, a term given for many years to unexplained sightings of craft in the skies over every state in the Union, are actual visitors from other worlds, believe a community of scientists and technicians employed by government.

The real danger to the U.S. and perhaps this whole planet is the government has placed such a heavy blanket of secrecy upon this issue. So much secrecy, those in government who have knowledge showing UFOs are identifiable feel the subject cannot be discussed by those in the know without serious repercussions. Others are afraid their friends and co-workers will think they are crazy if they even so much as insinuate that UFOs are identifiable as manned craft from outside the earth. This particularly applies to newspaper editors and publishers, reporters and analysts. Thus the U.S. is denying itself the chance to learn more about UFOs or to encourage research despite the fact the U.S. stands to gain from such discussions.

Not publicized but true is that the Clinton administration, soon after coming to office, had many briefings on the subject. Laurence Rockefeller provided the information for the President and Mrs. Clinton. Others provided documents and verbal briefings to presidential advisors Jack Gibbons (science), Bruce Lindsay (personal), Anthony Lake (national security) and Vice President Albert Gore. About the same time a three hour briefing was given by Dr. Steven Greer to the sitting Director of the CIA, Admiral Woolsey.

Subsequently, Clinton instructed Webster Hubbell, when naming him to the position of Associate Attorney General at the Justice Department, that he wanted him to investigate and report back to him on two things, circumstances surrounding the death of President John F. Kennedy, and the existence of UFOs. Hubbell, despite his position and the presidential imprimatur, was boxed in at Justice Department and never was able to find out. All of this was disclosed in Hubbell's memoir, *Friends in High Places*.

Now the lid on UFOs is gradually coming off. There is a national drive underway to get one million signatures on a petition calling for an open Congressional hearing for government employee witnesses. Dr. Steven Greer, Director of the Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CSETI), devotes most of his time seeking disclosure of government evidence proving the existence of craft manned by non-humans. Another who feels that positive proof exists within government, is Lt. Col. Philip J. Corso (retired), who reveals in a recent book, *The Day After Roswell*, that he was in charge of the Roswell files during his tenure as head of the Army's Foreign Technology Division. He states unequivocally that these files confirm the crash which occurred at Roswell, New Mexico was an alien space craft. This completely refutes the Air Force denials and subsequent explanations. Corso says that the crashed vehicle was studied and proved to be manufactured of materials unknown as to source and usage in this country. In time, he says, this and other UFOs provided technologies which were "worked into the commercial world via front companies." Incidentally, he vouches for the fact that this has proven to be a valuable contribution to U. S. aircraft design and other commercial products.

After the Roswell incident, the Air Force replied to reporters' inquiries that this was all part of research using weather balloons and other equipment. Corso and hundreds of others who work or have worked in secret defense and scientific agencies, are willing to swear under oath that alien craft are repeatedly penetrating our airspace.

Whenever the military agencies are asked to look into this matter further, the answer is always the same — "We do not investigate UFOs."

Contact: McClendon News Service
202-483-3791, 202-328-1818 fax

Just when you thought you really knew a guy...

Man Behind Standoff Not What He Appeared To Be

*by Jen Sansbury, Waco Tribune-Herald staff writer
March 10, 1998*

Jason Leigh liked to put a Ph.D behind his name. But his phony doctorate fell away in court Monday as the man who held police at bay outside Waco's Veterans Affairs Regional Office for 14 hours Sunday told U. S. Magistrate Dennis Green that he's still shy of his associate's degree.

Leigh, 49, is not quite who he seems to be. In fact, he used to be Randal Leigh Brown, born November 30, 1948, in Coricana. During his court appearance Monday morning, he told federal officials he legally changed his name in 1980.

On his Internet web page, Leigh claims to have a degree in electronics" and appends "Dr." or "Ph.D." to his name. But Monday he said his "electronics education" at Delgado Community College in New Orleans did not result in a degree. He said he attended several other universities.

Leigh apparently spent a good deal of time online. An Internet search of Leigh's name turns up scores of references to UFOs and the paranormal, but not a single reference to veterans' issues. Even fellow believers appear to question Leigh.

The UFOmind Paranormal Research Index web page lists Leigh among the "UFO researchers and witnesses whose educational credentials are challenged by evidence to the contrary." On the computer bulletin boards of ParaScope, a site featuring UFO and conspiracy theory reports, he was criticized as "a person who blows a lot of hot air."

The director of the International UFO Museum and Research Center in Roswell, N.M., which gives Leigh the computer memory space for his web site, said he has misrepresented himself. "Basically, we don't have any connection to him other than that he had a UFO sighting," director Dean Crosby said. "He needed to hang his hat on someone and I understand that he has actually claimed to be a representative of this museum and he's not."

Leigh also purports online to be "absent any police record," but court records show he was convicted in 1992 for carrying a 22-caliber handgun into the Johnson County Community Credit Union. He was given a year's probation and a \$300 fine on the misdemeanor charge, said Karen Alexander, chief deputy for court services for the Johnson County clerk's office in Cleburne.

In writings found on the internet, Leigh says he is a Vietnam Veteran who served as a military policeman and Navy SEAL. Leigh served in the U. S. Navy from November 1966 to May 1967, according to Rick DuCharme, regional director of public affairs for the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs. "That's not long enough to even become a SEAL," said Lt. Cmdr. Hal Pittman, director of the news desk for the Navy Office of Information in the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. In fact, in six months in the Navy, one could accomplish "pretty little," Pittman said.

Neither VA nor Naval officials could confirm Monday what Leigh's rank, specialty or assignment was in the Navy. However, DuCharme said Leigh's assertion that the VA has lost his claim for benefits is not true. "It's present and accounted for," he said.

Officials have not discussed details about Leigh's complaints against the VA, but U.S. Attorney Bill Johnston said more information will come out Thursday during a scheduled hearing. A federal agent close to the case said Leigh appears to have "a very active imagination."

Tribune-Herald staff writers Brian Anderson, Oodi Wetuski and Tommy Witherspoon contributed to this story.



Liar Town

An Essay by Gregg Delcuria

You're walking down a path and come to a crossroads. One leads to a town where everyone always lies, one leads to a town where everyone always tells the truth. You need to know which path leads to which town. So you're sitting there trying to figure out which path to take when two people, one from the path to the left and one from the path to the right, come down the crossroads. You know that one person is from Liar Town and one person is from Truthville, but you are only allowed to ask one question, to only one of these people. What question do you ask? —Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? Oh, what's that? Who *is* the Big Bad Wolf, you ask?

Why, it's the U. S. Government. Haven't you heard? They plot. They plan. They lie. They cheat. In the 40's they covered up a UFO crash. In the 60's they bumped off the president. In the 70's they made us listen to disco. Can you believe it? Uh-oh, conspiracy!

But this essay isn't about conspiracy, it's about logic. A simple exercise designed to illustrate the danger of continually going back to the well for information. See, I believe that the primary reason that disinformation is so effective, is because we continually look to our

government for answers. We continually put them in a position where they *must* explain their actions. And that's the problem, isn't it?

When I was a kid, my brother taught me how to play chess. He was four years older and not at all reserved about having a good laugh at my expense. Well, he never actually *taught* me how to play. Rather, we would play a game and he would explain the rules as we went. But see, there was a problem. Every time I thought I had him beat, he'd introduce a new rule that would throw my entire game. I'd be forced to rethink my entire strategy. Of course, it didn't stop there, because once my brother ran out of *actual* rules, he began to make up his own. I just couldn't win. And why? *Because I pit my intellect against the person who made the rules.*

I guess it's not tough to see where this is going. Only, the Big Brother that I'm talking about this time is the U. S. Government, specifically the Air Force. We're at their mercy. Every time we think we've got them up against the ropes, they change the rules.

Ten years ago, Roswell was just a weather balloon. So UFO investigators gathered together a wealth of information designed to refute

this theory. When this case grew too plausible, the Air Force changed its story. Suddenly it wasn't a weather balloon anymore. It was a *top-secret* balloon used to haul special listening apparatus to detect bomb tests. When investigators put together a case against this claim, specifically detailing the numerous witness accounts of *alien bodies*, the Air Force story transformed to accommodate. Dummy drops! All those people had mistaken cheesy looking dummies for alien bodies. Duh!

So how do we break this cycle? That's easy. By asking questions that they *can not* or *will not* answer. Questions designed to discredit their authority and to expose the Air Force for what it is: *A military entity bent on protecting the security of this country.* Gasp! So instead of asking the Air Force to explain what happened in Roswell, or what goes on at Area 51, I think we should start with a new line of questioning that pertains to the military's stance on security issues. Here's an example: If an extraterrestrial spacecraft crashed here in the United States tomorrow, would you try to keep it a secret? There are two possible answers to this: *yes* or *no*.

If the answer is *yes*, then we can assume that the Air Force is no longer an accurate source

of information regarding this issue. And while most of us have already figured that out, the important thing to realize here is that *they would actually be admitting it*. They would be admitting that books such as *The Roswell Report* are nothing but impotent scrap.

But what if Project Mogul was actually responsible for the Roswell incident? Does it matter that the Air Force admits that they would have lied about it were it actually a spaceship? Yes. Yes it does; because we don't know either way. And unlike the logic problem up top, we don't have the benefit of knowing which "town" the Air Force might have come from. So the info that we get from the government that *doesn't* jibe with our theories of crashed saucers should be viewed with skepticism. But so should the info that *does* jibe with our theories. In short, everything has to be inspected.

Hey wait a minute! What about the other answer? What if they had answered *no* when asked about extraterrestrial spacecraft? That's the more interesting alternative. More interesting, because now it allows us to ask questions that we never have before. We get to turn our argument around. If the Air Force was to actually imply that they *wouldn't* keep something like a spaceship secret from the rest of the world, we could then ask...*Why?*

Wouldn't telling everyone

jeopardize national security? We keep our own cutting edge technologies a secret, why wouldn't we do so with alien technologies? Wouldn't it cause a panic? Wouldn't the people want answers? *Where did the spaceship come from? Is the intelligence behind the spaceship malevolent? What can you do to protect us? Nothing?! See, at that point it would be pretty easy to illustrate — even to the most devout skeptic — the foolishness of informing the public (especially in 1947!).*

Now the great thing about this though experiment is that you don't actually have to even get an answer from the Air Force in order to benefit from its logic. The point here is to understand that everything the government tells us about UFOs and the alien phenomenon is — at its best — shaky. This is no big surprise for most of us. But where this exercise excels is in *proving* what we already know to those who have yet to figure it out.

Finally, for those of you who feel that this entire article has been a "preaching to the converted" sort of endeavor, I want to make this clear. I know that the government will lie in order to preserve national security. I view the information that they've given us pertaining to Roswell and Area 51 as dubious. But that doesn't mean that I know that they've covered up a UFO crash. It doesn't mean that I look at

each lie that they tell and wonder, "*How does this lie fit into the 'crashed spaceship' scenario?*" But I think that many of us who are "in the know" do, and that's not smart (and it's certainly not logical).

I haven't ruled out the possibility of the U. S. Government intentionally allowing us to cultivate this belief in Roswell aliens. That the explanations that they give may not be a lame attempt to cover up a UFO crash, but a better attempt to cover up something more horrible, something more secretive. But that, I think, is fodder for another article...

Gregg Delcuria, "*The Culture Vulture*," is an independent consultant specializing in Technical Analysis and Software Engineering. He writes an ongoing editorial for *Flying Saucer Gazette* and is an aspiring novelist currently seeking publication. "*The Culture Vulture*" describes Gregg's focus on his editorials, which usually center around a cultural misconception or, "cultural logic." He says "*Vulture*" has to do with the fact that he sometimes pick at concepts that the UFO community holds near and dear.

Besides — *it rhymes!*



What Do We Really Know For Sure? by Candy Peterson

Five decades after the Kenneth Arnold and Roswell events, interest in UFO's and their occupants have produced a wide range of theories and merchandising. We have seen everything from "Space Brother" contactees and new UFO religions, to scientific projects like SETI and the recent images of the Cydonia region of Mars. It seems that there are popular literature and entertainment choices available for every UFO-related notion ever devised. Background research for these projects may be based on some kind of first-hand documentation, but may be entirely made up or based on previously published sources which also didn't verify their information. A chaos of personalities, zealously held beliefs, misinformation and hype permeates the field. It is particularly irritating to the student of UFO inquiry who is trying to discern the more-or-less indisputable facts from the many forms of wishful thinking involved in this broad and fascinating topic. After all, we may never adequately verify that diverse experiences such as channeled Pleiadian messages, alien abduction accounts, or UFO cult suicides are based on objectively bona fide non-human origins. These days, we are also told that for various reasons we cannot trust photographs, videotapes, eye-witness testimony, and especially hypnotically-retrieved memories; to say nothing of how animal mutilations and crop circles may or may not represent UFO activity. Where shall we

look for relatively unadulterated UFO information in this highly merchandised Sci-Fi world?

Three years ago Jan Aldrich had a good idea. "He identified the need for a comprehensive study of the 'birth year' of the modern UFO phenomenon, and with help and initial funding from groups such as FUFOR, MUFON, and CUFOS, *PROJECT 1947* began."⁽¹⁾

"This project was just intended to increase our knowledge of 1947. At first everyone was skeptical that anything new would turn up."⁽²⁾ Jan Aldrich's original goal to locate and compile UFO reports from the 1947 wave was expanded to include UFO-like reports for 1900-1946, and "to investigate certain official and scientific interest in UFOs during the early years (1947-1965) of UFO history. Also, *Project 1947* will try to 'Fill in the Gaps' in early UFO coverage -1948-1965."⁽¹⁾

I've been scanning and typing documents for Project-1947 for a few months now, and I must clearly emphasize that the full UFO picture has truly eluded us for all these decades. There is already much more documentation collected than anyone could have guessed. Certain dedicated UFO researchers did what they could to form an historical context for their particular areas of interest, but there has been no coordinated effort to compare with Project-1947. Did you know there was a wave of

UFO sightings in Minnesota, North and South Dakota from November to December 1956? ⁽¹⁾

Jan Aldrich and the many contributors to *Project 1947* have tackled mountains of newspapers and government documents worldwide, with much more leg-work and computer processing remaining to be done. As I write this, Jan has embarked on yet another scavenging hunt through libraries, personal collections, and paper archives in search of more pieces to the puzzle. There is ongoing discussion of how to best catalog and index the postulated one million documents likely to be collected by *Project 1947* before the task is finished.

Currently, the Project-1947 web site hosts a discussion forum, a notice board for researchers' projects, and a number of historical documents from the accumulated data so far. The first volume of this work, *PROJECT 1947: A Preliminary Report*, has been published by The UFO Research Coalition and is available from the Fund For UFO Research.

⁽¹⁾Project-1947 web site:
<http://www.iufog.org/project1947/>

⁽²⁾ Personal correspondence

For more information, contact
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continued

What You Can Do?

Some of the ways you can contribute to *Project 1947* include tracking down the uncollected UFO reports and unsearched newspaper archives in your locale. Public libraries, historical societies, universities, and news organizations' microfilm or vertical files, as well as radio stations' archived programs. There may even be UFO-like movie newsreels to be discovered.

Not quite half of the nation's 11,000 newspapers have been screened for UFO reports, according to *Project 1947*'s records. This includes 60% of the newspapers in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin; and even fewer in Iowa. You, or people you know, may have early or rare flying saucer magazines, UFO newsclipping scrapbooks or collections, first-hand reports, diaries, letters, and investigations, or even research papers or official documents that could be photocopied and contributed to *Project 1947* to everyone's benefit.

"Some of these collections may contain material available nowhere else. Even recent clippings in a collection can refer to older events and would be helpful. Don't assume that clippings have been seen by me or are in the files of big UFO organizations. Except for the *New York Times*, there are probably no complete collections of post-1947 clippings for any newspaper. When the years 1900-1946 are considered, we are still finding unusual aerial object re

ports that were missed even in the *New York Times*."

—Jan Aldrich, *Project 1947* web site:
<http://www.iufog.org/project1947/>

Odd aerial phenomena are often reported in the media as "flying saucers" and "unidentified flying objects", but other early indexes or headlines might include:

- Flying discs, foo fighters
- Mysterious airships, sky objects
- Spook lights, mystery lights, ghost lights
- Aeronautics, astronomy, space
- Meteors, ball lightning, fireballs
- Apparitions, ghosts, phenomena, odd occurrences, and strange events.

Aldrich states that "only about 15% of weekly newspapers contain UFO reports, however there is no telling what type of newspapers will contain UFO reports." Please record the publication's name, date, city/state/locale, and the page number(s) of the UFO articles you collect and copy.

There is also a pressing need for translations of foreign language material. Please contact Jan Aldrich for further information if you can assist in any of these areas.

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My Brush With Alien Technology

by William I. McNeff

In about 1988, when I was working for Control Data Corporation, I had the privilege of being assigned to a research project to look at possible new materials for printed circuit boards for computers. First I looked at barium titanate, a ceramic material with a very high dielectric constant. The idea was to use it as the dielectric (insulator) between power and ground layers in the boards. The number of capacitors could then be greatly reduced. Unfortunately, barium titanate dust turned out to be very poisonous and the material was brittle as well. The shop broke most of the pieces. I measured the capacitance of the broken pieces, which had high capacitance as expected, but was forced to give up the idea of using it for printed circuit boards.

Wally Moe was one of my co-workers at the time and he told me about some alleged room temperature superconducting material that a Mr. Valhdieck, a scientist at the Foreign Technology Division of the Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, had patented. This was a form of *titanium boride*. Wally believed there was a good chance that Valhdieck had gotten the idea for this material from analysis of crashed ET spacecraft. He gave me a copy of the patent. I phoned Valhdieck and asked for more details. He had produced the material in a high pressure cell, yet it was malleable

and ductile, he claimed. He also said, "As soon as I can get this monkey called Uncle Sam off my back, I intend to manufacture and market it." I envisioned circuit boards using the material for conductors, both signal line and power distribution. It would make possible higher speeds and virtually zero energy loss. Since the material would be expensive, I sent a memo up the management chain proposing purchasing enough for an experiment. A manager sent a memo in reply saying that Vahldieck had done sloppy work, and there was no proof that the material was a superconductor. The implicit message was, "Forget it!"

I wondered then and still do, where this manager got the information on which to base his reply. Did he phone Wright-Patterson and talk to Vahldieck's superiors? Was this an effort to hush up the existence of technology so superior that it could easily have tipped off the rest of the world that ET technology was the source?

Vahldieck claimed to have made the discovery on his own time and in his own home basement workshop, but the government may have believed — or known — otherwise. It is possible that the claims Vahldieck made for this material were partly false — but I think it is possible that this was really alien technology, and circumstances prevented the kind of technology transfer that Col. Phillip J. Corso tells us he facilitated.



Sahara Astronomical Site Older than Stonehenge

Researchers found a complex of slabs and stones in the Sahara Desert that might be the oldest known monument built with astronomical considerations in mind — far older than Stonehenge.

It is thought that the complex was built 7,000 years ago by nomadic cattle-herders.

J. McKim Malville, astrophysics professor at the University of Colorado, Boulder, reported that the monument was discovered over several years of field work ending in 1997.

It's said that Stonehenge was first used 5,000 years ago with more "current" stones estimated at 4,000 years of age. They indicate the points of midsummer sunrise and midwinter sunset, but the real purpose of Stonehenge is not known.

The Egyptian complex isn't circular, but spread over an area 1.8 miles by three-quarters of a mile. It includes ten slabs, some 9 feet high, 30 rock-lined ovals, nine burial sites for cows, each under a pile of 40 to 50 rocks weighing up to 200 or 300 pounds each, and a "calendar circle" of stones.

Many of these features line up in five radiating lines, one of which runs east-west. The calendar circle is a 12-foot wide arrangement of slabs about 18

inches long, most of them lying down. Two pairs of upright stones stand directly across the circle from each other, defining a view that would have displayed sunrise at the summer solstice, researchers said.

If the indications are real, said Edwin Krupp of the Griffith Observatory, "then certainly this is one of the very oldest examples of the incorporation of astronomy into a monument." Some constructions in the middle East might turn out to be as old, he said.

Excerpts taken from article written by Malcom Ritter, The Associated Press 1998 Nando.net

MUFON Symposium: Denver, Colorado!

The MUFON 1998 International UFO Symposium will be held June 26, 27 and 28 at the Renaissance Denver Hotel in Denver, CO. The theme for this year's symposium is uniquely titled "Closing the Great Divide Between Science and Ufology."

Confirmed speakers are: Ann Druffel; Michael Lindemann; Stanley V. McDaniel; Debra Lindemann; Tracy Torme; Nancy Talbot; Richard F. Haines, Ph.D.; David M. Jacobs, Ph.D.; Jamie Maussan, and Jose Esamilla.

Registration cost before June 10 is \$75 per person, or \$85 after that date. Make checks payable to MUFON Colorado and send to 1998 UFO Symposium, P O Box 914, Wheat Ridge, CO 80034.

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Theosophical Meetings

The Theosophical Society
The First Unitarian Society
Minneapolis

900 Mount Curve Avenue
(Kenwood, above the Guthrie)

7:30 PM

For dates & program information,
contact:

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Field Investigator Update

by Craig R. Lang, Field Investigation Coordinator

The early weeks of Spring have been mostly "business as usual" for the field investigator group. This includes a backdrop of older sighting reports and other ongoing investigations. Many of these are extensive cases which have been under way for some time, and for which, from time to time, new witnesses or evidence come to light.

One such case is the Spring Lake Park CE1 case, which was discussed in a previous newsletter. This was investigated by Casey Holt and myself. This was a spectacular multiple witness event which occurred nearly 20 years ago, in which at least ten people witnessed a large object passing overhead at "treetop" level. Five of these witnesses have been located, three of whom were willing to file reports. This case is nearing completion, and the report should be on the web shortly.

We usually also have a few ongoing experimenter investigations in the works. A field report was recently completed in one of these cases which involved some spectacular CE3 and CE4 events occurring in the Eau Claire, WI area. Both of the following events appear to be classic close encounters.

The first, is a CE3 report dating from the late 1960's and involved a fleeting glimpse of a large object, at relatively close range. The witness was attending a sporting event in Eau Claire. During the event, she suddenly felt that she was "being watched." Turning to look, she observed a large lenticular disk, roughly a couple of blocks away, just above the tree line. The witness thought she saw silhouettes of entities visible through the windows of the disk. She turned to point it out to a person next to her but when she looked back, it was gone.

The other report, from the same witness, describes a classic late-night close encounter scenario. The witness awoke late at night, to find herself standing in her front yard. Looking toward the house, she saw several "wolves" or "coyotes" sitting on the roof, staring at her. She began to walk toward the house, when she suddenly felt the presence of two entities, one on either side of her, "escorting" her. She then found herself in a brightly lighted "hallway". An apparent classic abduction scenario followed.

Check the MN MUFON web site for details of these and other fascinating cases. We try to update the reports as soon as new developments occur. So stay tuned!

Field investigator classes are conducted approximately three times a year, as sufficient interest is indicated. The next training class will probably be sometime in late spring or early summer. If you are interested, and feel that you have the time, energy, and objectivity to be a MUFON field investigator, please contact me at 612-560-1532, or e-mail: crlang@mm.com. You can also sign up on the Field Investigator interest sheet at each regular MUFON meeting. Be prepared for a lot of hard work and a paradigm-stretching adventure!

Happy Investigating...

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