

Minnesota MUFON Journal

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From the Director's Desk...

By Dick Moss, MN MUFON State Director

In this issue I will summarize a study called Project Identification, directed by Dr. Harley Rutledge. Its objective was to investigate UFOs while the phenomenon was in progress. Scientific instruments were used and not many people are aware that investigative work of this kind was ever done.

Rutledge was chairman of the Department of Physics at Southeast Missouri State University at the time. The project ended up lasting for 7 years in which 620 volunteers, most of them his physics students, manned 158 mobile observation sites.

On July 21, 1989 he gave a presentation at the Science Museum of Minnesota and several MUFON members attended. When it was over and most had left, he discussed cattle mutilations that had been occurring in one of the southern states. A segment of CNN's Science and Technology Today was devoted to Rutledge and showed a movie of a UFO moving low over a neighborhood. He was also a presenter at a MUFON Symposium many years ago.

The whole thing started in early 1973 in the area of Piedmont, Missouri. Cars that had stalled on highways, TV interference, yard lights going out, police radio systems going dead, dogs running scared, lights making erratic turns, objects sitting in fields, and other phenomena indicated that the region was the center of UFO activity.

Intense media coverage had created much tension and excitement. During one TV show a woman had displayed some of her UFO photos. Colleagues made a tongue-in-cheek suggestion that Rutledge should do an investigation, but he laughed at the idea. He eventually changed his mind and wrote the university president of his decision to begin an investigation. This was done as a courtesy because there might be publicity. In the narrative that follows, Dr. Rutledge is almost always teamed with other project members.

During a preliminary field investigation a light was seen that was visible for five seconds through a telescope using an 8X eyepiece. The light simply went out. It reappeared four more times in different positions and was visible for about twenty seconds in its final location. Rutledge had switched to over an 80X eyepiece through which it appeared to fade out, much as a 1000-watt bulb used to illuminate athletic fields at night does when it is shut down.

Later, while in an airplane with a physics student, they saw an amber light appear on a mountain slope.

As they flew toward it, it shot straight up. The student estimated that it went up one mile in one second. Assuming a constant acceleration during its climb, they came up with an acceleration of 330 g's and a

Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., July 10th
&
Sat., August 14th

1:30-5:00pm

Roseville Community Center
2800 Arona Street
Roseville, MN
651-415-2100

Behind Centennial Methodist
Church on the corner of C2
and Arona.

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, providing more
freedom than the old location.

final velocity of 7200 mph. They didn't hear a sonic boom. Visually, though, this object seemed to be going at top speed from the instant it started to climb.

This kind of event is sometimes considered to be physically impossible. But, a common example of huge accelerations is in the barrels of rifles and shotguns. I am reminded of a physics problem that asks students to calculate the acceleration of a bullet leaving a 1-meter barrel at a speed of 600 meters per second. Calculations show that the acceleration inside the barrel is a whopping 18,367 g's. The bullet is at top speed as it leaves the barrel which is, of course, virtually instantaneous. With gravity drives of the kind that are described lately, this amount of acceleration might be considered ho-hum to creatures with a technology perhaps based on a view of physics unknown to us.

Rutledge observed two objects seemingly merge together. While watching a white light moving left to right, an orange streak was seen traveling head-on which ended at the slower-moving white light. There no collision. The orange light seemed to enter into, or merge with, the white light.

As a way to request funding, Rutledge wrote a letter to three newspapers describing a project to be done between spring and summer semesters. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat invited a written proposal which was approved. I stipulated that all current releases, reports, and other statements about the findings of the project would be made only through the Globe-Democrat. It was also agreed that the results would be reported to the scientific community.

One of their first attempts at using instrumentation during a sighting was to leave a camera shutter open for ten seconds while on a tripod. When the picture was developed it was expected that the moving light should leave a solid line on the film. Instead, an image of fractionated light was recorded as if the light had been blinking during an erratic flight path.

By May 24th the project was fully organized and various instruments had been assembled. On that night an airplane was seen heading south. After it had almost disappeared, an amber light "came on" to the southeast. It almost seemed that the light had waited for the airplane to pass before making its appearance. Rutledge took out a polarizing filter and turned it a full 360 degrees. The light from the object was not polarized. However, light from the object was reflecting off a higher overcast and the filter indicated that this reflected light was polarized, as would be expected. A small airplane approached from the west heading directly for the object. When the light blinked

out, the pilot turned his plane south, perhaps a wise decision.

Then, a configuration of four lights (white, red, red, white) passed overhead. Through binoculars it appeared that the red was a light shining through a red material like the taillight of a car. Light from the white light was reflecting off of an aluminum-like structure meaning that they were all attached to a single craft.

The project continued for many nights. Some proved to be uneventful, but many lights were seen. On six or more occasions there were events that resembled what Rutledge called the "random flashbulb effect." Simply stated, these events were like certain fireworks displays in which many localized flashes are briefly seen with loud crackling sounds. But, no sounds were heard during the anomalous sightings which, like fireworks, lasted only a few seconds. On June 19, Rutledge alone observed a slow-moving dull-gray object shaped like a bullet. Making a quick decision to get a better view, he turned to pick up his binoculars, requiring maybe two seconds. When he looked up the object was gone. Rutledge became nauseated and was later still shaken enough that a member of the project team asked him if he was OK. Rutledge stated that any lingering doubts about the existence of UFOs vanished with that object.

In keeping with the stipulation in his contract with the Globe-Democrat, the time came to present the results of the project to a meeting of scientists. Rutledge ended up making his report to the American Association of Physics Teachers, Missouri Section, at Meramec Community College in St. Louis.

The information indicates that his report to the scientists was made a few months after the project began. Other sources indicate that the project then continued for another six or seven years.

The team had used cameras, binoculars, Questar telescopes, a Celestron telescope, an 800-mm telephoto lens for the camera, a spectrum analyzer, oscilloscope, three transceivers, an S-band radar set, an electric generator, and a gasoline engine. It seems that most of the data was obtained through photos and the Questar telescope. Manufacturer specifications made it possible to calculate speeds at various possible distances using the Questar. Much was done with time-lapse photos obtained at night. The aerial for the spectrum analyzer was vandalized.

Time-Life's book, *The UFO Phenomenon*, stated that the researchers came away rich in long-distance photographs but poor in new knowledge about the nature and origin of UFOs.

They had made a total of 157 sightings of 178 objects. 34 of the sightings of 45 objects were definitely considered to be UFOs. Objects of seven different descriptions had been observed. Rutledge had earlier defined stringent criteria for classifying the whatever they might see. There were many lights that seemed to suddenly blink in and/or out. Fifty were seen to switch off while forty-six switched off, and then on again.

What seemed to fascinate the researchers even more were many "coincidences" that suggested a telepathic ability of the aliens and that they might be interacting with project members. Rutledge figured between 80 - 100 such incidents. Perhaps the inhabitants of the objects were observing the project.

Thirty-two cases seemed to involve awareness, such as when their airplane turned to fly toward a light. The light blinked out and an identical one blinked on to their right. When Rutledge pointed a finger toward a light, it went out. When he cocked and aimed his camera at a moving object, it reversed its direction. In a different incident, the same procedure resulted in the lights in a UFO's window going out. In two instances lights blinked out just as they were located with binoculars.

UFO's twice changed their motions when Rutledge yelled to his wife to get the binoculars during daytime sightings at his home.

Telepathy was suggested when a light began to undulate following a negative check for undulation.

Objects sometimes seemed to follow an avoidance path, as when one was approaching an observer and then change course to go around their position. On the other hand, a viewing station was changed to a new location ten miles away. UFOs changed their flight path to approach the new site and then go around it just as before.

Information for this short summary is mainly contained in the book Project Identification written by Harley D. Rutledge, PhD. The book is so detailed and with so many described occurrences that I hardly knew which ones to include as representative examples. The book was published in 1981 and I am unaware of any later editions. Interlibrary loan is maybe the best source for anyone wishing to read the entire account. It is a great account of a scientist keeping complete records of his data, and of his transformation during the course of the investigations.

Michael Hesseman, in UFOs: The Secret History, credits Rutledge with studying the objects themselves and collecting data, as opposed to Condon's Colorado

Project which seemed intent on proving previous accounts as hoaxes. Rutledge led the project personally 137 nights in which he participated in 158 sightings. At one point he told reporters, "I don't believe in UFOs, one believes in God. But UFOs are not a matter of belief, they are a fact."

Dutch Eyewitness Says Two Crop Circles Created By Pink-Purple Light by Linda Moulton Howe

6/9/99 Hoeven, Holland - I have received a report from Europe about an extraordinary event: an eyewitness to the creation of two crop circles in Hoeven, a southern Holland farm community about 90 minutes from Amsterdam. It was early Monday morning, June 7th at about 12:15 AM. This is the first formation in Holland this year. A 19-year-old named Robert woke up and felt compelled to look out his bedroom window. What happened next was phoned to me by Nancy Talbott, Director of the BLT Crop Circle Research Team in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Nancy has worked with biophysicist W. C. Levengood in Michigan for the past several years to analyze plants from formations in Europe, Israel, Australia, Canada and the U.S.

Levengood hypothesizes that plants in some sampled formations were affected by a spinning plasma vortex that contains microwave energies. The microwaves heat plant cells, softening and collapsing the stems into the fluid patterns we have come to associate with genuinely mysterious formations. But Levengood does not know the source of the spinning plasma vortex. This eyewitness in Holland has now seen two different phenomena associated with the creation of fresh formations which suggests there might be different mechanisms for different patterns.

Interview Nancy Talbott, Director, BLT Crop Circle Research Team, Cambridge, Massachusetts: "This is in southern Holland -and it's concerning again this boy, Robert, who has the ability somehow to know when these things are getting ready to happen and who has been in the middle of a formation when it occurred - this was a couple of years ago. And subsequently, there has been a lot of crop circle activity around where he lives. And Sunday night - actually for several days - the entire weekend, he was having these anxiety feelings that he gets, pacing back and forth, feeling unwell physically which is a phenomenon that occurs prior to one of these situations. And his parents insisted that he go to bed finally Sunday evening, which he did. They in fact checked on him before they went to bed and he was sound asleep.

But what happened is that at 12:15, he woke up and knew to go to the window. He opened the curtains and looked out. His window overlooks this little garden out back and this huge farm field which is directly behind their garden. And what he saw is just incredible!

He describes a small, misty, pinkish-purple light - not a sphere, more football shaped - and a little bit smaller than a football, which was coming in over the field at a height of about 10 feet, maybe 12 feet over the field from quite a distance away. It's quite an enormous field. He watched it as it came closer and closer and closer to this spot that is about 50 meters behind his house. And this is where one of the snow circles occurred a couple of years ago. There was a circle in mustard seed there last spring. He's had a couple of circles in other crops in that general area. Came right back to this area and stopped - the word he used was "hanging" - just stopped in the air and hung over this spot. Then, it started to elongate, spread out is the easiest way to describe it - and it apparently spread out and spread out becoming thinner and thinner looking like a disc, was then how he described it.

When it was about 30 feet in diameter, again, still hanging there - not moving at all except for this expanding motion - then he observed what he calls (Nancy makes sh, sh, sh sound) in Dutch for electrical discharge. He and I have these signals we give back and forth because he doesn't speak English too well and I don't speak Dutch at all. And what he means is that he watched electrical discharges coming from the underside of this disc-shaped, misty, pinkish-purple cloud or ball of light for - I would gather - it sounded like six or seven, eight, maybe ten seconds immediately over the field.

Then the light phenomenon simply dissipated, was gone. He was very excited, threw on some clothes and went running out the back and squeaked through the hedge and into the field and lo' and behold, right smack where that thing had been was a 30 foot diameter circle - I think it's wheat. They say grain and I'm not sure which kind of grain they mean. And a 10 foot circle very near by, both of which had not been there at 10 o'clock PM when he went to bed. It's still light in Holland at 10 and you can see out whether it was there and it wasn't. And here they were.

DID IT DISAPPEAR, FADE OUT OR WHAT?

As best as I could get it, the electrical activity stopped and then it just like POOF!

AND NOW WHAT'S THE TIME LAPSE BETWEEN THAT POOFING OUT AND THEIR DISCOVERING THE CIRCLES?

Well, he went immediately - he literally took about 5 minutes to throw on some clothes. He was in the field within 10 minutes, I would say, and there it was. He said he could see it from his window after this light had gone. He could see there was at least one circle, and he thought there were two - and they were in fact there. And it looks like the whole situation - as it was coming in from way in the distance - that might have taken a minute or so to get up near his windows. But once it was there, everything that happened subsequently didn't take longer than another minute - the spreading out and then the discharge of whatever this was, and the whole thing happening.

DID HE HEAR ANY SOUND WHATSOEVER AS THIS TRANSFORMING TOOK PLACE?

He didn't comment on sound. I think he would have commented if he heard anything, but he didn't mention. What he did say was that when he got in it, he felt this very strong energy and it was very positive, he said. "Love, love, love!"

IN THE CIRCLES.

In the circles. This wonderful surge of energy and his parents told me that he came to wake them up after he had been in the circles - he just sort of sat in this big one, I think, for awhile and then he went to tell his parents because he was so excited. They went and looked at it and they said it was remarkable because every time it happens with this kid, he feels very ill. He is not a happy camper at all several days prior to the event. And it was a transformation - he was full of beans and feeling great and energized and all the illness forgotten completely - which they've seen happen before.

WHEN HE WAS WATCHING THIS TRANSFORMATION WHICH FASCINATES ME BECAUSE IT'S RARE - IT'S VERY RARE IN THE LAST 40 YEARS OR SO THAT ANYBODY HAS EVER SEEN THIS KIND OF TRANSFORMATION FROM SOMETHING SMALL TO SOMETHING LARGE, BUT IT HAS OCCURRED. AND I HAVE INTERVIEWED PEOPLE WHO HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN MULTIPLE MILITARY EYEWITNESSES TO WATCHING SOMETHING THAT THEY SAID REMINDED THEM OF APPROXIMATELY 10 - 20 FOOT WIDE ASPIRIN SITTING ON THE GROUND THAT SUDDENLY TURNED INTO A LARGE CRAFT.

This is very interesting. He was very clear that it was not a UFO. It was a light, a misty, foggy light, and it apparently retained that character, even when it became disc-like looking. In his opinion, it did not look metallic or solid the way I know many of these reports are. In his mind, or to his eyes, it retained this sort of misty

character, even when it became disc-shaped rather than football-shaped.

SO IT REMAINED THE PINK, GLOWING.

Yeah, and he said he had never seen a color quite like that - it was amazing to him. Pinkish-purple.

DID HE EVER FEEL AT THAT POINT THAT HE GOT ANY IMAGES IN HIS MIND AS IF THERE WAS ANY KIND OF TELEPATHIC COMMUNICATION?

He didn't say anything about that either, although he has had encounters in the past - this time when he was in the field and these small, sort of grapefruit-sized whitish balls were in the field - that was a daytime encounter, two years ago now, and he was simply riding in the field on his bike and had stopped off in this one field that he particularly likes. And observed HUNDREDS of these grapefruit and tennis ball-sized white - milky white sort of opaquish balls, some of which approached him and began circling around him. At which point, he became unconscious and when he woke up he was in the middle of this crop circle - a brand new one.

At that time, he also saw an entity - a form - that he perceived as female and it did transmit information to him, or he had the impression of that. And that figure has returned at least one more time - I think two more times - once to the garden out back of his house and once in his bedroom actually. He has a name for it. He thinks he knows its name which I believe he prefers to keep private. He has a name for it he prefers to keep quiet. And it does transmit some sort of telepathic communication about the crop circles being very important for mankind to be paying attention to and he thinks that it has something to do with the environment and deceit - that the crop circles are somehow or other an antidote or there is something about the crop circles that is to fight deceit.

TO FIGHT DECEIT AS LYING AND HIDING?

Yes, in humankind generally. That something like that - he doesn't understand it all. It's not clear. And he has no idea why he himself is involved, but as a parallel to all this - what has happened with him is that he has developed this incredible apparent healing abilities and he has people coming - he makes appointments all day long - now they've limited it to, I think, three days a week - where people come with all sorts of physical and mental problems and he has some ability that he doesn't understand at all to identify what their trouble is and often to heal them. In fact, apparently in the majority of cases, they become well after a session with

Robert. And that happened - all this came about after he started getting involved with the crop circles.

IT'S INTERESTING THAT HE WOULD SAY THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH FIGHTING DECEIT BECAUSE THE THING THAT HAS STRUCK ALL OF US OVER THE PAST DECADE IS THEY ARE WORLDWIDE, THEY ARE RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF YOU, AND IT IS AS IF SOMETHING HAS BEEN TRYING TO DO SIGNALING OR COMMUNICATION OUTSIDE OF THE RESTRICTED PARADIGMS OF POLITICAL SYSTEMS.

Yeah. I have to say, I know this boy pretty well. I know his family pretty well. These are very straight, middleclass Dutch hard-working people. There is nothing flamboyant, there is nothing foolish about these people at all. And they have questioned and questioned all this up until fairly recently. And now they have just accepted that it's happening and are doing their best to cope with whatever it means. But I am about as sure as I can be that Robert is simply telling exactly what he saw to the best of his ability. And he himself is trying like crazy to understand why it happens where he is, what he's supposed to do about all of this, and then just proceed.

This is apparently the first real crop formation in Holland of this season. There was another flattened area in a potato field about the same time, but the plants in that case were not swirled, were not layered - they were simply dehydrated remarkably, visibly, and flattened very which way. It's not a typical crop circle, the potatoes.

But he tends to get trains of thought when this all starts to happen, so I wouldn't be surprised if he's got more to say than what we were able to get on the phone.

WERE THERE ANY CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE CIRCLES, CORRIDORS?

Apparently not, and I'm not sure how far apart the 10 foot one was from the 30 foot one, but I gather it's pretty much in the same area. And the area is almost exactly where the snow circle was and this flax seed circle that happened last spring.

Here we have two very clear descriptions of crop circles occurring and in different ways. The daylight one were the spheres and you see them all over England and we have photographs from all over. They were clearly involved in that first one that he was in. And now we have this other thing - I've never heard a description quite like this.

In Sussex - I remember telling you about the Sussex one a couple of years ago where an elderly man had gotten up in the middle of the night and looked out his window and he also saw balls of lights - what he described - close to the ground, several of them, multiple balls and then lights shooting from the balls down to the ground and back up to the balls. And in the morning, they found a fairly complex formation in that location. So, it seems like the formation process may not be one thing. It may be several.

If your listeners are interested in this crop circle phenomenon, and particularly if they are willing to help the BLT Team - what they can do is notify us if they find such an event. And the way to do that is to call the office at (617) 492-0415. Or they can FAX the office at (617) 492-0414. Once they call, I'll call them back so it won't cost them much. And we can then discuss the event itself and figure out whether or not it's one we ought to sample and anybody out there interested in helping the sampling, I'll love you for life! It's a lot of work, but it's very rewarding. It's well worth it."

More Info The first unusual patterns in United States crops were recently reported south of Annapolis, Maryland. Several fields had randomly downed cereal crops that have a fluidity in the way they are laid down with multiple layers that cross at ninety degree angles. Over the past several years in the U. S., Levengood has found some of the greatest biochemical and biophysical changes in plants sampled from these odd, randomly downed crops. A similar phenomenon was reported today by an investigator in Illinois near St. Louis where fifteen fields have randomly downed winter wheat that has peculiar scalloped edges and flowing lays "as if water had swept through the plants."

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THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF COVERUP

1) Successful conspiracies are impossible.

"How did we keep the Manhattan Project secret as long as we did. Two billion dollars in 1942 money, tens of thousands of people involved in the construction of enormous facilities that at one point were using eleven percent of the electricity in the United States, to blow uranium hexafluoride through little holes in a mile-long building--and yet, it was kept secret. Secrets are easy to keep, as long as you control the detection systems, the communications systems, and the interference systems, if you will. I've talked to a number of people

who worked for Truman and Eisenhower. Every single one agreed that secrets could have always been kept, at least post-World War II. No problem at all." - Stanton Friedman (Ed. note: Keeping the A-Bomb a secret was only necessary until it was used - after that it was a moot issue.)

2) The government shall not be considered a suspect.

"There is a power somewhere so organized, so subtle, so watchful, so interlocked, so complete, so pervasive, that (people) had better not speak above their breath when they speak in condemnation of it."

- President Wilson in The New Freedom

3) He who controls the proof, controls the truth.

"Behind the scenes, high-ranking Air Force officers are soberly concerned about the UFOs. But through official secrecy and ridicule, many citizens are led to believe the unknown flying objects are nonsense. To hide the facts, the Air Force has silenced its personnel." - Admiral Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, First Director of the CIA, from the New York Sunday Times, 28 February 1960.

4) The purpose of an official investigation is to confirm the cover story.

"Based upon unreliable and unscientific surmises as data, the Air Force develops elaborate statistical findings which seem impressive to the uninitiated public unschooled in the fallacies of the statistical method. One must conclude that the highly publicized Air Force pronouncements based upon unsound statistics serve merely to misrepresent the true character of the UFO phenomena." - Yale Scientific Magazine (Yale University) Volume XXXVII, Number 7, April 1963

5) An effective cover story must include some element of integrity.

"No UFO reported, investigated and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of a threat to our national security" - Air Force, 1980

"Further scientific investigation of UFOs is unwarranted." - Air Force, 1980.

"Never believe in anything until it has been officially denied" - Otto von Bismarck (1815 - 1898)

6) Evidence supporting conspiracy shall be contentiously derided.

"Though presented as an earnest investigation into the reports of UFO sightings and activity, declassified documents reveal that the Condon Committee never

sincerely intended to investigate the physical reality of the existence of UFOs. In an early memorandum by one of Dr. Edward U. Condon's staff, it was boldly stated that "the trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that to the public, it would appear a totally objective study... one way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomenon, but rather of the people who are doing the observing..." - "Tangled Webs", by Bobbie "Jilain" Felder, January 1997

7) Evidence opposing conspiracy shall be accepted on face value.

"Strictly in terms of the sociology of science, the refusal to consider the facts of the UFO phenomenon is a remarkable statement about the narrow limits within which our society authorizes the serious pursuit of knowledge."- Jacques Vallee...Confrontations

8) Only "official" institutions may certify "facts" -all else is rumor.

"Proof doesn't matter if a culture has decided that the proven thing is impossible. It will not be accepted as a reality, regardless of the validity of the evidence to prove its existence."

- Dr. John Mack, July 4, 1997, Roswell, New Mexico

9) Marginalize, intimidate, and silence dissent.

"For other analysts, the key concern is the effect on government administration. The potential dark side is captured in studies warning about the emergence of a 'computer state' (Bumham 1983), a 'dossier society' (Laudon 1986), and a 'Surveillance' that may limit personal liberty in the United States (see, also, Bell 1979). These studies show that the new technology may facilitate the monitoring and surveillance of people on the job and elsewhere, the amassing and merging of enormous statistical data banks for profiling individuals and their activities, and the restriction of access to "Strategic" and 'secret' information. After all, the U.S. government has more data on its citizens than any totalitarian government has on its citizens." - "Cyberocracy Is Coming" by DAVID RONFELDT, International Policy Department, RAND

10) Closure is God.

"Men occasionally stumble on the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened."

- Sir Winston Churchill

SKY SAMPLES ANALYZED **By William Thomas with Erminia Cassani**

VICTORIA, British Columbia, Canada, April 21, 1999 (ENS) - As unmarked tanker-type aircraft continue spraying sky-obscuring chemtrails over regions of the U.S. and Canada, this writer and American journalist Erminia Cassani have obtained laboratory tests of fully-documented samples of aerial fallout. The samples were tested by a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) licensed facility.

The two samples were taken from aluminum-sided structures in separate states nearly a year apart after their respective owners went outside in the wake of low-flying aircraft to find dwellings and outbuildings splattered with a brown, gel-like substance.

Trained in the health sciences, Cassani carefully took samples from the second incident which occurred at 2:00 pm on November 17, 1998. The samples were taken from property directly under the flight approach path to Thomasville airport, an old airport once used for commercial flights but now used only for small planes. However, the woman whose house and property the sample substance fell upon, observed that military aircraft have recently been using this airport for "test runs" circling the immediate area and returning to the Thomasville airfield. This facility is located a 45 minutes drive from the Harrisburg International Airport in Pennsylvania.

Noting nearby military hangars filled with big helicopters, Cassani videotaped a house splattered on all sides, as well as the driveway. The reporter also interviewed a man living near the main runway who claimed that a similar goo had hit his house the previous October. Cassani became ill with flu-like symptoms and was sick for four days after obtaining the sample. When a marine biologist at a nearby university started working with the gel material, he too immediately developed upper respiratory symptoms. The woman whose house had been struck also caught the "flu." Two weeks before Christmas 1998 she suffered a heart attack.

Coliform tests by the state Department of Health were negative. But when the university Ph.D. biologist turned his microscope to high power, he found the glass slide teeming with a protozoan life form he said was "very resilient to very cold temperatures."

The laboratory staff who eventually received our sample for a complete analysis had never seen cell cultures bloom so fast. Cell cultures normally take several days to grow; ours flowered into brilliant colors within 48 hours of being placed in petri dishes.

Exclaiming that, "It was all over the plate," the biologist who examined our first sample wanted to know where we had obtained this "bio-hazard" material.

No markers for jet fuel were evident. But the TNT and fuel-eating *Pseudomonas fluorescens* found in our sky sample is listed in 163 Pentagon patents for bioremediation. Sometimes employed against oil spills, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* can consume jet fuel as a primary food source. This bacteria can cause upper respiratory illness and serious blood infections in humans.

Unlike *P. fluorescens*, the streptomycetes present in our sample is rarely found in outdoor samples. Used to make several antibiotics, this fungus can cause severe infections in humans.

Also isolated in our sample was a fluorescent-type of bacteria found in distant coral reefs, which can be used as a "marker" in lab tests.

Another bacillus contained a "restriction enzyme" used in research laboratories to "restrict" or cut DNA material for transfer to other organisms. A computer search for this usually benign bacteria turned up *Streptomyces* and *P. fluorescens* on the same reference page - as well as the American Type Tissue Culture Corporation. U.S. Senate documents show that this Maryland company made at least 72 shipments of germ warfare cultures to Saddam Hussein's scientists between October 1984 and October 1993.

Our second sample was obtained from the U.S. eastern seaboard after Cassani tracked down a woman whose house, barn, cars, lawn and driveway were covered by a similar brown gel on January 17, 1998. This homeowner noticed planes making "tic-tac-toe clouds" and "weird designs" in the sky before the goo fell - possibly from clogged spray nozzles.

She had been at church while neighbors watched a large aircraft circling so low it rattled windows and almost hit a barn, before climbing toward a disused commercial airfield recently renovated for military flights. When the homeowner took a scraping into the local lab, she was told of similar incidents in the vicinity. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) dismissed the substance - which resisted power-washing and months of weathering - as "corn meal."

But despite being stored for a year at room temperature, our EPA registered lab found this second batch of dried-out gel teeming with the same bacilli present in our more recent sample. *Streptomyces* was again found, as well as a bacteria capable of causing a painful ear infection.

Three other molds in this second sample included a "black yeast" stockpiled by the U.S. Army as a "bioremediation organism" that thrives on TNT and petroleum spills. This black yeast can also cause a nasty upper respiratory infection - as Cassani discovered when her left lung became painfully infected with black mold that could have some from the sample she handled. We decided to withhold the name of our testing facility after an environmental lab in Ohio was besieged by calls from a militia organization claiming that a jet fuel additive identified by Aqua Tech Environmental Inc. was part of a conspiracy to cull the population.

Larry Harris brought the controversial sample to Aqua Tech for analysis. A registered microbiologist who once worked on top U.S. biowarfare projects, Harris says that a lab technician immediately identified his sample as JP-8 aviation fuel similar to dozens of samples being brought in by sick pilots and ground crew. But after the harassing phone calls began, another chemtrails investigator who was with Harris when he submitted the fuel sample to Aqua Tech told ENS that the "lab went cold" and would no longer confer with them.

A copy of Aqua Tech's report on Harris' sample has been obtained by this reporter. Submitted on September 17, 1997 and labeled "Jet Fuel," lab report number MEL 97-1140 identifies more than 15 toxic petroleum products - including toluene and styrene, as well as traces of the banned pesticide ethylene dibromide (EDB). Currently used as a JP-8 jet fuel additive, EDB was banned by the EPA in the late 1970s as a known carcinogen capable of causing severe upper respiratory reactions at repeated low-level exposures.

Harris charges that Aqua Tech altered its test results to "almost undetectable amounts" of EDB in order to fend off crackpots, protect government contracts and discredit his investigation. Aqua Tech insists its report is accurate.

Despite efforts to protect her identity, our own friendly biologist turned edgy and cold after finding few references to our toxic samples in medical books or Internet databanks. When Cassani suggested that this lack of information seemed strange, the microbiologist laughed uneasily and said, "Well, the whole thing is strange, the samples, where they came from. So I'm not surprised."

Similar encounters with a gel clinging tenaciously to porches, pick-up trucks and patrol cars have been reported across the USA - from Arizona's remote Mogollon rim to Aptos and Fresno, California and North Seattle, Washington.

The most publicized incident occurred in August, 1994, when gelatinous globs began raining on Oakville, Washington about 80 miles southeast of Seattle.

After local residents became sick with vertigo, lethargy and severe shortness of breath, a lab technician found human white blood cells in the sky goo. At the Washington State Department of Health, registered microbiologist Mike McDowell also discovered the sample swarming with *Pseudomona fluorescens* and *Enterobacter cloacae*.

Serratia marcescens was found in yet another gel sample obtained in Idaho in late March, 1999. Often causing upper respiratory infections resulting in pneumonia, *Serratia marcescens* was sprayed into the New York subway system in 1953, and over Dorset, England from early 1966 to 1971 by the military in both countries. *Serratia marcescens* was supposedly withdrawn as a biological warfare stimulant in the 1970s when this infectious agent was deemed too hazardous for use on friendly "test populations."

E. coli, *Serratia marcescens*, and *Bacillus glogigii* were sprayed over UK population centers to stimulate biowarfare attacks in the 1960s and 1970s, the London Telegraph reported in May of 1998. All three agents can cause disease in humans including pneumonia and chest infections. According to recent admissions by the British Defense Ministry, a Canberra jet bomber was modified with spray tanks to "act as a spray aircraft for research into defense against biological warfare."

Microscopic examination of spider web-like fallout obtained in Sallisaw, Oklahoma in October, 1997 also turned up enterobacteria, which can cause gastrointestinal illness.

Despite these findings, microbiologists caution that the Oakville, Idaho and Sallisaw samples could have been contaminated by "background" bacteria present in the soil.

Experimental lab material found in our samples remains unexplained. As outbreaks of staph, recurrent pneumonia and meningitis continue to be reported in hospitals by newspapers across the USA, Cassani and I note that staph-related organisms turning up in test samples of airborne spray can cause pneumonia and meningitis. Our investigation continues.

BLT RESEARCH TEAM UPDATE (5/26/99)

Here's an update on what's going on with BLT at the moment:

(1) We've recently obtained our non-profit, tax exempt status here in the U.S. and a grant which is designed to allow us to pursue more in-depth analysis of soils (x-ray crystallography and we hope some microbiology) and anomalous deposited substances recovered at crop circle sites, apparent UFO trace-cases, and unusual animal death sites; we are searching for appropriate laboratories to assist us in these pursuits, hopefully here in the Cambridge area;

(2) Grass rings in Maryland-multiple green, lush grass rings have been observed and sampled in the rolling hillside in Maryland (East Coast, mid-Atlantic region); these rings are growing out-of-phase with the rest of the pasture and range in size from 3-4' diameter to much larger. The redox examination (which measures the rate of respiration in the plant cells) reveals alterations in respiration patterns, consistent with exposure to an unusual energy system, similar to what we often observe in crop circle plants and plants sampled at UFO trace-cases and unusual animal death sites. Similar lush grass rings have been found in a number of locations, some of them seemingly related to anomalous situations, some of them not; many witnesses to UFOs report them in their yards after such encounters; abductees also report them with some frequency. But we have also tested them from parks and other areas where we know of no relationship to unusual situations. More on this as we go on.

(3) Unusual Cattle Deaths - 2 new cases, one in Oregon (Northwest Coast) on a ranch which has had now 11 of these unusual deaths in the last year, and the other in New Mexico, again an area that has suffered many of these cases. The New Mexico case may be an explainable death, but the Oregon case looks very similar to dozens of others where we have tested the grasses and soils in the last several years. What is of interest to crop circle enthusiasts includes two basic findings so far:

(a) the finding of increased amounts of magnetic particle material in the soils at these events (over normal control soils taken at various distances away from the animal), and (b) the fact that the plants (grasses, in most cases) regularly show changes in plant cell respiration rates, similar to changes observed in plants from crop circle sites.

These findings do not mean, to us, that the causative agency is necessarily the same... but, instead, indicate that the energies, or SOME of the energies, involved are the same as those involved in the crop circle situation (and also at some of the UFO trace cases). We know that when the microwave component of these energy systems is great the plants will usually die; when the microwave component is less, and when the

electrical component of the energy system is greater, then the result usually is that the plants respond by growing more robustly than normal, after a recovery period.

In regards to the tiny (micron-sized) spherical magnetic particles in the soils, we have in recent years (particularly in the US, where in-depth soil-sampling has been done in many cases, but also in several other countries) regularly observed marked increases in the amounts of such particles in the immediate vicinities of crop circles, UFO sites and unusual animal death sites.... this again being something which is similar in these events. In most crop circle cases the magnetic material drops off pretty quickly outside the visible confines of the event; in the animal cases it sometimes extends quite a distance away from the carcass. And the amounts we are finding at some of these sites is hundreds of times greater than what is normal. We believe that these particles are microscopic meteoritic particles which are drawn into the area by the magnetic fields emitted by the energy system, then fused together by the microwaves also emitted by the energy system (thus making them molten), with the spheres then forming as the particles descend to the earth's surface as the energy system impacts. The EDS work (electron-dispersive spectroscopy) so far indicates very pure iron and the only source we can think of would be of meteoric origin.

The maximum amount of such material one might expect to find in any given location (with the exception of a few places on the earth's surface) is 0.4 mg./gm. soil. At the sites we investigate we have found as much as 280+ mg/gm soil. We have also found these particles at crop circle sites distributed in accordance with the rules of centrifugal force... the amount of deposited material dropping off as a function of sampling distance away from either the epicentre of the circle itself, or from the edges out into the standing crop in the field.

The work we hope to be doing this summer on the soils...the x-ray crystallography and/or microbiological examinations, may shed more light on the presence of heat at these sites... will keep you posted.

No crop circles reported yet here in the States to my knowledge...

we've got an expanding group of fieldworkers ready to get out there and sample, when the reports do start coming... and we'll keep you posted on what we find. We've got a bunch of reports on 1997 and 1998 crop circles about ready to go out....

BLT RESEARCH TEAM: The BLT Research Team Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt U.S. corporation whose

purpose is the scientific examination of plants, soils and associated materials sampled at crop formation sites around the world. The BLT team is headed by Michigan biophysicist, Wm. C. Levengood, who has been examining crop circle plants and soils since 1989 and includes colleagues Nancy Talbott and John Burke, as well as hundreds of field personnel in many different countries. To date, three papers presenting the research findings have been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as more than 100 lab reports on individual crop formations in the U.S., Canada, England, the Netherlands, Germany, Australia and Israel. These scientific papers and laboratory reports outline the physical abnormalities discovered so far in the plants and soils, clearly indicating a causative agency other than human-directed mechanical flattening of the plants, suggesting instead an energy system which emits microwaves and associated unusual electrical and magnetic fields.

For further information, or to volunteer to help in the field collection of plants and/or soils at crop circle sites, please call, write or fax the BLT office:

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Field Investigator Update: July, 1999 By Craig Lang - MN MUFON FI Coord.

After a minor lull in the rate of sightings, the last month or two has again seen some new reports of sightings and encounters from the twin cities and greater Minnesota. Several nocturnal light and daylight disk reports have come in, and are now being investigated by MN MUFON members. In addition, several close encounter experiencers who have worked with our investigators, have indicated in the few months that they may have had additional encounters. Where possible, we are now investigating some of these events. And as we can, (subject to witness confidentiality, of course) we will summarize the results of our ongoing work in this column.

In particular, one class of experimenter cases has emerged, which suggests an even greater level of strangeness than any we have examined to date. In these cases, humans appear to somehow be key participants in the phenomenon. In one case, a human apparently was even instrumental in arranging a close encounter. This apparent encounter was described during a hypnotic regression which we conducted with this witness several months ago. The witness had previously perceived the time period of this encounter

only as a memory gap. However, in trance, she remembered an acquaintance entering her home and ushering her out to a waiting car. They then drove to nearby town where an apparent close encounter occurred involving the "usual" small gray entities. During the encounter, this acquaintance conversed with the entities in a way which indicated familiarity and cooperation between them. The witness also observed this person using devices which are often described in close encounter reports.

The witness described her acquaintance as having some unique characteristics, or extraordinary abilities. Among these were a high degree of PSI ability, very high intelligence, a magnetic/charismatic personality, and an apparently deep spiritual insight.

In several other cases, the experiencer and his/her companion were in a public place - such as a movie theater, a shopping mall, etc. While there, they were confronted (either accidentally or deliberately, it is not clear) by one or two strangers who appeared to have an interest in them. In all cases the witnesses described the strangers as looking into their eyes with an apparent deep malevolence. In at least one case, the witness observed the eyes to be solid black, while the witness's companion observed the eye color to be normal for that of a human being. The witnesses generally described feeling a sense of extreme fear and panic as a result of looking into these dark eyes. While these events would suggest a man-in-black type of encounter, the strangers appeared to be otherwise normal in dress and behavior. After the confrontation, the strangers usually would walk away and disappear around a corner, or become lost in a crowd, etc. Occasionally the witnesses would try to follow the stranger, but would be unable to find them within moments after the encounter.

The implications of these events are ambiguous, but perhaps they suggest support for the idea stated in the close encounter literature, that human beings may somehow be associated with the phenomenon ("The Threat" by David Jacobs, "Masquerade of Angels" by Karla Turner). Of course, there could be other ways to understand these encounters as well. Like most other manifestations of UFO and paranormal phenomena, these encounters leave behind them a puzzling trail of mystery and ambiguity. Only continuous, persistent investigation will help us unlock this mystery.

If you know of any information that might bring to light any sightings or encounters, or have any further information on events discussed in this column, please contact Craig Lang (ph: 612-560-1532, e-mail: crlang@mm.com, or contact MN MUFON through our webpage at: www.mnmufon.org).

For those wishing to become a field investigator themselves, classes are conducted approximately three times a year, as sufficient interest is indicated. 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 and CE4 phenomenon. For those who seriously take up the study of UFO events, challenge and mystery will never be in short supply.

Happy investigating...??

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

Go to: www.mnmufon.org/mmj.htm for back issues of the Minnesota MUFON Journal.

Your news or editorial contributions to this journal are welcomed and appreciated. Please direct your articles or inquiries to the Editor.

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