

Minnesota MUFON Journal

Issue #89 May/June 2001

Directors Report

By Bill McNeff, State Director, MN MUFON

EXTRATERRESTRIALS AND PSI

What I am writing about today will be unbelievable to many, and at least very doubtful to others. But open-minded people, whether scientists or lay persons, will admit these things may be true. The term "PSI", by the way, is short for "psychic phenomenon".

First, virtually all accounts of so-called abduction or contact experiences between humans and ETs involve telepathic communication. This, of course, is seized upon by the closed-minded as evidence that the accounts are balderdash. But a former neighbor of mine, who I have known since about 1973, and who is a friend of my wife and I, has a family which has at least three generations of suspected alien contact. Her father, in a town near St. Louis, saw a flying disk land in the street, then suddenly disappear. He got home an hour late. She herself has had dreams of strange creatures; one type is a short, hooded creature and the other, a "praying mantis" type. Since she has not made a habit of studying accounts of alleged aliens, she was not aware that others have reported the praying mantis type, and she was not happy to hear that they had. She told me, "I hoped he wasn't real!" Various people who have allegedly had contact with aliens display new or increased psychic abilities. This is true of my neighbor also. She said that she frequently had telepathic exchanges with her mother; for example, she had the feeling once late at night that she should call her mother, but decided it was too late an hour. The next morning, her mother phoned her and said, "Why didn't you call me?" She also has told me privately that she has had telepathic exchanges with people in the same room with her, and that she has to shield herself mentally from receiving very personal information from people's minds when she meets them.

I believe in the reality of PSI, because I have had two dreams which I believe have, in a somewhat veiled way, predicted future events, both of which involved violent accidents. (By the way, if either dream had included a little more specific information, I might have tried to warn the people to whom the accidents happened, and if I had been successful, the dream would have proven false! So, perhaps, paradoxes are not permitted in this universe.)

Then there was the case of John Dingley, known to many of you, who predicted in my presence the appearance of a giant triangular crop formation that subsequently showed up exactly nine days later, near Barbary Castle in 1991. I have always regretted that I didn't publish his prediction in the Minnesota MUFON Newsletter, but at least I had carefully documented it in my trusty notebook immediately after he had made it. (Perhaps if I had published it, someone would have accused me of taking part in a crop circle conspiracy! I'll have to admit, I briefly wondered the same thing about John, but after sober reflection dismissed the idea.)

Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., May 12th
&
Sat., June 9th
1:30-4:45pm

Room 120, Fairview Center
at 1910 West Co. Rd. B,
Roseville, MN 651-415-2100

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.



Then there is the case of a woman I will call "Sonya". She was put in contact with me in 1991 by a man who had been attending Minnesota MUFON meetings. She claimed to be having experiences with aliens, and also described visions she would have, presaged by a strange tingling in her neck. She made a series of predictions based on these "feelings" as she called them, some of which were just plain wrong. But on 9-9-91 she predicted "an earthquake in Central America magnitude 5.8 earthquake within two weeks." On 9-18-91 there was a magnitude 5.8 earthquake in Ecuador, which killed at least 17 people. I calculated the probability of hitting this by chance as about one in a million. And on 10-4-91 she wrote that there would be "a large ice storm end of October covering a 5-state area." On October 31, 1991, Halloween, there was an unseasonably early large ice and snow storm which struck Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Then in the fall of 1991 she predicted that "...Israel will have a nuclear bomb dropped on it either by Iraq or Russia within six months."

This, of course, was in the aftermath of the Gulf War. She claimed that as events got closer she got a clearer picture of them. As the six months drew to a close, she said the missiles that would carry the bomb were aboard a ship from North Korea. Shortly, news accounts told of a ship bound from North Korea, suspected of carrying missiles and headed for the Persian Gulf area. At the time, I was acquainted with some contacts with a U.S. intelligence group which must remain nameless, and I passed this prediction, together with a map drawn by the woman, allegedly showing the locations of the missiles, along to this group. I was told that this prediction was taken seriously, which surprised me somewhat. (If I had known about the Army/CIA psychic experiments, I would not have been so surprised.) Then, in the next few days, news came that the US Navy was tracking the North Korean ship, but lost track of it! It will always be my suspicion that they lost track of it when it went to the bottom of the sea, after the personnel had been removed, of course. Some time after that, Sonya advised me that her most recent predictions had been made without the "tingling" in her neck. Suffice it to say that all of these more recent predictions did not come to pass. Sonya broke off contact with me. End of story. But it left me with a new respect for psychic abilities.

Dr. David Jacobs has been led by his researches to fear that we may be taken over by alien/human hybrids who will be able to control us with the aid of PSI. This, it would seem, would be a bad thing. But it seems possible that under alien tutelage, we might all develop PSI to a high degree. Perhaps universal PSI might be a good thing. It could make the commission of crimes

impossible, in that others would know what the criminal was planning and forestall him or her. There would be no more crime and no more crooked politicians. (We don't need PSI for our present governor, who tells us what he is thinking without hesitation.) It would lead to a big loss of privacy, which I am not sure I would care for. But maybe the advantages of PSI would outweigh the drawbacks. If we are going to have aliens and "hybrids" as our guests, it may be we will have to get used to it.

**On Killing Aliens: Murder or Not?
Richard Hall, *The UFO Evidence*.
Washington, DC: NICAP, 1964, p. 180.**

In 1963 a NICAP member posed a hypothetical question to the U.S. Department of Justice: "If a human being killed a space man, in a moment of panic and fear, would this be murder? Or could the person defend his action on the legal ground that he had not committed homicide since the being was not 'human'?"

On July 11, Assistant Attorney General Norbert A. Schlei replied: "as a matter of information, it does not seem likely that present criminal laws against homicide would play a primary role in restraining attacks by excited citizens if the situation you describe were to arise. Since criminal laws are usually construed strictly, it is doubtful that laws against homicide would apply to the killing of intelligent man-like creatures alien to this planet, unless such creatures were members of the human species. Whether killing these creatures would violate other criminal laws - for instance, the laws against cruelty to animals or disorderly conduct - would ordinarily depend on the law of the particular state in which the killing occurred... Until it is clearer what problems of safety, health or commerce such creatures might bring, there is little basis for describing the kinds of laws which might prove appropriate."

**Clarke's Believe It or Not
by Andrew Chaikin, Editor,
Space Illustrated magazine, Feb. 2001**

Arthur Clarke is known for spinning elaborate, visionary tales of futures that might be, none more famous than 2001: A Space Odyssey. But according to Clarke, the real 2001 has some pretty unbelievable things to offer.

"I'm fairly convinced that we have discovered life on Mars," Clarke told www.SPACE.com Sunday as Buzz Aldrin listened. "There are some incredible photographs

from [the Jet Propulsion Laboratory], which to me are pretty convincing proof of the existence of large forms of life on Mars! Have a look at them. I don't see any other interpretation."

Aldrin did not comment, but responded by referring to another remarkable topic, so-called zero-point energy, theorized by some physicists as being a powerful energy source that exists in the vacuum of space. Aldrin said, "To put this into a perspective where Arthur and I agree: It may take 200, 300 or 400 years, but it's going to take zero-point energy to get us to Alpha Centauri." Turning to Clarke, he added, "Correct?"

"I'm glad that Buzz has raised this rather controversial question," Clarke said. "A lot of my scientist friends are crazy to believe there's anything in this. It started with this so-called cold fusion business, which everybody laughed out of court. But I'm now convinced that there are new forms of energy, which we are tapping, and they make even nuclear energy look trivial in comparison. And when we control those energy sources, the universe will open up."

And then Clarke took an opportunity to rebut those who refuse to believe even well documented events, specifically, the Apollo moon missions. Responding to a recent television program claiming the Apollo landings were faked, Clarke said, "I can't imagine anybody being stupid enough to think that a program involving hundreds of thousands of people, carried out over a period of [more than a decade], in a blaze of publicity, could possibly be faked. Ben Franklin said, 'A conspiracy of three people can be kept secret, if two of them are dead!'"

**Vikings would have missed life on Mars
by PHILIP BALL
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NATURE NEWS SERVICE
science update Tuesday 13 Feb. 2001**

The Viking space missions to Mars in the 1970s sent back a mixed message about the red planet. The views were fabulous; but the nightlife was a little quiet. The two Viking lander craft touched down on the Martian surface in 1976, scooped up handfuls of dust, and pronounced it devoid of the organic material that might signify the presence of microorganisms. But even if there had been several million bacteria-like cells in every gram of Martian soil, the Viking landers would not have detected them, Jeffrey Bada and his co-workers at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California, now claim[13]1.

In the unlikely event that there is life on Mars, NASA's proposed Mars 2005 mission, which aims to put another lander craft on the planet in 2007, will not overlook it. Learning from Viking's mistakes, Bada's team has equipped the craft with a new robot, the Mars Organic Detector, which is at least 100 times more sensitive than the Viking instruments[14]2.

One of the primary objectives of the Viking missions was to search for life. The lander craft were equipped with robotic arms that collected samples of the Martian 'soil' (more properly, mineral dust or 'regolith', as true soil contains organic matter). These samples were then subjected to automated chemical analysis to find out what they contained. The material was heated, and the gaseous products studied using a technique called gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) to find out if they contained compounds likely to have been derived from organic matter. If they had, it would have suggested that Martian microbes were living just beneath the planet's surface. But the Viking landers saw no such volatile fingerprints of life within the upper four inches or so of regolith.

Last year researchers proposed that chemical reactions of gases in the thin Martian atmosphere, diffusing into the regolith, could supply the energy needed to sustain a respectable population of sub-surface microbes.

Bada's team estimates that this process could support up to 15 million bacterial cells per gram of regolith -- about the same amount as in some soils on Earth. But the researchers say that the Viking experiments would not have been able to detect such quantities. To prove it, the group recreated the same tests using samples of 'simulated' Martian regolith -- basically powdered rock, heated to remove organic contaminants. They inoculated the crushed rock with *Escherichia coli* bacteria, and allowed colonies of the microorganisms to develop.

With state-of-the-art chemical analysis of the bacteria-seeded dust, similar in principle to the Viking heating experiment, Bada and his co-workers deduced how many cells it contained. From this, they estimated the maximum number of cells the real Martian regolith could contain while escaping detection in the Viking GC-MS study. For example, if a hundred cells produce 20 balloons of gas, and the Viking instruments couldn't detect less than one balloon per sample, the regolith could have harbored up to five cells per sample. The results indicate that as many as 30 million cells per gram could have evaded detection.

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on Mars. [15]Earth & Planetary Science Letters 185, 1-5 (2001).

2. Bada, J. L. State-of-the-art instruments for detecting extraterrestrial life. [16]Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA 98, 7970-800 (2001).

see also: [17]How to spot a Martian

[18]Macmillan Magazines Nature © Macmillan Publishers Ltd 2000 Reg. No. 785998 England.

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Filer's Files #11, 2001, MUFON Skywatch
George A. Filer, Majorstar@aol.com,
www.filersfiles.com

MARS SKY IS REALLY BLUE AND ROCKS HAVE GREEN PATCHES

We spent millions of dollars sending the Viking Lander I to Mars in 1976. The world waited in great anticipation to see the first color images of Mars. At about 2:00 PM PDT on July 21, 1976, the first color image from the surface of another planet arrived at JPL in wonderful color. Mars showed its beautiful blue sky, brown and reddish soil and rocks with patches of green. You, I and the world never saw the true images.

According to the men who worked at the Viking Image Formatting and Processing section of JPL. Mr. Van der Woude says, "Both Ron Wichelman and I were responsible for the color quality control of the Viking Lander photographs, and Dr. Tomas Mutch, the Viking Imaging Team Leader told us he got a call from the NASA Administrator asking that we destroy the Mars blue sky negative created from the digital data." The images were then falsely reddened to make it appear there was no life, no green algae or lichen on the planet. See "Mars the Living Planet" by Barry Digregorio, Dr. Gilbert Levin and Dr. Pat Straat. Page 142.

The book also explains how the tests for existence of life on Mars were rigged to deny life, despite the relatively favorable conditions. Dr. Gilbert V. Levin who was in charge of the Viking Lander experiments revealed that when the Mars soil was examined by on board instruments in a miniature laboratory there was a startling positive response. THE VIKING HAD FOUND EVIDENCE OF LIFE. The tests, and follow on samples

showed the evidence everyone had agreed on prior to the mission that would confirm the presence of life. Dr. Levin and his team were proud for they had discovered the first proof of life on another planet. Dr. Levin strongly believes they found life on Mars in 1976, but NASA insisted the instrumentation must be faulty. The official NASA answer was to deny the existence of alien life despite strong scientific evidence. All reasonable arguments against the Viking Mission Labeled Release life detection system had been over come except for the claimed absence of water. Yet many scientists knew the images also showed evidence of water such as the ice cap. Until recently the discovery of water on Mars, that includes waterspouts and geysers was also hidden from both scientists and the public. Some NASA personnel even claim UFOs were air brushed out of photos. Assuming Senator John Glenn's statements are true, a deliberate policy has been in effect to hide the possibility of intelligent life in the universe. Billions of taxpayers money have been spent and only recently are the true findings coming out. Do you remember that the first Viking Lander also imaged an infinity symbol or a figure 8 on one of the rocks? On the Pathfinder July 4, 1997, the Sojourner rover buggy sent back images of strange symbols on the ground? Many insiders are discussing many other strange anomalies on Mars. Why are we not told?



Results of 3/10/2001 Aura Viewing Experiment by Craig R. Lang MS, CHt (MN MUFON FI Coord.)

You may recall the article that appeared in this newsletter last summer, which described the results of an experiment which we conducted during the June, 2000 meeting of Minnesota MUFON. In this experiment we asked a group of six volunteers to view the aura of another volunteer. Each of the viewers filled out a standardized form describing the aura, and their ability to see this effect. These results were then tabulated and analyzed. The results turned out to be quite surprising.

At the March 2001 MN MUFON meeting, we repeated this experiment, this time with 12 volunteers. This was done as a dry run for a similar but more involved experiment to be conducted this spring with the National Guild of Hypnotists, in which we will try to measure the ability to see the human aura under various circumstances.

The human aura is described in many texts, both ancient and modern - both in biophysical terms, and in terms of metaphysics and religion. The actual mechanism behind the human aura - and indeed, whether it actually exists, is not clearly established. However, there appears to be enough evidence to suggest that there is a bona-fide phenomenon present. The goal of this experiment was to have a group of volunteers observe the aura of a test subject and describe it in a standardized way. The purpose was to determine the degree of consistency between what each volunteer observed.

The subject being observed was seated about 10 feet away from the viewers, in a position such that he could be clearly seen against a featureless white wall. The viewers were asked to observe his aura (if they were able to do so) and complete a short questionnaire establishing a standardized description of the effect. The questionnaire contained 9 questions defining the aura's color, shape, intensity and time variation. On a second page was space for a sketch of the aura.

In the literature, it is suggested that a person's aura is strongly dependent upon his/her mental or emotional state. Thus, it was desirable to have the subject be in a known state of mind at the time of the experiment. I therefore asked him to imagine a very pleasant scene, known only to himself. (Note: Since the subject being observed was an excellent hypnotic candidate, I had earlier hypnotized him and given him a posthypnotic suggestion to recall a pleasant memory on cue). At the start of the experiment, I gave him the cue words, and the volunteers immediately viewed his aura and filled out the questionnaire

All viewers indicated that they were able to see the subject's aura. (Note: One viewer also included an extensive description of PSI impressions which he obtained from the subject. The subject subsequently described these as being very accurate.) The aura was observed by all to be brighter than the neutral white background. Nearly all described it to be primarily pale/grayish/white, with some describing a blue to blue green overtone, one describing it as red and another as yellow. Most observed a white (one person also described yellow/gold) inner band of about 1 to 2 inches around the head. Many observed a larger more diffuse outer layer, which was primarily above the

head. This area was typically described as white/gray/pale, but also having overtone colors such as blue/green. Another person described pale pink/purple at the edge of this outer region.

Nearly all of the participants found it relatively easy to see the aura. On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being easiest to see auras) viewers reported an average of 6.38 (roughly grouped at 6 ± 2). However, reports of the strength/ intensity of the aura, also observed on a scale of 1(transparent) to 10(strong/solid) were evenly distributed across the entire range, with groupings at the lowest and the highest intensity ends of the range. The average was 4.5.

The fuzziness/sharpness of the boundary was measured in a range of 1 to 10 with 1 being sharp and 10 being fuzzy: An average of 4.15 was observed, with a wide cluster of observations between 1 and 6. Some observed two distinct layers to the aura. Those who did, rated the boundary sharpness of the inner band at an average of 1.875 (very sharply defined), and the outer band at an average sharpness of 6.5 (very diffuse). Those who saw only a single band rated its sharpness at an average of 4.125 (moderately sharp), close to the overall average of 4.15.

Viewers reported that the width of the aura averaged about 3.4 inches, with reports ranging from 1/2 to 5 inches. Those who observed two bands of light, described the average widths of the inner and outer bands as 1.06 inches, and 5.0 inches, respectively.

Generally viewers reported that the aura changed very little in intensity and characteristic, at a very slow rate. Typically, the inner band was observed to be nearly constant. Whereas the outer band was often reported as slowly sweeping (3 observations), dissolving (3 observations), shifting (3 observations), or shimmering (2 observations). Four people reported no variation.

The rate of variation on a scale 1 (none), to 10 (rapid) was an average 3.36, with most below 4. Two additional outlying points were at values 5, one at 8.5 and one at 9.5, indicating that these four observers saw some more rapid variation. The one person describing the variation of both layers described the inner layer as constant, and the outer layer as 8 (rapidly varying)

The degree of variation on a scale of 1 to 10 was described as an average of 3.5, with a large cluster of observations between 1 and 3, and another at 5 ± 1 . The one person describing variation of both layers described the degree of inner layer variation as 1 (constant) and the outer layer as 6 (high degree of variation).

Conclusion: In this limited sample, there was a consistent, moderately high ability to see the aura. Many observed two layers around the head, a strong inner layer, and a more diffuse outer layer - while others observed only one layer of intermediate thickness. There were also a number of distinct but consistent groups of descriptions, with respect to the color, width, and stability of the aura, roughly corresponding to an inner and an outer band. There was considerable variation in the observed degree of intensity/transparency of the aura, the width, and the boundary sharpness.

What the human aura is, is also not known. Some suggest that it is nothing more than an optical illusion caused by the retina's processing of color contrast. Others believe that it is an electromagnetic, or related field phenomenon. Still others claim that there is a more subtle metaphysical explanation. Whatever the aura may be, all people in our experiment were able to see something, with a moderately high degree of consistency between them. This trial was the prototype for a number of future experiments which we hope to conduct within the National Guild of Hypnotists. It is hoped that these will yield some very interesting data on a disputed, yet very fascinating area of human perception.

My heartfelt thanks go out to the volunteers who participated in this experiment, both as viewers, and the subject who's aura was being viewed. Their help was invaluable. I hope that they found this experiment to be as interesting as I did.

Our Universe Not Alone, Say Scientists By United Press International

Source: ENN - Environmental News Network

http://www.enn.com/news/wire-stories/2001/03/03252001/upi_universe_42706.asp

Sunday, March 25, 2001

Spanish and American astrophysicists claim the universe we inhabit contains an infinite number of other universes like our own, called O-regions, that we will someday be able to contact. Jaume Garriga, of the University of Barcelona, and Alexander Vilenkin, of Tufts University, call the concept "many worlds in one."

As they explained to United Press International, these universes are likely similar to our own - share similar life forms, for instance - because they share a key feature with our world: a finite number of distinct histories. A history is the way something has evolved in time and will continue to evolve. Until now, physicists have never been able to make such an assertion.

The team will publish their hypothesis this fall in the journal *Gravitation and Quantum Cosmology*. Are these ideas far-fetched? Alan Guth says no.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology physicist told UPI, "Do I think that the ideas are viable? Definitely yes. In fact, I very much admire the precision with which the ideas are expressed. I consider the work of Alex Vilenkin and his collaborators to be the leading work in this field." He explained, "What is new in their article is the realization that the total number of possible histories for each universe is finite."

An infinite number of universes like our own is a concept Guth - one of the foremost authorities on a concept called the inflationary universe - finds startling. "That's a pretty mind-boggling conclusion," Guth told UPI from his Cambridge, Mass. office.

The idea that an infinite number of universes exist gives rise to some interesting, and troubling, implications. "Whenever a thought crosses your mind that a terrible calamity might have happened," Vilenkin told UPI, "you can be assured that it has happened in some of the other O-regions."

Furthermore, since some O-regions have histories identical or nearly identical to our own, "if you nearly escaped an accident here, then you were not so lucky in some of the O-regions with the same prior history," he said. The worlds Garriga and Vilenkin imagine are not entirely calamitous, and may even be amusing.

"Distant copies of ourselves play all sorts of different roles" in these other worlds, Vilenkin said. In fact, "there are infinitely many O-regions where Al Gore is president and - yes - Elvis Presley is still alive!"

According to Vilenkin, Guth's work gave rise to the idea of many worlds in the first place. Guth formulated the now well accepted idea that the universe is expanding - or inflating - and published the best-selling book "The Inflationary Universe" in 1997.

As the visible universe expands, or inflates, it gives birth to new universes. Since inflation is eternal, new universe creation is also eternal.

"In an eternally inflating universe, anything that can happen will happen; in fact, it will happen an infinite number of times," Guth told UPI.

Guth also believes the many-worlds hypothesis has profound philosophical implications.

"We already know that our planet is merely a tiny speck in a vast cosmos, but now we are being told that we do

not even hold a unique copyright on our own identities," Guth told UPI. "Instead, each of us is actually only a single copy of an infinite number of beings that are completely identical to ourselves."

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**MN MUFON Field Investigator Videotapes
UFO in Laughlin, NV
by Casey Holt, MN MUFON FI
(Caholt@juno.com)**

The UFO sighting occurred on March 5th, 2001 about 2:20PM while at the UFO Congress in Laughlin, NV. There were actually two objects seen but I primarily aimed my camera at the bright white one since I found it easier to see than the other one that was flashing. They appeared kind of small in view but were still interesting and exciting.

The original tape was recorded on a HI 8 Canon video camera model ES 2500. This model has a 22 X optical zoom but no digital zoom and an optical image stabilizer to help reduce camera shake effects. The normal shutter speed is 1/60 sec which I used when first recording the object before switching to sport mode which is a faster shutter speed perhaps 1/500 sec. The sequence of events is more or less as follows:

4:33 (recording time) Daniel points up after first seeing the object(s).

4:33 to 7:33 Trying to find the object(s) in the video camera which was probably out of focus somewhat when I pushed focus lock.

7:33 I focused the camera on the building again and pushed focus lock to keep distant objects in focus for the rest of the sighting time.

7:40 to 8:27 The bright white object is in view and I am sitting on the edge of the pool while filming so it was not real steady.

7:53 It looks like the 2nd flashing object is visible for about 10 frames seen coming from the top left side to the bottom side after the 1st object goes below the cameras view. The 2nd object appears to be dimmer in between two brighter areas and it appears stretched out from motion blurring from the camera motion.

8:38 to 9:48 I am filming object while laying on my back on the cement next to the pool to get more steady but my feet were still in the pool.

8:50 I switched the camera to sport mode to get a better image of the object using a faster shutter speed probably about 1/500 sec. I was also using the highest zoom setting of 22x by this time.

9:48 to 13:20 I am trying to get the objects in view again unsuccessfully. Daniel and Michael are still seeing the objects.

13:20 to 14:40 I gave the camera to Daniel who tries to film objects but he can't get them to show up in the camera.

14:40 to 16:10 Daniel gave me the camera back and I tried to see the objects again with my glasses on and in the camera but I didn't notice it.

16:10 to 17:35 I am filming planes birds and other parts of the sky.

17:35 to 26:00 I am filming Michael and Daniel who describe the sighting in more detail.

26:00 to 26:40 I film the rising moon at max zoom to compare the size of the moon with the size of the object. On my TV the object was about 1/4 in while the moon was 4 inches meaning the object appeared about 1/16 as wide as the moon.

26:40 to 27:20 Video shows the sky again.

27:20 to 28:15 Video shows the area on the way back towards the hotel.

28:15 to 32:05 Video is from later that night showing Laughlin casinos etc.

Hopefully this will give you an idea of the events around the sighting time and the sighting itself. I also measured the distance to the building if that would be helpful I could find that the building is also 25 stories tall. To me it seems the objects would have to be fairly small unless they were quite high. My impression was that they were unusual and not like anything I would recognize. I estimate the size was maybe between 6 inches if at 1000 feet up to 11 feet if at 20,000 feet up or 22 feet if at 40,000 feet and so on. This is based on being compared to the size of the moon in my video camera at full zoom. The objects appeared about 1/16 as wide as the moon. The bright white glow and steady very slow movement gave me the feeling of some intelligent control. I remember seeing the other object briefly at first and that it was flashing before trying to

get the camera focused on it. The camera was probably a little too much out of focus to see the objects at first.

Field Investigator Update: April 2001 By Craig R. Lang - MN MUFON FI Coord.

The last month has seen a variety of new sighting reports come to our attention. Some of these have been of old sightings, and some of recent events. Two sightings which have been brought to my attention fit this diverse bill - one quite recent, and one from 1979. Earlier this month, MN MUFON was contacted by a sighting witness about a sighting from approximately 22 years ago. Dean Moritz and Craig Lang interviewed this witness and obtained his detailed account of the sighting.

The witness was age 12 at the time and lived in an apartment building on MN Hwy 252 and I694 Brooklyn Center. On a cool, clear fall day in Fall of 1979, he was playing football with a large group of kids who also lived in the apartments. One of the kids suddenly called their attention to a large object moving overhead from east to west. The object was triangular and moved slowly and silently at treetop level. The witness described the object as being as large as the apartment building. As the watched, the object separated into between 6 and 9 smaller triangular objects, with a light at each vertex. These objects continued on the original course, still at treetop level. The reporting witness also indicates that a number of cars on the nearby highway stopped, with people getting out to look at the object.

This sighting comes at a time which roughly corresponds to several other UFO sightings in the northern twin cities - mostly along the I35W corridor. One event, originally reported to Bill McNeff occurred in October 1979, at the intersection of I35W and I694. In this case, also, a large number of commuters pulled their cars over to watch as a large flying saucer hovered and maneuvered over the southeast quadrant of the intersection. In another case, a woman driving north on Silver Lake Rd, in New Brighton, observed a large lenticular/spheroidal object as it moved south to north parallel to I35W. She followed it in her car, for as long as she could. When she reached the intersection of Silver Lake Rd. and US Hwy 10, and had to wait at the stop light, the object suddenly accelerated out of sight. These cases and several others from this time period are listed on the MN MUFON website.

Minnesota MUFON would very much like to talk with anyone else who might have seen any of these objects in September or October of 1979. These would have been seen somewhere in the greater I35W and I694

corridors. It may be that these are just a few sightings in a little reported wave of UFO events at that time. Any other witnesses to these or related events would be welcome, to help us put together the pieces of the puzzle.

Another, more current sighting was also reported via a personal phone call to Craig Lang. This report came from a resident of Lindstrom, MN. In March, he and several others watched, and videotaped, a ball of light hovering and maneuvering over the lake on which his home is located. As of this writing, this case is just beginning to be investigated. Wendy Devore and Craig Lang are scheduled to interview the family in May. Stay tuned to this column for more details.

In addition to the sightings described in this article, other cases are currently being investigated by Casey Holt, Bill McNeff, and Dick Moss. For further details on these and other UFO sightings investigated by Minnesota MUFON, please check our website at: <http://www.mnmufon.org>. Also stay tuned to this column each newsletter as we discuss the most current MN MUFON sighting cases. In addition, if you know of any information that might bring to light any sightings or encounters, or have any further updates on events discussed in this column, please contact Craig Lang (phone: 763-560-1532, e-mail: crlang@mm.com, or contact Minnesota MUFON through our webpage.

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.

Classes are conducted approximately three times a year, as sufficient interest is indicated. We already have several people interested in the next class, which we will probably conduct this Summer. 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 phenomenon. The mystery beckons...

Happy investigating...

Filer's Files #12 -- 2001
MUFON Skywatch Investigations, George
A. Filer, Director, Mutual UFO Network
Mar. 21, 2001, Majorstar@aol.com

GORDON COOPER'S MESSAGE TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

Astronaut Gordon L. Cooper, one of America's original seven Mercury Astronauts orbited the Earth for a record 34-hour, and 22 orbits in May of 1963 on board Faith 7. He personally saw and his men filmed UFOs so he has been outspoken about the need for an open inquiry into UFOs. In 1978, he sent the following letter to the United Nations:

"I believe that these extraterrestrial vehicles and their crews are visiting this planet from other planets, which are a little more technically advanced than we are on Earth. I feel that we need to have a top level, coordinated program to scientifically collect and analyze data from all over the Earth concerning any type of encounter, and to determine how best to interfere with these visitors in a friendly fashion. We may first have to show them that we have learned how to resolve our problems by peaceful means rather than warfare, before we are accepted as fully qualified universal team members. Their acceptance will have tremendous possibilities of advancing our world in all areas. Certainly then it would seem that the U.N. has a vested interest in handling the subject quickly and properly. I should point out that I am not an experienced UFO professional researcher - I have not yet had the privilege of flying a UFO nor of meeting the crew of one. However, I do feel that I am somewhat qualified to discuss them, since I have been into the fringes of the vast areas of which they travel. Also, I did have occasion in 1951 to have two days of observation of many flights of them, of different sizes flying in fighter formation, generally from west to east over Europe. They were at a higher altitude than we could reach with our jet fighters. If the U.N. agrees to pursue this project and lend the credibility to it, perhaps many more well qualified people will agree to step forth and provide help and information." Sincerely Astronaut Gordon Cooper .

"PSEUDO CRYSTALS" FOUND IN ABDUCTEE HOUSE DUST

M. J. Ruben writes: "One year ago, Dr. William Levensgood of Pinelandia Biophysics Laboratory announced his exciting discovery of unidentified microscopic particles which were found in house dust of abductees." This research has steadily continued and new types of particles or "pseudo crystals" have been discovered. More unusual "pseudo crystals" have been

found in household dust of individuals claiming alien abduction. The research continues through the work of biophysicist Dr. William C. Levensgood of Michigan. The "glassy particles" were first discovered in 1997, when an experiencer (abductee) recalled her nighttime encounter with aliens and a beam of light that shined on the floor next to her bed. The woman was awakened by the beam of light. She thrust her arm into the sparkling beam of white light and watched it shimmer on her arm. In the morning, she contacted Dr. Levensgood and told him what happened. He went to her home and collected dust samples from the whitish dust residue on her furniture where she had reported seeing the sparkling beam of light during the night. This dust contained unexplainable "glassy particles" and "pseudo crystals" which were unidentifiable. This discovery led Dr. Levensgood to search for other clues in household dust. Our readers may be interested in seeing the latest photographic evidence of new "pseudo crystals." There are five pages of photos at the Alien Abduction Experience and Research web site:

[<http://www.abduct.com/aaer2/r10.htm>]." Thanks to Marilyn Ruben and Dr. Levensgood.

RUSSIA UFOs HOVER OVER AIRPORT AGAIN

BARNAUL -- Anatoli reports that on March 6,7 and 9, 2001, a UFO was observed above the city around 2200 hours (10:00 PM) in Southern Siberia. It hovered above Vlasikha, the southeast part of Barnaul. The object had the form of a sphere. In the first evening the sphere did not change in any way, in the following two nights it "danced" in the sky. It would increase and decrease in size, "blow up" similarly to salute, joined again and changed. The colors, moved sharply. One inhabitant of Vlasikha videotaped more than 1.5 of hours of the object on three evenings. See newspaper "Free Rate" (Svobodniy Kurs). On January 27, 2001, UFOs were observed above Barnaul, and the pilots of two IL-76 four-engine jet aircraft refused to take off with the UFO hovering over the airport. Other flights were diverted to other airports for the ninety minutes according to Ivan Komarov the local aviation company director. Thanks to: Anatolij kutovoj@mail.iae.lt UTRO.RU <http://www.utro.ru/news/200103131236343539.shtml>

NATIONAL SECURITY SKEWED UFO NEWS COVERAGE

SEATTLE -- Some of the nation's best-known news organizations have quietly cooperated with U.S. government authorities to deceive the public about unidentified flying objects UFOs, according to a new book by Terry Hansen a Seattle journalist. According to Hansen, "They did this mainly by suppressing their own

coverage and distributing government propaganda under the guise of factual reporting." In "The Missing Times" news media complicity in the UFO conspiracy, author Hansen explains how the same deception techniques used during wars and other national-security crises have been used to manage public perceptions about UFOs. Beginning in the 1940s, UFOs raised a variety of urgent national-security concerns among government policymakers who responded by deploying an array of standard censorship and propaganda methods, sometimes with the help of cooperative news organizations. Although the CIA has acknowledged it planned a covert mass-media program of "training and debunking" designed to discourage public interest in the UFO phenomenon, the Agency has not told the full story, Hansen reports. Documentation now confirms that the CIA orchestrated production of a 1966, CBS TV program about UFOs, narrated by famed newsman Walter Cronkite. The program filled with false and misleading information, was broadcast as part of the "CBS Reports" documentary series during a period of especially intense UFO activity across the nation. A range of evidence suggests that other elite news organizations known to have had close ties to the CIA also played key roles in the deception program. Hansen said. "My book argues that these assignments were related to UFOs, as well. Despite official denials, UFOs have long been one of the most pressing national-security issues facing the U.S. government." whansen@psc.u.com or by fax at 206-855-8075. The Missing Times is available at: 1-888-7-XLIBRIS www.themissingtimes.com.

Before the Big Bang

By BBC News Online science editor

Dr. David Whitehouse

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/sci/tech/news/id_1270000/1270726.stm

Tuesday, 10 April, 2001

A new theory for the origin of the Universe is intriguing astronomers with the idea that a "Big Splat" preceded the Big Bang. It proposes that there may be an unseen parallel universe to ours.

The idea, which is still at the development stage, may provide hints about what happened before our Universe exploded into existence some 15 billion years ago. The theory has been outlined in the past few days at the University of Cambridge in the UK and the Space Telescope Science Institute in the US.

Paul Steinhardt and colleagues at Princeton University propose the so-called "ekpyrotic model". It explains

important details about the nature of our Universe such as why the cosmos is expanding the way it is.

M-theory

For the uninitiated, the ideas are difficult to grasp. At their heart is string theory, the idea that the fundamental building blocks of space and time are tiny vibrating strings. String theory has excited theorists in the past few years although it has remained very much untested.

Steinhardt's ideas about the origin of the Universe are based on an extension of string theory called M-theory. M-theory does not do away with the Big Bang. The evidence that everything emerged from a 'fireball' with a temperature of 10 billion degrees, expanding on a time scale of one second, is now very compelling and uncontroversial.

Instead, M-theory looks at events before the Big Bang, proposing that the Universe has 11 dimensions, six of them rolled up into microscopic filaments that can, for all intents, be ignored.

Professor Sir Martin Rees of Cambridge University told BBC News Online: "Steinhardt and his colleagues offer a fascinating idea, invoking the idea of more than one universe embedded in higher-dimensional space."

The action of the Universe takes place in five-dimensional space. Before the Big Bang occurred the Universe consisted of two perfectly flat four-dimensional surfaces. One of these sheets is our Universe; the other, a "hidden" parallel universe. According to the Princeton researchers, random fluctuations in this unseen companion universe caused it to distort and reach towards our Universe.

The floater "splatted" into our Universe and the energy of the collision was transformed into the matter and energy of our Universe in a Big Bang.

According to Professor Sir Martin Rees: "All these ideas about the ultra-early universe highlight the link between cosmos and micro-world - the ideas won't be firmed up until we have a proper understanding of space and time, the 'bedrock' of the physical world."

**First cyborg is looking just a little down
at eel FROM BEN MACINTYRE
Times Newspapers Ltd, APRIL 18 2001**

IT CANNOT yet do the housework nor repel alien invaders, but the first functioning cyborg — combining a living brain with high technology — has arrived in the form of a machine that whizzes around looking for light and thinks like an eel.

Scientists in Chicago have created a robot guided by the extracted brain of a tiny eel-like lamprey, in a breakthrough paving the way for a new generation of inventions merging living tissue with high technology.

The machine, about the size of a cigarette packet, is attached to the brain of a lamprey kept alive in an oxygenated saline solution. When it detects a light, the electronic eyes on the device send a signal to the live brain, which then commands the wheels to roll via a microprocessor.

In a specially designed pit, the cyborg dashes back and forth in pursuit of the flashing lights. "Until the recent past, people were using biological nervous systems to inspire technology," Sandro Mussa-Ivaldi, of Northwestern University's Rehabilitation Institute in Chicago, told The Washington Post. "Now we have gone one step beyond, to tap into the nervous system itself."

The inventors of the device say that it could eventually lead to the development of prostheses and machines to help stroke victims and others suffering disability due to nerve damage.

Similar experiments combining animal tissue with microelectronics are under way with numerous potential applications, including the use of genetically engineered bacteria to identify pollutants and adapting moth antennae to pick up the presence of land-mines.

As microelectronics grow ever smaller, the technology is becoming compatible with even the smallest living creatures.

"We are asking the question: 'Can we make machines with living components and make them work?'" said Alan Rudolph, of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

The science is in its infancy, and there are few obvious uses for the lamprey-brain lighthunter. Our own brains

can tell us when the light is on, and electronics can already do the job without resorting to the brainpower of the lamprey.

There is another problem with the invention — and cyborg science in general: even by the standards of modern high-tech gadgets, it does not last very long, and requires a surfeit of lampreys to keep running.

The brain remains alive for only a few days in its special solution before the machine expires, and another lamprey must die.

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Minnesota MUFON

State Dir.: Richard Moss (320) 732-3205
Assist. State Dir.: Bill McNeff (952) 890-1390
Field Invest. Coord.: Craig Lang (763) 560-1532
Journal Editor: Joel Henry, PO Box 240631
Apple Valley, MN 55124
(952) 431-2426 E-Mail: mmj@mnmufon.org

MN MUFON WEB PAGE

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

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

National MUFON Hotline

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

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