

Minnesota MUFON Journal

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Directors Report

THE ALIEN AGENDA

By Bill McNeff, MN MUFON State Dir.

Meteorologist James W. Deardorff, professor emeritus at the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University, and previously a senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, has an article in the September 2002 MUFON Journal with some very logical reasoning about the "alien strategy". It is noteworthy that Deardorff writes the article from the standpoint that there is little question that UFOs and aliens are interacting with our planet. In this article he quotes Newman & Sagan, who wrote, "Some subset of moderately advanced [galactic] civilizations may be engaged in the exploration and colonization of other planetary systems; however, their mere existence makes it highly likely that their intentions are benign and their sensitivities at our level of technological adolescence delicate." (They might have added "ethical adolescence" as well.) In other words, they must be careful what they do that might affect us. Various researchers have stated that aliens may be treating us as in a zoo, a nursery, or carrying out a quarantine of earth until we are better prepared for contact. This immediately brings to mind the Star Trek "prime directive" of non-interference, so that the advanced beings do not disrupt the developing civilization of the less advanced beings, who may be unaware of life outside their planet.

However, a total embargo or hands-off strategy would be self-defeating, writes Deardorff, since when the time came when overt contact could no longer be avoided, the shock of sudden confrontation with a superior civilization would still be devastating to our society. So a "leaky embargo" strategy is suspected, with the UFO phenomenon serving the purpose of conditioning earth societies for eventual alien contact.

This conditioning appears to be a prolonged education process directed mainly toward those who are inquisitive and open to the possibility of an alien presence. We have been provided with information on the high technology possessed by their craft. We have been educated on the alien's psychic abilities. A disproportionate number of UFO sightings have occurred at nuclear installations, and nuclear missiles have even been remotely disarmed by UFOs. This strongly suggests that one element of the strategy is to discourage the use of nuclear weapons and nuclear power as well. It is also apparent that part of the strategy is to cause us to recognize our lowly place within the hierarchy of intelligent life.

We have also received some education toward concern for the life systems here on earth. Experiencers are made aware of the grave



Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., Nov. 9th
&
Sat., Dec. 14th
1:30-5pm

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

PARK FREE!

The building is designated as
non-smoking.

See map on back cover

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

danger of Earth becoming unlivable through human destructiveness, carelessness, hatred, and greed.

It is true, Deardorff says, that we cannot know all, or even much, of what's in the minds of the aliens. However, this should not deter us from making logical sense out of the information they have chosen to impart to us.

Scientist Deardorff writes, "Having a handle on what the alien behavior is all about, and their implementation of a consistent though complex strategy, should help to make the UFO topic less unpalatable to professional scientists, who don't like to study what doesn't make sense to them, and who are the linchpins in the maintenance of the UFO cover-up."

The full article in the Journal explores some other interesting logical implications of the aliens' behavior. To get the Journal, if you are not now a member of the international MUFON organization, I recommend that you join by writing to:

MUFON
P.O. Box 369
Morrison, CO 80465-0369

Membership/subscription rates are \$35 per year.

By the way, Deardorff states in a 2001 Physiologia Plantarum commentary that the variety, complexity and artistry of crop circles "represent the work of intelligence," and not a plasma vortex. "That is why the hoax hypothesis has been popularly advocated," he says. Although he may not say as much in that article, it seems clear that he has strong suspicions that the intelligence is at least in some cases extraterrestrial.

**Is the Government Hiding Facts On
UFOs & Extraterrestrial Life?
New Roper Poll Reveals that More Than
Two-Thirds of Americans Think So**
Entertainment Editors, Consumer/Lifestyle Writers
[http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-
bin/f_headline.cgi?bw.101502/222882608](http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-bin/f_headline.cgi?bw.101502/222882608)

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 15, 2002--
With last week's detection of a mini-planet in our
own solar system, can the discovery of
extraterrestrial life be far behind?

A national opinion poll released today found that 72% of Americans believe the government is not telling the public everything it knows about UFO activity and 68% think the government knows more about extraterrestrial life than it is letting on.

Americans are not only suspending their disbelief at the movies, but they are also suspending it in the real world. Sponsored by SCI FI Channel, the poll revealed that men consistently more than women think such information should be shared with the public. Also, the younger you are the stronger your belief that the government is withholding information about UFOs and extraterrestrial life. According to the poll, 80% of 18-24 year olds, 75% of 25-34 year olds, and 73% of 35-49 year olds say that the government is hiding information about UFOs.

"There is a reason why six of the top 10 grossing motion pictures probe the topic of science fiction," said Bonnie Hammer, SCI FI Channel's President. "People are curious, intrigued by the possibility of other life forms, and want to know more. At that point the entertainment stops and reality steps in." Hammer is currently developing Steven Spielberg's 20- hour epic science fiction miniseries TAKEN. Scheduled to premiere in December on SCI FI Channel, TAKEN is a sweeping drama that weaves together the lives of three families over four generations and their crucial roles in the history of the UFO phenomenon and government conspiracy.

Americans' overall trust in the government is also an issue. The poll revealed that while just over half (53%) of Americans say that their level of trust in the government has remained stable over the past five years, nearly a third (29%) say that they trust the government less than they did five years ago.

Most Americans say that the government does not share enough information with the public in general (55%) and that by and large when national security is not at risk, the U.S. government should not withhold information about UFO sightings (60%) and potential encounters with extraterrestrial life (58%).

This study was conducted by RoperASW among a representative sample of 1,021 adults ages 18 and over. The telephone interviews were conducted from August 23rd through August 25th, 2002. The margin of error for the total sample is +/- 3%.

RoperASW, with offices in the U.S., Europe and Asia, is a leading provider of world class market research. RoperASW is part of NOP World, one of the world's largest market research companies.

SCI FI Channel transmits fantastic images to 79 million human homes. Launched in 1992, SCI FI features a continuous stream of cinematic hits, new and original series, and special events, as well as classic sci-fi, fantasy, and horror programming. Check out SCIFI.COM(R), the SCI FI Channel's award-winning Web site, at www.scifi.com. SCI FI Channel is a program service of Universal Television (www.universalstudios.com), a division of Vivendi UNIVERSAL Entertainment (VUE), the U.S.-based film, television and recreation entity of Vivendi Universal, a global media and communications company.

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New Classified UFO Documents Surface By Grant Cameron presidentialufo@presidency.com <http://www.presidentialufo.com>

Over the years the Canadian government has always had a public relations problem regarding its involvement in the UFO mystery. The problem is that it once ran an investigation of flying saucers at a Top Secret level, and that it shared the information it had gathered with high-level United States officials.

Over the years, through carefully worded releases, the Canadian government has attempted to turn this high level involvement into what the government has described as a part time personal interest by one employee who was somewhat misguided in his pro- flying saucer beliefs.

Wilbert Smith, the top radio engineer in the Department of Transport, had headed the study up. Following a trip to visit with "United States officials," Smith returned to Canada writing a TOP SECRET memo seeking funding for his proposed research. As a part of the evidence he had been given in the states he listed five items:

- 1) The matter is the most highly classified subject in the United States Government, rating higher than even the H-bomb.
- 2) Flying saucers exist.
- 3) Their modus operandi is unknown but concentrated effort is being made by a small group headed by Vannevar Bush.
- 4) The entire matter is considered by the United States authorities to be of tremendous significance.
- 5) The United States authorities are investigating along quite a number of lines, which might possibly be related to the saucers such as mental phenomena.

While Smith was alive, statements supported the fact that official research into flying saucers was going on. A statement prepared for the Minister of Transport to be presented in the House of Commons in the 1950s, for example said, "This entire program ... is being carried on ... with official approval and authority to make use of existing facilities."

Months after Smith died in late 1962 Mr. Dupuis, Minister of the Department of Transport, made his final positive statement in the House of Commons,

"Between December 1950 and August 1954 a small program of investigation in the field of geomagnetics was carried out by the then communications division of the Department of Transport with a view to obtaining, if possible, some physical information or facts which might help to explain the phenomena which was generally referred to as unidentified flying objects. Mr. W.B. Smith was the engineer in charge of this program."

By 1964 UFO researcher Arthur Bray received a letter that started the denial, "... at no time has this Department carried out research in the field of unidentified flying objects ...The department did not take part in any of his (Smith's) research work nor did Mr. Smith provide the Department with any useful information arising out of his work."

By 1968 the denial was completed. The statement that would forever be provided for inquiries related to Smith was completed. The key UFO skeptic at the Dominion Observatory, Dr. Peter Millman, wrote it up. "The project was a personal one carried

out by Mr. Smith with the knowledge of his department, but without any official sponsorship."

Now, newly discovered classified documents have surfaced which clearly show that the government of the early 1950s was deeply interested and involved in the flying saucer mystery, and that it was officially approved and monitored. Further the documents clearly show that the later releases about these activities being a "purely a personal hobby" by one lone employee were carefully worded spin to distract inquiring minds.

The 43 new pages of documents were uncovered in the extensive files of Wilbert B. Smith by York University researcher Nick Balaskas at the University of Ottawa Archives in the Canadian capitol. There are five documents in total. Three of the documents are classified "secret" and two have no classification markings. They date from March 10, 1950 to October 18, 1952.

The five documents and their highlights are as follows:

1. March 10, 1950 "Preliminary Report on Initial Experiment Geo- Magnetic Release" classified "SECRET." This three-page document was written more than eight months before Smith's now famous "TOP SECRET" Project Magnet memo to his superiors within the Department of Transport. It describes the research that was going on that led to Project Magnet.

The object of the experiment being described in the document was "to check qualitatively certain theoretical points concerning the possibility of converting geo-magnetic energy into electrical energy." It is this geo-magnetic energy that, Smith would months later conclude, might be propelling the flying saucers. It is also this geo-magnetic energy theory that Smith would trade with American officials in exchange for information they had on the flying saucers.

The conclusion of this paper was that energy had been generated by the "collapse of the earth's field" using a "core of ferro- magnetic material," but that more advanced equipment should be built to more accurately measure the effect. The document can be viewed at:

http://www.presidentialufo.com/march_50_report.htm

2. The second five-page document, undated and without security markings, is the most interesting

of the set. It ties in the idea that "magnetic sink" can be produced and that it might closely link into the flying saucers that were widely being reported.

More importantly, the paper describes how Project Magnet came to be and the reasons behind the classification of the program.

"At the time when the flying saucers first captured public attention the writer was engaged in a part-time investigation of the behavior of electro-magnetic fields, and it seemed just possible that, if the saucers actually were space ships, they might be using the very magnetic principles being studied. Authority was requested and obtained to set up a classified project with the Department of Transport to pursue this matter further."

"The project was classified for several reasons. The exchange of information with other parallel classified projects could thereby be facilitated; scientific personnel working along unorthodox lines prefer to work in camera, until their results can be proven; and further-more, in the event that a new technology should be uncovered, its implications would have to be carefully assessed before pertinent information could be made public."

This document can be viewed at:

http://www.presidentialufo.com/flying_saucer_review.htm

3. The next seven-page document is actually six different assignment papers all classified "SECRET." They are very technical in nature. The titles of the papers included "Theoretical Investigation of Different Boundary Conditions in Maxwell's Electromagnetic Equations"; "Investigations of Mechanical Forces Associated with Electron Drift or Currents in Solid Bodies"; "Magnetic Domain Resonance in Magnetic Materials"; "Magnetic Wave Motion in Magnetic Materials"; "Investigation of Possibility of Magnetic Sink"; and "Single magnetic Poles."

4. The fourth discovered document is a fourteen-page paper titled "Project Magnet." The paper is a highly technical review of the experiments conducted by Wilbert Smith and J. Thompson "to investigate as many aspects of magnetic phenomena as possible with the object of determining whether magnetic sink exist, domain resonance occur, and any correlations between them."

Although this paper was not marked as classified other documents clearly show that the activities behind Project Magnet remained classified from December 1950 till 1979.

5. The final document in the newly discovered material is a draft report of the "Interim Project Magnet Report" dated October 18, 1952. It was the final version of this report that Mrs. Murl Smith stated, "had sat on the desk of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent for three months" until Wilbert Smith and the Prime Minister agreed "the time was not right" for its release.

The copy of the final report found in the government files remained classified well into the 1970s.

As one can see from the diagram the conclusion of the report included the observation that the "saucers are real." Many observations about the flight and visual characteristics were being analyzed to determine the gap that existed with present day physics knowledge.

This document can be viewed at:

http://www.presidentialufo.com/interim_magnet_report.htm

Perhaps there is a hopeful possibility here in the conquest of outer space. Interplanetary activity may well give us planetary peace. Once we discover Martian spaceships hovering over Earth's air-space, we will all come together.

"How dare they threaten us like this!" we shall shout, as one, at a really United Nations! -Former Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson in a speech receiving his Nobel Prize for Peace in 1957.

**Anti-gravity propulsion comes "out of the closet" by Nick Cook
JDW Aerospace Consultant, London
29 July 2002**

http://www.janes.com/defence/news/jdw/jdw020729_1_n.shtml

Boeing, the world's largest aircraft manufacturer, has admitted it is working on experimental anti-gravity projects that could overturn a century of conventional aerospace propulsion technology if the science underpinning them can be engineered into hardware.

As part of the effort, which is being run out of Boeing's Phantom Works advanced research and development facility in Seattle, the company is trying to solicit the services of a Russian scientist who claims he has developed anti-gravity devices in Russia and Finland. The approach, however, has been thwarted by Russian officialdom.

The Boeing drive to develop a collaborative relationship with the scientist in question, Dr. Evgeny Podkletnov, has its own internal project name: "GRASP- Gravity Research for Advanced Space Propulsion.

A GRASP briefing document obtained by JDW sets out what Boeing believes to be at stake. "If gravity modification is real," it says, "it will alter the entire aerospace business."

GRASP's objective is to explore propellant-less propulsion (the aerospace world's more formal term for anti-gravity), determine the validity of Podkletnov's work and "examine possible uses for such a technology". Applications, the company says, could include space launch systems, artificial gravity on spacecraft, aircraft propulsion and "fuel less" electricity generation" so-called "free energy".

But it is also apparent that Podkletnov's work could be engineered into a radical new weapon. The GRASP paper focuses on Podkletnov's claims that his high-power experiments, using a device called an "impulse gravity generator", are capable of producing a beam of "gravity-like" energy that can exert an instantaneous force of 1,000g on any object" enough, in principle, to vaporize it, especially if the object is moving at high speed.

Podkletnov maintains that a laboratory installation in Russia has already demonstrated the 4in (10cm) wide beam's ability to repel objects a kilometer away and that it exhibits negligible power loss at distances of up to 200km. Such a device, observers say, could be adapted for use as an anti-satellite weapon or a ballistic missile shield. Podkletnov declared that any object placed above his rapidly spinning superconducting apparatus lost up to 2% of its weight.

Although he was vilified by traditionalists who claimed that gravity-shielding was impossible under the known laws of physics, the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) attempted to replicate his work in the mid-1990s. Because NASA lacked Podkletnov's unique formula

for the work, the attempt failed. NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama will shortly conduct a second set of experiments using apparatus built to Podkletnov's specifications.

Boeing recently approached Podkletnov directly, but promptly fell foul of Russian technology transfer controls (Moscow wants to stem the exodus of Russian high technology to the West).

The GRASP briefing document reveals that BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin have also contacted Podkletnov "and have some activity in this area".

It is also possible, Boeing admits, that "classified activities in gravity modification may exist". The paper points out that Podkletnov is strongly anti-military and will only provide assistance if the research is carried out in the "wide world" of open development". Copyright 2002 Jane's Information Group. All rights reserved.

Former White House Chief of Staff John Podesta to Come Forward on UFO

Disclosure by Grant Cameron,

presidentialUFO@canada.com, www.presidentialufo.com

John Podesta, former Clinton White House Chief of Staff, will speak in support of the effort to gain release of still secret government UFO records. He will cite the importance to the public of declassifying government records. Podesta was a key member of the Clinton administration. That administration went to great lengths to obtain the answer to the UFO mystery.

Clinton's Science Advisor Dr. John Gibbons, for example, initiated an investigation by the U.S.A.F. into the crash of an unknown object at Roswell New Mexico. Clinton's first CIA Director James Woolsey in 1993 also green-lighted a new CIA investigation into UFOs. Clinton himself asked his good friend Webster Hubbell to find out the truth about UFOs. Hillary Clinton, also very interested in the UFO phenomena, helped Laurence Rockefeller edit a letter to President Clinton on UFOs, and was briefed on the UFO subject by Rockefeller at the Rockefeller ranch during the President's 1995 vacation there.

The Podesta statement will be part of an announcement by the SCI FI Channel in support of a new effort to gain release of secret government

records on unidentified aerial phenomena, commonly referred to as UFOs and release a new report by an independent journalist on the federal government's failure to carry out systematic scientific research into this widespread phenomenon.

The big announcement will be made at the National Press Club in Washington on Tuesday October 22, 2002. Besides offering up support for disclosure on UFOs, a new FOIA initiative will also be announced. This will include the announcement of the formation of the Coalition for Freedom of Information (CFI), website:

<http://www.freedomofinfo.org/>

TransOrbital to Launch Moon Probe by Mac Tonnies

<http://mactonnies.com/cydonia.html>

TransOrbital, a private space exploration company, will soon send a sophisticated robotic lander to the Moon. Private ventures such as this challenge NASA's monolithic reign, and indicate that the first manned Mars mission might be a commercial, rather than a governmental, venture.

Some hope that TransOrbital's probe will help resolve the nagging question of anomalies on the lunar surface. Many suspiciously artificial-looking features have been noted by analysts of Apollo and Clementine images. If the Moon harbors alien artifacts, then proper archaeological study will prove much easier than study of Martian enigmas such as the Face; as author David Jinks points out, the Moon is literally only a few days away, while a manned mission to Mars may be decades in our future. If we can establish a human presence on the Moon using 1960s hardware (however brief), we can improve on that exponentially with technology of the 21st century.

Artifacts or not, privatized exploration of the Moon is a positive step in the bureaucracy-riddled quest to set foot on the Red Planet.

Related links:

<http://www.transorbital.net>

<http://mactonnies.com/spacelinks.html>

<http://www.marssociety.org>

UFOs and Reality Transformation **by Richard Moss, MN MUFON ASD**

Chris Styles is a UFO researcher who lives in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. His work on the Shag Harbour incident has impacted the way in which crash/retrieval scenarios are viewed. In 1995, he directed an underwater search for physical evidence below the surface of Shag Harbour which was financed by Paramount Television. Chris has co-authored a book with Don Ledger about Shag Harbour titled Dark Object. It is part of Whitley Strieber's Hidden Agenda paperback series.

At the 2002 MUFON Symposium in Rochester NY he made a presentation concerning events, when being part of a multiple-witness UFO sighting, that can transform a person's sense of reality in some way. He drew on two cases as examples.

Styles sees such transformations as either "consistent" or "inconsistent." It is in the "inconsistent" cases that we can see evidence of an external psychological influence at work.

He credits Jacques Vallee's description of the working nature of reality transformations as they pertain to UFO encounters as follows: "At close range, the UFO phenomenon acts as a reality transformer, triggering for the witness a series of symbolic displays that are indistinguishable from reality. They induce a state of confusion for those who are vulnerable to the insertion of new thoughts and visual experiences."

One evening in Nov. 1970 fisherman Lawrence Smith was driving with his older brother, Eugene, heading for their home in Shag Harbour. Smith noticed a stationary orange light over the highway about 200 feet away. Five more appeared and might have been about 16 inches in diameter.

The lowest was only 8 feet above the highway.

Smith stopped the car at which time the tape player quit and the tape became ruined. The lights remained for about 30 seconds. The brothers turned around and headed for a nearby RCMP detachment and told their story to Constable Ralph Keeping.

Keeping went to the location of the sighting and found nothing to account for the incident.

The next morning Keeping received a call from Col. Calvin Rushton, CO of the nearby NORAD facility. He asked if the RCMP had received any UFO reports during the night. After an affirmative answer, Rushton confided that a UFO had also been seen near their base. It seems that these two similar sightings had occurred at the same time at two locations twenty miles apart.

Styles interviewed Smith twenty-four years later and the details were similar to Keeping's report as found in Canada's National Archives.

In Smith's case the initial feature of reality transformation, the anomalous lights, is the same as the sighting itself.

But, the trauma experienced by Smith resulting from a harmless sighting was persistent and strong. In 1997, Keeping said that Smith was as distraught after his sighting as he was at his wife's funeral years later. For a year neither brother would travel that stretch of road. He also said that the brothers knew when they were at the sighting location even when blindfolded. Psychic experiences became a part of Lawrence Smith's life.

What the incident lacked in high strangeness it more than compensated for with its high degree of credibility. The Smith case is a good example of a "consistent" type of reality transformation.

While searching for Shag Harbour Incident documents, Styles found an RCMP report of a situation that had occurred in Nova Scotia in 1976.

A woman had called the RCMP to report a UFO. Constable Pharand was sent to the residence. The woman and her husband, the Websters, described to Pharand what they had observed.

Pharand watched the three UFOs with binoculars supplied by the woman. They made no sound and had flashing red and white lights. They were sometimes stationary and sometimes they moved. A call to a nearby airport indicated no radar returns were occurring. Pharand watched the objects for two hours and then left.

As Styles read Pharand's report, he noticed that there had been two other witnesses, the Bedfords, who were neighbors of the Websters. The report did not detail their description of the object.

When Styles was finally able to contact the Bedfords, they could not recall their sighting. Then Mr. Bedford's memory was jogged and he said he was confused because he had not seen anything. When Pharand had knocked on their door and talked to this couple, they refused to step outside and look up at the objects. Previous to Pharand's knocking on the door, the Bedfords had been hiding upstairs with the blinds drawn because there had been a loud roaring sound right over their house. This was at the same time that Pharand and the Websters had been just next door watching the silent UFOs for two hours. Styles comments that the perceptual inconsistencies between the two neighbors demonstrates the slippery nature of "inconsistent" reality transformations.

What if some UFO situations have no core physical event? This has implications for the worth of corroborative witness testimony. A nuts and bolts sighting for one person might be screened by a holographic projection for someone else nearby.

Consider the crowds at Fatima. Some people saw the virgin, some a cloud, some a light, and many saw nothing at all. Those who experienced the miracle were a mixture of the faithful and the skeptical. Why would a deity choose to tease the audience?

So, what was the apparition? Who knows?

As always, this is a very condensed summary of the presentation made at the MUFON 2002 Symposium. Some of it is given verbatim and some of it is paraphrased. Readers who would like to read the full document, along with those of the other speakers, can obtain a copy of the 2002 Proceedings from MUFON, PO Box 369, Morrison CO 80465-0369. Include a check for \$27.50.

Vallee On Crop Circles

by Bill Hamilton <skyman22@fastmail.fm>
UFOUpDates – Toronto, Wed, 9 Oct 2002

I posted this response to speculations that military satellites were behind crop formations:

It has recently come to my attention that some individuals are advancing the idea that crop glyphs are being made by the military (branch is unspecified) and laid down by using a laser or maser beam from an orbiting satellite.

Aside from the waste of taxpayer expense such behavior is explained in terms of perpetrating the concept that an alien presence is responsible for the crop glyphs.

History has shown that the military has repeatedly denied any evidence of extraterrestrial visitation and does not affirm it, not even for disinformation purposes (what purpose?).

Let us think about this. A satellite is in a 100-mile orbit around earth (an example). It is travelling at a velocity that maintains its orbit - approximately 18,000 mph or 26,400 feet per second so that to make a simple circle of 100 feet in diameter, the laser would operate for a 1/264th of a second, but NO, that would make a line across the earth. It would have to have a beam that spread into a circle with a 50-foot radius instantly - and that is just a simple circle.

England is usually very foggy.

The biggest issue for a free space laser is fog. While the laser beam transmits through fog, the moisture particles are so small and dense and like many tiny prisms to distort and dissipate the signal. This problem makes the light with information distort and produces an error bit.

Although the liquid content of a heavy shower is 10 times that of a dense fog, the radius of a raindrop is about 1000 times that of a fog droplet. This is the primary reason that attenuation via rain is 100 times less than that of fog.

The effects of snow on a laser transmission fall somewhere in between those of fog and rain, depending on the degree of water particles in the snow.

Even more devastating to holding your writing utensil on target is Shimmer: This is the direct result of a combination of factors, including atmospheric turbulence, air density, light refraction, cloud cover, and wind. The combination of factors will cause a similar disturbance when a laser beam is transmitted through the atmosphere.

Then there is the matter of laser energy. The power density required at the target site has to be precise so as not to ignite a dry crop and yet penetrate the atmosphere. Even by penetrating the atmosphere

and attenuating below ignition temperatures, how is the beam focused on the lower point of stalks?

Some of these arguments also apply to masers.

What about using UAVs? More probable than satellites, but still having problems as a hypothesis. UAVs are also in motion, though more controlled than a satellite.

Most of these alternate hypothesis come from those who outright state their disbelief in the ET-origin hypothesis or support some other exotic hypotheses involving earth energies or extra- dimensional entities.

The crop glyphs (other than the confirmed hoaxes) remain a mystery to be further investigated, but I think it is highly unlikely that we will find a military source behind this phenomenon.

Field Investigator Update By Craig Lang, MN MUFON FI Coord.

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

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

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

Subject: lights

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

Hi Dick,

[Have there been] any reports of strange lights in the sky tonight? I was traveling west of Long Prairie tonight about 6:45 and saw 5 or 6 slightly scattered bursts of white light- like the white wing

light of a plane only much brighter and scattered too far apart to be on a plane. They also disappeared unlike a plane.

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

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

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

A year ago, in October 2001, a female witness was driving east on 10th St. in Lake Elmo towards Manning street. Her teenaged daughter was asleep in the back seat of the car. This was shortly after the witness had gotten off work at 8:30 PM. This is an area that has few lights so she could see the sky clearly. In the east ahead of her she saw a very bright light, which she assumed was an aircraft. As she drove on and it came closer, she say that it was very big. She slowed down and noticed another aircraft flying parallel to the big craft, but this craft had no lights. She went past a gas station and the Cimarron Trailer Court. The object was moving down and was getting close over the trees, which are big cottonwoods. She slowed to 20 mph and rolled down her window but heard nothing. The car approached Oakland Jr. High School. There is also a house and a pond at this location. Now she could see that instead of one bright light there were six bright lights spaced regularly and forming a V shape. The lights were so bright she could not see the object which she assumed they were a part of. The tops of the trees were lit up. The object appeared to hover over this spot for about 2

minutes. The lights had the intensity of baseball field lights, and she estimated the object was the size of a baseball field. This led to the question, "Was there a baseball field at this location?" She said there is not.

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

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

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

Lake Elmo was [also] the scene of one of the best cases I have investigated, which occurred about 10:00 PM on December 25, 1988. This was at a small lake just west of Manning Ave. and about a mile from the Oct. 2001 Lake Elmo sighting. It involved two bright orange lights hovering at about 60 feet elevation over the frozen lake and was witnessed by about a dozen people in two houses on the west side of the lake. The object left a melted area on the ice and a row of holes in the ice, which led out over the lake to the east. The holes were about 3 feet apart and began as small dinner plate size in the melted area, and diminished to nothing as the trail was followed to the east.

Feedback from "The Awakening":

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

One experiencer, from New Mexico writes: "I just read your article in the MUFON Journal. I am an abductee with more than abductions going on. "

The letter continued on to describe apparent contact, abduction and paranormal events which have accompanied this person throughout her life. In it, she described interference and harassment by what she described as government personnel. She also described adverse health effects from her encounters.

Another experiencer wrote:

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

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

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

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

tremendous aid to research in this puzzling area of study.

In addition, if you have any further updates on events discussed in this column, or know of any information that might bring to light other sightings or encounters, please contact Minnesota MUFON through our website:

<http://www.visi.com/~jhenry/index.html>

or contact Craig Lang: phone: 763-560-1532, <http://www.craigrlang.com> , e-mail: crlang@craigrlang.com

Also, please stay tuned to this column in each newsletter as we discuss more local and regional sighting cases.

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

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

UFO Websites worth a look Joel Henry, Ed.

Weird Wisconsin: <http://www.weird-wi.com>

The W-Files: Archive of the Wisconsin paranormal:
<http://www.w-files.com>

UFO Skeptic: <http://www.ufoskeptic.org>

Wilbert Smith Articles:

http://presidentialufo.com/wilbert_smith_articles.htm

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

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

National MUFON Hotline

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

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

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