

# the apro bulletin

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## Idaho Abduction Case

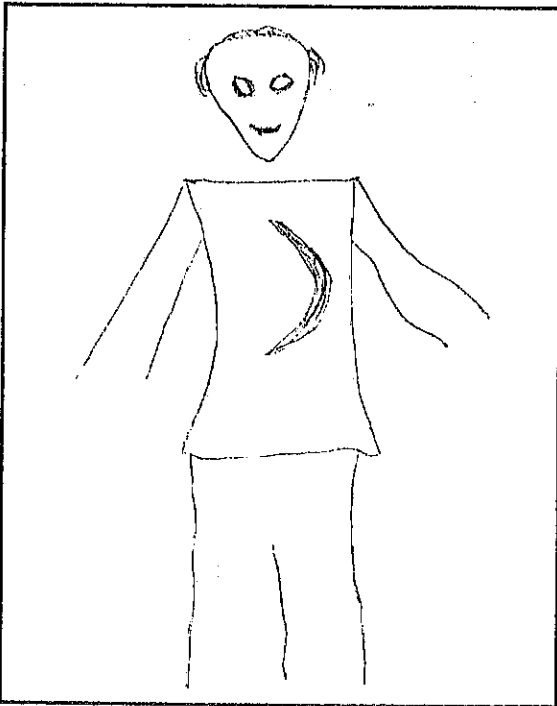


Figure with a "boomerang" on "tunic". No neck perceived. Small ears; not well-developed. Long hands "like ours," with four fingers. Thumb?

Drawings by Rachel during the interview, 10/8/77.

### Close Encounters - - The Hollywood Kind

By JAMES D. WHITE

If they keep their wits about them, students of UFO phenomena can do well to see Columbia Pictures' box office smasheroo, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. Unlike *2001* and *Star Wars*, which made no pretense of being anything but science fiction, *Close Encounters* deals with UFOs and brushes close to some of the issues they raise. But its garish, zooming UFOs appear more like transient projections than the very solid objects we find in the actual literature. And what the Hollywood sound effects people have done with the  
(See *Hollywood* - Page Four)

On the night of June 20, 1977, Ms. Rachel Jones (a pseudonym) of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, retired at 11:35 p.m. At about 11:55 she awoke when she heard someone coming up the stairs and into her apartment. She assumed that a friend had come into her bedroom but could not see who was there. She felt paralyzed and could not move or speak. She felt the movement of the bedsheet on her leg and sensed that she was lifted or moved in some manner. She recalled seeing a figure in some kind of bluish suit but could not recall a face. Suddenly she was fully awake and rushed into the living room to look out the window to see if anyone was outside. She saw the clock which read 1:57 a.m., and was puzzled because of the gap in time.

On the next morning she woke with a severe headache which persisted for a day or two. She contacted the friend who she thought had visited her but who denied a visit to her apartment that night.

During the next week, Ms. Jones took a flight to Dallas, Texas, during which she saw two flashes of light while the aircraft was in heavy cloud cover and which she felt was a "kind of greeting." Later, she and her daughter puzzled over a "scar" (approximately in the shape of a wheel with spokes, about one centimeter [.4 inches] in diameter) which was located on the back of her left shoulder.

At the time that APRO received the initial letter from Ms. Jones, her letter was forwarded to Dr. Sprinkle, one of APRO's consultants in Psychology and an expert in regressive hypnosis. Dr. Sprinkle contacted Ms. Jones by mail and when she responded she expressed her hope that she could learn more about the events which occurred during the time lapse. She completed questionnaires which included the "survey of psychic impressions of UFO phenomena", "vocational interest inventory" and "personality inventories."

The Profile results of the inventories indicated that Rachel's patterns of scores are similar to those of normal U.S.A. adults. "The responses to the questionnaires were of interest to me," Dr. Sprinkle wrote in his report to APRO, "especially since Rachel indicated that she was willing to consider hypnotic procedures to explore the loss of time experience."

"On October 8, 1977, I interviewed Rachel Jones and her daughter . . . after the interview Ms. Jones made arrangements to have the "scar" on  
(See *Idaho* - Page Two)

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## Idaho

*(Continued from Page One)*

her left shoulder photographed. She sent copies of the photograph and the following statement which was dated and signed by her personal physician who is a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons:

"I saw (Rachel Jones) in my office and examined the scar on her back near the left shoulder. The scar (or whatever it is) is circular to elliptical in shape with some central radiating lines which form a star-like pattern. The border is very well defined. The lesion measures 10x8 mm and is essentially flat.

"I don't know what it is. It does not look like a malignant lesion, but more like a scar. It very definitely is unusual in its appearance and looks

like healing secondary to a specific injury rather than something that would go unnoticed.

(Signed) October 16, 1977"

Dr. Sprinkle's report goes on: "In my opinion, Ms. Jones and her daughter are capable and intelligent persons, with interesting and complex personalities, who are sincere about their concern and puzzlement over the UFO experience. They have responded openly to my questions about their background and reactions to these events. Although there are many questions about the reliability and validity of reports of apparent UFO abductions, I believe that Ms. Rachel Jones is describing an experience which is very real to her. The report of her experience is similar to the reports of those experiences of other persons, who not only claim that they have encountered strange beings, but also believe that they have been "abducted" or led to a craft or room where they have been examined, then released, with little or no conscious memory of the abduction and examination experience."

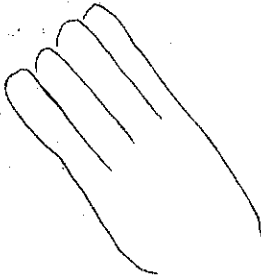
As in past cases, Ms. Jones had considerable resistance to questioning while under hypnosis, responding with such statements as: "I can remember, but I can't say."

The whole transcript of the hypnotic session is very lengthy; therefore the salient points will be set forth in abbreviated form. Amidst many moans and grimaces, Rachel Jones described a being who, to her, was ugly, "just stood there" wore a kind of shirt with an inverted triangle design on it, who had no pupils in his eyes and no neck. The nose of the entity seemed to be normal (like ours, she said) but the mouth was "like a line," and the ears "like baby ears" (small) and flat. It had very little hair, (thin on top) and some around the sides.

Ms. Jones had a memory of the creature carrying her, and then taking her to Fernan's Lake (a place where she had been before) where they went through a door and where she saw windows with "seals." She remarks that the floor is cold (she had no shoes on) and as she looks down at her feet, she notices, for the first time, the "boots" of the entity. They and his trousers are all one piece of clothing.

When Rachel and the entity entered the chamber, she noted that the door was large enough so that they entered side by side. There were three other entities in the enclosure, two of whom looked like her companion, and the other "looks a lot like us." When Dr. Sprinkle asked if he looked exactly like us, she said "more like us." He took her by the hand and she no longer felt cold — rather, she felt warm.

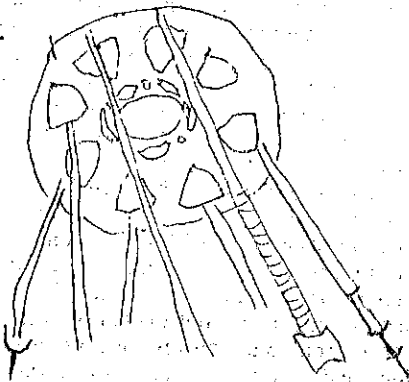
At this point a door opens, making a humming sound (at any rate she associates the sound with the opening of the door). She sees an "upright wheel" in the center of the room and starts toward it but is pulled back by the "almost human" entity. She notes that the walls look metallic — "like brushed aluminum" — dull but not smooth. The room is lighted, but she sees no lights as such.



*Long fingers on square hands. Cannot recall thumb.*

Her companion guides her into the room which is "kind of square" with "rounded corners." In the ceiling is an apparatus which Rachel describes as "much like a wagon wheel — but much more streamlined," and very shiny.

*Very shiny.*



*Drawing of a four-foot wide "wheel" in the "ceiling", with "instruments" on "tubes" attached to "wheel".*

At this point Rachel becomes very disturbed, groans and says that the "wheel" has some tubes hanging from it. ". . . but I don't like the looks of it. Those tubes, they're like metal — with something wrapped around it — Oh, God, I don't know what it is. I don't like it."

She then goes on to say the dangling things look like drills ". . . they look like some surgical instruments I've seen, but not like anything I've ever seen."

Rachel is then asked to sit down "please." She was happy that the man said "please" — although he never *said* anything — she *heard* it in her mind. She sat down on a box-like affair, looked at her feet, noting that they were tan. She gets the mental impression that he doesn't understand what she's thinking about (tan feet). Then she wonders if he has a name and "hears" *SHOVAN*. She thought: "Shovan?" and he corrected her: "*SHOVAR*."

Then the man asked her to take off her shirt: she is embarrassed and doesn't want to comply. She is told they want to examine her skin, her arms, shoulders and back.

After a period of groaning and weeping, interspersed with protestations about having to disrobe, Rachel says she took her shirt off. She is asked about the "line" on her skin and she explains that she swims and lays in the sun a lot and that the "line" is the demarkation of where her swimsuit protects her from the sun. All of this exchange, the reader should remember, is apparently telepathic.

Rachel does not stipulate at what point she went from a sitting to a lying position but her next revelation is of lying on her stomach, and the *whole floor* is rising. She indicates puzzlement at this. Then she says, they put some kind of light on her back which feels warm, then something wet is put on her shoulder which burns. During the hypnotic session, at this time, Rachel demonstrates considerable distress, crying and describing the pain. Then she sees the "man" up by her head and yells to him to stop. He "tells" her it won't hurt anymore and the pain stops.

Rachel's next recollection is of sitting up and having her shirt back on. "I don't like him," she says. She asked (mentally): "Are you going to let me go home?" He didn't answer her. She is thinking he's not very nice and he "says" he didn't mean to harm her. She didn't believe him — felt that he didn't know what pain was.

Rachel asked the man why he came and he "said": "It's not time."

"We were thinking back and forth," Rachel said, "and I was thinking to him: 'But I want to know why.' And he said that 'they had made a change.'"

The next few minutes of the session revealed that the "change" in Rachel would make her "better for others." Some of that information is contradictory for she claimed that "he" said he had not seen her before but that he knew her. Later she said she asked him if they had met before and he answered "Yes." She then told him she didn't remember and he said she wouldn't remember.

The humming sound was heard again, the door opened and three of the entities entered. She asked the man if they'd meet again and he said they would. She asked how he would find her and he said he would know where she was.

Rachel then reiterated her wish to go home, and then she is sitting up in her bed. She got up, went into the kitchen, then the living room, looked at the clock and was surprised at the time — 1:57 a.m.

As we are sure the readers will note, there are many questions left unanswered in this report. Lamentable but nevertheless true. The drawings done by Rachel while under hypnosis are included to help the reader visualize some of the data.

This is the second case we have encountered wherein the abduction took place in a residence rather than in an isolated spot as is usually the case.

There are other similar cases known to APRO and currently under investigation. When they are completed they will be presented in the *Bulletin*.

## Hollywood

(Continued from Page One)

often eerily silent UFO shouldn't happen to a space dog.

Still, this is spectacular entertainment, with something of a story told with considerable imagination. If it does any good, it will be in the way it conveys, to the hard-core doubters, the mind-altering impact of most UFO sightings. In other words, the movie proceeds from the premise that UFOs exist. If it does any harm, that would lie in the way it seems to encourage complacency. This is not immediately apparent, as fear and suspense abound.

The picture opens with a howling sandstorm in the Sonoran desert where some ancient Navy planes have been off-loaded by a UFO. They turn out to be the Navy training flight which disappeared with all hands off the Florida coast in 1945.

No sign of the crew, but the planes have gas in the tanks, the batteries are charged, and a salvage crewman starts up one motor without difficulty.

The scene shifts abruptly to Indianapolis, where airport officials are talking by radio with commercial airline pilots who are reporting UFO activity. Some convincing business about whether they want their names on a report of their sightings. At the same time, a nearby Indiana town is blacked out, and residents are terrified by swooping overflights of glowing objects and dazedly watch children's toys and household appliances come to life or overheat or run wild. One young mother, played by Melinda Dillon, sees her four-year-old son (Cary Guffey) toddle off through the night as if answering a summons. She retrieves him, but only after he has been narrowly missed by a truck driven by a power line repairman, Richard Dreyfuss, who has been badly shaken and sunburnt in his own close brush with a UFO.

The next night Dreyfuss, whose family doesn't understand his anxiety, is determined to find out what's going on and goes out again to a hillside to watch for UFOs. He gets fired for goofing off. Also watching are Melinda and other people who have experienced near-misses with UFOs the first night. A UFO obligingly appears, and this time the child is drawn away for good as the adults are subjected to a psychic implant. From then on they are haunted by the image of a peculiar mountain and develop a common compulsion to go to it.

In the meantime NASA (or its Hollywood equivalent) has been getting computer signals from space, expressed on teleprinters in the form of numbers in groups of threes.

An aerial survey photographer recognizes the numbers as map coordinates. He also speaks French, and conveniently acts as an interpreter for Francois Truffaut who is cast as a French scientist whose function seems to be to keep gung ho U.S. Army types from ruining the chances for peaceful contact with an advanced race in the action that follows.

For it seems that a covey of white-haired scientists has figured out that what the space people want is a rendezvous on a certain mountain in Wyoming. Believe it or not, the Army is willing. Several Wyoming counties are evacuated on pretense of an accident involving stored poison gas, and the Army constructs a suitable landing pad for space visitors on a shoulder of the same starkly upthrust monolith the Indiana witnesses have had implanted in their minds and which they have compulsively sketched or shaped in mud or mashed potatoes. The witnesses see a telecast of the Wyoming evacuation, recognize the mountain in their minds, and travel automatically west. In Wyoming they all get picked up by the Army's quarantine pickets, but Dreyfuss and Melinda get away and strike off up the mountain. They are lurking in the bushes when UFO scout craft arrive to inspect the landing pad.

As the scouts reconnoiter the pad's downhill end, a couple of hundred scientists, technicians and military brass, all suitably clad in white overalls, standing waiting at the uphill end with television equipment. Behind them is a visual panel which reproduces in color the sounds generated by a synthesizer which plays variations on a theme of five notes. The UFOs wobble that they dig this jazz and bray back their own version of the theme.

In the distance, out of boiling cumuli lit by Jovian thunderbolts, the command ship appears. As the huge construction approaches it overwhelms the screen with mass and brilliance, yet settles its convex bottom majestically but precisely on the spacious pad barely big enough to contain it. There is a sonorous exchange of musical and presumably diplomatic signals, and a landing ramp is lowered through a frame of glaring light suggesting other dimensions.

Down the ramp come a dozen or so misty figures which solidify into the crews of the missing 1945 Navy flight off Florida. As they are greeted and sound off the inevitable name, rank and serial number, one scientist says to another: "They haven't aged. Maybe Einstein was right." The other replies: "Maybe Einstein was one of *them*." At this point Dr. J. Allen Hynek (listed as technical advisor to the film), wearing a blue business suit in the midst of all the white coveralls, moves forward to debrief the fliers.

More figures follow out of the mist, presumably other people missing from UFO encounters, and among them is the little boy. His mother has come out of the bushes by this time and she sweeps him up in her arms.

Now in the mist several dozen wraithlike little figures with big heads and slender arms appear and line up to salute the assembled earthlings. From the terrestrial crowd a dozen young men and women clad in red jump suits approach the ramp and board the spaceship. Among them is Dreyfuss, who has been included at the last minute through Truffaut's influence. The UFO crew, standing barely up to the hips of the earthlings, welcome them

joyously. The scene fades as the five-tone theme diminishes from full symphonic volume to a lullaby.

Out of the mist materializes an attenuated female figure, unimaginably old, who pronounces a wordless benediction. Truffaut replies in kind, the music swells up and the spaceship lifts off.

Incredibly, these final scenes are effective in spite of the way the special effects people are allowed to run amok again. (An earlier example was their overdoing of the animation of mechanical toys and machines when the UFOs first appears.) The command ship is awe-inspiring in its vastness, but its array of flashing lights, changing shape, color and pattern to the surge of stentorian music, often looks embarrassingly like a globular jukebox or pinball machine. *Tourjours Hollywood.*

Far more relevant to the UFO-oriented are questions of intent behind the whole production. Is the viewer supposed to conclude that UFOs, generally speaking, are benign? Did anyone ask Betty Hill, Travis Walton, Charles Hickson, Calvin Parker or Antonio Villas-Boas, all of whom have said they were taken aboard a UFO, whether benign is the right word for the treatment they say they received? Even more relevant is the question of whether the film was meant to implant or strengthen the presumption that the official establishment — for all its public posture of ignoring the UFO problem — is secretly but diligently prepared to deal with it? If so, who's responsible? And is such a presumption justified?

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## 1950 Steep Rock Lake, Ontario Case Possible Hoax

Investigations by Robert Badgley, Field Investigator of Ontario, Canada have been conducted to ascertain the status of this well publicized story. It involved a couple who went to an isolated cove at Steep Rock Lake in northern Ontario for a picnic. There they witnessed a spaceship with numerous occupants.

The story was originally published in the Steep Rock Lake Echo. This publication has not been in operation for many years. Mr. Badgley researched the Northern Miners Press for information and leads on the case. This work turned up the name of Mr. Hancock of the Steep Rock Iron Mines Ltd. of Atikoken, Ontario. Correspondence directed to the Steep Rock Iron Mines brought response from Mr. Beryl Labossieu who retired from Steep Rock Mines in 1974. His letter revealed the following facts:

*The Men From Space article appeared in the Steep Rock Echo in 1950. The author was Gordon Edward who is now retired and living in Vancouver. Mr. Labossieu writes "that the story*

*was entirely fictitious and written solely for the amusement of our somewhat isolated community. It was picked up by an American magazine at the time with resultant publicity. Again in 1967 it was revived when a certain Frank Edwards published a book on UFO's and included this story in the book. Over the years the mine has received countless letters on the subject. It was certainly a well written article, as it has fooled a great number of people for many years."*

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## New Consultant

Ronald Neman, Ph.D., has honored APRO by consenting to join our panel of consultants.

Dr. Neman received his Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Louisiana State University in 1966, his Master's degree from the University of Texas in 1968, and his Ph.D. from Texas Christian University in 1971. His Doctoral thesis was "Linguistic Sophistication and Word Association Structures of Children", and his dissertation was titled: "Categorical and Grammatical Factors in Word Association."

Dr. Neman has had considerable professional experience and has been published extensively. He is currently Associate Director for Research at the National Association for Retarded Citizens at Arlington, Texas.

We look forward to a mutually beneficial association.

## UFO Related Information from the FBI File

by  
Dr. Bruce S. Maccabee  
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(Part II)

### The FBI Retreats

As of July 31, 1947, the FBI was officially involved with the UFO phenomenon. Agents were ordered to carry out intense investigations of reports which came to their attention. The Washington office began to accumulate a mass of UFO-related data. This would seem to be an ideal situation for an investigative agency that wanted to understand what was going on. However, only two months later the FBI left the center stage and began its retreat into the shadows. To understand part of the reason why, it is necessary to consider the types of reports that the FBI investigated.

By the time General Schulgen contacted the FBI (July 10, 1947) the FBI had a collection of newspaper clippings and teletype messages. The first teletype message was rather brief, to say the least. It read: "About 12 so-called flying discs passed over Darlington, S.C. approximately 5:30 PM today. Advise if wish details."<sup>11</sup> Two other teletype messages that had been received by July 10 were more detailed, but they were reports of mechanical hoax devices which were apparently typical of the hoaxes that were perpetrated during the early days of UFOs. On July 7 a report was filed from Schreveport, La. of an object that had "Made is USA" written on it. It was a disc which reportedly landed and smoke issued forth. It was found to be a thin aluminum disc, 16 inches in diameter with coils of wire attached. The Army at Barksdale Field retrieved the disc before the FBI agent had a chance to look at it.<sup>12</sup> On July 8 a "disc" was found near Roswell, N.M. This "disc" was hexagonal in shape and was suspended from a balloon. This "disc" was sent to Wright Field by a special plane for analysis.<sup>13</sup> On July 9 the resident agent in Burbank, Cal. called the main FBI office to report that a fire in a nearby wood had been caused by the landing of a "flying disc". A further report on July 10 described the disc as being made of aluminum, about two feet in diameter, and "having a sort of radio tube in the center of the disc".

By the time the FBI had agreed to investigate UFO witnesses (July 24, 1947 communication to General Schulgen), the files contained several more reports of hoax objects and only three reports that could be considered good. These reports will be referred to later. The hoax reports included a report from Twin Falls, Idaho about a "saucer within a saucer in the manner of cymbals" that had a plastic dome, wires and "tubes similar to radio tubes". It was about 30" in diameter and apparently had some wiring burned off and "looked as though something might be missing". This

saucer was reported by a woman who claimed she had heard a noise like a collision in her back yard.<sup>14</sup> Another hoax object was found by Mr. ....(name crossed off) in Laurel, Md. He called to report that a buzzing object had landed in his back yard "and the machinery is still buzzing".<sup>15</sup> Still another object was reported from Black River Falls, Wisconsin. It was a large, possibly cardboard, disc that had a small propellor attached to the side.<sup>16</sup> A disc found in Seattle on July 16 was analyzed by the ONI (Office of Naval Intelligence). It had a hammer and sickle painted on it.

The three good reports in the FBI file at the time of the response to General Schulgen all came from the Army Air Force (AAF) and were the following. 1) Two meteorologists in Virginia wrote "We hesitate to make this report concerning our pilot balloon observations in regards to a flying disc because of the considerable national skepticism regarding the subject at present. However, local newspapers inform us that the U.S Government admits no authority for such a ship or object and for its flights. Then we must assume this strange object to be foreign." The report goes on to describe several sightings. "Mr. ....(name removed) has observed this strange metallic disc on three occasions through the theodolite while making his pibal observation during the last six months. Miss Baron (name accidentally not removed) has reported observing it on one occasion. Miss Baron's report agrees with Mr .... observations except as to the color which she reported as a dull metallic luster. Mr .... last observed this disc in *April 1947* (italics by present author) at the 1100E Pibal Observation when the balloon was at 15,000 feet. The disk was followed for 15 seconds, apparently moving on level flight from east to west to the far north of the station. The object was a metallic-like Chrome-shaped something like an ellipse with a flat level bottom and a dome-like round top. The disk appeared below the balloon, was much larger in size in the instrument (sic; since pilot balloons do not carry instruments this may mean that, viewed through the theodolite, it appeared angularly larger than the balloon) and shined like silver. It was impossible to estimate the height or speed of the disk except that it appeared to be moving very rapidly. Miss Baron observed the disk when her balloon was at about 27,000 feet. All days observed were either clear or with very few clouds and good visibility." This report was received by the FBI on the 22nd of July. It stands out as one of the highly credible pre-Arnold reports. Aside from the early dates of the sightings, one is struck by the detailed description by trained meteorologists using instruments to track and observe the "saucer". One is also struck by the, in retrospect, amusing references to many sightings of "this disk" and "the disk" as if there were only one object of its type which had been seen on several occasions. It is clear from the report that the meteorologists were afraid that

"the disc" represented foreign technology of which the U.S. government should be made aware. They even suggested that the occurrence of flying discs might be sufficiently serious that if they sighted such a disc again they should consider ending their weather measurements to observe the disc: "If sighted again, we wonder if it would be a good idea to drop the balloon and instead make observations on this disc."

The second and third reports in the FBI file by July 24 were both sightings from the air in southern Wisconsin. They both took place on July 7, the second at 1145 CST and the third at 1430 CST. Each was a two observer report, with an A.F. captain involved in the second sighting. The second report stated: "saucer descended vertically edgewise through altocumulus clouds, stopped at 4000 ft. and assumed horizontal position and proceeded in horizontal flight from a horizontal position for 15 seconds covering 25 miles and again stopped and disappeared." This observation was made from an altitude of about 800 ft above ground, while the "saucer" was estimated to be about 4000 ft above sea level. The speed of the saucer was estimated at 6000 mph. The third report stated: "Observed in horizontal flight in a horizontal attitude for a period of 20 seconds covering 22 miles. By the time pilot had removed his camera from the glove compartment of his plane the saucer disappeared and again reappeared approximately 10 miles farther along its course after 6 seconds making its final disappearance." This third observation was made at an altitude of 3500 ft. above sea level and the saucer was estimated to have been at an altitude about 1000 ft lower. The speed of the saucer in the third report was estimated at 3690 mph. The weather during both of the sightings was clear ("CAVU") with scattered altocumulus clouds at 6000 ft. Both of the above reports were sent via the Civil Air Patrol in Wisconsin to the Commanding General at Bolling AFB. There was no suggestion that the observers might have been mistaken or that they were attempting to create (independent) hoaxes.

I have presented these reports in detail to show that the FBI did have some interesting evidence available which could not be explained as simple hoaxes by the time the decision was made to investigate UFO reports. Although it wasn't the job of the FBI to investigate aerial phenomena, it was the job of the FBI to investigate subversion within the US. Thus if *all* reports of saucers had been a) clearly hoax objects and/or b) clearly mistakes of observers, the FBI could have concluded that there was no reason to investigate. However, with a few *good, detailed* observations of what seemed to be real craft that exhibited capabilities far beyond our own, the existence of hoax reports became more suspicious because one could argue that a foreign power (e.g., Russia) was flying a new type of aircraft over the USA (for intelligence purposes or whatever) while trying to cover up its flights by *discrediting witnesses by means of hoaxes*. To be more explicit, suppose

John Doe (or Kenneth Arnold) reports seeing a flying disc. Whether or not he gives a detailed description is immaterial. Then soon after many other people also report seeing objects in the sky and also they report *finding* objects. Suppose, moreover, that the objects which are *found* have the same general shape as the descriptions of objects *reportedly* seen in the sky but that they are clearly hoax devices. Then John Doe's (and Kenneth Arnold's) story is discredited, and the few discs that the foreign power has are free to fly wherever they wish (as long as they stay away from cities) because they "know" that whoever sees them will not be believed. A scenario as just described (Russia has real discs and flies them over the USA while "covering up" the flights by discrediting witnesses) *may* have been considered by the FBI in its decision to investigate, but in any event the suggestion of subversion and creation of hysteria by a "foreign power" was definitely made (see Schulgen's letter in Part I). Whatever reasoning may have been invoked to connect the "bonafide" reports with the hoax reports, the FBI entered the UFO "arena" with the intent to discover whether or not any of the UFO reports could be directly attributable to subversion. For example, General Schulgen asked that Kenneth Arnold and Byron Savage (an RCA field engineer who reported seeing a disc in May, 1947) be investigated "since they were among the first to sight the alleged flying discs. He indicated that he desired that the investigation be directed toward ascertaining whether or not either of these individuals had any subversive background and to ascertain whether or not they had any ulterior motives for reporting these sightings."<sup>17</sup> (According to a note on the document that included this request, "a review of Bureau files failed to reveal any derogatory information that could be identified with these individuals.") Many of the teletype messages to FBI headquarters and reports on investigations made after July 30, 1947 were headed "security matter—X", "internal security" and "sabotage".

By the end of September the FBI file contained many reports, about equally divided between good reports and poor reports/hoaxes. Many of the reports had been supplied by the AAF merely as information for the FBI with no investigation requested. Many of these reports concerned sightings by technically oriented individuals (pilots, military personnel, scientists). There was even an early analysis of sightings that had been carried out by someone in the AAF (no name given). It contained 18 sightings up to late July, 1947, and broke these sightings into their various characteristics for comparison according to Date, Hour (local time), Locations, Observer's Name, Occupation, Ground or Air Observation, Number of Objects, Altitude, Direction of Flight, Speed, Distance Covered, Length of Time in Sight, Deviation from Straight Flight, Color, Size, Shape, Sound, Trail, Weather, Manner of Disappearance and 'Remarks'. The analysis included copies of all the sightings

analyzed, but there was no conclusion expressed. However, associated with the analysis in the FBI file, but not necessarily a part of it, is an undated page with no signature which expresses someone's interesting conclusions. The paper, which was very likely written in late July or in August 1947, read as follows:

*"From detailed study of reports selected for their impression of veracity and reliability, several conclusions have been formed:*

*[a] This "flying saucer" situation is not all imaginary or seeing too much in some natural phenomenon. Something is really flying around.*

*[b] Lack of topside inquiries (i.e., lack of requests by top echelon military officers), when compared to the prompt and demanding inquiries that have originated topside upon former events, give more than ordinary weight to the possibility that this is a domestic project, about which the President, etc. know.*

*[c] Whatever the objects are, this much can be said of their physical appearance:*

*1. The surface of these objects is metallic, indicating a metallic skin at least.*

*2. When a trail is observed, it is lightly colored, a Blue-Brown haze, that is similar to a rocket engine's exhaust. Contrary to a rocket of the solid (propellant) type, one observation indicates that the fuel may be throttled which would indicate a liquid rocket engine.*

*3. As to shape, all observations state that the object is circular or at least elliptical, flat on the bottom and slightly domed on the top. The size estimates place it somewhere near the size of a C-54 or a Constellation.*

*4. Some reports describe two tabs, located at the rear and symmetrical about the axis of flight motion.*

*5. Flights have been reported from three to nine of them, flying good formation on each other, with speeds above 300 knots.*

*6. The discs oscillate laterally while flying along, which could be snaking."*

All the previous information has been presented to indicate the types of reports and the sort of information that was available to the FBI by the end of September. About 60 non-trivial, non-hoax reports, some from FBI sources and many from AAF sources, were filed by the end of September. Also filed were documents giving viewpoints on the situation regarding "flying discs". All of this information played an important part in the decision of the FBI to end its official investigatory status. However, the FBI investigation might have continued anyway, if it hadn't been for "the last straw", which I will describe shortly.

However, first I would like to present some information which suggested to the FBI that it might be investigating our own secret weapons. The document of interest reads as follows:<sup>18</sup>

*"Special Agent Reynolds [call him SA] of the Liaison Section, while discussing [flying discs] with Lt. Col. Garrett [Col. G] of the Air Forces Intelligence, expressed the possibility that flying*

*discs were, in fact, a very highly classified experiment of the Army or Navy. SA was very much surprised when Col. G. not only agreed that this was a possibility, but confidentially stated it was his personal opinion that such was a probability. Col. G. indicated confidentially that a Mr. . . ., who is a scientist attached to the Air Forces Intelligence, was of the same opinion."*

*"Col. G. stated that he based his assumption on the following: He pointed out that when flying objects were reported seen over Sweden, the "high brass" of the War Department exerted tremendous pressure on the Air Forces Intelligence to conduct research and collect information in an effort to identify these sightings. Col. G. stated that, in contrast to this, we have reported sightings of unknown objects over the United States, and the "high brass" appeared to be totally unconcerned. He indicated this led him to believe that they knew enough about these objects to express no concern. Col. G. pointed out further that the objects in question have been seen by many individuals who are what he terms "trained observers", such as airplane pilots. He indicated also that several of the individuals are reliable members of the community. He stated the above has led him to come to the conclusion that there were objects seen which somebody in the Government knows all about."*

*"SA pointed out to Col. G. that if it is a fact experimentations are being conducted by the United States Government, then it does not appear reasonable to request the FBI to spend money and precious time conducting inquiries with respect to this manner. Col. G. stated that he agreed with SA in this regard and indicated that it would be extremely embarrassing to the Air Forces Intelligence if it later is learned that these flying discs are, in fact, an experiment of the United States Government."*

*"SA subsequently discussed this matter with Col. L.R. Forney of the Intelligence Division of the War Department. Col. Forney stated that he had discussed the matter previously with Gen. Chamberlain. Col. Forney indicated to SA that he has the assurance of Gen. Chamberlain and Gen. Todd that the Army is conducting no experimentations with anything which could possibly be mistaken for a flying disc."*

*"Col. G. of the Air Forces Intelligence subsequently contacted SA and indicated that he had discussed this matter with Gen. Schulgen of the Army Air Forces. Gen. Schulgen had previously assured both SA and Col. G. that to the best of his knowledge and information no experiments were being undertaken by the Government which could be mistaken for flying discs. Col. G. indicated to SA that he had pointed out his beliefs to Gen. Schulgen and had mentioned the possibility of an embarrassing situation arising between the Air Forces Intelligence and the FBI. Gen. Schulgen agreed with Col. G. that a memorandum would be prepared for the signature*



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## Review

### EVERYTHING YOU KNOW IS WRONG

By the Firesign Theater  
(Columbia Records, KC 33141)

Reviewed By TOM DAY

Hellmouth, California, is the scene for an irreverent junket through the world of UFOs, psychic phenomena, and travel movies. Dr. "Happy" Harry Cox is the central figure in this sound play from the Firesign Theater, a comedy group whose primary works are records such as this. Dr. Cox is a sincere but overly excitable man faced with ideas too large and confusing for him to

adequately cope with. He's not sure what is, all he knows is everything you know is wrong.

The supporting characters are as fully conceived and convincingly acted as is Dr. Cox. Exaggerated Generals, UFO groupies, and newscasters give many sly pokes at human nature, lending a richness to the production that makes it attractive to mature audiences. Tentative with the unknown, the comedians stay distant from anything approaching a serious statement on what is or isn't. Instead they offer a fanciful drama propelled by dazzling dialogue, puns, and one-liners. One character's son is "in medical school for a few weeks, in Mexico." Another, Uri Geller-like character takes leave with "Gotta go. They want me to melt a watch with Dr. Dali."

About the only flaws are the excessive complexity of the script, requiring multiple listenings to reveal the more subtle jokes, and the sometimes obscure references. Among the latter, one could be to Hosteen Klah, the Navajo medicine man, and another could be to Martin Mull's fried eggs. Could be.

Strengths of the album are led by the group's thorough understanding of belief, unbelief, and disbelief as reactions to incredible events. Also notable are the highly literate choice of ringing phrases: "Our lives were changed forever", "New Age", "Pocter's well, in Curio, Arizona." Finally, the characterizations are strong, as mentioned previously, and the sound effects and music help listeners visualize each scene.

First-rate comedy, well executed, *Everything You Know Is Wrong* is enjoyable listening.

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Sirs:

Here's two items I thought worth passing along to you.

For What It's Worth Dept.

More than 80 Soviets are involved in an ongoing study of the Tunguska meteorite of 1908. A progress report from the study group based at Tomsk University was published in *Izvestia* last October. The complete text was translated to English and published in the *Current Digest of the Soviet Press* on November 16, 1977. Although it contains no conclusions, the account should be interesting to those with a particular interest in this peculiar event.

Thanks A Lot Dept.

Under the heading "spoilers", the *National Lampoon* in their January 1978 issue present the following commentary on *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. It reads in full:

They're really out there, but they're nice guys.

Sincerely,  
Tom Day

of Gen. McDonald, A2, to Gen. LeMay, who is in charge of Research and Development in the Air Corps. Col. G. indicated that this memorandum will set forth the characteristics of the objects seen by various reliable individuals. The memorandum will then request Gen. LeMay to indicate whether or not any experiments are being undertaken by the Air Forces which could possibly be connected with any of the observed phenomena. Col. G. stated that when a reply is received from Gen. LeMay, a communication will be addressed to the Bureau."

"SA will follow this matter closely with Lt. Col. Garrett and Gen. Schulgen so that the Bureau will be promptly advised of all information regarding the flying discs, especially any information indicating that they are, in fact, an experiment of some Governmental agency."

On Sept. 5, 1947 the FBI received the following note from Gen. Schulgen:19

"In answer to a verbal request of your Mr. S.W. Reynolds, a complete survey of research activities discloses that the Army Air Forces has no project with the characteristics similar to those which have been associated with the Flying Discs." [signed] Geo. F. Schulgen, Brig. General, USA; Deputy, Ass't. Chief of Air Staff - 2.

This officially laid to rest the possibility that the US government had any devices which could have generated flying disc reports, although the possibility was again discussed in 1950<sup>20</sup>.

It is interesting to note the comments within the preceding document about the apparent lack of interest of the "high brass" as expressed by Col. Garrett, apparently with the concurrence of Gen. Schulgen. This information obtained from the intelligence services associated with air force flying saucer "research" provides an interesting contrast to Ruppelt's claim <sup>21,22</sup> that the "top brass" wanted the problem solved quickly and that this desire resulted in pressure and "frantic attempts to find answers"<sup>22</sup>.

Thus far I have presented information which shows that the a) many UFO reports were non-trivial, b) the AAF took the flying disc reports seriously, and c) the AAF was certain that no US government project resulted in flying disc reports. This information by itself was sufficient to suggest that the discs were real objects and were therefore a military intelligence problem, not a domestic intelligence problem. Thus from this information alone the FBI could have concluded that its investigations were not necessary. That such a conclusion had already been reached in early August by at least one agent is illustrated by the following memorandum to Mr. Ladd from Mr. Coyne:<sup>22</sup>

"It is felt that the situation regarding these flying saucers and flying discs is very similar to the situation which was previously encountered by the Bureau during the past war in handling com-

plaints arising out of the sighting of Japanese balloons [sic]. You will recall that at the inception of these complaints the Bureau conducted considerable investigation and located numerous balloons as a cooperative measure for the Army and that after considerable work had been done, the Army then informed that these were military weapons and that they would take over handling of these completely. This they did and in a extremely short time issued a big press release as to the splendid work of the Army in locating these Japanese balloons. From the information available thus far, it does not appear that these discs should be treated as other than a military weapon. Certainly the Bureau has no way to determine what experiments the Army and Navy are conducting and whether such might be arising out of experiments being conducted by them nor do we have any way of determining how far the Russians have progressed in certain experiments and whether such might be the results of experiments by the Russian Army. It [sic] short, it would certainly appear that this is a military situation and should be handled strictly by military authorities."

"In this connection it might be pointed out that our present Portland case arose out of the fact that two Army Intelligence officers were returning from an interview of two individuals who reportedly had seen flying discs." [This refers to the FBI investigation of the circumstances surrounding the plane crash after two Army officers investigated the Maury Island report - note by present author.] If the Army Intelligence officers are handling some of these interviews, it is believed that they should be handling all of these interviews, and it is not believed that the Bureau should be expending its precious manpower on these complaints which have thus far no connection with our Russian espionage program. The military authorities certainly are better equipped to know what they are looking for than we are and have more facilities for handling material which it is necessary to examine as a result of its being reported as a remnant of a flying disc. It is believed that the Bureau is merely playing bird-dog for the Army by using our manpower to run out these complaints on flying discs."

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